

PRESS RELEASE

Greenhouse complex Koppert Cress in Monster most energy-conserving in the world

Koppert Cress opens door to general public during Kom in de Kas 2011

Barneveld, 31 March 2011 – Koppert Cress, Europe's largest micro vegetable nursery, placed another order today to use LED lighting in its greenhouse complex. This makes Koppert Cress the most energy-conserving greenhouse complex in the world. This coming weekend, the nursery will be opening its doors to the general public during Kom in de Kas 2011.

A lot of work is currently being done to design the eight metre high greenhouse complex for the 21st century. A huge saving is being realised due to an optimum use of the latest techniques in the field of heat and cold pumps, LED lighting and solar collectors, giving Monster the most energy-conserving greenhouse complex in the world. The surplus energy is supplied to the nearby residential area. After a successful adoption of LED lighting in the 'semi-closed' greenhouse complex, Koppert Cress decided to further expand its greenhouses with LED lamps from Lemnis Lighting.

Faster development of crops, less light pollution for the environment

Long-term tests have indicated that LED lighting has a positive influence on the development of plants: the production of the various herbs goes faster; the crop is tastier and remains more compact. By using layered cultivation, optimum use is made of the space, and the production of micro vegetables can be increased on the same floor area. In addition, the lighting is much less damaging to the environment: instead of a bright yellow glow, these lamps provide a soft purple glow that does not hinder the environment.

Sustainable revolution

Rob Baan, managing director of Koppert Cress: 'The horticulture sector is currently focusing on innovative projects that combine ecology and economy. In order to reduce energy use, we did not use (unwanted) heat providing SON T lighting. A LED lighting setup was created in cooperation with Lemnis Lighting. This releases much less heat that can also be directed better. The heat is already transported and reused in the armatures. Moreover, the LED lamps can be switched on and off faster. The result on our crops is so revolutionary that we again opted for Lemnis Oreon LED lighting for our expansion, giving our leading role in the world a new impulse'.

Jeroen van Velzen of Lemnis Lighting: 'After having examined the optimum crop LED lighting ratio in cooperation with PB Techniek for years, we have now found the right combination. Koppert Cress is one of the worldwide trendsetters in the field of sustainable innovation. We have found a sustainable solution for the excessive and energy-inefficient use of artificial lighting in the Netherlands. This enables us to contribute to this important sector in the Netherlands and to our sustainable forerunner role in the world.'

Kom in de Kas 2011 at Koppert Cress

Dutch greenhouse farming is a world player and an innovative, dynamic sector that is of major importance to Dutch society. The 34th edition of Kom in de Kas (come into the greenhouse), the largest public event of the Dutch greenhouse farming sector, will take place on 2 and 3 April. Hundreds of hospitable vegetable, flower and plant cultivators will be opening the doors to their greenhouse to the general public this weekend. Due to its major wave of innovation, the national opening of Kom in de Kas 2011 will take place at Koppert Cress in Monster on Friday 1 April. During the weekend, Koppert Cress will open its doors to the general public together with 12 other companies at De Poel in Monster. Over 25,000 visitors are expected.

About Koppert Cress

Koppert Cress produces cresses and specialties that are marketed worldwide under the denominator *Architecture Aromatique*. The team of Koppert Cress opted for a unique approach to end users, by introducing its products to top chefs worldwide. They discovered 'Micro Vegetables' and use them to enrich their dishes. The company has branches in Monster and New York and close cooperation with Japan. It was recently awarded the first Westland Inspiration Award and the 2011 Tuinbouwondernemersprijs (horticulture entrepreneur prize).

About Lemnis Lighting

Lemnis Lighting B.V. is a forerunner in sustainable lighting solutions based on LED technology and has won the 2009 technology pioneer Award of the World Economic Forum and the World Bank's Lighting Africa Award. In November 2006, it introduced the first LED lamp that can be regarded as a fully-fledged substitute of the light bulb. It also provides other product uses such as public lighting and greenhouse lighting. Lemnis Lighting is a subsidiary of Tendris Holding. Tendris initiates, develops and invests in companies that focus on market-oriented, sustainable and eco-friendly solutions.

Editors note, not for publication

For more information, please contact Catherine Tadema or Annemieke Jacobs of LVB Networks, tel: 033 4220080, c.tadema@lvbnetworks.nl/ a.jacobs@lvbnetworks.nl.