



T B E A

MENTORING NETWORK NEWS

Issue 5, Sept 03

TAMESIDE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Business Environmental Mentoring Network

In partnership with

www.tameside.gov.uk



chamber business enterprises



Project part financed by the European Union



northwest development agency

Mentoring Services

- Guidance on Legislation
- Site visits to mentor companies to see good environmental practices
- Regular network meetings
- Best Practice seminars on environmental issues affecting business
- Grantfinding - Advice on opportunities and availability
- Specific case study literature
- Support for developing environmental policies and management systems
- Environmental e-group

Grant scheme update

TBEA have awarded the first grant of the Direct SME support scheme to Kirstol Ltd. The company, based in Stalybridge, have for over 20 years provided textile process machinery, accessories, spare parts and services to meet the needs of yarn and fabric producers.



Tim Morton, Finance Director at Kirstol Ltd, receiving their grant award.

The grant was awarded to the company for the supply and installation of a new gas supply and boiler as a replacement for their existing inefficient oil fired system. Not only did this have significant environmental benefits such as improved energy consumption and a cleaner workspace, further benefits included the elimination of fuel oil on site and the associated risk of on site oil spillages. This has lead indirectly to a reduction in the company's liability under the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations, which requires

companies to provide containment facilities to protect the environment from oil leaks and spills from site storage facilities.

If you would like to take advantage of the Direct SME Support Scheme, there is still funding available.

Two types of grant are available:

1. For on-site environmental improvements up to 50% of a maximum project value of £2,500 (maximum grant £1,250). The project will be expected to demonstrate minimised waste, reduced emissions, reduced energy/water consumption or reduced risk of pollution. Ideas for projects could included, improved energy efficiency through heating, lighting, electric motor optimisation, process plant improvements, reduced onsite metered water consumption, waste minimisation (incorporates all above- including reducing 'raw material' use), improved management of waste, sustainable travel practices and similar environmental initiatives.
2. Grants of up to 50% of a maximum project value of £6,000 (maximum grant £3,000) to employ expert consultant time for researching, developing and manufacturing new products, improving and modifying process techniques, and diversifying into new products and processes into environmental technology initiatives.

The grants are available to Small and Medium Sized businesses* in Tameside. Each project will be assessed on it's own merits and is on a first come first serve basis.

*SME is defined as a company with no more than 250 employees, an annual turnover of no more than 40m Euros (approx £28 m) or a balance sheet total of no more than 27m Euros (approx £18m) and be independent, i.e. less than 25% owned by a another company.

For more information on the Direct SME support scheme please contact Ed McDermott on 0161 342 2885 or email ed.mcdermott@mail.tameside.gov.uk

New member of the TBEA team

TBEA would like to welcome Reg Foster to the team. In his new role as Environmental Business Support Advisor, he will work alongside Adam Hackett and Ed McDermott to provide practical support to local companies.

Reg has a wide experience of working within the process and manufacturing industries in the UK and abroad. His duties have included the design and construction of various types of chemical and food plants, together with many matters relating to improving environmental performance.

Reg has also been involved in selling project management services and skills to the process plant industry.



Reg Foster, TBEA's new Environmental Business Support Advisor

Reg has joined TBEA after working as a consultant for the Governments Energy Action scheme, which assists businesses in improving their energy usage. In doing this, he has worked

with both SME's and large blue chip companies and he has had experience of running several SME categorised companies.

Reg's arrival will enhance the existing TBEA services, which include:

- A FREE Site visit to discuss any environmental issues.
- Guidance and assistance on environmental legislation.
- Best Practice seminars on environmental topics.
- Direct SME Support grant scheme
- Support for developing environmental policies.
- Business Environmental Mentoring Network.
- Small Business Transport Service
- Environmental e-group
- Website at www.tbea.org.uk

For more information on TBEA's services phone 0161 342 2885 or email tbea@mail.tameside.gov.uk

Cleaner vehicles Campaign

The **Cleaner Vehicles Campaign** has been launched as a partnership between the 10 Greater Manchester and Warrington authorities and the AA. Funded by the Department for Transport, the aim is to improve air quality by reducing the amount of harmful emissions in the region caused by the improper tuning and maintenance of motor engines.

Greater Manchester has areas with particularly high levels of pollution, and in particular road traffic contributes up to 89% of carbon monoxide emissions, about half the total of nitrogen oxides and 40% of particles in the air.

If a car is badly tuned it could be costing over £150 a year in wasted fuel. Having cars serviced regularly will make them more efficient and emit less pollution.

To back this campaign up, compulsory formal testing will be taking place around the county, from the



Vehicles Emissions testing event, Snipe retail Park, Ashton Under Lyne

end of September. The testing will be conducted on the roadside with assistance from the police. At this stage, if a vehicle fails the emissions test the **driver (not the owner of the vehicle) could face a Fixed Penalty Notice fine of £60.**

Vehicles under 3 1/2 tonnes will be targeted, so vehicles that are used regularly such as taxis and light vans, up to transit size, could be particularly polluting if not serviced regularly.

On Friday 29th August, Tameside MBC's Environmental Protection unit held a testing day at Snipe retail Park, Ashton Under Lyne, where people had an opportunity to bring their vehicles for an informal emissions test. A total of 50 vehicles were tested, of which only 2 failed.

TBEA's **Small Business Transport Service** can offer help and advice on ways in which businesses can reduce vehicle emissions as well as cutting their costs, and helping the environment. In order to do this the following services are available;

- Advice on grants for conversion to cheaper, cleaner vehicles.
- Advice on developing business travel plans, which include a package of measures aimed at reducing transport costs and helping the environment.
- Personalised Journey Planning, offering free bus and train timetable planning for interested staff.
- A **FREE site visit** to discuss any business transport related issues.

For Further information visit www.cleanervehicles.org.uk or call the **Cleaner Vehicles Hotline** on 0161 953 2558, or contact TBEA's Small Business Transport Service on 0161 342 2885

Air Quality Action Plan Consultation

Tameside MBC, in conjunction with other Greater Manchester authorities, will soon be consulting on a draft action plan to reduce air pollution.



Councillor Sweeton testing vehicle emissions at Snipe retail park, Aston Under Lyne

The council needs views from the people who live and work in Tameside on the proposals that aim to improve air quality in the borough and across the region.

The draft plan, which covers the whole Greater Manchester area, follows a detailed monitoring and com-

puter modelling exercise which shows that air quality in many parts of the region is unlikely to meet government targets. The main source of the problem has been identified as road traffic.

Proposals in the plan in-

clude:

- Promoting the use of public transport
 - Cleaning up bus emissions
 - Encouraging walking and cycling
 - Promoting travel plans
 - Working with freight operators to reduce emissions
 - Traffic management schemes
 - Road side exhaust emission testing
- Non-transport related elements include:
- Improved energy efficiency
 - Enforcement of industrial pollution control legislation.

Further information and a full list of the actions included in the plan can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Health department on 0161 342 2389 or email gary.mongan@tameside.gov.uk

Clean Technologies event - Oct 1st 2003

Clean Technologies New solutions: New Opportunities

Clean Technologies and processes promise improved environmental and bottom line performance for industry and considerable business opportunities for the growing Environmental Technologies and Services (ETS) sector. Resource efficient, less polluting and more sustainable, cleaner technologies are the future of business enterprise.

For this reason, TBEA, in association with Envirolink Northwest are holding a Clean Technologies event

at the Hyde Town Hall conference centre, on 1st October 2003.

The seminar will demonstrate the current use and future business potential of cleaner technologies in industries such as chemicals, textiles and food & drink. From research, development and funding to partnership working and project delivery, this seminar aims to cover the scope of clean technologies in the North West.

Clean technologies have an impact on the future of every business, whether they are a supplier of process control or monitoring equipment, a

provider of business advice, or are involved in research and development. If you have an interest in reducing your company's process costs, the impact the business has on the environment or are affected by Integrated Prevention Pollution and Control (IPPC), this event is for you.

To secure your FREE place call Envirolink on 01942 491294 Or contact Adam Hackett on 0161 342 2885, email tbea@mail.tameside.gov.uk.

Envirolink offer assistance to companies in the Northwest offering environmental technologies and services.

Finance Act

The Finance Act 2003 has now been published, and affects a number of environmental related economic instruments.

The act confirms the increased rates for the Landfill Tax to £14 per tonne in 2003/04, and to £15 per tonne in 2004/05.

The Act also makes changes to the Climate Change Levy relating to:

- Exemption for fuel used in recycling processes.
- Combines Heat and Power (CHP) exemptions, to be based on energy efficiency.
- Circumstances where supplies are not known to be made taxable when made.
- Deemed supplies.
- Amendments about registration and payment.
- Electricity from renewable sources.

Other aspects of environmental interest includes provisions with regard to:

- Rates of hydrocarbon oil duties.
- Rebates on hydrocarbon oil duties.
- Vehicle excise duty rates.

Enhanced Capital Allowances are now available for capital spending on water efficient technologies, as well as energy saving plant and machinery. Business can now claim 100% first year capital allowances on technologies and products that encourage sustainable water use. The technology lists can be found at www.eca.gov.uk

The full text of the Finance Act 2003 can be accessed at www.hmso.gov.uk/acts/

If you would like more information on any of the news items mentioned in this newsletter please contact Ed McDermott for more details on 0161 342 2885 or email tbea@mail.tameside.gov.uk



Company Focus - Kirstol Ltd

Businesses - Reduce your costs and liability

Kirstol Ltd, based in Stalybridge, have done just that. As a company who have been supplying textile process machinery, accessories, spare parts and services to yarn and fabric producers for over 20 years, they took the opportunity to replace their oil fired heating system with a new gas supply and boiler, when they heard about TBEA's Direct SME Support Scheme.

Contact us

If you have any queries or comments about **Mentoring Network News** or suggestions for articles, please contact Ed McDermott or Adam Hackett on **0161 342 2885**

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FREE SEMINARS FOR TAMESIDE BUSINESSES

The e - tameside business team is putting together it's autumn programme of FREE seminars, which aim to help business get to grips with Information Technology.

Topics to be covered include:

Website content - Learn about alternative methods in your website and on-line marketing,

Email Marketing - Learn to use emails wisely to attract & retain customers,

Website security - IT security issues facing businesses

Access Database - Demonstrating the functions of the MS Access database tool.

For more information and to book, contact:

By telephone: **0161 342 2515**

By email: etbt@tameside.gov.uk

The web: www.tameside.gov.uk/etameside/businesshome

Having attended the TBEA seminar on the Oil Storage Regulations, Kirstol found that they would be obligated under the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001, if they continued to heat their site using their oil fired heating system. Their existing oil tank would not have complied with the regulations.

The regulations were introduced to stop incidents of pollution involving oil. Most incidents are caused by oil leaking from tanks either during storage or delivery. The regulations require tank owners to provide a secondary containment facility, such as a bund and drip tray to prevent oil escaping into a water environment.



Old oil fired boiler New gas fired boiler

To comply with these regulations, Kirstol would have had to build a bund sufficient to contain 110% of their tanks capacity, and also make sure that their tank was strong enough to hold the oil within it without leaking or bursting. Realising the high costs associated with this and the continued possibility of oil leakages, Kirstol decided to take the opportunity to change to a gas system, which entailed installing a new gas supply and upgrading to a new gas boiler.

This has brought a number of benefits for the company. The first significant benefit is the cost saving attributed to changing from oil to gas. Oil was costing Kirstol an average of £400 per month including delivery to the site. Since switching to gas, and purchasing a more efficient boiler, costs have been reduced significantly, with the companies first monthly gas bill being only £135.

The environmental benefits are also significant. CO2 emissions are reduced, as carbon emissions per unit of energy from burning natural gas, are much less than those from high carbon content fuels such as oil. Conversion from heavy fuel oil to gas can reduce CO2 emissions by about 25% per unit of energy. Also liability under the Oil Storage Regulations has been removed as the company no longer uses oil and they have had their oil tank removed from their site.

Tim Morton, Finance Director for Kirstol, said "What started as a fact finding exercise at the TBEA Oil Regulations seminar, has ended with us getting a grant to change to an efficient gas heating system. This has not only indirectly reduced our liability, but it has also improved our environmental performance and reduced our costs significantly. We are already seeing cost savings in the first month after changing from oil to gas"

For more information on this case study, please contact Ed McDermott at TBEA on 0161 342 2885 or email tbea@mail.tameside.gov.uk.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENTAL MENTORING NETWORK

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