

September 2014

New iiE member Case Study

The Food & Drink Forum see value in reducing their environmental impact



Hello to the Food and Drink Forum, our latest iiE member from this growing sector. Established in 1998 this body helps food and drink companies across the East Midlands develop into successful enterprises.

Part of its role is to encourage business growth through sustainable development within the industry. This is why it is keen to lead by example by increasing efficiency and cutting waste and costs by adopting an Environmental Management System with Investors in the Environment.

The combined impacts of climate change, water security, rising natural resource costs and increasing demand for crops for bio-fuels, mean that food production is one of the area most directly impacted by unsustainable development. The Forum also recognises the social, economic and environmental benefits that can be achieved when a business is more efficient and sustainable - your environmental impact lessens as you generate less CO₂ and energy bills reduce the more your energy consumption does. It is also a chance to revise your processes that may not have been looked at for a number of years.

Resource Use

The F&D Forum's head office is based at Southglade Food Park in Bulwell. Like many offices they use electricity, gas and water. They produce waste and segregate it into general and recycling - as a collective they rely heavily on car travel. The first phase of the iiE process is to calculate a carbon footprint baseline.

Carbon Footprint

The Forum's calculations were worked out by exchange students from Savannah State University, Georgia who were fully trained through Nottingham Trent University's Summer School programme in partnership with NEPes. Their total carbon footprint for the year 2013/2014 was equivalent to 71.83 tonnes of CO₂e with transportation and electric their top two emitting areas.

Looking forward

The Food and Drink Forum are now committed to reducing their environmental impact by at least 5% annually wherever practicable. They are working on a action plan that will show how the business can lower its footprint and achieve iiE accreditation year on year. Below are some changes they intend to implement:

- Fit smart power metering
- Encourage greater use of electronic filling and sharing information electronically
- Create and adopt a travel plan to reduce the number of business journeys and then encourage the use of sustainable methods of travel



If you are interested in joining iiE please call either Jerome or Estelle on **0115 985 3005**, or visit our website: www.iiE.uk.com/nottinghamshire-and-derbyshire