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Conference 23rd June 2009

Don't forget to book your free place at Carpet Recycling UK's first annual conference:

Carpet Recycling: Gathering Momentum

This day event will be held at the NSPCC Training Centre in Leicester.

Carpet Recycling UK Aims 2009/10

- Reduce internal manufacturing wastes particularly wool based by identifying energy recovery and recycling alternatives to landfill
- Expand dedicated carpet recycling capacity from 4 to 10 sites by highlighting business opportunities to potential investors
- Identify end-uses and recycling processes linked to the plastics industry so that synthetic rich carpets become a viable raw

Welcome to E-News

Welcome to the first edition of Carpet Recycling E-News, the regular e-newsletter for Carpet Recycling UK members. Each bulletin will feature the latest developments in recycling options, trials, industry and association news. E-News covers many items only in brief, but you can get more information by logging on to the [Members Area](#) of the Carpet Recycling UK website.

Membership continues to climb

Carpet Recycling UK welcomes new members Mohawk Lees, Brintons, Brockway Carpets, GreenTeam World and Cleanstream Carpets. Membership of the association stands at 15 manufacturers, 5 value chain partners and 10 recyclers. Click [here](#) to download a list of members.

Recycler Resource List

Contact details for specialist carpet reprocessors in the Carpet Recycling UK network are now available on a single [resource sheet](#).

New Recycling Option for Broadloom Edge-Trim

A new recycling option is now on stream for wool-rich broadloom edge-trim. Carpet Recycling UK worked with fibre processors to enable them to receive the trim in a manageable form and to process it into padding for mattresses. Carpet Recycling UK will save its members more than £20,000 per year in avoided landfill costs. Members can find details of the scheme by contacting Laurance Bird on 0116 279 2948.

Removing Waste Licensing Red Tape

The Environment Agency has accepted two applications from Carpet Recycling UK to remove licensing red tape. Shredding of waste carpets and supply of synthetic carpet recyclate as equestrian fibre have been granted 'low-risk positions' by the Agency, so recyclers no longer have to apply for waste management license exemptions.

Cropper dust gets top marks in growing trials

Leading suppliers of proprietary growing media recently completed 2-year field trials using cropper dust to enhance their products. The trials demonstrated that blending cropper dust into composts and peat for nursery use improves growth rates for a range of shrubs. The trial results have been summarized into guidance for use of cropper dust, available to [download](#). Field trials have also got underway in turf-growing, compost manufacture, and vineyards (see photo). Interim results are expected 3Q.

material stream

- Research opportunities for separation of carpet and tile components to add value via recycling
- Carry out laboratory analysis and field trials in composting and growing media to identify the potential value for wool as peat replacement and slow release fertilizer
- Identify routes to inclusion of carpets in mixed wastes for fuels i.e. energy recovery facilities
- Increase dedicated consultancy opportunities and membership in order to create a sustainable funding base for the future
- Continue lobbying of government agencies DEFRA/WRAP in order to create a favourable policy environment
- Develop a collection infrastructure model for commercial carpets/flooring which will be cost effective and enhance recycling and reuse values



Weed mat trials in a Dorset vineyard

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New Carpet Tile Re-use Scheme for South Wales

Cleanstream Carpets is a new company that takes and re-sells good quality used carpet tiles in South Wales. Based on survey, any make of carpet tiles is accepted, it is then sorted and re-categorised dependant on it's quality ready for the re-sale market. The organisation is a community interest company whose operations are run by established charity Too Good To Waste from their base in the Rhondda Valley. Too Good To Waste trains and employs disadvantaged people ready to re-enter the workplace via, amongst other things, the re-purposing of tiles. Cleanstream Carpets intends to work closely with the flooring industry allowing them to add an additional service and product to their existing portfolio. For further details, please call 02920 224 336 or contact mail@cleanstreamcarpets.co.uk.

Briefing: Landfill tax goes up to £40/tonne

The £8/tonne escalator for landfill tax takes the 2009/10 rate of landfill tax to £40/tonne. The escalator will apply again in 2010/11 and 2011/12 so that the tax will stand at £56/tonne by April 2011. The pre-tax cost of landfill is expected to remain broadly stable but does vary significantly according to region. A WRAP survey found the median charge was £21/tonne. When the tax is taken into account, the median cost of disposal to landfill next year will be £69/tonne, rising to £77/tonne from April 2011.

In depth: Energy from Waste (EfW)

The incineration boom in the UK continues apace, with a total of 650,000 tonnes of EfW in the planning pipeline. There are 23 EfW facilities in the UK, most of which have large contracts with local authorities to dispose of their blackbin collections. A survey carried out by Carpet Recycling UK shows that only Nottingham, Sheffield and Greater Manchester EfW plants can accept and handle selected commercial and industrial waste on top of their baseload. If you would like to offer a carpet recovery scheme to your customers in the 'S' postcode, please contact Carpet Recycling UK for details. Lobbying will continue on the value of carpet waste to operators of municipal EfW plants.

The cement kilns in the UK also provide a recovery route for high calorific value waste. The kilns used 330,000 tonnes of wastes in 2007 replacing 300,000 tonnes of coal, and are seeking to diversify their fuel sources to a target mix of 50% coal, 20% 'solid recovered fuel' (SRF) and 30% other dedicated high calorific streams such as tyre chip. A growing area of the recycling business is the production of SRF (also known as refuse-derived fuel or RDF) for cement kiln use by co-shredding commercial and industrial waste. Where an SRF producing recycler is servicing carpet retail outlets, flooring contractors, or distributors as part of their established commercial collections, carpet will already be part of the blend for SRF.

Work is also underway to get carpet waste accepted as a single-source stream. As these streams are uniform and clean relative to SRF they may attract a lower gatefee if they are taken in large and regular volumes.

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