

Environmental Policy

Elder Engineering (Herts) Ltd is committed to a cleaner and healthier, sustainable environment for the benefit of all. The Company will carry out its business functions fully aware and alert to the effect processes might have on the environment; it will strive to eliminate any harmful effects to the world around us that may arise from the firm's activities.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Company's Health and Safety Policy, which addresses closely related subjects concerning waste, and recycling. The following is not an exhaustive schedule of procedures but is the foundation upon which Company Good Practice is built.

Noise

Methods of manufacture shall involve the minimum generation of noise and the noise levels of plant will be given consideration prior to use. Equipment used is to be placed within the sound proof room whenever possible. Clients, their employees, and members of the public in general, shall be considered when being shown around the plant and protective plugs will be issued.

Dust

Airborne dirt shall be avoided whenever possible by adopting cutting methods which do not generate dust; if unavoidable, such dirt shall be contained at source by methods such as screening and/or fluid dampening. Basic materials such as thermoplastics do not create any dust during machining.

Smoke

The burning of substances will not be permitted on site. Burning can never be regarded as a means of rubbish disposal. Inks will be sent to incineration plant for disposal.

Vapour

The generation of vapours when using adhesives shall be controlled in accordance with Health and Safety requirements; in addition consideration is to be given to nuisance and discomfort as well as damage to the wider environment.

Ozone Depleting Substances

The use of ozone depleting substances within buildings shall not be permitted except on the absolute insistence of clients or their professional advisers; and even then only after discussion of possible alternatives with those persons. No plant, tools or products shall be used if they issue ozone-depleting substances; especial attention will be paid to avoiding the use of aerosols, which may contain such undesirable substances.

Effluent

Oils, cutting fluids and inks. shall not be deposited where there is any possibility of them entering the soil, groundwater or surface water drainage. When unwanted they shall be placed in reliable containers for disposal in an approved fashion. Measures will be undertaken to avoid the ingress of solids or slurries into surface water drains. Foul water drains will be protected from all effluents other than those intended for disposal by such means.

Disposal of Dangerous Substances

All unwanted dangerous or hazardous substances shall be placed in sealed containers and shall be disposed of only through competent, approved agencies. Care shall be taken during transport to avoid damage to containers.

Rubbish

All kinds of rubbish shall be accumulated on a daily basis and shall be stored in such a way as to ensure prevention of release by wind, rain, vandalism etc. Foodstuffs will be placed in areas or containers that are free from vermin.

Waste

All products consumed shall be monitored to avoid excess purchasing. Working methods will be reviewed regularly to ensure that there is no unnecessary consumption. This applies equally throughout the company's site, offices, warehouse and manufacturing works.

Recycling

Employees throughout the organisation are to ensure that all waste which arises is to be considered for reuse wherever practical; provided that to do so does not actually consume more resources than can be justified. Persons in the manufacturing, warehouse and office should be constantly aware of the need to reuse surplus material from whatever source is available, whether that source is inside or outside the firm. Suppliers, who provide materials on pallets or in reusable packaging, should reclaim said packaging for re-use. Wherever the opportunity arises clients should be advised of methods, which can be adopted to use recycled materials for certain projects. Plastics, whenever possible, are to be ultimately derived from sustainable sources. Such sources should be those, which can provide credible documentation to the effect that no long-term environmental harm arises from their manufacturing processes.

Energy Consumption

All sources of energy to be used are to be adopted only after having due regard for health, safety, cost, pollution, nuisance and also after regard to the limitation of the world's finite resources. The actual need for energy must be fully considered; that is it should be examined to see if the process being undertaken actually needs energy at all. Consumption of energy must be monitored to ensure that there is no waste. Use of the lowest levels of heat and light must be regularly considered provided that health and safety are not compromised. Energy must be used for no longer than absolutely necessary; there must be discipline in the switching on and off of power and light. The use of vehicle fuel is to be moderated by the encouragement of vehicle sharing and the avoidance of unnecessary or repeat journeys. Economical driving techniques are to be used by vehicle drivers.

Monitoring of subcontractors and suppliers

Relatively few subcontractors and suppliers have adopted environmental policies however they are to be made aware of this company's concerns with this subject. They are to be encouraged to adopt environment policies of their own. Their attitude and behaviour, including that of their employees, is to be monitored and constructive action taken where necessary.

Conclusion

All employees are encouraged to maintain awareness of environmental matters during their day-to-day working practices. Elder Engineering (Herts) Ltd intends to be a leader rather than a follower by doing all that it can to avoid damage to its nearer surroundings and it intends to contribute where it possibly can in helping to mitigate global problems.