



## Green Achiever Newsletter

November 2011

Dear Deb,

Welcome to this month's issue of the Green Achiever Newsletter. With Christmas less than two months away, Green Achiever is launching its **12 Green Days of Christmas Campaign** and we need your help! We are going to give some great energy saving or environmentally friendly tips for each of the 12 days of Christmas and we would like to hear if you have any suggestions! There are some great prizes for the best ideas. Please email your suggestions to [deb@greenachiever.co.uk](mailto:deb@greenachiever.co.uk).

With the Carbon Trust estimating that 25% of an average company's electricity bill is spent on lighting, we have some suggestions about lighting control options that can help save your company money on electricity bills. We also bring you information about funding for Waste and Recycling Projects.

Congratulations go to Dataquest UK Ltd who have just achieved their Gold Award and to the Prospect Shopping Centre in Hull, who have reached Green Achiever Silver Status. We will feature more on these two next month and for now we celebrate the Silver Award of Cougar Monitoring and get an insight from Global Village Translation into the benefits of the Green Achiever Scheme.

### Save Energy on Lighting

For an average company, the Carbon Trust estimates that lighting accounts for 25% of the electricity costs. There are some simple no-cost options to reduce this usage - switching off lights in empty rooms and making the most of natural light for example - and there are also options where some investment can achieve even greater savings. Lighting controls can reduce energy consumption by 30 - 40% and the Carbon Trust have estimated that payback from installing lighting controls is typically 5 years or less. Outlined below are three basic types of lighting control which can be useful in different environments and circumstances:-

1. Occupancy sensors - these switch lights on and off when an area is occupied and unoccupied. It is useful to select the "absence" rather than "presence" control, meaning lights have to be switched on manually on entering a room and so if there is sufficient natural light they will not automatically be triggered by the sensors.
2. Daylight (or photocell) sensors - these monitor natural light and switch off or dim the artificial lights in response to changes in available lighting. The Carbon Trust advises that dimming generally saves more energy and when compared with switching, is less obtrusive to occupants. It also says the costs of installing daylight sensors can often be recovered in less than 1 year.

3. Timers- can be set to switch lights on and off at pre-determined times where workplace hours are fixed. Time-delay switches can be effective in areas that are normally unoccupied, such as aisles and storerooms.

### **Large Scale Capital Funding for Waste & Recycling Projects - Final Round for West Midlands' SMEs**

The Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has launched a new round of the West Midlands Capital Grants Programme for small or medium-sized enterprises.

The programme includes grant funding of up to 40% of the total eligible capital costs for West Midlands SMEs that are investing in new or expanded commercial and industrial waste collection, recycling and reprocessing capacity.

Commercial and industrial waste sources are defined as premises used for the purpose of trade or business. This includes but is not limited to, retail and factory sites, hotels, entertainment and sport recreation premises.

Grants are available towards capital costs of recycling or reprocessing commercial and industrial waste from the region, with a strong focus on mixed plastics, low grade wood, textiles and food waste.

Projects which recover energy from waste will also be eligible provided the material could not be readily reused or recycled by other means and provided the technology is proven or can be demonstrated by existing operational reference plants.

**The closing date for applications is 2 December 2011.**

[Click here](#) for further details.

*Source: Waste & Resources Action Programme, 13/10/11*

### **Company Profiles**



Cougar Monitoring, a leading provider of CCTV and security solutions to over 8,000 businesses throughout the UK, has attained Green Achiever silver status at the first attempt. Director, Laila Aziz, said: "We're delighted to have achieved Green Achiever silver status at our very first attempt. Our customers can be reassured that Cougar Monitoring takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously. This success is a credit to all of our staff, who recognise the importance of being a modern, environmentally-aware organisation. I'm very pleased that our commitment to protecting the world around us has been recognised by the Green Achiever programme."

[www.cougarmonitoring.com](http://www.cougarmonitoring.com)

Global Village Translation is a Somerset based company, which also has offices in London, offering a full range of language translation services to individuals and businesses throughout the UK. Project manager, Sophie Sinclair, said: "Global Village Translation is committed to leading the industry in providing high quality translation services in a manner that minimises the potential impact of our day-to-day business activities in a local and global environment. We actively promote environmental awareness and recycling within the firm and by being a Green Achiever we can

show our customers that we are a trustworthy and conscientious business."

[www.globalvillagetranslation.co.uk](http://www.globalvillagetranslation.co.uk)

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Sincerely,

Mandy Stoker  
Green Achiever Scheme