



Businesses gain bigger competitive edge with eco-labelling

Singapore Environment Council and China Environmental United Certification Center sign MOU

China, 23 September 2014 – Singapore gets a stronger push towards enacting green purchasing policy (GPP), as the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) and China Environmental United Certification Center (CEC) sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN) Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Beijing from 23 to 26 September 2014.

Since 2006, China’s central and provincial government has given priority to products proven to be environment friendly in its procurement – a lead Singapore could take.

“SGLS-certified products can enjoy a competitive edge when venturing into the China market, particularly with government agencies because of the government green procurement policy, which was implemented to promote sustainable economic development and also to protect the environment,” said Mr Jose Raymond, CEO of the Singapore Environment Council.

With the MOU, products and services certified by the Singapore Green Labelling Scheme (SGLS) and China Environmental Labelling Program will promote each other’s eco-certification in their respective bases in Singapore and China

Bringing international environmental relations between Singapore and China towards closer collaboration, SEC and CEC are also expanding cooperation to environmental protection.

Ms Zhang Xiaodan, General Manager of China Environmental United Certification Center, said: “Many environmental problems facing Singapore and China are transboundary in nature. Signing an MOU with the Singapore Environment Council gives us more leeway to solve environmental problems through partnerships, particularly those caused by business activities.”

Besides promoting eco-labelling, the MOU will also see both sides conducting joint research activities in sustainable consumption, as well as share scientific and technical data, new technologies and experience.

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ABOUT THE SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) is an independently managed, non-profit and non-government organisation (NGO). We influence thinking on sustainability issues and coordinate environmental efforts in Singapore. We are also an approved charity and offer tax exemption to donors.

SEC continuously engages all sectors of the community by formulating and executing a range of holistic programmes, such as the Singapore Environmental Achievement Awards, Asian Environmental Journalism Awards, School Green Awards, Green Champions, Singapore Green Labelling Scheme, Project: Eco-Office, Project: Eco-Shop and Project: F&B. In addition, we build a pool of committed volunteers under our Earth Helpers programme.

The SEC has also incorporated a new Training & Education arm to provide the people, public and private sectors with the opportunity to develop awareness, knowledge, skills and tools in order to protect and improve our environment for a sustainable future.

Strong partnerships with corporations, government agencies and other NGOs are valued by us. These partnerships are vital for sustaining our programmes, leading to positive action and change. Over the years, SEC has given strength and direction to the environmental movement in Singapore.

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