

## The Carbon Trust



Climate change is the biggest challenge facing the world today, but it also represents an opportunity for businesses large and small. The Carbon Trust works with businesses to reduce their energy consumption saving both carbon and money. In 2006/07 the Carbon Trust identified potential annual carbon savings of 4.6 - 5.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent in cost savings to £485 - £543 million a year.

Picture courtesy of Carbon Trust



Reducing energy consumption saves both carbon and cash

One of the ways in which the Carbon Trust helps businesses to reduce their energy use is through its energy site surveys. Organisations with annual energy bills of more than £50k at one site can apply for these free, on site surveys to identify carbon saving opportunities.

A company that did just that is Kent-based Faversham Laundry which caters largely for the hotel and restaurant trade. The company has a turnover in the region of £1.8 million per year and employs around 70 people. Faversham's management were committed to reducing energy consumption and its £65,000 annual energy bill. The energy site survey identified several ways to reduce energy including optimising machinery use, increasing efficiency and improving controls on heaters and office equipment. Taken together these measures would result in savings of £5,000 and 73 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Alongside energy surveys, the Carbon Trust also provides interest-free energy efficiency loans of up to £100,000 which are available to SMEs to help them invest in energy-saving equipment such as improved lighting, boilers and insulation.

Over the past four years £28m has been committed to providing approximately 800 interest-free energy efficiency loans for SMEs. This year the Carbon Trust is doubling its interest free loans pool to help more businesses invest in new energy efficient equipment, save money and cut their carbon footprint.

The Carbon Trust provides support for fledgling low carbon businesses through its Applied Research grant scheme and incubators programme. This support helps to bring low carbon technologies to commercial reality sooner, linking the worlds of science and business closer together, converting theory into potential profit and speeding the UK's transition to a low carbon economy.

Free, practical help and advice is available to all organisations to save money by reducing energy use. There is also a part of the website featuring online tools designed with SMEs in mind, to help them reduce their carbon emissions and cut costs.

**Contact:**  
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