



Press Release

Ospitaletto, 16 January 2006

SABAF OBTAINS SA8000 CERTIFICATION FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

This important international recognition rewards the company's commitment to application of social responsibility principles in its management of employees and suppliers

Sabaf is successful continuing its drive for manufacturing excellence and ongoing improvement of its socially responsible management process.

With the **SA8000 certification** that it has just obtained, the company based in Ospitaletto (province of Brescia) – one of the world's leading suppliers of components for kitchens and domestic gas cooking appliances – has received official recognition of the conformity of its social responsibility system, as testified by preparation of its Annual Corporate Social Responsibility Report starting already back in 2000 and by the prestigious Oscar del Bilancio award (Italian award for annual reports) received in 2004.

The **SA8000 certification** issued by the CISE – an accredited certification body for social accountability systems – marks achievement of an important objective among the various commitments made in Sabaf's Corporate Social Responsibility Report, besides full application by the company of the principles that are the distinctive features of its business model.

The key points underlying Sabaf's social commitment as testified by issue of **SA8000 certification** (SA = Social Accountability) include:

- Full compliance with current national regulations concerning employment (including the relevant national collective labour contract) and with international conventions and recommendations, including the resolutions of bodies such as the ILO (International Labour Organisation) and the UNO (United Nations Organisation)
- Rejection of practices that violate human rights in general and those of workers in particular (disciplinary procedures comprising corporal punishment and/or mental or physical coercion, juvenile workers, forced labour, and workplace discrimination) and adoption of procedures and types of conduct respecting such rights (freedom of association and right to collective bargaining, faire remuneration, respect of working hours, disciplinary procedures, and protection of health and safety)
- Elimination of any discriminatory practices and inequality of treatment (as regards hiring, salaries, access to training, and career promotions) based on questions of race, nationality, religion, disability, gender, sexual preferences, trade union membership, and political affiliation
- Promotion and improvement of staff's conditions of safety and physical and mental well-being via both preventive and remedial action
- Involvement of all suppliers of goods, assets, and services and their commitment to social accountability and responsibility, complying with all requirements of relevant regulations





TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

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- Regular monitoring and continuous improvement of general operating conditions and enhancement of human assets.

"The fact that we have obtained SA8000 certification adds up to recognition of the importance of a proper and transparent relationship with human resources and marks a further step forward in the process of socially responsible management that followed receipt of ISO14001 environmental certification" – stated Angelo Bettinzoli, Sabaf's Managing Director. "The social accountability principles underlying SA8000 certification – and that are also endorsed by Sabaf's own Charter of Values – are fully supported by the entire company, from the top to junior management, and from employees to suppliers and to outside staff members".

For further information:

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Founded in the early 1950s, SABAF has grown constantly to become today the main producer in Italy – and one of the leading world producers – of components for kitchens and domestic gas cooking appliances.

Its product offering features three main lines: valves, thermostats, and burners, essential components for gas cooking appliances. Sabaf's strong technological know-how, manufacturing flexibility, and its ability to offer a vast range of components – also tailor-made to meet the requirements of individual manufacturers of cookers and of built-in hobs and ovens – that are also aligned with the specific characteristics of its core markets – are Sabaf's key strengths in a sector featuring major specialisation, constantly evolving demand and an ever-increasing orientation towards products assuring total reliability and safety.

The Sabaf Group has some 500 employees. It operates via the direct parent company SABAF SpA and the subsidiaries Faringosi-Hinges – leader in the production of oven and washing-machine hinges – and Sabaf do Brasil – active in production of burners for the Latin American market. Sabaf is also present in the People's Republic of China via a contact office located in Shanghai.

Sabaf has been listed on the Borsa Italiana market since March 24th 1998 and entered the high-quality/small-medium cap segment (STAR – Segmento Titoli con Alti Requisiti) in April 2001.



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