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ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

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As a quality supplier within the specialty roll label and sheet stock market on an international scale, the Ritrama Group of Companies is positively committed to ensuring that everything we do within our business addresses current environmental issues in a clearly defined and responsible manner.

To this end, the company closely monitors all current and imminent legislation relating to disposal or recycling of packaging waste materials within the European Union. Our activities are geared towards ensuring that we meet this legislation.

Our current product range includes a substantive choice of materials, which can be offered as alternatives wherever 'green' substitutes are required. The Ritrama Group was the first company in Europe to move from solvent based adhesives to environmentally friendly emulsion systems. Ritrama also was also the first to develop Polythene based label films as alternatives to PVC.

More recently, significant developments are being made with truly biodegradable and compostable label materials.

Our development programme will continue to place high priority on such projects in order that the environmental needs of our customers continue to be satisfied.

In addition to the **ISO9001:2000** Quality System implemented throughout the Ritrama Group, our prime manufacturing site based in Sassoferrato has been approved to **ISO 14001:1996** Environment Management standard.

This site is further certified to **OHSAS 18001:2007** for "Health and safety" A new power plant system is currently being installed here which will fully integrate waste treatment and energy recovery, supplying 100% of the site requirements.

The new Slitting and Logistic Centre established at Ricofin Srl. also uses an Integrated Photovoltaic System for the factory heating and water systems, making some 30-40% savings on gas requirements. This particular site has won a local award for this design. Ricofin Srl also uses the very latest solvent recovery and combustion technology to eliminate VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) emissions to the atmosphere and further reduce the plant energy consumption.

The Ritrama Group has implemented operational methods to maintain and continually improve on every aspect of their Environmental Management System with a strong focus on the following strategies:-

- ✓ **Respect** – Health and safety of all employees and all legal requirements
- ✓ **Minimize** – Industrial accidents and any environmental impacts of processes and products.
- ✓ **Optimize** - consumption of all raw materials through a continuous waste reduction programme.
- ✓ **Develop & Implement** – All activities with the common goals of improving environmental impact and safety
- ✓ **Ensure** – all personnel are involved in the company environmental policy
- ✓ **Train** – staff correctly and regularly
- ✓ **Verify** – regularly audit and update environmental systems
- ✓ **Collaborate** – with the authorities to ensure correct standards are applied and maintained

Customers can be assured of compliance with all the common legislative and environmental issues that may arise with respect to the use of any Ritrama product. Some of the typical questions that can arise are detailed below:-

EU RoHS/WEEE Heavy Metals/Restricted Substances – Packaging Essential Requirements EC Directive 94/62/EC – EN71

With the exception of products made using our standard gloss red vinyl film, all Ritrama roll label and sheet products comply with the above requirements – ie they do not intentionally contain any lead, cadmium, mercury and hexavalent chromium. The total level of these four metals is guaranteed to be less than 100ppm.

PBB or PBDE flame-retardants

All Ritrama products are free from PBB or PBDE flame-retardants.

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

There are no products manufactured within the Ritrama Group of Companies using any raw materials that intentionally contain GMO. Furthermore none of our suppliers knowingly use GMO products such as GM protein or DNA for the production of films, foils, adhesives, top coatings or paper-based materials supplied to the Ritrama Group.

Latex

The focus of attention on latex allergy is with natural rubber products. We can confirm that none of our adhesives or films contain any natural rubber latexes. Our adhesives are either based on acrylic or synthetic rubber based systems.

Chlorine Statement

All papers used within the Ritrama Group of Companies have been bleached using chlorine-free processes (ECF or TCF).

Forestry Statement

All paper products used to produce Ritrama Group self-adhesive laminates are produced by paper mills using pulps sourced from well-managed and sustainable forests. Since there are many such mills involved and Ritrama operates dual (or multi) sourcing policies for most paper based raw materials, it is not possible to specify precisely the names of the mills involved.

Recyclability

Many of our products are capable of being recycled. For specific information relating to any particular label material application, please contact our Customer Information Services department.

Re – EEC Directive EC 1907/2006 – REACH Registration, Evaluation, Approval and Restriction of Chemical Substances – including SVHC

The Ritrama Group is aware of this important new legislation and has already made contact with all suppliers to ensure that all chemicals used in our products will meet the required registration target deadline dates in 2010. Customers must understand, however, that this process will be far reaching throughout the supply chain and can be expected to take some time to complete in full. They can also be confident that in the extremely unlikely event that any chemical substances present in Ritrama products are found not to meet the REACH requirements, appropriate substitutes will be found and that continuity of supply of these products will not be compromised. With specific regard to the SVHC (substances of very high concern) we must advise that - Plasticised PVC film can contain following substance:

Bis 2-ethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP, DOP)

included in the candidate list (status October 28,2008) according to article 59 (1,10) of the REACH regulation in a concentration above 0,1 %.

The European Union has confirmed that DEHP poses no general risk to human health (see <http://www.dehp-facts.com/RA>).

Therefore, no further measures need to be taken to manage our products.

For further information on anything relating to environmental issues, please contact Customer Information Services at Ritrama (UK) Ltd, on telephone no +44-(0)161-786 1750 or e-mail us on info@ritrama.co.uk.



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