

Environmental Sustainability

Through Freeman's core business activities the business is committed to providing good quality, reliable and cost effective services to all of its customers. Freeman's core business strategy is to increase the number of events that it services. At the same time Freeman recognises the environmental impacts arising from these business activities and is committed to reducing these through effective environmental management.

Freeman is committed to:

1. Maintaining an internal management structure for environmental issues which includes clearly defined responsibilities;
2. Complying with, and where possible exceeding, applicable legal and other requirements relating to the organisation;
3. Preventing pollution and reducing the overall impact of its operations on the environment;
4. Monitoring its environmental performance and setting objectives and targets for improvement;
5. Providing appropriate training and awareness programmes for its staff.

The majority of Freeman's work involves the production of exhibitions and events using modular construction with a variety of different systems which share the common characteristic of being designed for reuse over many years. This does not, however, preclude Freeman from being aware of the residual environmental effects of its operations.

It is Freeman policy to:-

- Recycle as much material as possible.
- Dispose of necessary waste using a reputable waste disposal organisation.
- Ensure that materials are used in all possible ways such as cutting damaged wall panels in to smaller sections for counters etc. rather than disposal in a waste skip
- To examine operations and where possible implement up to date technology to assist with waste disposal including the use of heating systems that can use waste materials.
- Cut metal work to alternative sizes and when this is no longer possible sell metal as scrap.
- To encourage the use of carpet that can be recycled.
- To carry materials to site in reusable cradles using the minimum of packaging materials.
- To work to ensure continued compliance with ISO14001
- To constantly minimise transport and other energy consumption.

Shell Scheme

A modular system shell scheme is the most intrinsically sustainable structure within the exhibition and events industry. All components are used time after time, cleaned between uses to maximise their lifespan. PVC foam infill panels that become damaged are cut down to smaller sizes of panel or used as fascia boards.

Any metalwork that is beyond reuse in its current state is melted down for reuse.

Traditional and Conventional Shell Scheme

In the same way, traditional timber panels are also reused time and time again. Any damage can be rectified by either sanding a panel, re-skinning a damaged side or alternatively cutting down to smaller

panel sizes or even a fascia. Collection areas are allocated at each of our workshops to collect any waste timber. All waste is then sent for recycling. All timber is sourced from sustainable wood supplies.

Furniture and Floor Covering

The life of furniture can be prolonged in much the same way as shell scheme. There is truly little waste when it comes to furniture components and items. In the first agreement of its kind in the exhibition industry Freeman began using recyclable carpet in 2002 in response to the AEO Sustainable Exhibition Industry (SEXI) project. In 2007 Freeman announced zero tolerance to non-recyclable carpet. Whether an organiser uses carpet tiles that are cleaned and stored after an event for use on the next event or cord carpet they can rest assured that the carpet will be removed from site and recycled.

Electrical Installations

Our extensive stock of electrical items is used across all of our shows again and again. There is minimal wastage with the only regular component to be replaced being bulbs which are only discarded as necessary. Our Modul Shell Scheme system includes an integrated lighting system. Lighting tracks are pre-routed into ceiling beams allowing minimal cabling onsite and minimal wastage. Standard beams are 100w rather than 120w and Freeman has invested heavily in low-voltage options for the system of both 50w and 35w.

Freeman does not add 24hour supplies to our order forms as standard. Freeman discusses requirements with any exhibitor who wishes to order a 24 hour supply. All plugs are pre-wired to 1m and 2m 'lollipops' with a cap at the top thus reducing cable wastage and increasing speed of installation. Freeman has invested in buzz bars which also reduce the cabling required on an event.

Climate Change Policy

Freeman is committed to reducing the greenhouse gas emissions from its operations in a way which supports Government strategies and that is in line with its commitment to clients to provide safe, efficient and reliable services. Freeman also assess the potential risk to its business from evolving climate change policies as part of its ongoing risk management processes.

Freeman's key climate change commitments are:

1. To work actively with its suppliers to improve the fuel efficiency of Freeman's vehicles;
2. To report annually on its greenhouse gas emissions from all vehicles and property that it owns;
3. To actively promote improved energy efficiency and fuel efficiency within the business;

Biodiversity Policy

The following policy sets out Freeman's commitment to conserving and promoting biodiversity where it is practical to do so. Conserving and promoting biodiversity is consistent with the business's commitment to furthering the aims of sustainable development in the management and development of its business. This Biodiversity Policy is also consistent with the business's broader Environmental Policy, which includes a stated commitment to minimising the overall environmental impacts of its operations and to preventing pollution.

Freeman's commitment:

1. Where Freeman operates at sites which are designated as being of importance due to their natural habitats, it will work with the relevant organisations to ensure protection of these habitats through effective pollution control measures and management plans with the aim of conserving or enhancing the biodiversity of these sites;
2. Where Freeman is involved in the development of new sites, it shall comply with all relevant statutory requirements and guidelines in respect of designated areas on any of its landholdings. Where significant areas of landscaping are proposed, Freeman shall take account of any local biodiversity networks or action plans;
3. Where Freeman operates from existing sites the potential to promote biodiversity is likely to be limited. The nature of the operations conducted at Freeman's sites is such that they are largely covered in hard standing. Freeman shall however seek to identify any sites where the potential exists for enhancing biodiversity and over time develop appropriate actions plans to achieve this;
4. Where Freeman considers it appropriate to do so, it shall support the implementation of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Local Biodiversity Action Plans which define areas that require special protection and management. Freeman shall seek to do this in partnership with organisations that promote biodiversity on a local and national level, and will seek to identify ways in which it may be able to support the development of selected schemes or initiatives.

Full Service Commitment:

1. C.N.C. c/w optimising software package to keep waste to a minimum
2. Wood and particular waste re-used at Power station energy supply
3. Graphics - 100% recyclable
 - No volatile Organic Compounds in the print inks
4. Flooring – 100% recyclable
 - We always try to amalgamate deliveries and collections throughout all departments to send out as few as vehicles as possible
 - We have a new lease agreement in place for all our tractor units and sprinters and have therefore been allocated new vehicles with lower emissions
 - We keep servicing and maintenance checks up to date on all our fleet to keep the vehicles running efficiently
 - We have speed limiters on our vehicles
 - We train all our drivers to be aware of ways they can drive to help the environment