



BNP PARIBAS

BNL, the Italian subsidiary of BNP Paribas, has signed a cooperation agreement with the AMA, Rome's municipal environment agency. Under this agreement, BNL's branches in Rome shall carry out a selective waste collection system. Leonardo Cavallari is here to talk to us about it. Mr Cavallari, you are Head of Facility Management and also Head of Energy Management at BNL. Would you tell us how this initiative came about and how BNL's employees responded to it?

This initiative was created because the AMA was required to offer a selective waste collection service in Testaccio, one of Rome's districts. And as one of BNL's main HQ offices is located in this district (at the Piazza Albania), we decided to participate in this initiative and extend it to all our HQ offices.

What does it involve?

The AMA supplies us with recycling bins to enable us to sort our waste between paper, plastic and cans, and we make sure that we sort efficiently. The AMA collects our waste regularly and takes it to official recycling sites. When this initiative was communicated to employees, there was a positive reaction. So basically, everybody here at BNL supports and participates actively in the initiative.

What exactly does this selective collection process involve?

The bins we received contained nylon or plastic bags that we distributed throughout our offices at strategic locations for use by employees. They throw their cans, paper and plastic into separate bins. Waste is put into bags in the appropriate recycling bins. These bins are emptied regularly, i.e. around once a week, and transferred into AMA containers outside the buildings. The AMA then collects these containers, empties them and takes the waste separately to the appropriate recycling sites, which means that we use these sites more efficiently. This system works for them and also for us, because by participating in such a project, we are also helping to solve a problem, which is quite difficult to overcome in a city like Rome. We decided to use this solution in our HQ buildings which house a large number of our staff and who consequently generate a lot of waste.

Finally, do you plan to roll out this initiative across the country?

Yes, we do plan to extend it to the whole country. Of course we cannot use the same company because the AMA is a municipal agency in Rome. We also want to do this because nowadays selective waste collection is becoming the norm. We are in the process of setting this up with private waste collection companies. From the second quarter of this year we plan to initiate a selective waste collection system at all our branches, respecting the same criteria, even though we will be using a private company.



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