How was ECOSALT developed?

Courtesy: Necton S.A.

Ecosalt label has been developed using the concept of **ecological footprint** and using the **LCA tool.**

ECOSALT – Eco-labelling of Traditional Sea Salt and "Flor de Sal" is a project born from a **partnership between Necton S.A,** a salt production company from the Algarve region in Portugal, **Instituto Superior Técnico,** a Portuguese university, and **Sativa,** an audit and certification company.

The idea for the project was conceived by Necton. Necton is the main promoter and source of information. In this project, the company intended to cooperate with a scientifically renowned Portuguese university, which we found at IST, in order to achieve the most trustworthy results possible. This was also why Necton brought Sativa into the partnership, as a third party which validates methodologies, actions and calculations.

ECOSALT was **divided in four main steps:**

Step one consisted on the **characterization of salt production systems.** All inputs required for the production had to be quantified, as for example machinery, labor and energy consumed.

In **step two,** the **information assembled was used to calculate all the impacts of salt production** using two methods: **Life Cycle Assessment,** and the **Ecological Footprint.**

Step three was the **design of an Environmental Sustainability Standard** which sums up the results of the two previous steps. This standard may be used by other companies who wish to adopt environmentally-friendly techniques of salt production.

The **fourth and final step** is **communication of results.** This step targets to inform consumers of the environmental impacts of salt products.

The ecological label in Necton's products is ECOSALT's flagship. It is the end of the line result of all work carried out. It provides consumers with some results of the environmental assessment of salt products, and directs those most interested to places where they can look up more information.
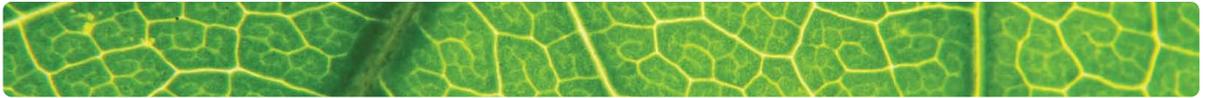
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For the products containing the eco-label, several actions will take place for the launch. For example, the product will be launched at the BIOFACH 2009 International Fair in Germany, which is the most important international event concerning organic food.

+ info

For more information about Necton company see:

http://www.necton.pt/
http://www.necton.eu/

For more information about Instituto Superior Técnico see:

http://www.ist.utl.pt/

For more information about Sativa company see:

http://www.sativa.pt/

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