

“Month of Service” – Alcoa Foundation

Environment and Sustainable Development

The Alcoa Foundation chose the month of October to renew its worldwide event called “Month of Service”. On the topics of Environment and Sustainable Development, each Alcoa business unit organised actions during the whole month of October 2006, involving all staff and local communities.

This year, Alcoa Architectural Products Merxheim wanted to associate its action with the French national campaign for waste reduction – an issue that concerns all of us and is at the heart of our environmental concerns. As the French publicity campaign from the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development says: “There are no small gestures when we are 60 million people to make them.”

In this week’s programme there are different main topics, such as the importance of buying properly to limit harmful waste, preventing over-packaging, selecting waste and individual composting: many issues within our power but which are not all reflex actions for everyone. It was a well-chosen theme because the operation awakened very lively interest from Alcoa employees and Merxheim Municipal Council, with almost 500 participants, including 100 employees from Alcoa Architectural Products, 150 pupils at Merxheim schools, 200 inhabitants of Merxheim and 50 members of associations.



Nathalie Brender
Alcoa Foundation French Team Leader

Programme of the week:

6 October:	\$40,000 check delivery to the “Adèle de Glaubitz” association in order to pay for solar panels for the Specialised Care Unit at the St André de Cernay Institute.
7 October:	Clean-up Action in Merxheim with the association “Avenir Nature Propre”. 5 Alcoa employees participated.
12 October:	Exhibition and workshops run by the “Enjeu Nature” association. Open to Merxheim schools and Alcoa staff.
13 October:	Recognition for the 150 volunteers from Alcoa Architectural Products Merxheim and check deliveries in the presence of regional political figures. \$ 15,000 grant to the Arboriculture association of Guebwiller. \$ 50,000 grant to the Mulhouse National Chemistry Higher Education College for new computers and laboratory equipment following the explosion of 24 March 2006.
14 October:	Waste Reduction Campaign for the inhabitants of Merxheim, in partnership with Merxheim Municipal Council and schools, ADEME*, the General Council and the associations “Enjeu Nature” and “Avenir Nature Propre”. * ADEME = Agence De l’Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l’Energie (Environmental and Energy Control Agency)