



CEO, M&S, Sir Stuart Rose and CEO, MAS, Mahesh Amalean at the opening.



MAS opens eco manufacturing plant

MAS holdings officially opened MAS Intimates Thurulie, its eco-manufacturing plant located at MAS fabric park, Thulhiriya. The plant manufactures lingerie to UK high street retailer, Marks and Spencer (M&S). Chief Executive of Mark and Spencer Sir Stuart Rose said the MAS factory is a truly exciting development in clothing production. "M&S and MAS will trial a completely new approach to manufacturing to set standards

for others to follow. Not only has it been designed to be carbon neutral, but also we hope to save electricity of 40 per cent and to reduce the water consumption by 50 per cent by making use of the rainwater for wastewater management systems and 'low-flow' fixtures. And I would like to say that MAS holdings is one of the best factories I have ever seen," he said. M&S invested around US \$ seven million on this eco friendly factory. The factory has been designed to reduce carbon emission and aims to become carbon neutral and also it features the biggest installation of solar panels in Sri Lanka, which will provide around 10 per cent of the total electricity required for the plant.

Pictures by Saliya Rupasinghe



The factory visit



Project Director, Paul Bowes



Employees at work



Production line at MAS factory

Green walk of Brandix

Brandix inaugurated country's first converted Green Factory in Seeduwa. The 130,000 square-foot Brandix Casualwear factory is the Group's leading manufacturing plant for Marks and Spencer (M&S) and its conversion at a cost of US \$ 2.5 million into a 'Green' plant, has resulted in a reduction of carbon emissions by 75 per cent, an energy saving of 45 per cent and a reduction of water consumption of nearly 60 per cent.

The 30 year old factory has been re-designed to surpass all Green factory standards stipulated for energy consumption, water conservation, solid waste management and carbon emissions by the 'Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design' (LEED) Green Building Rating System of the US Green Building Council (USGBC). It will support Marks and Spencer's 'Plan A' initiative to

encourage suppliers around the world to make their supply chains carbon neutral through Green manufacturing processes. Chief Executive of Mark and Spencer Sir Stuart Rose said M&S is delighted to support the 'eco-factory' developed by Brandix, which will produce great quality clothing for their customers back in the UK.

Pictures by Sumanachandra Ariyawansa

Brandix CEO speaks...

Recalling that Sri Lanka has been environmentally responsible for more than 2500 years, Ashroff Omar pointed out that the ancient kings of Sri Lanka had built thousands of reservoirs for rain water harvesting, flood protection, irrigation and domestic needs. "Many of these majestic reservoirs are still in use today. This is a tradition that we can be proud of," he said, adding that as a

business group, Brandix has from its inception been environment conscious. "Some of our manufacturing plants are located in the very areas that were once ruled by the ancient kings. Our workers come from a culture whose existence has historically been closely linked to the land and man-made water resources. We have found this ethos to be both inspiring and socially and economically sensible," Omar said. Brandix pioneered the concept of total solu-

tions in the Sri Lankan apparel industry and is Sri Lanka's largest apparel exporter with a consolidated annual turnover of over US\$320 million. The winner of two Presidential Export Awards and the recipient of the prestigious international Green Apple award for environmental best practice, the Group is also strongly focused on CSR initiatives that primarily involve water.



A token from an employee



CEO, M&S, Sir Stuart Rose, Brandix Chairman, Ken Balendra, Brandix Director, AJ Johnpillai and British High Commissioner Dr. Peter Hayes at the factory opening.

