



PRESS RELEASE

Recycling plant for lamps launched at Mezőkovácsháza with European Union financing

Bucharest, Romania – 5ht of March 2012

Budapest, Hungary – 5ht of March 2012

Recolamp Romania and Electro-Coord Magyarország Nonprofit Kft. from Hungary, two associations specialized in lamp waste management, launched on March 5, 2012, in Mezőkovácsháza, Hungary, a plant for recycling linear tubes, as part of a project that benefits of European Union financing.

Under the slogan „Two countries, one goal, joint success!”, Recolamp and Electro-Coord launched in Timisoara, in July 2011, the cross-border cooperation project between Hungary and Romania – 2007-2013 Program: „**Reducing pollution with toxic substances by improving the lamp waste management in the border area between Hungary and Romania**”.

The project benefits of European financing and is conducted between March 2011- May 2012, in the counties located on the border between the two partner countries (Romania - Arad, Timis, Bihor, Satu-Mare and Hungary - Hajdú-Bihar, Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Békés and Csongrád).



The project has an Euro 1.6-million budget that is to be invested in the production and placement of specialized collection containers, running raising awareness campaigns and also in the construction of the lamp waste recycling factory. This factory, located in Hungary at Mezőkovácsháza, will serve to the management of the lamp waste collected from the geographic areas covered in the two partner countries involved in the project.

The official inauguration of the recycling factory was attended by **Dr. András Rácz, Deputy State Secretary of Rural Development Ministry of Hungary** and **László Karácsony Erdélyi, Councilor of the Romanian Minister of Environment and Forests** and other officials of the Romanian and Hungarian central and local authorities, representatives of the collection companies that operate in the area covered by the project and mass-media of the two partner countries.

„This is a complex environmental project having the major goal of improving electrical waste collection system, increasing the awareness of the population and being able to recycle waste lamp



locally. In the past, both countries, partners of this program – Romania and Hungary were exporting waste to Germany. Starting now, we will recycle at Mezőkovácsháza, Hungary, therefore we will be making savings on transportation costs and decrease our carbon footprint and the impact on environment”, stated Béla Kovacs, Manager of the Lightning Division, Electro-Coord.

“Similarly to our partners – Hungary, we will increase our logistic network and through the over 400 collection points that we are going to establish and operate in the four counties of the project, we plan to collect 27 tons of waste lamps in the first year of the program. Moreover, in the following years, we will continue to invest in this region in order to have a significant growth of the collection rates” stated Roxana Şunică, Marketing Manager at Recolamp and for the HURO Project.

The Lamp Recycling Plant will start to operate on 5th of March 2012. The Plant already has performed the manufacturer's test run, the official handover - takeover documents and has the final user permissions.

The plant is 7000m² large, out of which, the industrial building is 600m². This is divided into three parts: warehouse for raw material (lamp waste), the recycling production line located in the center of the building and the third hall that contains the fractions resulted from recycling process. At the location, there is also a separate building for offices and plant serving units.

The capacity of the machine is 200 kg linear fluorescent tubes recycled per hour. The access to the plant is on asphalt roads, so that the trucks can easily reach the recycling facility.

The new plant allows industrywise operation with full transparency of flow of materials and process streams, ensuring perfect functionality to execute the recycling tasks”, added Béla Kovacs.

“Recolamp is honoured and proud to be part of this European program that truly supports our efforts of improving Romania’s results in waste management. Also, I would like to underline another important highlight of the project, which is the continuous cooperation between the two partner countries, sharing of best practises and developing the bilateral relationship, aiming for a strong partnership” added Roxana Şunică.

The project is implemented through the 2007-2013 Cross-Border Cooperation Program between Hungary-Romania (www.huro-cbc.eu) and is financed by the European Union through the European Fund of Regional Development and co-financed by the two countries participants in the program, Hungary and Romania. The general goal of the Program is to bring together economic actors, persons and communities, in order to take advantage more effectively of the opportunities provided by the joint development of the border area.

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Hungary-Romania
Cross-Border Co-operation
Programme 2007-2013



Two countries, one goal, joint success!

European Union
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About Recolamp

Recolamp is a non-profit organization set up in September 2007 and authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Its founding members are the companies: General Electric, Narva, Osram and Philips. The mission of the organisation is to take over from the producers their responsibility regarding the lamp waste management and the collection and recycling of the economic bulbs and fluorescent tubes in safety conditions for the environment and human health.

www.recolamp.ro

About Electro-Coord Hungary

The Electro-Coord Hungary Association takes over the responsibility to manage lighting waste from the producers and distributors. Electro-Coord Hungary communicates through the National Network with the recyclers that process their waste in compliance with the European standards. Electro-Coord Hungary is an organization willing to take over the legal obligations of the producers of lighting products in order to collect and recycle waste.

www.electro-coord.hu