

2003 Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)



## Snippets

August 6<sup>th</sup> - October 6<sup>th</sup> Sustainability news digested, cut down and pasted from various sources

### Document links

[Auto sector](#) | [Financial services sector](#) | [Electronics sector](#) | [Local authority](#) | [Sustainability management](#) | [Environment & climate change](#) | [Reporting](#) | [Product/packaging/supply chain/logistics](#) | [World development](#)

Snippet	Source, Go to	Date
<b>Automotive sector and sustainable mobility</b>		
EU to clamp down on industrial climate gases The European Commission has proposed curbing emissions from high-global warming potential coolants in cars, leading to a ban 2013. Firms will be able to 'bank' and sell quotas to other producers.	Environment Daily 1494 <a href="http://www.fluorocarbons.org/g-info/press/PR_EFCTC_On_Commission_Proposal_12_Augusts_2003.PDF">http://www.fluorocarbons.org/g-info/press/PR_EFCTC_On_Commission_Proposal_12_Augusts_2003.PDF</a>	Aug 14
GM, auto suppliers and US EPA form partnership for the environment to increase the competitiveness of US companies while reducing environmental impacts	Greenbiz.com	Aug 15
GM's radical system of fuel cells that may one day make the petrol engine obsolete <a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2003">www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2003</a>	FT/WBCSD	Aug 15
Ford's new 'GRI-guided' report: detailed data and willing to address tough challenges: climate change and appropriate technology advances; overseas labour and human rights efforts; product safety. "This report is a quantum leap from what we have seen from Ford in past years"	CSR Wire	Aug 19
Green transport for London A new business venture, offering an alternative mode of transport, could see a healthier population of Londoners and cleaner city air.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7420.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7420.cfm</a>	Aug 26
Compromise on the EU-German road toll feud Germany can start charging trucks a toll to use the German motorways as a form of environmental tax	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7451.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7451.cfm</a>	Aug 28
Enviros to sue EPA in wake of motor vehicle petition Bush will face another round of litigation over stance on climate change issues now that he has rejected a petition from environmentalists that sought to have the federal government regulate greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles	WBCSD <a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2177">http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2177</a>	Aug 29
Plastics makers warn on EU scrap car target A legally binding EU target for 85% of all cars to be recycled by 2015 will prove too	Environment Daily 1509	Sep 15

**2003 Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)**



expensive to achieve and should be revised downwards, European plastics makers have concluded <a href="http://www.apme.org/">http://www.apme.org/</a>		
<b>Swedish traffic charges hit local opposition</b> Local polls registered overwhelming opposition to Stockholm's congestion charging plans <a href="http://www.dn.se/DNet/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=1483&amp;a=182067&amp;previousRenderType=2">http://www.dn.se/DNet/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=1483&amp;a=182067&amp;previousRenderType=2</a>	Environment Daily 1509	Sep 15
<b>Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes add Toyota &amp; reject DaimlerChrysler</b> DJSI announced its yearly review, on new companies added to indexes and existing ones deleted (that it sees as not having kept pace with sustainability best-practice)	CSR Wire	Sep 16
<b>VW leads the auto sector</b> on the DJSI Stoxx 600 Index, which covers the top fifth of companies in the index in sustainability terms	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1218.html#top#top">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1218.html#top#top</a>	
<b>Some of USA's major corporations embracing green electricity</b> in the hope of spurring the development of renewable energy, including <b>General Motors</b> , Dow Chemical Co, DuPont, Johnson & Johnson, IBM, Kinko's and Staples Inc.	<a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2339">http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2339</a>	Sep 17
<b>France is to invest nearly €40 million</b> into the research and development of sustainable transport and wants to lead the industrialised nations in cleaner transport methods by 2010, and to increase innovation and competitiveness in the transport sector		
<b>Europeans celebrate mobility without cars</b> Europe's second European Commission-sponsored "mobility week" involved more than 700 cities in over 20 European countries, up from 320 cities last year <a href="http://www.mobilityweek-europe.org/">http://www.mobilityweek-europe.org/</a>	Environment Daily 1514	Sep 22
<b>Flexcar first US company to offset 100% of emissions</b> USA's largest provider of car-sharing programs is the first company in the United States to be completely carbon neutral	CSRwire	Sep 24
<b>Carmakers favour other green options over hydrogen-powered fuel cells</b> to solve the environmental and geopolitical problems caused by dependence on gasoline. They said redesigned diesel engines, hybrid gas-electric cars and several alternative fuels would be the short-term answer to reducing emissions and cutting gas use. The fifth Michelin Challenge Bibendum judges various aspects from styling to fuel economy and emissions.	Edmonton Journal, in wbcscd <a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2503">http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2503</a>	Sep 30
<b>Asian automakers have invested the bulk of their research in hybrid technologies</b> Hybrid gas-electric cars and cleaner burning gas-powered cars now sold by Toyota, Honda and Nissan are among the cleanest vehicles on the road. Of 16 gold medals awarded, 14 went to Honda, Toyota and Nissan. Volvo won the remaining top emissions awards.	<a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2503">http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&amp;DocId=2503</a>	
<b>Three buses equipped with fuel cells</b> have been delivered to the	EEP.org citing Umwelt Magazin,	Oct 3

**2003 Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)**



Hamburg transport authority by Mercedes-Benz Omnibusse this month.	Germany	
<b>GM, Dow and Johnson &amp; Johnson lead the charge to green power</b>	SocialFunds.com	Sep 30
The 12 members of the Green Power Market Development Group bought almost 100 MW of green power from renewables since last summer.	<a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2527">www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2527</a>	
<b>The first service station offering hydrogen fuel will open in Berlin next year.</b> Partners include BMW, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, Norsk Hydro, Opel.	Eep.org	Oct 15
The cost of the joint pilot project is about 33 million euros.	Umwelt Magazin	
<b>Diesel engine system eliminates particulates</b> UK Scientists at Adastra can eliminate emissions from diesel engines by adding a substance to the fuel that works with a filter to trap pollutants. Taxi drivers, who are among the worst polluters because they constantly stop and start, could cut pollution from their vehicles using such diesel particulate filters.	EB Magazine, EEP.org	

**Financial services**

<b>Citigroup and JP Morgan fined for Enron bookkeeping</b> , totalling \$330 million to settle charges that the firms helped distort the finances of Enron.	New York Times	Aug 3
<b>UBS's top investment bankers</b> are to be given a crash course in the environmental risks facing big companies	<a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=1981">http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=1981</a> Financial Times	Aug 11
<b>Banks' 'Equator' principles on lending criticised</b> Drawn up by a consortium of 10 banks that will prevent them from funding projects that harm rain forests around the world, they have come under attack from opposition groups	EEP <a href="http://www.equator-principles.com/principles.shtml">www.equator-principles.com/principles.shtml</a>	Aug 21
<b>Climate change challenge facing the insurance industry</b> Good corporate governance requires companies to assess and mitigate risks from climate change. Now institutional investors are pressing for action, even outside the 'Kyoto arena'	WBCSD <a href="http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2102">http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2102</a>	Aug 28
<b>UBS bankers</b> are being taught how to integrate environmental criteria into their overall assessment of investment risk and opportunity	Financial Times	Sep 9
<b>Commercial Bank of Greece releases their first CSR report</b> <a href="http://www.emporiki.gr">http://www.emporiki.gr</a> & Standard Bank and EcoSecurities announce Carbon Credits cooperation agreement <a href="http://www.standardbank.com">http://www.standardbank.com</a>	UNEP FI e-bulletin	Sep 9
<b>"A growing number of ... investors</b> are adapting economic, environmental and social criteria to reflect the impact of sustainability issues on long-term shareholder value. [It's making] its way into mainstream asset management and equity research" John Prestbo, editor, Dow Jones Indexes	<a href="http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2093.html">http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2093.html</a>	Sep 10
<b>Bradford and Bingley Group take over specialist SRI independent financial advisors</b> Holden Meehan.	Green Futures July/August	Sep 15



**ICT/Electronics sector**

<p><b>Recent EU Directives on waste electronic goods</b> and hazardous substances are leading to tensions with developing countries which export equipment. The global electronics supply chain is now forming an important testing ground for a new initiative on sustainable trade and innovation aimed at overcoming accusations of environmental protectionism.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.environmental-center.com/articles/article1345/article1345.htm">http://www.environmental-center.com/articles/article1345/article1345.htm</a></p>	<p>Aug 29</p>
<p><b>Software firm records</b> greenhouse gas emissions from increased telecommuting in the workforce, and is poised to aggressively enter partnership projects to deal with it</p>	<p>Calgary Herald, via WBCSD <a href="http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=1952">http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=1952</a></p>	<p>Sep 4</p>
<p><b>Sustainable computer producers perform better</b> Innovest's recent computer industry report found that companies that ranked above-average on sustainability ratings financially outperformed companies with below-average ratings by 19.1 percent over the three years (00 to 03). Innovest's Intangible Value Assessment (IVA) ratings include social as well as environmental issues.</p>	<p>Social Funds.com</p>	<p>Oct 1</p>

**Local authorities/local development**

<p><b>Liveability &amp; Local Authorities</b> IDeA and BBC Worldwide outlines 'liveability' agenda and how it affects local authorities</p>	<p><a href="http://www.idea.gov.uk/knowledge/august/?id=120803liveability-learning">http://www.idea.gov.uk/knowledge/august/?id=120803liveability-learning</a></p>	<p>Aug 12</p>
<p><b>UK Department for Education and Skills publishes Action Plan</b> for Sustainable Development in Education and Skills. Secretary of State for Education, Charles Clarke, wants sustainable development a practical part of the whole education and skills sector. <a href="http://www.dfes.gov.uk/sd">www.dfes.gov.uk/sd</a></p>	<p>SPN UK</p>	<p>Oct 7</p>
<p><b>Green neighbourhood guides</b> Stockport Council has joined forces with the local health service to produce one of the UK's first 'Green A-Z' guides. It encourages walking and cycling using pleasant neighbourhood routes and discourages the use of private transport for short trips.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.idea.gov.uk/knowledge/october/?id=071003liveability">http://www.idea.gov.uk/knowledge/october/?id=071003liveability</a></p>	<p>Oct 10</p>
<p>The <b>Local Government Act 2003</b> gives new devolved powers to local councils, new financial help to small businesses and sports clubs, and new incentives for councils to work with business.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.info4local.gov.uk/singleLink.asp?linkid=3244&amp;heading=e%2dmail%20alert">http://www.info4local.gov.uk/singleLink.asp?linkid=3244&amp;heading=e%2dmail%20alert</a></p>	<p>Oct 10</p>

**Sustainability management in business, including CSR**

<p><b>UK Consumers want ethical products</b> New research from the Social Market Foundation claims that 82% of UK consumers prefer to purchase goods and services from companies that are socially and environmentally responsible.</p>	<p>Ethical Corporation <a href="http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2054">http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2054</a></p>	<p>Aug 20</p>
<p><b>Corporate Governance ratings take different approaches to produce</b></p>		

**2003 Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)**



**similar results** GovernanceMetrics International rates corporate governance in relation to other companies, while Institutional Shareholder Services rates in relation to market indexes.

**Unbalanced Scorecard: A Social and Environmental Critique:** An interesting academic article

<http://www.environmental-center.com/articles/article1327/article1327.htm> Aug 28

**Trade associations hide companies' poor green performance** They're accused of paying lip service to corporate social responsibility, using this to mask the reality of their unsustainable and irresponsible environmental policies

[www.edie.net/news/Archive/7471.cfm](http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7471.cfm) Sep 5

**GlaxoSmithKline meets its stakeholders** during a series of discussions on the future of environment health and safety in the company building on its EHS Plan for Excellence

BCSD-UK Sep 17

**Over 40 case studies of responsible entrepreneurship** in Europe's small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are listed in an on-line directory posted on the Commission's Europa website

Enterprise Europe News Sep 16  
<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/library/enterprise-europe/index.htm>

**Business sustainability guidelines launched** Practical guidelines for organisations to manage sustainability issues were launched in London on Tuesday after four years of development. The SIGMA project is backed by Britain's industry ministry, the UK standards body, environmental groups and industrial and service companies. The initiative is claimed to be "the world's first systematic approach to business sustainability", Sd3 will be presenting the Guidelines during training sessions running over the next few months

Environment Daily 1516 Sep 24  
See Sigma project  
<http://www.projectsigma.com/www.sd3.co.uk>

**Environment & climate change**

**European Commission proposes directive on eco-design of appliances.** The Energy-Using Products Directive (EUP) is the end result of work on eco-design regulation

EEP.org Sep 16

**Deciduous trees across Europe** have shed their leaves 6 - 8 weeks earlier than normal in 2003.

[www.edie.net/news/Archive/7454.cfm](http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7454.cfm) Aug 29

**In 2002, the world experienced about 700 natural disasters**—nearly 600 of which were weather-related events. Economic losses from weather disasters worldwide were \$53 billion, a 93% up from 2001

[http://www.worldwatch.org/brian/media/pdf/pubs/vs/2003\\_weather.pdf](http://www.worldwatch.org/brian/media/pdf/pubs/vs/2003_weather.pdf) Oct 6

**Reporting/verification**

**Ford's latest CSR report** increases transparency by using GRI Guidelines: this will help analysts get a fuller picture of the company's performance. However, the report does not address all GRI indicators completely eg, some environmental and social cost accounting.

CSR wire Aug 18

**2003 Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)**



<http://www.ford.com/en/company/about/corporateCitizenship/principlesProgressPerformance/general/gri-index.htm>

**GRI's TUAC accolade** "Organised labour at the global level has become involved with the GRI because we realise that the GRI Guidelines are becoming a de-facto industry standard in terms of non-financial reporting." John Evans Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD

news@GlobalReporting.org Sep 5

**GRI Achieves 300 Reporter Target** There are now 300 organisations issuing sustainability reports referencing the GRI Guidelines - doubling the total number of self-declared GRI reporters from 2002

news@GlobalReporting.org Sep 5

**More than half the top 250 UK companies now produce reports** on environmental, social or ethical performance, demonstrating how non-financial disclosure has become mainstream.

WBCSD citing Financial Times Sep 9

<http://www.wbcسد.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=2254>

**Sustainability reports for a wider audience** = differentiation from competition and helps retain stakeholders

WBCSD citing New Straits Times Sep 11

[www.wbcسد.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=2255](http://www.wbcسد.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=2255)

**Communicating Sustainable Development** The ODPM calls for local authority actions to make sustainable development a "real" issue. "We must find a way of communicating sustainable development to businesses, communities and individuals and through education."

[http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm\\_about/documents/pdf/odpm\\_about\\_pdf\\_023855.pdf](http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_about/documents/pdf/odpm_about_pdf_023855.pdf) Sep 13

**Environmental reporting: from voluntary PR to serious audit.** The introduction of a mandatory operating and financial review (OFR) is to force the top 1,000 companies to come to terms with environmental reporting

Accountancy Age, in WBCSD Sep 17

<http://www.wbcسد.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=2325>  
[www.goldsteinhowe.com](http://www.goldsteinhowe.com) Sep 23

**Nike pays \$1.5 million in Kasky human rights case** that explored the question of what constitutes free versus commercial speech. They agreed that investments in monitoring and factory worker programmes would be more desirable than prolonged litigation.

**GRI's pilot version of the Telecom Sector supplement** for use with the GRI 2002 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines is available

[www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org) Sep 23

**After Nike vs Kasky:** "Nike [is not going to issue] its 2002 CSR Report [...]: there can be no clearer indication of the potential damage of leaving the legal points of this case unresolved." Says Mallen Baker, BitC. "[Reporting helps] attract capital and new consumers. None of that has changed because of this lawsuit, the companies just need to be more careful that what they say is accurate," says Adam Kanzer, Domini Social Investments

<http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1222.html> Sep 23

**Alcoa**, the world's biggest producer of primary and fabricated aluminium and alumina, has started publishing real-time tracking of its global "Lost Work Day" injury rate.

<http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1135> Sep 29

**New free online gateway to sustainability reporting** See

WBCSD Oct 7

**2003** Visit Sd3's new website and tell us what you think! [www.sd3.co.uk](http://www.sd3.co.uk)



<http://www.sdportal.org/templates/Template8/layout.asp?MenuID=36>

#### Products/packaging waste/supply chain/logistics

WEEE recycling network has gone live on the web, offering support and advice to the thousands of small businesses that will be affected. It's a pilot scheme in the southwest of England, but the website explains the requirements of the directive for businesses throughout the UK. For further information visit [weeenetwork.com](http://weeenetwork.com)

[www.edie.net/news/Archive/7623.cfm](http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7623.cfm)

Oct 13

#### World development

World Summit on Sustainable Development - one year on WSSD called for a focus on delivery. Progress has been made to varying degrees: UK has made a good start, but only a start.

<http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/news.htm#0827>

Sep 9

It is the 30th anniversary of E.F. Schumacher's "Small is Beautiful"; what started out as the view of one dissenting economist has become a global movement that challenges 'business as usual'. Snippets recommends it as a good read.

NEF

August