



COP 14 delegates to wear wooden badges as part of the fight against plastic pollution

For the first time at a Conference of the Parties, delegates from 196 countries will be identified by cards made from wood.

This innovative product was developed by **SELP**, a French company specializing in smart cards. The COP identification cards will be made of birch wood from sustainable forests in Finland.

"This is the **first time that wooden cards will be used to identify people** at a global event," says Thierry Vannier, commercial director of SELP. "With the printing and the protective varnish, the end product is 95% organic and **100% recyclable**." According to Vannier, "It's a perfect example of where hi-tech meets low-tech to produce an exceptional product demonstrating our commitment to safeguarding a sustainable future."

Information about the wooden cards

The birch wood comes from Finnish forests with FSC certification.

The wood is rolled out into thin sheets by French company Ebene-Veneers in the Charente, then delivered to SELP which is responsible for the production of the cards.

At **SELP's factory in Mareuil (Dordogne)**, the sheets of wood are cut and printed to become customizable badges. Production time will be 5 to 6 days

At the end of COP 14, the cards will be crushed. The woodchips would be suitable for chipboard manufacturing, and could finish as part of a table or a desk ...

SELP, French SME and producer of secure cards

SELP manages **three plants in France** and produces more than **300 million cards a year**, doing business in 60 countries. Its clients include major retailers, banks and governments.

SELP is unique within its activity sector for its commitment to **ecologically-friendly** products. For the past ten years, the company has been offering its customers **alternatives to plastic** in the form of cardboard cards, PLA (corn starch) and now wood while all the time, maintaining its ultra-secure technology.

These new materials are used for loyalty cards, gift cards and access cards. Biodegradable PVC has already been made available to banks for payment cards.

COP 14 will take place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 17 to 29 November 2018.

196 countries and 4,500 delegates will be present at the United Nations' convention.

On the agenda: climate change, protection of biological diversity and the fight against pollution by disposable plastics.

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