



NEWS RELEASE

December 2008

Top Safety Accreditation for Kosme UK

To further strengthen their unrivalled levels of quality and service, Kosme UK, leading supplier of high quality turnkey filling, labelling, packaging and conveying machines is one of the latest group of successful companies to join a leading edge scheme designed to help the industry improve its safety record.

Kosme UK recently received accreditation from SAFEcontractor, a programme which recognises very high standards of health and safety practise amongst UK contractors and service providers, and one identified by many large organisations.

Specialising in the bottling and packaging industry, Kosme UK most recent clients have included major players such as: Britvic, Unilever, English Wine Group, Hall & Woodhouse, Chivas Brothers Whisky and Premiere Foods.

The SAFEcontractor accreditation is even more important to SME's who need that peace of mind that their contractor is compliant with the highest levels of health and safety. Kosme can provide this comfort as they have been vetted by an independent company.

The company's application for SAFEcontractor accreditation was driven by the need for a uniform standard across the business and to ensure outstanding levels of service and the accreditation is expected to enhance the company's ability to attract new contracts.

Richard Portman, Managing Director of Kosme UK comments, "We value our staff as our greatest asset and it follows that their safety should be our top priority. With a clean record of health and safety issues we hope to keep the momentum going through continuous risk assessment and sound safety practice."

Safecontractor is operated by international safety, health and environmental risk management specialists, the National Britannia Group. The system is applicable to most sectors although it is particularly relevant to food and beverage manufacture.

James Ostler, Managing Director of Information Service at National Britannia said, "Major organisations can no longer run the risk of employing contractors who are not able to prove that they have sound health and safety policies. More companies need to understand the importance of adopting good risk management in the way that Kosme UK have. The firms' high standard has set an example, which hopefully will be followed by other companies within the sector".

Under the SAFEcontractor system, businesses undergo a vetting process, which examines health and safety procedures and their track record for safe practice. Those companies meeting a high standard are included on a database, which is accessible to registered users only via a website, www.safecontractor.com.

Employer-organisations who sign up to the scheme can access the database, which enables them to vet potential contractors before then even set foot on site. These employers agree that, as users of the scheme, they will engage only those who have received accreditation.

Over eighty major nation-wide businesses, from several key sectors, have signed up to use the scheme when selecting contractors for services such as building, cleaning, maintenance, refurbishment or electrical and mechanical work.

This recent accreditation illustrates Kosme's commitment to continuously improve their professional service with the recognition of a highly credible assessment scheme. Kosme UK is proud to add this accreditation to their comprehensive company portfolio.

Richard Portman concludes, "Working towards Kosme UK achieving the important SAFEcontractor accreditation has been an ongoing process. This new accreditation is highly thought of in the industry and is viewed positively by both staff and customers; it clearly demonstrates Kosme's commitment to Health and Safety practices".

For more information regarding Kosme please visit www.kosme.co.uk or call +44 (0) 1283 523713

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Notes to Editors

Kosme UK is a leading supplier of bespoke, turnkey filling, labelling, packaging and conveying machines for the packing and bottling industry. Working with customers, from comprehensive design, to project management, Kosme's goal is to fully satisfy the most demanding of packaging and bottling requirements. The company also offers extensive, on-site technical support and servicing with a dedicated UK team and parts for a rapid response to customer needs.

Kosme UK is an independently run part of the Kronos Group, in close working partnership with Kosme's research, development and manufacturing facilities in Italy. www.kosme.co.uk

The National Britannia Group is one of UK's largest independent safety, health and environmental risk management specialists, employing a total of 450 people within its UK operations. More than 200 of these personnel are scientists or other qualified professionals. The business provides leading edge solutions in disciplines such as health & safety, food safety, water quality control, environmental management, occupational health and hygiene, fire safety and asbestos management. It also operates two major information services on behalf of the UK Health & Safety Executive. Its heavy commitment to research and development has led to the creation of e-riskMANAGER, the world's first interactive web-based risk management system. For more information visit www.WhatRisk.com.

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