

# Envirowise and Hazardous Waste

## Introduction

- Programme aims
- Hazardous waste
  - Helpline
  - Minimisation
- Key approach

## Aim

To promote environmental practices that reduce costs for UK industry and commerce

## Underlying Philosophy

- Reduction and elimination of waste and pollution at source.
- Replication of good practices and encouragement of better ones.

## Envirowise

- DTI & DEFRA in partnership with devolved countries
- Outputs free to organisations in the UK
- What to do and how to do it
- Information to help companies do it themselves

## Envirowise coverage

- All industry and commerce
- Two permanent themes:
  - Waste Minimisation
  - Cost-effective cleaner technology
- Areas of special attention
  - Industry sectors
  - Pollutants or issues
- Packages of information to aid action
- Helpline

## Helpline

- Free service to all UK companies
- Any business environmental issue
- Up to 2 hours work per query
  - ...but simple queries too
- Visits for SMEs
- Web
  - Includes reference notes

## Visits

- *FastTrack* 1 day structured visit
  - Waste mapping
  - Waste account
  - Companies priority actions
  - Report
  - Follow-up
- Counselling visit – 0.5 day

## Attitudes to environmental legislation

- Want to comply
- Don't know:
  - What legislation applies
  - How to comply
  - How to realise benefits from compliance

## Sell benefits

- Reduce the problem at source saves money
  - But how much can companies save
- ... some rules of thumb:
- 1% of turnover
  - £1000 per employee

- Savings go straight to the bottom



## Where do savings come from?

- Reduced waste
- Many case studies show cost of waste higher than realised...

...rules of thumb:

- *true cost of waste = 10 x disposal cost*
- *4% of turnover*



## How do you do it?

Waste minimisation techniques

- give incremental improvements

Cleaner technologies

- can give step change improvements

## Programme Outputs

- Publications
  - Articles
  - Case studies
  - Guides
- Events
  - Seminars
  - Site visits
  - workshops

## Contacting Companies

- Direct Marketing
  - contact, such as by post
  - response asked for
- Through contacts
  - trade associations
  - business club
  - business support organisations
- Press, especially trade journals

## Action Has Helped Companies...

- Reduce costs by £797 m
- Use 438,000 tonnes less raw material each year
- Consume 33 million m<sup>3</sup> less water each year

## Hazardous waste

- Working with regulators
    - Already speaking to Environment Agency
  - Legislation campaign
    - Driver for messages and action
  - New area:
    - Hazardous waste
- Hope to engage the waste management industry

## Summary

- Benefits
- To companies
- To the environment
- To government