



TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

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## **Sabaf: the easiest energy to produce is the one we can easily save at home**

Transparency, efficiency in using resources, integrated balance sheet, eco-sustainability. These are only some of the associations that we can make thinking of Sabaf, the company from Ospitaletto that is the main producer in Italy and one of the main producers in the world of kitchen components, and its work during the last fifty years since its foundation.

Yes, because it has always been Sabaf's corporate philosophy to **achieve new objectives in the efficient use of resources and in full respect of safety and quality**. And if many years ago it was, above all, a question of corporate, human, mechanical and financial resources, now Sabaf has widened and enriched the concept of "resource" and "concerned party", in this way becoming **a body within a society in which input and output must be balanced with the legitimate interests of all the parties involved**.

This was how the Integrated Balance Sheet was founded, winning the company the Balance Sheet Oscar FERPI 2004 which became an instrument of maximum transparency in the communication of results. A unique version of the balance sheet, in which economic-financial results and results referring to the social-environmental repercussions of the production business are presented together. "A decision – as **Angelo Bettinzoli, Managing Director of Sabaf** states– which is aimed at emphasising the indissoluble link that exists between both aspects. **Accounting figures and social repercussions, in fact, can never be assessed separately**".

But Sabaf's commitment doesn't end here. Its effort is on-going, even at the level of investments in research, to improve the quality of the working environment, to reduce emissions and the residues of processes deriving from the numerous production processes to insignificant levels. But also the commitment to lower the consumption of energy and materials during the product's whole life cycle.

An amazing example is represented, for example, by the **transition from Series II to the new Series III burners**. If the former demonstrated an average efficiency of 57% (already higher than European standards EN 30.2.1 equal to 52%) the new ones achieve 65%. Estimating an average daily utilisation of 20 minutes and an average life for a hob of 18.6 years, energy saving is around 200 cubic meters of gas per home. But the results become even more surprising if we imagine extending the use of Series III all over Europe. In this case we could **save more than 2.2 billion cubic meters of gas**, i.e. the monthly consumption of all thermo-electric power stations in Italy put together!



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Moreover, we must also consider that in many European countries, especially in Italy, most electricity is produced in thermo-electric power stations that burn fossil fuels, with an average yield of 35%. Therefore, electric hobs waste most primary energy, using at the most 25% of it with the more efficient induction hobs (but also less than 20% with electric hobs fitted with traditional resistances), compared with 65% used by Sabaf Series III burners. Therefore, using gas hobs, 2/3 of primary energy could be saved in Europe and millions of tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be avoided.

Another very interesting example are the results of the **transition from brass cocks to the new generation aluminium cocks**, which, based on an annual production of 25 million items allow a **reduction of around 2,000 tons of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere** (conversion factor 575g/kWh according to ENEL<sup>1</sup>).

The last example in order of date concerning Sabaf's commitment in the fight in favour of eco-sustainability was the launch on 8th April this year of its web site SabafLife.com, which will accompany the institutional address guaranteeing a place to discuss topical matters concerning the environment and technology. An instrument dedicated not only to the players in the Sabaf world, but also to the end user because, as Luca **Salvi, Marketing & Sales Director of the company** likes to repeat **"The easiest energy to produce is the one we can easily save at home"**.

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#### **SABAF Spa**

Founded during the early 50s, SABAF has grown steadily to become the main manufacturer in Italy and one of the first manufacturers worldwide of household appliance equipment components.

There are four main production lines: taps, thermostats and burners, needed for gas-cooking equipment and hinges for cooking equipment, washing and cooling. The technological know-how, the productive flexibility and capacity to offer a large range of components, based on the manufacturers' needs, and according to the specific traits of the various markets, represent SABAF's strong points. SABAF operates in a highly specialized sector, where demand is constantly changing and it is more and more directed towards products that guarantee reliability and safety.

The Sabaf group employs about 600 employees and is active with the Parent Company SABAF S.p.A. and with the subsidiaries Faringosi Hinges, leader in the production of hinges for ovens, washers and dishwashers, and Sabaf do Brazil, active in the production of burners for the South American market. Sabaf also operates in China. Its corporate office is located in Shanghai. Sabaf has been trading on the Italian Stock Exchange since March 24, 1998. It has also been part of Segmento Titoli con Alti Requisiti (STAR) since April 2001. With a turnover of around 149 million euro in 2007, Sabaf's quota on the European and world market has been estimated at around 50% in Europe and more than 10% in the world.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.enel.it/attivita/ambiente/energiaelettrica/archivio/articolo.asp?page=/attivita/ambiente/energy/energia25\\_hp/energia25/index.asp](http://www.enel.it/attivita/ambiente/energiaelettrica/archivio/articolo.asp?page=/attivita/ambiente/energy/energia25_hp/energia25/index.asp)