

Cleaner Production is an evolving approach to environmental management, and the sharing of ideas and experiences is vital to its development. (United Nations Environment Programme 1995) www.unepie.org

BusinessCare Launch

The BusinessCare training programmes and website database were officially launched by the Minister for the Environment, Hon Marian Hobbs in Wellington on 18 October 2001.



The Minister tapping into the hot topic through highlighting the results of simply closing the valve and shutting off the hot water supply in a Hawkes Bay tannery. Savings of \$15,000 a year and about 25 bath tubs of hot water per day were achieved.

“One of the four highest priority issues for this government is the reduction of waste and hazardous waste,” said the Minister and “to this end we need to implement the National Waste Minimisation and Management Strategy to move New Zealand towards zero waste – covering all waste streams. I am aiming to launch the strategy in mid December

Neil Mackay CEO of Industry New Zealand, one of BusinessCare’s other sponsors, commented, “Many business owners are not aware of the impact their activities could be having on the environment”. He sees their sponsorship of BusinessCare is a means of facilitating strong and pragmatic links between business, the community, local and central government.

In the afternoon prior to the official Launch BusinessCare held a waste minimisation planning workshop for councils from the Wellington Region. This was followed by a talk to businesses by three representatives from businesses active in cleaner production practices. These were Richard Morley-Hall from the Warehouse. Paul Mather from Formway Brendon furniture manufacturers and Neil MacDonald from Pacific Wallpapers

(More in the next newsletters about each of these operations and what they have achieved.)

The Minister’s speech notes may be found at <http://www.businesscare.org.nz/marianhobbspeech.pdf>.

WasteMINZ news

An excited Peter Crosland returned from the WasteMINZ conference in Christchurch from 31 October to 2 November 2001. He was buzzing with the information exchange and potential areas for BusinessCare to be involved in. One of the flow on effects from the cleaner production workshop on 31 October is that our training workshops will widen their focus to include hazardous waste. For information on the Canterbury Hazardous Waste Reduction programme contact Karyn Durham of the Christchurch City Council on Karyn.Durham@ccc.govt.nz.

Workshops

The planning workshop in Timaru on 9 October for Canterbury, Otago and Southland Councils was a check for BusinessCare and participants to see where councils/people are at in waste minimisation. 15 people came and enjoyed the networking opportunity while learning more about how they can work with businesses to achieve waste minimisation. The site visit to Sanford’s fish processing factory was a true highlight – even if the participants wouldn’t have the same win in the fashion stakes.

From left to right, Brian Gallagher, Waste Manager, Timaru District Council, Ted Culley, South Island Manager, Sandford Ltd, Peter



Crosland, National Co-ordinator BusinessCare National Trust & Clare Feeney, Environment and Business Group Auckland and Trust Board member of BusinessCare

More workshops

Similar workshops to that held in Timaru are scheduled:

- ◆ In Nelson on 20 Nov for councils from the northern part of the South Island and the West Coast.
- ◆ In Tauranga on 11 Dec for the Auckland/Bay of Plenty and Waikato regions.

If you or anyone you know could be interested, please let Pamela know on pamelag@businesscare.org.nz

Fostering Sustainable Public Behaviour

One of the most difficult tasks faced by those who work to better the environment is changing public behaviour. A website is now available to help with this task. <http://www.cbsm.com> Or contact: Doug McKenzie-Mohr, Ph.D. Environmental Psychologist on dmm@cbsm.com.

Trial waste reduction scheme for business a success

The North Shore City Council / BusinessCare programme which was launched in North Shore City in May this year has focussed initially on businesses in the Barrys Point Road area of Takapuna. More than half the businesses signed up for the scheme, receiving help to reduce the amount of waste they produce and send to landfill, resulting in cost savings.

Thirty-one of the 74 participating businesses were audited and provided with a waste management plan. The waste audits showed that businesses could expect to divert an average of 78 per cent (by volume) of their waste away from landfill.

The council now plans to establish the scheme in other areas of the city, as part of its ongoing waste minimisation campaign, which has an ultimate goal of sending no waste to landfill by the year 2020.

For further information, please contact North Shore City waste minimisation officer, Danielle Kennedy, 09 486 8600 ext. 8947 or kennedyd@nthshore.govt.nz

Environment Canterbury/Trust Power Clean Green Business Awards 2001

Businesses in Ashburton were judged on their efforts to reduce waste & conserve energy & water during the local WasteBusters Winter Waste Fest. The winners were Stewart & Holland for the Clean Green Large Business Category for 2001. They recycle / reuse refrigerant gases from fridges & heat pumps. Their commitment is to waste separation and finding solution to reduce the waste, which was going to the landfill. There was a range of awards and more information can be obtained from mcwastebusters@clear.net.nz.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Initial announcement of upcoming HSNO training

The Ministry for the Environment Sustainable Management Fund and the New Zealand Planning Institute, supported by the Environmental Risk Management Authority and Local Government New Zealand, propose to offer a two-day training workshop focusing on the links between the RMA and HSNO in respect of the management of hazardous substances. It is planned that workshops will be delivered in several centres

throughout NZ in February and March 2002. To find out more, contact Jenny Chetwynd, ph (4) 917-7477 or email: jc@mfe.govt.nz

Climate change consultations

The New Zealand Climate change programme is holding a number of public meetings and extended special interest forums. The process began on 5 November and runs until 23 November. The locations & venues will be posted on the website www.climatechange.govt.nz.

New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development (NZBCSD) releases Case Study report

The New Zealand Business Council for Sustainable Development (NZBCSD) has recently released its report Sustainable Development Reporting (SDR). The project which was commissioned by the Ministry for the Environment presents a range of case studies for New Zealand businesses that have embarked upon preparation of an SDR. It is intended to provide other New Zealand businesses with insights into SDR – why consider it, what are the business advantages and how to go about it. The report is available on the NZBCSD website (www.nzbcSD.org.nz).

Interesting Links

Alternatives to Hazardous Household Substances (US)

<http://www.co.broward.fl.us/agriculture/english/consfam/he002.htm>

Rubber Technologies Te Rapa Hamilton

Recycling tyres and exporting the rubber by products. Phone 021 287 7281 Charin Surrana
Email charin@surrana.co.nz

Envirogard Ltd.

Envirogard is a company established to assist businesses with cleaner production initiatives. It specializes in reducing the costs and environmental impact associated with liquid waste, trade waste and hazardous waste. Envirogard can also help with monitoring and compliance issues, consents, documentation and training. For further information visit <http://www.envirogard.co.nz>.

International links

Environment & Ecology

International Institute For Sustainable Development. Visit: IISDnet (<http://iisd.net/>) Your gateway to all aspects of sustainable development.

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal has devoted part of its website to getting the message on hazardous waste across to the younger generation. <http://www.unep.ch/basel/Game/Kids/basbasic.htm>