

## Decades of Environmental Philosophy

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In recent years, environmental thinking and sustainability have become important aspects of business activities. As a company within the chemical industry, Marabu understands the particular responsibility for both, human nature, and the environment.

For existing as well as all future developments to its product portfolio, Marabu is particularly conscious of the environmental and health compatibility of products. Such responsible care also applies equally to the production, application, and disposal of the products and therefore their complete life cycle.

By continually investing in state-of-the-art production technology, most always exceeding legal requirements in doing so, we minimize potential environmental impact originating from the development and production of our products. To underline the importance of the environmental focus, a specific position "Environmental Manager" is in place since 1990, being part of quality assurance department. Marabu participates actively in several working groups and associations looking at specific sustainability related topics.

In 2009, Marabu celebrates its 150 year anniversary with its roots in artist paints and inks having a long tradition in its environmental philosophy. The company chronicle mentions one of the very first screen printing ink series called Marapid in 1952, with a solvent combination which at that time was a pioneer in that it was not subject to any specific labelling. Environmental actions have been taken in all relevant areas such as manufacturing, waste, energy use, smart ink management systems, packaging, recycling, and to the core ink formulation with a Marabu own stringent raw protocol.

**Manufacturing** - all solvent emissions are processed in a thermal post-combustion unit combined with a heat recuperation system reducing our energy demands, cleaning solvents are distilled and to 95% re-used, all water used in production is treated to a level suitable for safe re-use. A major step forward was realized two years ago when Marabu, as a whole, changed to exclusively use power from renewable sources saving CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of ca. 2300 tons annually. The project reflects Marabu's continuing commitment to the environment and drive to reduce its carbon footprint.

**Packaging and smart colour management systems** - all used packaging materials are chosen for their recycling, volume products are offered in 230 kg inlined drums with corresponding specific drum dispensing unit to reduce waste, smart colour management systems allow customers to precisely produce special shade quantities avoiding waste.

**Marabu's own stringent raw material protocol** - with the complete exclusion of highrisk heavy-metal pigments in our products since 1994, Marabu was the first Screen and Pad Printing ink manufacturer to be completely heavy-metal free. Marabu is compliant with EuPIA's exclusion list for printing inks and related products.

**Certificates** - in 2004 Marabu was awarded for its efforts by the SGIA with the Environmental Achievement Award, the leading Specialty Graphics Imaging Association in the USA. In its initial ISO 9001 certification in early 1995, many environmental aspects were included in the management system, followed by the dedicated ISO 14001 certification for environmental management in 2003. In the same year, the SONY Green Partner certification was received for supplying specifically controlled inks for the optical disc production and has been renewed every second year.



## Start of LIBRA family of products

Bringing environmental awareness into screen and pad printing ink design started with the creation of a solvent screen ink family named LIBRA. The characteristic added to these products was a mild solvent combination resulting in a lower label classification, beneficial for both the environment and the operators. The LIBRA family of products started in 1985 with the screen series Libragloss LIG, a universal ink covering daily screen printing jobs. The mild odour of the ink combined with excellent product performance was a sensation to many experienced printers. The Libraspeed LIS followed in 1993 covering the increased automated screen machinery. The Libramatt LIM series introduced in 1997, fulfilling the customers needs for a matt ink series rounded out the package. Libraprint LIP in 1999 again raised the bar, focussing on faster drying reflecting the need for speed.

## Librastar HF



Last year the LIBRA family grew once again, this time focused for industrial applications, with the Librastar HF, previewed at the CSGIA show in Guangzhou in November 2008. Over the last few years, the Electronic industry has shown an increasingly interest in halogen-free components. This market request has gone further with the need of halogen-free printing inks. Librastar HF is the first choice on the market which meets the demands of the Electronics Industry utilising halogen-free raw-materials such as PVC-free binder and unchlorinated pigments. Librastar HF is suitable for both screen and pad printing for 1- or 2- component applications.

It was essential that beyond the environmental benefits, technical specifications must be met for highly demanding applications: Librastar HF fulfils this aspect second to none. HF corresponds to RoHs, the Canadian Hazardous Products act, DIN EN 71/3 and sets the standard in completely halogen-free ink design.

## Ultraglass UVGCC

Another innovative UV ink series called Ultraglass UVGCC was showcased for the first time at the newly formed exhibition Nutec, held in Frankfurt in November, 2008. Parallel to this event, the UVGCC was accepted by Material Connexion® (materialconnexion.com), the leading global platform for material solutions and innovations. Ultraglass UVGCC was designed under guidance of EPEA and follows the principles of cradle-to-cradle for the technical life cycle.

Ultraglass UVGCC is a UV ink free of heavy metals, solvents, and completely halogen-free. Its raw material components disintegrate completely without any residues. UVGCC offers therefore the basis for a perfect recycling circuit for printed glass.



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Marabu is a leading global manufacturer of Screen, Digital, and Pad Inks with headquarters near Stuttgart, Germany. With its subsidiaries and exclusive distribution partners, Marabu offers high-quality products and customized services in more than 70 countries. Marabu's ink portfolio includes several industry-first solutions in both industrial and graphic printing applications. Its strong reputation for technical service, customer training, and environmental awareness

are unsurpassed. Marabu has been ISO 9001 certified since 1995 and ISO 14001 since 2003. More than 50 years of experience in printing inks makes Marabu your partner in print.

Please provide **Mrs. Nina Walter** with an author's copy when publishing, and thank you for this in advance.

For questions about this press report or photo material, please feel free to contact us under: [presse@marabu.de](mailto:presse@marabu.de)