
Eco-Smart Consultancy 'Think Green' Quarterly Newsletter December 2010



Let us start by wishing all our clients and newsletter subscribers a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

This has been the first year of the 'Think Green', newsletter by [Eco-Smart Consultancy](#) and so far we are glad to report that both the subscription levels and feedback from subscribers have been extremely positive and we would like to say *thank you* to all who have emailed or telephoned with your responses to our articles.

Environmental news.

CRC – Energy Efficiency scheme –



environmental legislation or just another business tax?.

The 'environmental news' feature concentrates on the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme which has been recently changed by the coalition government.

The recent changes have now turned the CRC legislation into a more costly practice for companies. Previously companies purchased allowances relating to the amount of CO² emitted and monies were later refunded back to participants depending upon a league table performance. Unfortunately now it is increasing likely that companies will not get any refunds.

In October's Spending Review the Government announced, revenue from the sale of CRC allowances, totaling £1 billion a year by 2014/15, will be used to support the public finances, rather than recycled back to participants. Unfortunately most organisations had earmarked these payments for future investment in energy saving projects.

Therefore businesses are now looking at this as a straight forward tax and will have to generate their investment capital from other sources.

However as a sweetener, the first sale of allowances will now take place in 2012 instead of 2011, postponing the financial requirements of the scheme for participants.

The Performance League Table will be retained as a reputational driver within the scheme, with the metric weightings.

The amendment will come into force by 1st April 2011 (subject to consultation).

An important note: it is essential all participants continue to comply with the existing CRC scheme in full as set out in the current legislation. Organisations who fail to comply will be subject to enforcement action. **For more updates on CRC Eco-Smart Consultancy is speaking at the Green Business Network seminar on 22-6-11 see attached link to book your place <http://www.gbn-bedfordshire.org.uk/seminars.asp>**

and allows water companies to restrict water use during shortages.

- **Ecodesign for energy related products regulations 2010** - A framework for minimum energy efficiency standards for energy-using products.

If you require further information on any environmental legislative issues then, Eco-Smart Consultancy now offers an [environmental register update service](#).

Latest Legislation updates.

- **Civil Sanctions (Environmental permitting Amendment 2010)** - The Environment Agency will start using new enforcement powers, called civil sanctions, from 4 January 2011. These alternatives to criminal penalties are designed for less serious offences.
- **The Chip regulations** - The (Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations) regulate how chemicals should be classified, labeled and packaged.

If you manufacture or supply chemical substances, products or mixtures you must classify and label them according to CHIP before you put them on the market.

- **Flood and water Management Act 2010** - Introduces powers for local authorities to manage flood risk

Environmental Facts - Christmas.

We all create more waste over the holiday period.

The Royal Mail delivers around 150 million cards and packets each day during the pre-Christmas period. It is estimated that up to 1 billion Christmas cards (17 for every man, woman and child) could end up in bins across the UK.



7.5 million Christmas trees were bought in 2001, the total number of

Christmas trees reported to be recycled was nearly 1.2 million.

It is estimated that over Christmas as much as 83 square km of wrapping paper will end up in UK rubbish bins, enough to cover an area larger than Guernsey.

We could use an extra 750 million bottles and glass containers, and 500 million drinks cans. About 20% to 30% more glass and cans are collected each year over the Christmas period.