



Green Achiever Newsletter

January 2012

Green Achiever Wishes All Our Members A Happy And Successful 2012

Dear Deb,

So with the festive season over (except for the Chinese New Year, 23rd January of course) it's back to implementing the environmental improvement plans made last year or indeed new resolutions made for 2012. From big commitments (eg. installing renewable energy sourcing of some sort) to on-going day to day actions (reducing the heating temperature by 10) each have positive environmental impacts and we will work to recognise and celebrate them.

In this first newsletter of 2012 we bring you an update on the Durban conference which was happening through December and the Global Climate Treaty agreed and then perhaps more immediately and directly applicable to Green Achievers, an information item on Green Supply Chain Management. We're bringing you notice of a price increase to take effect in March and how you could beat this.

So here's to a great New Year to our members.

Road Open To New Global Climate Treaty- Durban Conference Update

At the time of writing our December newsletter the United Nations Climate Change Conference was underway in Durban and we said we would bring you an update in January. The talks have been heralded a success after a climate change deal was struck after two weeks spent discussing how to cut emissions to limit a global temperature rise to below two degrees to avoid dangerous climate change.

In summary three key things have been achieved:-

- Global agreement achieved on a roadmap to a legally binding deal
- Second commitment period of Kyoto Protocol to be agreed next year
- Green Climate Fund to be set up

Over 120 countries joined with the EU to put forward a timetable which would see the world negotiate a new agreement by 2015 at the latest on how to curb emissions. The talks resulted in a decision to adopt the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol next year in return for a roadmap to a global legal agreement covering all parties for the

first time. Negotiations will begin on the agreement in early 2012.

Energy and Climate Change Secretary Chris Huhne said: "This is a significant step forward in curbing emissions to tackle global climate change. For the first time we've seen major economies, normally cautious, commit to take the action demanded by the science."

Also the conference agreed to get the Green Climate Fund up and running to help deliver financial support to developing countries to reduce emissions and adapt to the effects of climate change.

The President of COP17/CMP7 Maite Nkoana-Mashabane said: "What we have achieved in Durban will play a central role in saving tomorrow, today."

Green Supply Chain Management

Through 2011 we saw a very clear trend from our members in asking their suppliers about their environmental credentials. Likewise, increasing numbers report they too are being asked what credentials they hold by their clients. In management language this is known as Green Supply Chain Management (GSCM). It is a trend that has been seen in public sector contracting for many years and in food wholesale supply for example with the Red Tractor Assured standard but we have seen the question being extended to smaller contracts as a matter of course over recent years. A key aim in GSCM is about considering a company's and their suppliers' environmental performance (often measured in carbon footprint) as a mechanism to improve overall environmental and financial performance.

Recognising that reducing energy consumption for example, can reduce product costs many companies are now pushing the environmental agenda down their supply chain as a mechanism for driving down costs. Increasing numbers of contracts demand an environmental policy or evidence of carbon footprint reductions as part of the tendering process. Green Achiever status at Gold, Silver or Self-Assessed status supports businesses in demonstrating their credentials and evidencing good and improving environmental performance and we have worked with numerous of our members in responding to specific tender requirements.

If you wish to progress your status or would like support with tender submissions or carbon footprinting please contact Deb Cairns on 01743 343403.

Nottingham University are currently supporting some academic research into this area, and while it is targeted primarily at large businesses, possibly in manufacturing and production (some of which will have ISO14001) there are some questions about the impact of using Supply Chain Management on sales, profit, costs etc and further questions on how it is viewed internally and externally. If you would like to support this research from your own perspective please follow these links to answer 20 questions.

1) <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G7DHGTB>

2) <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HHB727Q>

Notice of Price Increase

As from Thursday 1 March, Green Achiever prices will increase for 2012 as follows -

- Self-Assessment - £120 (excluding VAT)
- Silver and Gold Awards

~ for businesses of up to 20 employees - £330 (excluding VAT and expenses);

~ for businesses with 20 or more employees - £660 (excluding VAT and expenses).

In order to avoid paying the increased rate, we are happy for you to pay now for your 2012 progression or renewal, at the old price, irrespective of your renewal month. Your progression or renewal will take place at the usual time.

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Sincerely,

Mandy Stoker
Green Achiever Scheme