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Dear Deb,

Welcome to the October issue of the Green Achiever Technical Newsletter. Included in this issue we have information about a new EC initiative aimed at encouraging Europeans to buy more sustainably, PAS2050 update and Scotland's pledge to have zero waste by 2020. We also bring you the most recent environmental legislation updates and some of the latest environmental prosecutions.

Mandy Stoker

Sustainable buying urged by EC

The European Commission has launched a campaign to encourage consumers to consider the environmental impact of their purchases. The campaign, named 'Generation Awake', aims to change the way in which Europeans shop by highlighting scarcity of resources and providing information about how to choose more sustainable products. "With our economy in difficulty and our resources dwindling, it's time to start rethinking some of our habits," said environment commissioner Janez Potočnik. "Using resources more carefully not only helps protect the environment, but saves money and reduces business costs. It's about using less to do more. Everyone can do their bit. We just need to wake up!" For more information and for tips on how to buy more sustainably see www.generationawake.eu

PAS 2050 updated



BSI has unveiled a new edition of its carbon footprinting standard, PAS 2050, in order to make it more relevant to businesses and to bring it in line with international standards. PAS2050, which was first published in 2008, allows businesses to calculate how much carbon is emitted in the creation of products and services. The updated standard gives more information about the treatment of recyclable materials and includes emissions from biomass and other biogenic sources. For more information visit the BSI website -

www.bsigroup.com/en/Standards-and-Publications/How-we-can-help-you/Professional-Standards-Service/PAS-2050/PAS-2050/



LEGISLATION UPDATES

The Scottish Executive has revealed its Zero Waste Regulations in an attempt to become one of Europe's highest performing countries

for recycling. The regulations see a complete ban on all municipal biodegradable waste sent to landfill by 2020 and a ban on all materials collected for recycling being taken to landfill or incineration. Any unsorted waste will need to be screened for recyclable materials prior to incineration. The legislation changes will have significant impacts on local authorities and businesses. All businesses will be required to have all recyclable materials removed from their premises. Scotland currently produces 17 million tonnes of waste per year and it is estimated that within this waste there is £100m of available resources. The new regulations are hoping to convert some of the waste into valuable resources.



LEGISLATION UPDATES

Environmental Protection (Controls on Ozone Depleting Substances) Regulations 2011 SI 1543

This implements EC Regulation 1005/2009 on substances that deplete the ozone layer and amends 2009/216 specifying the minimum qualifications and training required by anyone working with ozone depleting substances.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/1543/contents/made

The Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals EU Regulation 494/2011

This amends EU Regulation 1907/2006 by adding criteria to Annex XVII for the control of cadmium in products such as plastics, jewellery, paints and brazing fillers.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:134:0002:0005:en:PDF>

The Plant Protection Products Regulations 2011 SI 2131

This implements various aspects of the EC Regulation 1107/2009 concerning placing plant protection products on the market. It also includes enforcement powers and penalties for infringement.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/2131/contents/made

The Plant Protection Products Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 SR 295

This regulation lays down enforcement powers and penalties for infringements of EU Plant Protection Product Authorisations Regulation 1107/2009/EC, which concerns the placing of plant protection products on the market.



PROSECUTIONS

Pig farm ordered to pay £22,500 for smells

A Lincolnshire pig farm has been found guilty and fined £5,000 for failing to control smells and not complying with an Environment Agency enforcement notice.

Belmont Farms, East Keal, denied two offences of failing to comply with the enforcement notice to remove slurry from the site and breaching its permit. The company were found guilty and ordered to pay costs of £17,500.

The courts heard how intensive farming needed a permit in order to protect the environment and the local community. Belmont Farms repeatedly breached the conditions laid down in their permit, which stated that emissions from the farm should be free from odour that may cause annoyance outside

of the site. As a result of the breach of permit, smells were detected in the community with 920 complaints being made between 18 September 2007 and the court case.

After the hearing Environment Agency officer Emma Benfield said: "The industry should always look to adopt the best available techniques and consider other approaches beyond traditional measures when problems occur."

Paper recycling companies fined for overseas shipment

An illegal shipment of mixed waste destined for India was seized at Felixstowe Port, Norwich Magistrates Court heard.

Nuneaton based waste broker, Williams Recycling (UK) Ltd was responsible for attempting to send the waste abroad. The waste was originally from paper recycling company MW White (Norwich) Ltd, who had described the waste as 'mixed paper'.

The waste was stopped at the port in a random inspection and the container was found to contain nappies, food waste, tin cans, textiles and plastic as well as paper. Owing to the shipment contents being mixed, it is likely that the paper could not have been recovered.

Both companies were fined the maximum penalty of £5,000 and ordered to pay costs of £6,655 each. Williams Recycling pleaded to transporting mixed waste to India without the consent of the authorities and MW White pleaded guilty to describing the waste wrongly on waste transfer notes. Both companies admitted that the waste had not been checked prior to loading.

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