

The 9th edition of the annual "Leader of Polish Ecology", a national competition organized since 1996 under auspices of the Minister of Environment, has just been announced. Entrants who express interest to compete for the prestigious title of the "Leader of Polish Ecology" are invited to submit their innovative pro-ecological projects by January 15, 2006.

The idea that stands behind the competition is promotion of innovative environmental technologies and unconventional organisational solutions in the field of environmental protection that may contribute to the implementation the sustainable development principle in Poland's economy.

The key principle of the competition is to highlight and promote approaches and business initiatives the success of which is based on environmentally friendly solutions. The "Leader of Polish Ecology" is also aimed at promoting and building the prestige of Polish achievements in the field of environmental protection at home and internationally.

The competition is organized in the following three categories: "Enterprise", "Product" and "Local government" or "Association of local governments". Each of these categories is further di-

The "Polish Ecology Leader" competition

vided into specific sub-categories. The title of the "Leader of Polish Ecology" and one distinction is awarded in each sub-category. In special cases the Minister of Environment may award more awards and distinctions.

Projects and solutions submitted by entrants competing for the title "Leader of Polish Ecology" must meet such criteria as ecological and social impact, economic effectiveness, universality in applications, solution uniqueness and innovation.

Since 2005, laureates of the two last competitions and prize winners of the Clean Business Programme are eligible to take part in the Polish edition of the "European Business Awards for the Environment" competition. Among them eight candidates will be selected and recommended to the European competition. The "European Business Awards for the Environment" are awarded every two years by the European Commission. The competition was established in 1987 to stimulate technological innovations advancing sustainable development. Only companies who won a national competition are eligible to enter the European event.

For more details on the "Leader of Polish Ecology" including regulations and proposal development instructions visit our web page: www.liderpolskiejekologii.pl

WANDA JAROSZ

Secretary of the "Leader of Polish Ecology" Programme Committee

For more information contact:

Secretariat of the "Leader of Polish Ecology"
Competition

Institute for Ecology
of Industrial Areas

ul. Kossutha 6
40-844 Katowice

Tel. (+48 32) 25 46 031
ext. 136, 280

Fax (+48 32) 25 41 717

e-mail: lider@ietu.katowice.pl



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