

Environmental Statement

General policy

It is Blair Installations Ltd policy to try to promote a greater awareness of environmental issues in our suppliers, clients and staff and we will work, within available resources, towards the principles of sustainable development in all areas of our activity. To achieve this we will:

- follow the principles of sustainable development within our own operations, such as purchasing and fair trade, transport and use of resources;
- enable staff to contribute to the 'greening' process at work and, through example and training, encourage them to continue to contribute at home;
- contribute, where appropriate to any local initiatives designed to promote environmental awareness and to improve the quality of our environment

All staff working for Blair Installations Ltd are encouraged and expected to play their part so that the aims of this environmental policy can be met.

Pollution and Energy Efficiency

It is the policy of this company to ensure that its work and processes do not contribute to environmental pollution. We will therefore comply with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and all relevant regulations.

We will encourage staff to avoid harming the environment and to report any potential environmental hazards to the MD. We will also ask them to offer ideas on steps that we can take to protect the environment from our work activities.

We will endeavour to minimise emissions to the atmosphere when working and will minimise the amount of waste generated by re-using or recycling as much as possible before resorting to disposal.

When disposal is necessary we will ensure that waste is stored safely and disposed of by licensed carriers having satisfied myself that they will be disposing of it appropriately. (See Waste Management).

When purchasing new plant, transport and equipment we will take into account its energy efficient properties.

We will ensure that all plant, transport and equipment is regularly maintained so as to minimise pollution.

Duty of Care for Waste

We recognise that as a producer of waste we have a Duty of Care to transport, store and dispose of it responsibly.

We will take all reasonable measures to:

- Prevent the unauthorised or harmful disposal of our waste by another person;
- Prevent the escape of the waste from our control;
- Ensure that:
 - we transfer waste only to an authorised person or to a person for authorised transport purposes; and
 - on transfer, a written description of the waste is given by us to the carrier that will enable other people to avoid the unauthorised or harmful disposal of the waste and to comply with their own Duty of Care.

We recognise that the Duty of Care has no time limit and that we retain our duty of care for the safe disposal of waste even after we have passed it on to another party such as a waste contractor, scrap merchant, recycler, local council or skip hire company.

Because we produce more than 200kg of "hazardous waste" each year we have registered with the Environment Agency as a waste producer and undertake to use properly licensed carriers or waste site in order to dispose of both our hazardous and normal domestic grade waste.

Waste Management

As we only store waste which we produce and it is regularly removed from our sites we are not required to have a complicated waste management system. Our main waste categories are:

- Cardboard
- Metal
- Wood
- Metal and Plastics (cabling)

We will ensure that all waste generated by our activities on the sites where we are working is disposed of as it is generated in skips provided on the site by the Principal Contractor.

We will assure ourselves that the skips are removed and replaced only by reputable waste management companies.

If it is necessary for our company to arrange waste management on site, we (Blair Installations Ltd) recognise that it is our duty to vet the competence and integrity of the waste management firm. Steve Blair will be responsible for asking to see their licence or exemption certificate, and will check this with the Environmental Regulator.

The MD is also responsible for ensuring that whenever waste is removed from our site or a site which we control as the Principal Contractor, a Waste Transfer Note (WTN) is properly completed and signed by him. He will ensure that both regular and irregular waste (such as that caused by spills) is included on the WTN. It is recognised that some of these wastes may have to be handled as Special Waste.

The MD will keep copies of all WTNs in the office for two years.

The MD will ensure that all our employees and any sub-contractors working for us are given specific instructions relating to how EACH AND EVERY waste that might arise is to be handled and disposed of and he will regularly check that these instructions are being followed.

Reducing our Carbon Footprint

We recognise that activities related to our business such as driving our company vehicles and heating or cooling our offices consume energy and produce carbon dioxide emissions which are ultimately harmful to the planet.

Although we recognise that complete avoidance of CO2 emissions would be impractical we will endeavour to calculate our carbon footprint in line with current DEFRA Guidelines and will seek to reduce our footprint as far as possible with methods which reduce CO2 emissions at source – such as ensuring our energy systems are efficiently designed and running at optimum performance and by such measures as purchasing diesel vehicles. We will also advise our clients (and staff) on the benefits of using “clean technologies” such as fitting low energy light bulbs.

Future initiatives

We recognise that our commitment to the environment is ongoing and that there will always be more that we can do to help safeguard the world's resources and keep the environment “green”.

We are aware that there are many ways in which our business may impact adversely on the environment and it is proposed that over the next two years we will develop an environmental strategy which sets targets to be achieved within reasonable timescales and will provide a trackable means of measuring our success.

We will review this policy at least annually and take advice on current best practice so that we can incorporate them into our own business procedures.

Steve Blair

Managing Director