



05

# Befesa and the Community

We have a social commitment, to actively contribute toward sustainable development and toward the social and economic progress of the communities in which we operate by means of the application of innovative technological solutions.

# Befesa and the Community

For Befesa it is very important to grow together with the communities in which it is present, promoting the creation of bonds to reinforce the long-term relationship between company and society, and respecting and promoting Human Rights in its realm of influence. Befesa develops activities that wager for a sustainable world.

## Policy, strategy and objectives

---

Befesa considers corporate social responsibility as a strategic factor and one of the basic pillars of its present and future strategy. This is why it incorporates corporate social responsibility values in its day-to-day activities, naturally integrating them into the strategy, culture and organization of the Company, throughout all management systems.

Befesa channels part of its social action through the Focus-Abengoa Foundation. Since its creation in 1982, the Foundation is integrated into the essence of the company and constitutes the active instrument for managing its social work.

The main objective of the Foundation is the promotion of culture in its diverse artistic and scientific manifestations, attending fundamentally

to the preservation, dissemination and development of the historical and cultural heritage of Seville and its Latin American projection. The Foundation is likewise involved in projects of social insertion and reinsertion, cooperation with the defense of environmental heritage and other activities related to technological and social development, with special dedication to disabled persons.

Since 1991, the head offices of the Foundation are located in the Hospital de los Venerables Sacerdotes in Seville, a 17<sup>th</sup> century historical-artistic monument granted by the Brotherhood of the Venerables and the archbishopric of Seville. Following a long and costly restoration process, not just of the architecture of the building but of its paintings, sculptures, gilt work, cuttings, etc., Focus-Abengoa has returned this singular building to the city and future generations, one of the most complete and best preserved testimonies of the Spanish baroque heritage which, by means of many actions intertwined with foundational aims, has become a living center and source of active learning in the city.

## Programs

---

In 2008, Befesa developed several corporate social responsibility programs with some of the communities where it performs its activity, which involve an active contribution to sustainable development and to the social and economic progress of the communities in which it operates, by means of the application of innovative technological solutions that work not only to the benefit of the company and the attainment of its strategic objectives, but which also have a bearing on the improvement of the social, labor and environmental surroundings. These activities promote research, training, population development, sports and protection of the environment.

### **Nerva and Huelva Social action program (Spain)**

For several years, Befesa has developed a community action plan with the inhabitants of Huelva and Nerva, very close to the installations of its industrial waste management center. The purpose of the activities is to contribute to the cultural, sports and environmental development of

the region. In Nerva, Befesa has collaborated by supporting several local sports clubs, a painting exhibition, a short film festival and a music contest organized by the local conservatory, the local NGO Ayuda Pueblo Saharaui and various activities of neighboring associations. It has also participated in the II National Workshop on Environmental Protection and Cultural Heritage organized by Seprona. In Huelva, Befesa annually sponsors the botanical garden of the Santo Angel School, the only one in the city.

### **Cartagena social action program (Spain)**

Since 2004, Befesa has taken part with different social groups in Cartagena, above all with the population of Alumbres in the Escombrera Valley close to the installations of the Befesa Treatment Center in Cartagena. In the course of that year, it collaborated with the Brotherhood of the Virgen de la Caridad de Alumbres on the Easter Week activities; and with the Alumbres Residents' Association on the organization of the festivities of the patron saint of San Roque. Lastly, as in other years, Befesa gave support to the Hospitalidad de Santa Teresa, a charity association with a reception center whose main purpose is to care for people

# Befesa and the Community

without sufficient means and who require assistance to survive. It is a center of vast local impact, thanks to the wide variety of social activities that it organizes throughout the year.

## **Papa León XIII program (Peru)**

Since 2003, Befesa Peru has had a community action plan with the inhabitants of the rural agricultural colony Ciudad Modelo Papa León XIII, located in Chilca, 60 kilometers south of Lima, very close to the coast and near the safety deposit for the treatment and elimination of industrial and hazardous waste for the entire country, managed by Befesa.

Befesa Peru is the only company authorized by the Peruvian Ministry of Health to carry out the

treatment of such waste. The corporate social responsibility activities of Befesa in the community of Chilca are twofold: on the one side they are supported by the construction of basic infrastructures; and on the other, collaboration on the solution of the problems confronting the population is faced, contributing to reducing the shortage of existing work in the area, for which monthly health workshops, workshops on manual activities for the generation of income, and participation in trade fair and communal activities are organized.

In 2008, various activities were performed. Worthy of mention are the activities for the remodeling of the premises where the workshops are held for the Colonia Rural Papa León XIII; the donation of classrooms for Papa León XIII school No. 6021; the



organization of workshops on health and nutrition, the training in manual activities for the generation of income such as textiles, wallet-making, tray-painting; collaboration on communal activities for the Christmas holidays, Children's Day and Mother's Day.

### **Zimapán program (Mexico)**

Befesa Mexico undertakes activities with the communities close to its facilities, through the company Sistemas de Desarrollo Sustentable (SDS) and the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán (ACZ) foundation, created to perform corporate social responsibility tasks for populations close to the municipality of Zimapán, in the State of Hidalgo, where SDS is building a waste confinement area whose inauguration is forecast for 2009.

Befesa has supported the communities in the improvement and restoration of access roads to nearby communities: San Antonio, Estanzuela, Organal, Xhajá, Mezquite and El Tathi. Until then, the roads were dangerous for the inhabitants of those populations, particularly in the rainy season when the aforementioned communities were completely isolated, preventing transit to the county seat of Zimapán. The conditioning of the roads

furthermore facilitates the access of children to school, of laborers to their jobs and of everyone to the basic services located in Zimapán.

Furthermore in 2008 the Company collaborated with the community in the celebration of holidays such as Children's Day and Mother's Day by purchasing toys and furnishing supplies and food for the families of the communities. Human development and participative planning workshops were also organized to present opportunities for growth in populations close to SDS. Collaboration with the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán foundation

### **Activities in Argentina**

Since 2007, Befesa Argentina has sponsored the NGO Green Helmets, a group of youths whose



# Befesa and the Community

objectives include making present and future generations aware of the care for the environment and to integrate people with Down Syndrome into society. To attain these objectives young people with this syndrome are taught and trained on environmental topics, so that they may subsequently convey this knowledge in various primary schools, giving these youths the role of environmental educators. By means of these activities a first step has been made toward the inclusion of these youths, with varying capacities, in university and job life and in society.

## Activities in Nicaragua

Befesa has collaborated on several improvement and equipping works (furnishings, computer equipment, aid for school and nursing equipment), in the Escuela de Internos Hosanna of the municipality of Tipitapa, located 22 km from Managua (Nicaragua). This institution has a center where close to 30 abandoned children from this municipality and the area of Chureca live. The actions undertaken come from the interest of Befesa to participate and grow along with the communities in which it is present, thus promoting the creation of bonds that reinforce the relationship

between the company and its surroundings. In Nicaragua Befesa Agua has executed the project for the supply of drinking water and sewers for Ciudad Sandino, and is soon to commence two similar projects in the cities of San Juan del Sur and Boaco.

## Activities in France

Befesa Valera, a company whose activity includes the recycling of stainless steel waste and powder in Gravelines, in the north of France, has been supporting sports events in the community for the past twelve years by sponsoring the local basketball team B.C.M. Gravelines Dunkerque Grand Littoral, which plays in the French national league.

## Activities in Germany

Befesa Steel Services and Befesa Zinc Duiburg, both companies in Germany, have supported sports



activities in the community since 2001 by means of the sponsorship of the German soccer team Schalke 04, which plays in the first division of the Bundesliga.

### **R&D&i collaborations**

Innovation is one of the strategic objectives of Befesa for developing activities that contribute to sustainable development. This is why it participates with several foundations and centers in pursuit of development. Over the past year, Befesa has participated as Trustee of the Center of New Water Technologies, created to promote the improved management of water resources with a more sustainable and socially-responsible approach in Andalusia. It has also joined the Basque Agency for Innovation as a founding partner, the purpose of which is to coordinate and promote innovation in the Basque Country.

### **Aula Befesa**

This is an agreement for scientific, technological and educational collaboration between the Higher Technical School of Engineering of Bilbao and Befesa Medio Ambiente, S.A. One of its objectives is to contribute to the training of students of the School of Engineering of the University of the Basque Country/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea in chemical, environmental, process, end-product and derivative technologies, and particularly in everything concerning experimentation relating to these technologies. It also serves for conducting research and development and innovation activities in these same areas of technology.



# Befesa and the Community

## Social action programs undertaken in 2008 by company:

Activity or social action developed	Company	Country	Starting date	Completion date
Contribution as Trustee of the Center of New Water Technologies Foundation	Befesa Agua	Spain	13/03/2008	13/03/2008
"Water, Finance & Sustainability 2008 Workshops: New directions for a thirsty planet".	Befesa Agua	Spain	21/04/2008	22/04/2008
Sponsorship Workshop on Business Techniques, organized by the Spanish Federation of Environmental Associations (FEAMA)	Befesa Agua	United Kingdom	01/07/2008	04/07/2008
Improvement works on the "Escuela de Internos Hosanna" orphanage and equipping of the center (furnishings, computer equipment, aid for school and nursing equipment)	Befesa Agua	Nicaragua	01/07/2008	31/08/2008
Sponsorship of I International Irrigation Conference promoted by the Spanish Irrigation Manufacturers Association (AFRE) and the National Federation of Spanish Irrigation Communities (FENACORE)	Befesa Agua	Spain	18/06/2008	20/06/2008
Sponsorship of the monographic session "Water and Agriculture. New approaches in the generation of resources", organized by Global Meeting	Befesa Agua	Spain	28/10/2008	29/10/2008
Sponsorship of the sporting activity "XXIX Carrera Popular Circuito del Agua", organized by the Canal de Isabel II and the Real Federación Española de Atletismo	Befesa Agua	Spain	30/03/2008	30/03/2008
Sponsorship of the Technical Workshop "Reused water, Irrigation and Rural Development" organized by the National Federation of Spanish Irrigation Communities (FENACORE)	Befesa Agua	Spain	05/03/2008	05/03/2008
Workshops organized by Expansión Conferencias on water management in Castile-La Mancha and in Levante	Befesa Agua	Spain	21/05/2008	03/06/2008
Sponsorship of the Meeting of the Spanish Water Treatment Board (META) 2008	Befesa Agua	Spain	04/12/2008	06/12/2008
Sponsorship of the VII Conference of the Spanish Desalination and Reuse Association (AEDYR)	Befesa Agua	Spain	03/12/2008	05/12/2008
Sponsorship of the IV Technical Workshops on the Treatment of Waste Water, organized by the Association of Public Works Engineers of Eastern Andalusia and the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Environment, as well as the Andalusia Water Agency	Befesa Agua	Spain	12/02/2009	13/02/2009

Activity or social action developed	Company	Country	Starting date	Completion date
Sponsorship of the NGO "Green Helmets". Care of the Environment	Befesa Argentina	Argentina	24/04/2008	31/12/2008
Sponsorship of the Campoclaro Cycling Club in Tarragona	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	03/04/2008	31/12/2008
Alumbres residents association, collaboration on the San Roque patron saint festivities	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/08/2008	31/08/2008
Brotherhood of the Virgen de la Caridad. Collaboration on Alumbres Easter Week	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/03/2008	31/03/2008
Donation to the Hospitalidad de Santa Teresa. Alumbres	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	01/12/2008
Nerva Soccer Club	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nerva BM Club	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nerva Basketball Club	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nerva Painting Exhibition	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nerva Short Film Festival	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nerva Conservatory (Music Contest)	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Nervae Magazine	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Santo Ángel School (Huelva) (J. Botánico)	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Pirulitos Residents' Association (Children's Festival)	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
NGO Ayuda Pueblo Saharaui	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Workshop on Environmental Protection	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/11/2008	30/11/2008
Athenea Disabled Association	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
University of Cartagena summer course	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008

# Befesa and the Community

Activity or social action developed	Company	Country	Starting date	Completion date
Cruces soccer team	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Trápaga soccer team	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Algar-Sumernor volleyball team	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Sponsorship Commonwealth of Cerrato	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Environmental Week (City of Alcalá)	Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Contribution to the Global Compact Foundation (Global Compact)	Befesa Medio Ambiente	Spain	02/05/2008	02/05/2008
Sponsorship for the incorporation of Befesa into the Basque Agency on Innovation, Innobasque	Befesa Medio Ambiente	Spain	06/02/2008	31/12/2008
Agreement for Scientific, Technological and Educational Collaboration between the Higher Technical School of Engineering of Bilbao and Befesa Medio Ambiente, S.A.	Befesa Medio Ambiente	Spain	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Donation of a van to the Madre Caterina Geriatric Home. Comas-Lima	Befesa Perú	Peru	04/04/2008	04/04/2008
Support in local celebrations, communal activities and computer donation. Colonia Rural Papa León XIII	Befesa Perú	Peru	29/02/2008	04/03/2008
Improvements to the communal premises of "Colonia Rural Papa León XIII"	Befesa Perú	Peru	01/06/2008	30/06/2008
Support to Befesa Peru parents of newborn children	Befesa Perú	Peru	06/10/2008	06/10/2008
Talks on health, training in manual activities for the generation of income, patron saint celebrations in the area, communal activities of the "Colonia Rural Agropecuaria Ciudad Modelo Papa León XIII"	Befesa Perú	Peru	01/01/2008	31/12/2008
Donation of prefabricated classrooms to Papa Leon XIII school no. 6021	Befesa Perú	Peru	15/05/2008	15/05/2008
Support to the Commonwealth of Chilca, the Papa León XII Community and to the nearby army outpost during Christmas activities	Befesa Perú	Peru	01/12/2008	31/12/2008

Activity or social action developed	Company	Country	Starting date	Completion date
Paddle Tournament prizes for Befesa employees	Befesa Servicios Corporativos	Spain	19/12/2008	19/12/2008
Sponsorship of the German Schalke 04 Soccer Team	Befesa Steel Sevices GmbH	Germany	01/07/2008	30/06/2009
Sponsorship of the B.C.M. Gravelines Dunkerque Grand Littoral basketball team	Befesa Valera	France	01/10/2008	30/09/2009
Mother's Day celebration. Purchase of cleaning products, toys and food for the event	SDS, through the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán, foundation	Mexico	10/05/2008	10/05/2008
Celebration of Children's Day in communities close to Zimapán	SDS, through the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán, foundation	Mexico	30/04/2008	30/04/2008
Financial contribution for medical treatment of a 16-year old patient. In collaboration with the Fundación Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán	SDS, through the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán, foundation	Mexico	06/06/2008	06/06/2008
Contribution for human development and participative planning workshops to present growth opportunities in populations close SDS. In collaboration with the Fundación Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán	SDS, through the Apoyo Comunitario Zimapán, foundation	Mexico	23/07/2008	31/12/2008

The section devoted to the actions of Befesa with its employees describes human resources policies in general and the measures implemented to contribute toward the quality of life of people and to the reconciliation of family and professional life in particular. Part of these measures includes the social assistance that Befesa provides to the employee, configured as a service to build human relations, where the employee may come to pose



# Befesa and the Community

highly diverse situations, such as the need to be heard, the need to receive support and guidance, the need for information, or the need for the monitoring of family, medical, social or specific financial problems. The Focus-Abengoa Foundation, has a Social Fund to provide financial assistance in situations of employee need.

## Collaborations and agreements

Through the Focus-Abengoa Foundation, Befesa has signed agreements with universities and training centers in Spain and other countries. With this an opportunity is given to students in their final years or even those who have finished their degrees.

Teaching institutions	Location
CAECE	Argentina
C.E Altair Center	Seville
Higher Technical School of Engineering of Bilbao	Bilbao
EOI	Seville
Higher Technical School of Engineering of Bilbao	Bilbao
College of Sciences of Valladolid	Valladolid
ICEX	Madrid
IEFPS EASO	Basque Country
Universidad Pontificia Comillas-Madrid	Madrid
Autonomous University of Madrid	Madrid
University Complutense de Madrid	Madrid
University of Asturias	Asturias
Universidad of Cádiz	Cádiz
University of Córdoba	Córdoba
University of Deusto	Basque Country
University of Granada	Granada
University of Huelva	Huelva



Teaching institutions	Location
University of León	León
University of Murcia	Murcia
University of Oviedo	Asturias
University of Seville	Seville
University of Valencia	Valencia
University of Valladolid	Valladolid
University of the Basque Country	Basque Country
University Pablo de Olavide	Seville
Polytechnic University of Madrid	Madrid
University Rey Juan Carlos	Madrid
University San Pablo CEU	Seville

In 2008, Befesa had the help of 69 interns who performed their final projects in its installations. The following is a detail of the distribution of these among the companies:

Interns per company	Number of interns
Befesa Agua	30
Befesa Aluminio Bilbao	6
Befesa Aluminio Valladolid	1
Befesa Argentina	2
Befesa Desulfuración	1
Befesa Escorias Salinas	2
Befesa Fluidos	4
Befesa Plásticos	1
Befesa Zinc Aser	4
Befesa Servicios Corporativos	1
Befesa Gestión de Residuos Industriales	15
Befesa Steel Services	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>



# Befesa and the Community

The internship program is organized around the figure of the tutor, exercised by a professional from the company. The tutor is entrusted with the monitoring and orientation of the intern to optimize his education during the internship period.

Upon the conclusion of such period, the performance of the intern is evaluated. This grade is essential for recommending or advising against incorporation in the Company as employee. In 2008, 58% of the interns who obtained a grade higher than 8 (grade indicative of proper performance) became Befesa employees. The cost of the Befesa intern program was 147,050 € defrayed by the companies.

Aula Befesa, which is an agreement of scientific, technological and educational cooperation with the Higher Technical School of Engineering of Bilbao. One of its objectives is to contribute to training students of the School of Engineering of the University of the Basque Country/Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea in chemical, environmental, process, end-product and derivative technologies, and particularly everything concerning experimentation related to these technologies. It also serves for carrying out research and development and innovation activities in these same technological areas.

Befesa is a member of several foundations, institutes and associations whose purpose is to improve the quality and respect for the environment, and human rights:

Interns per degree	Number of interns
Chemical Engineer	19
Industrial Engineer	4
Technical Industrial Engineer	4
Law Degree	2
Other Degrees	3
Other Higher Degrees	34
Other Vocational Degrees	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

As part of its commitment to scientific and educational cooperation, Befesa has created the



- Befesa is also a member of "ASEGRE", Association of Waste and Special Waste Management Companies, whose main objectives are the coordination, defense, counsel and representation of its members, and a commitment has been made to respect the environment, ensure quality, use clean technologies and collaborate with public administrations to solve all problems relating to waste management and the environment in particular.
- In 2005 Befesa signed the act of adherence to the United Nations World Pact, or Global Compact, which is an initiative of ethical commitment so that companies from all countries incorporate, as an integral part of their strategy and operations, ten principles of conduct and action concerning human rights, employment, environment and the fight against corruption. Its purpose is to promote the creation of global corporate citizenship that permits the reconciliation of interests and processes of business activities with the values and demands of civil society, as well as with UN projects, sectoral international organizations, unions and NGOs.

- It is also a founding member of the Foundation for Waste Technology and Innovation Center, whose objective is to contribute, by means of technological improvement and innovation, toward increasing the competitiveness of the companies in the waste, environment and energy sectors and similar industries.
- Befesa is the founding trustee of the Center of New Water Technologies Foundation, created to promote the improved management of water resources, with a more sustainable and socially-responsible approach in Andalusia.

Throughout 2008, Befesa has participated in numerous specialized conferences, fairs, opinion exchange forums and expositions, as a sponsor in many of them. Among these the following are worthy of mention:

- Technical workshop "Future and sustainability in waste management", organized by the Official Association of Industrial Engineers of Eastern Andalusia, in collaboration with the Regional Government of Andalusia, the Regional Council of Seville, the Institute for Waste Sustainability (ISR), the CONAMA Foundation and the

# Befesa and the Community

Association of Environmental Companies of Andalusia (AESMA). The objectives of this event were to debate and analyze waste management, their problems and the possibilities that currently exist to address other alternatives and solutions for a sustainable future. Befesa presented the lecture “Current problems in the management of hazardous waste”.

- IFAT 2008. Held in Munich (Germany), the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of IFAT 2008, the international fair on water, waste, recycling and reuse, is considered as the greatest and most important environmental trade fair on a worldwide level. Its objectives are to reveal the proposals and technical solutions for environmental problems of all types and on all levels. Befesa participated with its own stand, presenting its most

important references on urban and industrial water treatment, desalination, modernization of irrigation and carriage, and water distribution.

- TransAl 2008. Held in Biarritz (France), the TransAl 2008 international conference is one of the most important events of the aluminum sector, whose objectives are to provide a global vision of the current status of existing knowledge on aluminum and its main challenge: sustainable development. Befesa participated with lectures on R&D&i projects developed by the aluminum waste recycling business.
- Sponsorship and participation in the “Water management in Castile-La Mancha” workshop. Held in Toledo (Spain) and organized Expansión Conferencias, the purpose of this forum, sponsored by Befesa Agua, was to analyze the various actions envisaged in the Special Alto Guadiana Plan, approved on January 11, 2008, for the attainment of greater efficiency in water management of this region. Befesa provided a lecture on the water treatment projects of the company, by means of biological treatments with the elimination of nutrients in populations of that region.



- World Business Summit on Water and Sustainable Development. Held in Saragossa (Spain), the purpose of the event, organized by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Saragossa in collaboration with the Business Center in Support of the Expo, was to channel business activities toward economic cooperation between Europe and the rest of the world, to provide companies in the water and sustainable development sector with an appropriate framework to encourage and reinforce their management capability in the international sector. Befesa sponsored the Technical Business Workshop entitled "The Business Challenge of Water at the Start of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century", and gave several lectures.
- World Conference of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) 2008. Held in Seoul (Republic of Korea), during the event the latest advances in theoretic development and practical application in control system of all industry and services sectors were presented. Befesa participated with two projects relative to the area of automatic control applied to the management of water resources: "System identification for control of a main irrigation canal pool" and "Robust fractional order PI controller for a main irrigation canal pool". These works are part of the R&D&i program that Befesa is developing in collaboration with the University of Castile-La Mancha.



# Befesa and the Community

- I International Conference on Irrigation in the Expo Saragossa 2008. Under the setting of the Saragossa Expo 2008, and as part of the “Water and Land: Landscape, Territory and Agriculture” theme week, the event, promoted by the Spanish Irrigation Manufacturers Association (AFRE) and the National Federation of Spanish Irrigation Communities (FENACORE), was sponsored by Befesa Agua and the State-Owned Agricultural Infrastructure Companies of the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Environment. Befesa also participated with the lecture “Irrigation modernization: instrument for saving water”.
- IFAT China 2008. Held in Shanghai (China), the third edition of IFAT China 2008, the international trade fair on water, waste, recycling, reuse and natural energy sources organized by Munich Trade Fairs International Group and China Association of Resources Comprehensive Utilization (CARCU), is considered as one of the greatest and most significant ones of the environmental sector in Asia. Befesa participated in the trade fair with its own stand, presenting its most important references in desalination, urban and industrial water treatment, water distribution, irrigation modernization and carriage.
- V Conference on Water Management, Aqua 08. Befesa sponsored and participated in this event, held in Valencia (Spain) and organized by the Regional Ministry of the Environment, Water, Urban Development and Housing of the Generalitat Valenciana. The purpose of the annual forum is to serve as a point of encounter and reference for economic and social agents linked to water management, as well as for public administration companies with authority in the management of this resource.
- Sustainable Development Trade Fair GEO2 2008. Held in the Bilbao Exhibition Center of Baracaldo (Spain), the purpose of this event, organized every two years by this center and various institutions concerned with the environment of the Basque Country, is to positively contribute toward stimulating sustainable development in the scope of companies, State institutions and citizens. Befesa was present with a stand which included all references to its four business units: aluminum waste recycling, steel and

galvanization waste recycling, industrial waste and water management.

- Technical workshop “Asbestos and the prevention of occupational risks”. The Regional Government of Andalusia, through the Regional Ministry of Employment of the Provincial Agency of Huelva (Spain, organized this forum, the purpose of which was to disseminate among companies of the construction sector, unions, city halls and related professionals, the need for strict compliance with legislation and the safety conditions in the management of waste containing asbestos. Befesa participated with a lecture.
- V Conference Euromed 2008. Held in the Dead Sea (Jordan), the purpose of this forum organized by the European Desalination Society, was to provide professionals and researchers of the water sector with information on the latest technologies in all areas of desalination, serving as a point of encounter for the exchange of ideas and experiences. Befesa participated with four lectures on its desalination projects currently under construction in Skikda (Algeria), Qingdao (China) and Baix de Llobregat

(Barcelona, Spain) and renewable energies in desalination.

- China International Cyclic Economic Expo. Held in Qingdao (China), the event was the greatest encounter of experts in the country on the development of sustainable economies, organized by seven ministries and departments of the Republic of China. Befesa was present with a stand of its own, in which its most important references were exhibited on desalination, urban and industrial water treatment, water distribution, irrigation modernization and carriage.
- Spanish-Indian Business Cooperation and Investment Forum 2008. Befesa participated in this event, held in New Delhi (India) and organized by the Spanish Institute for Foreign Trade (ICEX), through the economic and commercial offices of the Spanish Embassy in New Delhi and Bombay. Its objectives were to enable Spanish firms to identify opportunities for investment and business cooperation, as well as encounter potential local commercial partners in various sectors such as water treatment, desalination and renewable energies.

# Befesa and the Community

- Water Asia 2008. Held in New Delhi (India), this conference and international exhibition on water is considered one of the main international forums of the sector, the purpose of which is to bring all decision-makers together, professionals, advisers, technical experts, consultants and users of the water industry to address sustainable development, conservation and the management of water resources. Befesa participated with its own stand, presenting its most important references in desalination and water distribution.
- VIII Spanish Roundtable on Water Treatment (META) 2008. Held in Tenerife (Spain) and

organized by the research group “Water Treatment and Reuse”, of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Pharmaceutical Technology of the University of La Laguna, together with the Official Association of Chemists of the Canary Islands and the Canary Islands Institute of Technology (ITC). Befesa sponsored the event and participated with the lecture “Design and scaling of a pilot-scale membrane biological reactor for waste water treatment”.



