

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION INVITES INDUSTRY TO APPLY FOR VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT

The European Commission and Joint Research Council (JRC) asked Industry at a meeting in Seville at the end of 2017, to work together to form ONE label that could be recognised under a Voluntary Agreement. Representatives from EUnited, Water Label and European Bathroom Forum were all present.

Preliminary discussions with Swedish Energy, Swiss Energy and ANQIP have indicated a positive response to this quest, with a willingness to bring their Schemes and the Water Label together.

Technical criteria for associated energy use, as well as hygiene aspects will require discussion between all parties leading to modification to the Water Label. Under the 'Best of All' initiative, interested Stakeholders are encouraged to work together for a satisfactory solution. You are invited to participate, interested, then email: [chairman@europeanbathroomforum.org](mailto:chairman@europeanbathroomforum.org) to know more.

### WHO ARE ANQIP?



ANQIP, is a not for profit technical scientific association who are based in Portugal. Their overall objectives are to promote and guarantee the quality and efficiency in building services, with attention paid to water and energy efficiencies. ANQIP was established in 2007 and its membership includes 170 associates made up of; several universities, water authorities, technicians, engineers and installers. ANQIP labelling of water efficiency products, plays an important role within Portugal's building stock to improve efficiency measures.

ANQIP are eager to work with the European Bathroom Forum under the 'Best of All' initiative to identify ONE Label for Europe, to be used on water using bathroom products, as they recognise that Labels are a useful tool to identify efficiency properties of the product.

Armando Silva Afonso, Chairman stated, "its exciting times for the building sector as we move towards greater efficiency measures, we understand our systems and products and collectively we can find a good and acceptable compromise that all can work with, I look forward to working with like minded people throughout Europe". European Bathroom Forum Chair, Carlos Velazquez said, "ANQIP partnering with the EBF under the 'Best of All' initiative is a positive step forward and one that is welcomed by the EBF Stakeholders. Collectively we are stronger to find the right Scheme for our sector".

## CARLOS VELAZQUEZ TAKES THE CHAIR



Following the departure of Pietro Mariotti from Industry, Carlos Velazquez Vice Chairman and Corporate Marketing Director Roca, takes the Chair, with Miguel Definti, Ideal Standard International, offering to support Carlos until elections can take place later this year. Supporters of the EBF are requested to lodge their interest in championing the cause of the Forum via email to

[orgill@europeanbathroomforum.org](mailto:orgill@europeanbathroomforum.org).

All interest will be put forward for election at the EBF meeting 8 March.

## AMBITIOUS ROAD MAP LAUNCHED

The Strategic Board of the Forum has agreed an ambitious road map that will be presented to all Stakeholders at the full meeting of the Forum in March. The road map, identifies key activity that will be undertaken during the next 18 months during the transition period. Communicating all activity to all interested parties plays a pivotal role in achieving Voluntary Agreement (VA) status – as each one must play their part. National Associations, European Associations, manufacturers, distributors, merchants and retailers collectively make up the European Bathroom Industry and jointly together we can achieve the VA.

## CALL FOR ACTION



As part of the Voluntary Agreement, the European Commission will be looking for ONE single label that has 80% European market coverage. To achieve this target a call for action is made to all registered brands and other Stakeholders, register your brand and product. Industry has a unique opportunity to lead and not have a mandatory scheme that will bring more complexity to our sector.

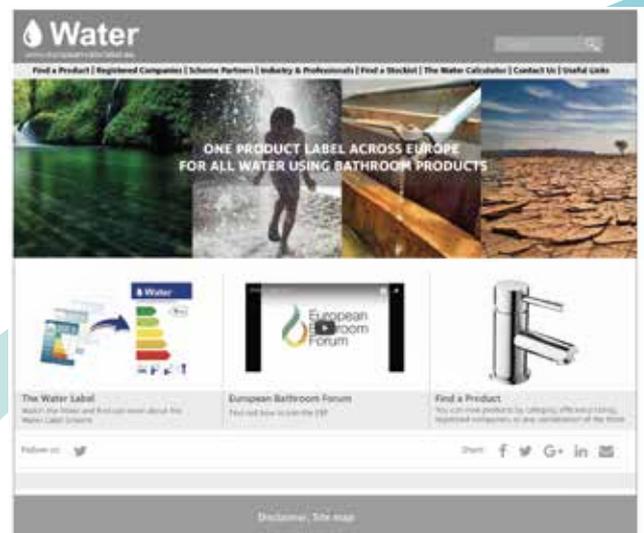
## NEW WEBSITE TO BE LAUNCHED

The European Bathroom Forum (EBF) is in the final stages of releasing its new website – the first step in moving the existing Water Label site to the European Bathroom Forum. The site has been totally refreshed and carries the newly launched EBF video. The site will host all Forum minutes, agendas and supporting papers, thus providing an open and transparency to all interested parties.

If you would like to share how the Water Label has been successful for you, where you have displayed the label, then please send visuals to:

[info@europeanbathroomforum.org](mailto:info@europeanbathroomforum.org).

All submissions will be used on the website.



## NEXT EBF MEETING

The EBF Forum will be meeting on 8th March 2018, Park Inn by Radisson Frankfurt Airport Hotel.

If you are interested in attending register your interest by emailing: [info@europeanbathroomforum.org](mailto:info@europeanbathroomforum.org)

