

# **Construction Waste-UK**

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# Overview of the Construction Sector

- **How is the Recession affecting Construction**
- **Construction Professionals Top the Unemployed List-Architects, Quantity Surveyors, Managers**
- **Large Project such as the 2012 Olympics**
- **Still the largest sector for Accidents**
- **Government Building programmes such as Schools, Colleges and Hospitals unaffected**
- **Housing**

# The UK Construction Commitments

- **Halving Waste to Landfill - What is it?**

**A simple statement of intent:**

***'We commit to playing our part in halving the amount of construction, demolition and excavation waste going to landfill by 2012. We will work to adopt and implement standards for good practice in reducing waste, recycling more, and increasing the use of recycled and recovered materials'***

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- **Fines for dumping/fly tipping construction waste under different Legislation.**
- **The UK Construction Waste Commitments-most major companies/clients have signed up to Halving Waste to Landfill by 2113**
- **Contractors may charge subcontractors or drop them from future work if they fail to hit targets for site waste**
- **landfill taxes would be raised by £8 a tonne every April until at least 2013. At that point the levy will have reached £72 a tonne.**
- **Customer/Client Requirement**

# Site Waste Management Plans

- From 6 April 2008 all construction projects will need to be accompanied by Site Waste Management
- Contractors face an unlimited fine in the Crown Court, if they fail to comply with new site waste legislation. No Fines to date.
- Provides structure approach to management and recycling on site
- Reduces cost of waste management
- Increase profit margins
- Better control of regulatory risks relating to materials and wastes on site
- Compliance of contractual needs of public and private sector needs

# Contractor No 1

- **1/ The SWMP is a very affective tool for monitoring waste, land fill + recycling percentages, cost etc. through a project duration.**
- **2/ As regulation now insists that all companies implement some form of waste management package - this is by far one of the easiest- very user friendly and takes very little time, from when a waste transfer note is handed to site on every skip replacement - to inserting skip contents - (percentage breakdown of materials, timber, plastics, metals etc. ). About a ten minute exercise for each skip, wagon load etc.**
- **3/ A newsletter / update of waste disposed of ,to date (through the project duration), recycling and cost percentages etc is sent via E-mail every month to the named site.**
- **4/ This is now a criteria for the CCS appraisals, and is a factor on whether a site is classed as good to exceptional.**

# Contractor No 2

- a) Attention is drawn to the “waste” item on all operations, everyone’s attention is now on the savings that can be achieved by reducing the amount of waste going to landfill (high cost). Where as normally the waste item was to a degree accepted as the norm.
- b) The scheme has generated varied systems throughout the industry; this has increased the amount of time/paperwork in the process.
- c) With the recession biting hard the focus is on cutting costs by reducing waste and helping with the pricing procedure, this also encourages the use of the SWMP on sites.
- d) The CCS encourages the implementation of the SWMP giving consideration to how it is run and enforced on site and awarding points accordingly.
- e) The information trail can be difficult to control, ie the collecting of records etc from relevant contractors/sub-contractors as the contract proceeds.

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- **Some large companies setting up Collective to remove waste**
- **Social Enterprises**
- **Customer/Client Requirement**

**e.g. M&S has strict requirements of contractors, including proof of mileage and how it will be improved by 2011, a non-air freight policy, zero waste to landfill by 2012**

**ASDA aims to send zero waste to landfill by the end of next year**



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## Useful Websites and Sources:

- Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), [www.wrap.org.uk/construction](http://www.wrap.org.uk/construction)
- National House Building Council [www.NHBC.co.uk/SWMP](http://www.NHBC.co.uk/SWMP)
- [www.envirowise.gov.uk/uk/Sectors/Construction/Site-Waste-Management-Plans](http://www.envirowise.gov.uk/uk/Sectors/Construction/Site-Waste-Management-Plans)
- Modern Built Environment Knowledge Transfer Network [www.mbektn.co.uk](http://www.mbektn.co.uk)
- Building Magazine. [www.building.co.uk](http://www.building.co.uk)