

## **(23 February 2006) Dutch Minister visits highly praised LIFE-Environment project**

Pieter van Geel, Dutch Secretary for State Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment, took the opportunity on 23 January 2006 to pay a visit to a dry cleaning shop that uses innovative cleaning technology developed with support from LIFE-Environment.

The shop was opened in 2005 by AGA/Linde, a partner in the project DETECTIVE - "Demonstration textile CO<sub>2</sub> treatment introduction validation effort." The project set out to demonstrate that textile cleaning with liquid carbon dioxide (LCO<sub>2</sub>) is a competitive alternative for dry cleaning with Perchloroethylene, a likely carcinogenic solvent. The project has been highly successful.

As well as learning about the DETECTIVE project, the visitors were given an overview of the LIFE programme and the reasons behind the EC's co-financing of this type of project, as well as an insight on the present state of the discussions concerning the future LIFE + financial instrument. It was highlighted that the quantification of environmental benefits is essential to justify the Community co-financing of projects towards policy makers and other stakeholders.

For more information about DETECTIVE, see the [project summary](#).



Secretary of State for the Environment Mr Pieter van Geel (left) in discussion with Paul Stoffels (right), manager of Hangers Amersfoort (owned by project partner AGA/Linde), in front of the LCO<sub>2</sub> cleaning technology demonstrated by the LIFE project DETECTIVE.



Paul Stoffels (second left), manager of the Hangers Amersfoort, part of the project partner AGA/Linde, Walther den Otter (right), Phas BV, subcontractor in the project, Foppe de Walle (left), project partner Promikron and Joaquim Capitão (second right), Deputy Head of the LIFE unit, DG ENV, in front of the LCO<sub>2</sub> cleaning technology demonstrated by the LIFE project DETECTIVE.

Reference EUROPA – Environment – LIFE – News – Index

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