

Industry News - Green

UL Environment, the environmentally focused subsidiary of international product-testing organization Underwriters Laboratories (UL), has launched an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) program. The EPD program will provide a multi-attribute label documenting the life-cycle impact of a product, including such indicators as greenhouse gas emissions and use of primary energy.

"With more than 300 certifications and eco-labels on the market, determining which products are truly green is next to impossible," UL Environment President Stephen Wenc said in a statement. "Our EPD service will add credibility and alleviate market confusion by helping purchasers make informed decisions."

"We're trying to bring clarity to this space," Paul Firth, UL Environment's manager of science and research. Firth credits the U.S. Green Building Council and its LEED rating system for driving the interest in green building products and the desire for greater transparency regarding the environmental performance of materials.

The label will be standardized across many product categories and will require third-party-verified life-cycle assessment—meaning that the EPD accounts for environmental impacts from acquisition of raw materials through disposal or recycling. According to UL Environment's website, its EPD product categories so far include structural steel, laminate flooring, carpet tiles, window films, and a variety of other building materials, lighting products and textiles.

For more information, visit www.ulenvironment.com or contact Brook's energy specialist, Ken Scott, at kscott@brookelec.com



Article adapted from www.buildinggreen.com and www.greenbiz.com

New Product Information



January and February were fun, but what about March? At Brook, March is switchgear month with our vendor partner, Eaton/Cutler-Hammer. With internal product trainings for our sales staff to ensure that you always have the most up-to-date information just a phone call away and great stock programs, know that you can always look to Brook for great deals on Eaton products.

In addition to the additional safety switches we have in stock (see the flyer earlier in this newsletter), don't forget about Brook's stocking panel program! We have standard panels, enclosed control and lighting contactors in stock. Just email us at look2brook@brookelec.com or contact your gear specialist today.

Don't Forget!

If you're looking for an easy way to price up switchgear jobs in the convenience of your office, wherever that may be, use the Brook Gear Booklet! Put together by our gear team, use these sheets for quick and easy referencing for our 120/208, 120/240 and 480/277 panelboards.

For a copy, just call one of our gear team members at **847-353-6300**.



SALES & MARKETING

Industry News - Energy Services

At the 2011 Chicago Auto Show, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn and officials from the City of Chicago announced the selection of 350Green, a developer of electric vehicle (EV) charging networks, to design, build and operate a network of 280 EV charging stations throughout the Chicago area. The project is among the first and largest of its kind in the United States, and will help the City address two of the most vexing challenges facing widespread adoption of EVs: range anxiety and access to a garage for overnight charging. 350Green plans to install and operate its stations in partnership with retail hosts across high-traffic urban shopping centers and other places near where Chicago-area EV drivers live and work.

"This project will encourage greater use of green transportation alternatives by making electric vehicle use more convenient and accessible in one of the most heavily traveled cities in the country," said Governor Quinn. "Through strategic investments like this, we are encouraging long-term economic growth, supporting innovation and creating the jobs of today and tomorrow."



City of Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley said, "Chicago is on the cutting edge of national efforts to prepare for electric vehicles. When this project is completed, Chicago will have the most DC quick-charging stations of any city in the country, with only the entire State of California surpassing our station numbers." The City of Chicago and its Department of the Environment are helping facilitate the implementation of the project.

Much of the early focus around EV infrastructure has been on putting charging stations in the home garages of customers, which benefits only those who have a garage. Since many residents in Chicago do not have access to a garage, this effectively limits the number of people who can participate in the EV revolution.

"Our public charging stations with fast chargers will be widely and conveniently located near where residents live and work around Chicago," said Mariana Gerzanych, 350Green's founder and CEO. "Now, EV ownership becomes a possibility for anyone in Chicago, regardless of whether or not they have access to charging in a personal garage."

The development of the EV industry in Chicago will have benefits for both the environment and the economy. For example, a 10 percent conversion of petroleum-based vehicles to electric vehicles in the Chicago metro area could result in a reduction of 1.8 million tons of CO₂ annually. Similarly, the reduction of gasoline use will lead to an estimated \$525 million positive economic impact on the region every year.

The company also expects that construction, operation and management of the 73 DC Fast and 207 Level 2 charging stations, plus the opening of a nationwide customer support center, will create approximately 50 jobs in the greater Chicago area. The project is valued at \$8.8 million, with public funding of up to \$1.9 million. 350Green will fund the remaining \$6.9 million.

350Green is a project developer that designs, builds and operates scalable networks of plug-in electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the US. More information on 350Green and its projects can be found at its website: www.350green.com.

More information on Brook and its sustainability initiatives are available by contacting us at look2brook@brookelec.com.

