

Joint press release

Brussels, 28 July 2008

Natuurpunt and Electrabel drive green

Electrabel, GDF SUEZ group, will today hand over the keys of an environmentally friendly car to Natuurpunt. This confirms the company's commitment to helping lower CO₂ emissions.

During the past years Electrabel has invested heavily in order to reduce emissions from its power generation activities. In its commercial businesses, too, the company helps its customers seek out solutions to reducing their CO₂ emissions.

Today's effort goes a step further. The use of electric cars can yield a direct, rejuvenating and sustainable solution to environmental problems. They not only result in less noise pollution but also lower CO₂ emissions (34g/km*), and that includes emissions from generating the electricity used to power them. This figure is based on Electrabel's generating facilities. Electrabel has one of Europe's lowest levels of CO₂ emissions in the energy sector.

As part of its partnership with the environmental association Natuurpunt, Electrabel is today handing over one of its electric vehicles to Willy Ibens, general manager of Natuurpunt. Another vehicle will be used by Electrabel itself.

In doing so, Electrabel is taking a first step towards the use of electric vehicles. The company is convinced that electric cars can be part of the solution and is committed to making further efforts in this area – including in research – in the months ahead.

As a pioneer in the use of new means of transport to limit the emission of greenhouse gases, this test dovetails perfectly – for Natuurpunt – with the association's quest to seek out alternatives to conventional combustion engines.

Technical specifications of the car:

Power	35kW
Range	160 km
Battery	25,000 Wh
Consumption	165 Wh/km
CO ₂ emissions	34 gr/km
Average cost of electricity	€2.50/100 km

**By way of comparison: a fossil-fuel-powered car has average CO2 emissions of 170 gr/km.*

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Ce communiqué est également disponible en français.

This press release is also available in English