

Press release

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Cooperation agreements for sustainable and energy efficient homes

Ballast Nedam has just signed two agreements with external partners for the sustainable development of homes and housing estates in the Netherlands. This is a testament to the fact that, in addition to its existing range of products, Ballast Nedam aims to be even more resolute in meeting society's desire for more sustainable products. This also extends to products in the day-to-day residential and living environments of private citizens and companies.

Libella-Haus

Ballast Nedam has signed a cooperation agreement with the German company Libella-Haus GmbH. This involves the construction and sale of energy-efficient homes on the Dutch market. Although the structures in question will be industrially produced, the end-user will still be able to choose from a wide range of options.

Libella-Haus is a subsidiary company of Kampa AG-concern, which is listed on the stock exchange. The Kampa Group has constructed approximately 65,000 houses, mostly for the German market. Since the year 2000, Libella-Haus has specialized in the production of highly-insulated, energy-efficient homes, which use heat pumps to provide hot water and to heat or cool the house. These homes are characterized by the fact that they are not connected to the gas supply network. The various installations are electrically powered, which supplements the savings achieved by the heat pumps/air treatment units. They have an energy performance coefficient of between 0.6 and 0.64. The costs of the electricity used by these Libella houses amounts to approximately €900 per annum, exclusive of VAT and other duties/taxes. The standard consumption figures for a conventional Dutch house amount to approximately €1300 per annum. If environmentally friendly, green power is used, then these houses can be CO₂ neutral.

These properties are available both as semi-detached and detached homes.

The other partners in this agreement are the Verenigde Bedrijven Noppert of Heerenveen, and Jorritsma Beheer of Bolsward. Together with these partners from the province of Friesland, Ballast Nedam is involved in a PPP contract for urban restructuring in Leeuwarden. The sale of the first 30 Libella homes in the *Blauwe Stad* (Blue City) development plan in Groningen will commence after the summer holidays.

EcoVilla

Essent, Ballast Nedam Infra, DHV and Stichting EcoVilla (the EcoVilla Foundation) have reached agreement on the joint development and construction of the EcoVilla residential and lifestyle concept. These organizations will be incorporating a range of currently available, practical solutions into the EcoVilla homes and the EcoVilla Toolbox. The goal is to bring the potential benefits of attractive, modern, and affordable sustainability within the reach of ordinary citizens. This will involve providing consumers with the choice of various specific solutions in the areas of sustainable housing, diet, mobility, recreation, etc. The Toolbox is also intended for use in the creation of sustainable housing estates, focusing on social aspects and shared amenities.

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“EcoVilla” is an open concept, which is suitable for everyone, regardless of age or lifestyle. This will help ordinary citizens to make the transition to a modern and sustainable way of life, while being fully informed of the available choices and the costs involved. The EcoVilla Toolbox offers a palette of sustainable options involving low CO₂ emissions and a smaller global footprint. It will enable people to examine the options, find inspiration, and ultimately make a decision and complete the purchase. The Toolbox is a dynamic and living compilation of options, which is updated from year to year. In bringing the EcoVillas to fruition, the collaborating parties have had to pool their expertise and capabilities.

EcoVilla test bed

The intention is that the first EcoVilla will be built in Boxtel. The goal is to commence construction work before the end of 2007. Private citizens, resident’s groups, and local authorities throughout the Netherlands have already expressed interest in Stichting EcoVilla, and have submitted requests for information. EcoVillas will be designed for rural and urban areas, as well as overspill estates. There will even be floating versions.

For further details contact:

Ballast Nedam N.V., Adrie van Kessel, telephone +31 (0)30 285 41 61 / +31 (0)6 22 45 71 85

You can download photographs of these homes from the press section of our website

www.ballast-nedam.com