

## OFFICE MATERIAL RECYCLING SCHEME PAYS DIVIDENDS FOR SEMBCORP AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A trial recycling of everyday office materials has brought financial and environmental benefits to Sembcorp UK.

The company, the UK's first to invest in a large scale wood burning biomass power station to generate cleaner energy - has been running the office waste trail for almost a year in conjunction with its contract cleaning firm and Redcar and Cleveland Council.

In that time Sembcorp's 500 employees have gathered more than 5 tonnes of paper, 4 tonnes of cardboard, 2 tonnes of plastic and half a tonne of metal drinks cans.

Their efforts, in a scheme which does not yet extend to all parts of the business, have also saved more than £3,000 and prevented these materials going to landfill.

The amount of paper recycled alone has saved:

- 70 trees
- More than 1,500 gallons of oil
- Around 28,000 gallons of water
- Around 16,000KW of electricity and
- 12 cubic yards of landfill space.

And the 1,600 recycled cans saved is the equivalent in energy saving terms of the amount required to power a TV for 4,800 hours or 200 days continuously.

The 17,000 recycled plastic bottles could power a 60-watt light bulb for 51,000 hours or almost 6 years continuously.

Sembcorp Environmental Manager, Dave Sigsworth, said: "It's been a great success so far involving very little effort on the part of employees and we are now looking to make it a permanent scheme for the whole business."

He added: "We want to make disposal to landfill the absolute last option for our waste and we're encouraging all our employees to reduce, reuse and recycle as much material as they can."

Sembcorp has for many years recycled more conventional industrial waste such as metal, oils, batteries, fluorescent tubes and electronic equipment.