

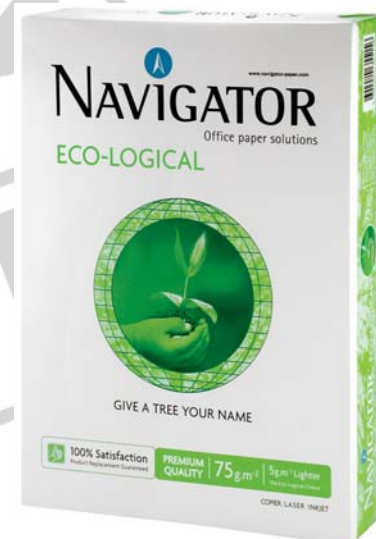


Press Release – 17th May 2006

2nd Edition Product of the Year

Navigator Eco-Logical voted Product of the Year 2006

Navigator Eco-Logical has been named Product of the Year 2006 in the “Household/Office Goods” category. The 2nd Edition Product of the Year has 131 products taking part in 45 categories. The objective of the award is to distinguish innovation in Portugal branded products that become a reference point in terms of customer preference and awareness.



According to Michael Wittmann, Navigator Brand Manager, the *“choice of Navigator Eco-Logical as product of the year will help to strengthen the involvement of consumers with a product such as office paper, a segment in which there is practically no connection between consumer and brand”*. He went on to add: *“Navigator Eco-Logical is aimed at responding to the growing interest in environmental protection and conservation”*.

Navigator Eco-Logical is a product designed to contribute to the development and conservation of natural resources. Its election as Product of the Year will help to communicate this message and reinforce the strategy being followed by grupo Portucel Soporcel as a leader in innovation and an environmentally conscious company.

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The Group plans to promote this award in a variety of ways – from placing a sticker referring to the award on each ream of Navigator Eco-Logical to adding the Product of the Year symbol to the brand's press advertisements. In addition, flyers are to be produced for consumers with information on the product and on the distinction of Product of the Year 2006.

The products considered for the 2nd Edition Product of the Year were reviewed by an independent jury of experts, which shortlisted the finalists in each product category. Represented on the jury were: **APAP, APED, APODEMO, APPM, Centromarca, CIP, CPD, IMP, INPI** and **IPAM**.

Navigator Eco-Logical: Premium Quality and Respect for the Environment

Navigator Eco-Logical is a 75 g/m² office paper especially developed for a new segment of consumers with strong environmental concerns. The concept is founded on solid bases that aim at responding to the growing level of environmental awareness.

Navigator Eco-Logical guarantees exceptional high performance despite the fact that it is 5 g/m² lighter than the 80 g/m² office papers. For the first time in the office paper market, this product has combined Premium quality with a significant reduction in the natural resources used to produce it.

Launched by grupo Portucel Soporcel in October 2004, Navigator Eco-Logical was developed in response to a market survey carried out by the independent body Opticom International Research, which identified a new segment in the universe of office paper consumers in Western Europe – the “New Environmentalists”.



As part of the Navigator premium range, Navigator Eco-Logical paper is the fruit of years of intensive research and technological development on the part of grupo Portucel Soporcel with a view to creating top-quality products based on the sustainable use of natural resources and the application of world-standard know-how.

About Navigator

Produced by grupo Portucel Soporcel, Navigator offers a range of office paper solutions compatible with all office equipment. The range has been especially designed to meet and even exceed the needs of modern office users.

European consumers consider Navigator to be one of the leading brands in the Office Paper segment, particularly in regard to product quality. All these features have contributed to the brand's unique position and strong market growth.

Navigator offers high performance with every type of office equipment: excellent printing quality with both laser and inkjet printers, 99.99% jam-free, high thickness and opacity for double-side use, the highest quality consistency over time, very low abrasive levels and other unrivalled features.

Navigator paper and range were designed and developed on the basis of market research that included consumer surveys conducted all over Europe, technological research, and the results of product tests performed in European and North American laboratories.

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The paper is made from Eucalyptus globulus fibre in one of the most advanced machines in the world, which is located at the Figueira da Foz paper mill.

About grupo Portucel Soporcel

grupo Portucel Soporcel is the largest producer of uncoated fine papers in the Iberian Peninsula and is the fourth largest in Europe. The Group holds a very strong position in the office paper market and the leading position in Europe in graphical papers.

One should highlight the fact that, in February, grupo Portucel Soporcel gave the go ahead to a project for the installation of a new paper plant in its industrial complex in Setúbal, requiring an investment of some EUR 490 million. This will allow the company to significantly strengthen its competitiveness in the paper market and take on a leading position in the European market for fine uncoated papers (UWF).

The new production unit will house the largest and fastest UWF paper producing machine in the world, a state-of-the-art facility that has a nominal paper production capacity of 500 thousand tons per annum.

The Group has offices in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Germany, and Austria, as well as in the United States, and sells to over 70 countries across five continents.

www.portucelsoporcel.com

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