

Paris, 25 November 2008

## Apria innovation prize for 2008 awarded to the partnership between Elior and Spontex Professionnel at the Equip'Hôtel trade fair in Paris

The “Temp Cook” heat protection glove created out of the partnership between the Elior Group and Spontex Professionnel has been awarded the Apria innovation prize for 2008 (“Health and Safety” category), having been selected from a total of 150 items presented at the 2008 Equip'Innov competition. The Apria prizes were given for innovations and new products presented by exhibitors at the Equip'Hôtel trade fair in Paris which took place between 15 and 19 November 2008.



As part of its risk prevention strategy, the Elior Group places great importance on providing its people with protective equipment that meets the highest health and safety standards and offers maximum security against the risk of burns which is inherent to the professional catering industry. As there were no protective gloves on the market that met the Group's requirements, the Health, Safety and Environmental department of Avenance Entreprises – an Elior Group subsidiary – sent out a precise specifications brief to the main manufacturers of gloves and other personal protective equipment. As explained by David Bégard, Head of HSE at Avenance Entreprises, the Spontex Professionnel project was selected because “their solution was the most innovative, the most effective, and the most protective”.

After one year of joint work, several prototypes and numerous tests at Elior's sites a “tailored” glove was created. It provides a perfect hand fit and protects the wearer's hand and forearm against the risk of burns and cuts. It is also non-slip and washable and effectively meets the health and safety standards of the food industry.

This close partnership that has been rewarded by the catering industry highlights how the Elior Group constantly seeks to improve the health and safety conditions of its staff and offer them effective and innovative protective solutions. The Equip'Innov 2008 jury particularly appreciated the fact that none of the products previously presented had been dedicated to protecting the safety of employees.

#### **About Elior**

Founded in 1991, Elior ranks third in the European contracted foodservice and related services market, holding leading positions in Contract Catering & Facilities Management, and Concession Catering & Travel Retail. As a socially responsible enterprise, Elior signed up to the United Nations Global Compact in 2004. The Group therefore takes special care to provide nutritionally balanced meals to guests, limit the environmental impact of its operations and purchases, and support employee integration and training. For further information please visit [www.elior.com](http://www.elior.com)

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