



EPAL intends to further improve quality – and awards global auditing to Bureau Veritas

The operator of the largest pallet pool in the world, European Pallet Association e.V. (EPAL), based in Düsseldorf, is positioning itself for further growth and is awarding the global auditing of EPAL/EUR cargo carriers to the independent certification company Bureau Veritas, Neuilly-sur-Seine Cedex, France, from the 1st January 2013.

Bureau Veritas is the world's leading supplier of independent services in the fields of conformity testing and certification. The company will not only be conducting unannounced audits of licensed EPAL production operations in the future, but is also set to promote consistent further development of the current quality standards with respect to assurance and sustainability.

EPAL operations have already produced 50 million pallets during the first three quarters of 2012, as well as carrying out 18.4 million repairs - and this trend is continuing to rise. With this reorientation, EPAL is aligning itself towards the growth and constantly increasing demands of the market.

"We wish to further improve the quality level of the products and take the aspect of sustainability into even greater account - which is just what the large majority of users of EPAL/EUR cargo carriers expect of us" explains Martin Leibrandt, CEO of EPAL. "With Bureau Veritas we have found a partner that will support us for the long-term and on a sustained basis in the optimisation process, and also one that can enhance the quality assurance system with its own ideas".

The newly agreed cooperation brings with it an end to the existing cooperation with Société Générale de Surveillance (SGS), which began back in the mid seventies.

You can find further information at www.epal.eu

EPAL European Pallet Association is the European umbrella organisation of licensed manufacturers of EPAL/EUR pallets and box pallets, founded in 1991. EPAL is globally responsible for the consistent quality of EPAL/EUR cargo carriers and utilises external auditing for quality assurance purposes. EPAL is represented in 13 countries by their own national committees, who undertake to implement the EPAL objectives on a national level.