

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 are accredited to ISO 14001.

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 January 2010 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.

A licensed company collects hazardous waste material.

### **Factory heating**

The heat generated by our wood-burning boiler is piped into the Factory to heat the Machine shop, warehouse and assembly and reducing our gas usage.

### **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 'Polish' shop is equipped with an infrared curing oven, which incorporates a catalytic converter to convert the solvent extracted from the lacquer into heat. We also use 'air-assist' spray guns, which further reduces our VOC 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' (Class E1) There should be no risk of formaldehyde emissions from our products.

### **Noise Emissions**

British Thornton will comply with local noise restrictions. Within the factory, and externally where necessary, every effort has been made to reduce noise at source where possible.

### **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.

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

**Sustainability**

To demonstrate our commitment to conserve the world's Forests we are in the process of amending our procedures in line with the requirements of both FSC and PEFC. We expect to be accredited by April 2012.

This policy is periodically reviewed for continuing suitability, but at least annually.

**Paul O'Brien – Quality and Environmental Officer**

This policy is available to all our employees on the company server.  
(H:\Departments\Management Systems\Public QA\Title) and to the general public on

[www.british-thornton.co.uk](http://www.british-thornton.co.uk)



This Policy is endorsed by;  
Stuart Little - Managing Director