

Axion Recycling Newsletter

WELCOME to the latest edition of the Axion Newsletter. Included in this issue are details of Axion's new Site Waste Management Plan service, Keith Freegard's efforts to reduce his carbon footprint and Axion Polymers' new high grade impact polystyrene, AxPoly PS02.

AXION LAUNCHES NEW SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN SERVICE.

New legislation, due to come into force by April 2008, will require construction and demolition companies to have a Site Waste Management Plan for all projects over £250,000. Designed to combat illegal fly tipping and to encourage recycling, the regulations will force companies to make detailed plans for the waste generated by each project, including details of how this plan will be implemented. During the project, companies will be required to keep detailed records and will



need to monitor and evaluate their Site Waste Management Plan. Failure to comply with the new legislation could result in fines or even a criminal conviction.

Axion has launched a new service providing a comprehensive solution for companies' site waste plans. On behalf of construction and

demolition companies, Axion can produce a Site Waste Management Plan that will fully comply with the new legislation. Axion is offering a 'total solution', including writing the plan, carrying out a waste audit, managing the waste and organising the collection and recycling of different waste streams, and monitoring and evaluating the plan.

Alternatively, Axion can advise on, or implement, a particular aspect of the plan such as finding suitable outlets for recycling certain waste streams or it can evaluate a company's own plan. Jane Gardner, project leader, is enthusiastic about this new service. As she comments: "So far we have had very positive feedback from construction companies and there is a lot of interest in this service. Proving particularly popular is the fact that we can offer companies an advice hotline for the duration of each project, providing advice on materials that have been traditionally difficult to recycle and finding outlets for those materials. Recently a company contacted us to find out where they could recycle a rubber running track. We can put companies in touch with reliable waste management companies anywhere in the UK"

As part of the service, Axion can liaise with individual contractors on a project to ensure that their waste is recycled and that the routes used are traceable. As Jane notes: "In order to be able to claim that waste has been recycled, the legislation requires companies to specify exactly where it has gone. We can provide these traceable routes. Axion is well placed to launch this service. People like the fact that between them, our consultants can offer over 100 years of practical experience in the waste management industry."

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ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY COMMUTING

Axion Director Keith Freegard unveiled his brand new, purpose-built London office this week. Moving out of his old office which formed part of his family home, Keith is pleased that commuting to his new office will be at no extra cost to the environment - he will walk to work every day.

Keith's new office is located a mere 20m from his backdoor - at the foot of his garden! As Keith comments: "This is a stress-free, environmentally-friendly journey to work. No car is required! When

I am working at the Axion Polymers' site in Salford, I always travel by train. By walking to work each day and using public transport for business travel, my contribution to CO₂ emissions is being kept to a minimum."



Keith outside his new office

AXION'S PROCESS PRODUCES PURER POLYMER

Axion Polymers has developed a new RoHS-compliant high grade impact polystyrene, entirely from old TV and computer monitor plastic. Axion's unique process removes the fraction that contains brominated flame retardants from discarded casings to produce a purer material, called Axpoly PS02.

The recycled polystyrene is fully compliant with the European RoHS Directive (Restriction on Hazardous Substances) that bans new electrical and electronic equipment containing more than agreed levels of potentially harmful metals and chemicals, such as lead, cadmium and flame retardants. Manufacturers are legally obliged to ensure that their products, and their components, comply.



Kitchen cabinet foot made from AxPoly PS02

The PS02 material is currently undergoing pre-production trials with several major electrical equipment manufacturers to assess its potential use in the manufacture of new products. This new product is a significant step towards the use of 100% recycled components in new electrical products.

Axion's Commercial Director Roger Morton says the polymer performs similarly to virgin material, which potentially offers manufacturers a variety of new high value applications; particularly where offering a recycled content provides a marketing advantage or reduces production costs. Axpoly PS02 is already used across Europe in a wide range of injection-moulded and sheet thermoformed products.

"We are the only processors in the UK to produce this 100% recycled material, which is consistent, has high impact strength (10KJ/sq m) and performance similar to virgin polymer," he says. "Testing is also being carried out to assess its use in new components where filled virgin polypropylene can be replaced with our high grade recyclate, thus 'closing the loop' for end-of-life waste electrical and electronic equipment."

In addition to Axpoly PS02, Axion produces a white product, Axpoly PS01, from recycled halogen-free fridge plastic. This is used in similar applications to Axpoly PS02.

Axpoly branded polystyrene and HIPS injection-grade materials are based upon raw materials sourced from primary WEEE treatment plants for fridges, televisions and smaller electrical appliances. The range of available grades is growing as the production plant takes on a wider variety of input raw materials from mixed household electrical goods and business equipment waste.

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