

Hon Marian Hobbs to launch Businesscare

The official launch of BusinessCare will take place 18 October in Wellington. As well as the Minister, the launch will be attended by representatives from Ministry for the Environment, Industry NZ, ZeroWaste and other invited guests from councils and local businesses. In conjunction with the formal evening launch, we will also be holding a Cleaner Production workshop, as part of our cooperation with ZeroWaste. (See below for further information).

Businesscare increasing cooperation with Zerowaste

Cleaner Production Workshop Series

BusinessCare and ZeroWaste recently met to discuss how we could work together to help ZeroWaste councils in their waste minimisation/sustainability efforts. The cooperative venture will kick off with a joint one-day Cleaner Production/Waste Minimisation workshop on 9 October in Timaru, involving Canterbury and Southland councils. The theme of the free workshop is *“How promoting cleaner production to businesses can help your Council achieve its Zero Waste goals”*. We are planning further workshops for the rest of the country, including Wellington on 18 October, West Coast, Marlborough and Nelson in November and Bay of Plenty and Auckland in December/January. For further information contact: pamelag@businesscare.org.nz.

BusinessCare/Target Zero Cleaner Production Day

The “Everything you’ve ever wanted to know about Cleaner Production” Day, jointly organised by BusinessCare and Christchurch City Council Target Zero Programme, will be held during the WasteMINZ conference in Christchurch on 31 October. The one-day programme will include practical advice and discussion on how to set up and deliver a cleaner production programme, as well as site visits to local businesses.

New buy-back guide – free listing

The Buy It Back Guide is being updated. The Guide was initiated by Auckland Regional Council and is now displayed on the Zero Waste NZ Trust website: www.zerowaste.co.nz. This guide is a database of businesses making products out of recycled materials. If your business uses recycled materials to produce products you need to contact Zero Waste NZ Trust by 5/10/01. Please phone Jill on (09) 486 0734 or email jill@zerowaste.co.nz

What’s in your waste...

Nationwide there is little easily accessible information about the specific types of waste produced by small and medium-

sized trade businesses, where the waste goes and the effects it has on the environment. The Ministry for Environment has recently published the draft of its report “What’s in Your Waste: A Resource for Trade Businesses”. Ultimately information from the report will provide the basis for an online database businesses and regulators can access to find out what wastes are produced, the potential effects of these wastes if they are managed badly, and the best way to manage different types of waste. The database will be linked to the current online waste list at <http://www.environment.govt.nz/NZWLOnline/>

The report authors invited submissions from interested parties and are currently working through those submissions, with a final copy expected late this year/early next year. BusinessCare submitted its views and is now assisting the authors with information available specifically on cleaner production and promotion of waste minimisation strategies.

If you would like to receive a copy of this report, contact Rebecca Tayler at the Ministry. rebecca.tayler@mfe.govt.nz. Or telephone (04) 917-7545

New staff at Businesscare office



Hi, I am Pamela George who joined BusinessCare as Information and Administration Officer on 17 September, replacing Deborah Josephs who has been snapped up by NZ Post.

My first week has been so exciting learning about BusinessCare and helping to arrange the two workshops in Timaru and Wellington as well as the launch on 18 October 2001. And that is for starters- there is the new website development to be involved with and the strategy and development of the role of BusinessCare in the next two years to keep me from mischief.

I am looking forward to working with Peter and the Board, learning heaps about cleaner production and to keeping in touch by way of the website and the newsletters. My email address is pamelag@businesscare.org.nz

Environmental benchmarking for hotels

A benchmarking tool is available to specifically help hotels improve environmental performance and make cost savings in areas of energy management, water consumption, waste minimisation, waste water quality, purchasing programmes, community relations and biodiversity. Hotels need to register to participate. <http://www.benchmarkhotel.com>

Council corner



The Timaru District Council signed on with BusinessCare during the middle of this year. We expect to be working a lot more with the business community in our district as we strive towards our goal of ZeroWaste to landfill. It seemed so logical to join a network so that we can share the resources of others rather than going it alone.

To date we have been establishing a waste material exchange and listing service. One of the main tasks has been the development of a database of companies in our District so that we will have contact details and industry classifications for the respective companies.

The advantage of this is that we can then work with specific industry groups within the district. There is also scope to expand to a regional or national programme for a specific industry group. It is when an expanded approach is undertaken that a range of economies can be achieved.

As we build our database we will also identify the proactive companies that are keen to undertake the BusinessCare approach. For the council to promote waste minimisation and cleaner production it must be seen to lead by example. The Timaru District Council introduced an office recycling programme in February and to date 85% of waste is now diverted from the main council office for recycling.

A solid waste plan is expected to be produced for the Timaru District by April 2002. This will take into consideration expected changes from the national waste strategy and other possible regional initiatives.

I look forward to the support from BusinessCare and the potential positive influence for our business community.

Brian Gallagher, Solid Waste Manager
Timaru District Council

Exciting developments coming your way...

Progress is continuing on the new BusinessCare Cleaner Production Database. The Database will be a portal on our Website and will contain information, contacts and sources of practical assistance for businesses and local authorities on cleaner production, waste minimisation and "green business". Expect to find case studies, guidelines and tipsheets, training programmes, sources of financial assistance, listings of waste exchanges and solution

providers.... The database will focus in particular on NZ sources, together with relevant overseas information. Expected live date is early November 2001

Climate change update

The Government has announced the appointment of a negotiator to work with industry. The negotiator will work to develop Negotiated Greenhouse Agreements for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from major emitters. Work is also progressing on domestic emission trading. The MED website contains details of the dialogue to date and a process for establishing dialogue with key groups was in place. Discussions have been held with many representatives from the agriculture sector. In addition a taxation review has discussed the role of carbon and green taxes. Complete details about this can be found on the climate change website. <http://www.climatechange.govt.nz>.

Accountants champion sustainability

The Sustainability Working Group was set up by the Auckland branch of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand (ICANZ) earlier this year. The vision of the Group is: "To enhance the understanding of sustainability in business". The Group's core activities encompass education and lobbying to promote triple bottom line reporting. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in sustainability issues regarding businesses and other organisations, although at least 1/2 need to be members of the Institute. The Group wishes to encourage every member of the Institute and the Institute itself to be pro-actively involved with sustainability issues. For further information, contact Ray Skinner: rayskinner@clear.net.nz.

Swedish aim to lead sustainable development

While most of the world operates at an energy deficit, using up non-renewable resources for development, Sweden recently committed itself to become the world's most environmentally sustainable nation. In May, the Swedish government proposed a series of legal targets and deadlines for implementing 15 overarching environmental quality objectives designed to achieve environmental sustainability within one generation.

For Full Story:

http://www.savesite.net/gvnr/articles/090301_2.html
(source: Global_Village@netbiz.com
Global Village News and Resources
Issue # 22 - September 3, 2001)

Don't forget

WasteMINZ Conference

Date: 31 October - 2 November 2001

Venue: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Christchurch

For more information contact Carole Inglis at Waste MINZ.

Email: carole@wasteminz.org.nz or phone 09 486 6722

Contact Us

We welcome your input and feedback on this newsletter.

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WELLINGTON

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