



Environmental Policy

British Thornton recognises its responsibility for contributing to the protection, conservation and improvement of the environment and it is our policy to operate our business processes in such a way as to minimise its impact on the environment. To prove our environmental commitment we were accredited to ISO 14001 in September 2007

We will:-

- Design our woodworking activities to use the minimum amount of raw material.
- Collect and send all recyclable waste.
- Continually improve our environmental performance and do everything we can to prevent pollution.
- Comply with all environmental legislation.
- Be a good neighbour.
- Provide a framework for setting objectives and targets.

Duty of Care for Waste

British Thornton has invested in an on site incineration plant with heat recovery option, thus reducing the use of fossil fuels. We can incinerate 20 tons of the waste we produce on a weekly basis. This limits the impact on the end of life cycle.

In June 2008 a new waste recycling contract was signed and introduced. Our waste disposal contractor guarantees to recycle the majority of our waste.

The emissions from the stack (flue gases) are continually monitored and adjusted to achieve optimum combustion levels.

Hazardous waste material is collected by a licensed company.

VOC emissions

The Company's VOC emissions have dropped year on year due to continual efforts to find alternative low solvent products and the use of different pre-coated materials.

Our new polish shop is equipped with an infra-red curing oven which incorporates a catalytic converter to convert the solvent extracted from the lacquer into heat and reduces our VOC emissions considerably.

We have recently (June 07) introduced 'air-assist' spray guns into our polish shop. This reduces overspray by at least 25% and further reduces our emissions.

Formaldehyde - Chipboard and MDF contain binding resins such as urea and phenol formaldehyde. The sheet materials we use are classified as 'low formaldehyde products' or 'formaldehyde-free'. All our units leave the factory with all exposed edges either lacquered or covered with a PVC edge. There should be no risk of formaldehyde emissions from our products.

Noise Emissions

British Thornton will comply with local noise restrictions. Within the factory every effort has been made to reduce noise at source where possible.
Where impracticable, mandatory 'ear protection' zones have been implemented.

Dust emissions

All extraction systems are regularly examined, tested and maintained.

The dust extraction system is fully enclosed which returns the filtered air back into the factory to reduce heat loss.

The capture and duct velocities are measured regularly to ensure that adequate efficiency is being maintained.

Site Waste Management

British Thornton will co-operate with any system in place on site to reuse, recycle or otherwise dispose of waste products.

Our fixing teams will at all times keep the work area in a clean and tidy condition.

Portable extraction units are provided for any machining requirements, but this is kept to an absolute minimum.

On completion, the furniture will be cleaned down removing excess glue, pencil marks and tape.

Excess material will be returned to the factory for possible re-use.

At least annually we review our progress against this policy.

Paul O'Brien – Quality and Environmental Officer

This policy is available to all our employees on the company server.
(H:\Departments\Public QA\Quality & Environmental Management System Manual 2007\Environment policy 2007) and to the general public on

www.british-thornton.co.uk

This Policy is endorsed by;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Little', is written over a horizontal line.

Stuart Little
Operations Director

Reviewed June 2008
