





Sd3's sustainability snippets Oct 6th - Dec 6th digested, cut down and pasted from various sources.

### What's in the press?

-  Green Futures: The science of well being <http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/>
-  Fast Company Magazine: CEOs and social responsibility <http://www.fastcompany.com/>



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Snippet	Source, Go to	Date
<b>Automotive sector and sustainable mobility</b>		
<b>GM battle Toyota for car of the future</b> General Motors claim that only hydrogen fuelled cars will survive in the battle to produce ecologically friendly vehicles. Toyota's argues that hybrid cars have a strong future and will remain on the road even after fuel cell vehicles (FCVs) become affordable, GM believes that only the emission-free FCVs have long-term prospects.	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1183">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1183</a>	Oct 16
<b>New concern over car efficiency labelling</b> British research finds that an EU law requiring fuel consumption and carbon dioxide (CO2) emission labelling of all new cars is producing only limited benefits. Environment is seen by most purchasers as a "dull, albeit important issue" - where it is understood at all - and generally has low priority, according to a paper posted by the UK transport ministry.	Environment Daily 1526 <a href="http://dft.gov.uk/">http://dft.gov.uk/</a>	Oct 8
<b>UK congestion charge should be introduced nationally</b> says IPPR report Road tax should be abolished and congestion charges introduced nationally to help reduce traffic and pollution - would raise £16 billion a year - £3 billion more than the government spent on transport in 02/03.	Edie <a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7632.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7632.cfm</a>	Oct 20
<b>Africa on track for phasing out leaded fuel by 2006</b> Ethiopia, Ghana, and Mauritania have become the latest to join an effort to rid the continent of leaded road vehicle fuel, deadline for this: January 2004.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7661.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7661.cfm</a>	Oct 29
<b>Seeing is Believing for business leaders in Swansea</b> Ford of Britain Chairman led a number of major business representatives on a Seeing is Believing neighbourhood renewal tour in Swansea, UK to get first hand experience of local regeneration projects and community enterprise.	<a href="http://www.bitc.org.uk/news/news_directory/">http://www.bitc.org.uk/news/news_directory/</a>	Oct 29
<b>New emissions standards for off-road diesel engines</b> An agreement has been reached by the European Parliament and the Council on a Directive to reduce emissions from diesel engines used in off road machinery (such as excavators and other construction equipment).	<a href="http://www.eep.org">www.eep.org</a>	Nov 3
<b>EU Commission's new legislative proposals for 2004</b> focus on air pollution from motor vehicles, new on-board diagnostic threshold limits, harmonised rules for weekend restrictions on heavy lorries, introduction and interoperability of electronic road tolling systems.	Environment Daily	Nov 10
<b>"Changing Drivers: The Impact of Climate Change on Competitiveness and Value Creation in the Automotive Industry"</b> report shows how emerging climate change policies will affect auto sector financial performance <a href="http://www.sam-group.com/changingdrivers">www.sam-group.com/changingdrivers</a>	UNEP FI	Nov 17
<b>DaimlerChrysler AG</b> plans "real-world experience" with more than 100 fuel cell vehicles by end of 2004. Mass production is a decade away due to high costs and lack of infrastructure to supply and store hydrogen.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7780.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7780.cfm</a>	Nov 21
<b>SMMT report is positive about UK motor industry.</b> The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders has just released its fourth annual Sustainability Report. It measures social, environmental and financial performance and contains good news for the UK motor industry.	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1361">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1361</a>	Nov 24
<b>An assessment of current carbon-intensity of vehicle lines</b> finds that PSA and Renault derive profits from the least carbon-intensive vehicles, while Ford and GM derive more than 70 percent of profits from high carbon-emitting vehicles.	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html</a> <a href="http://www.sam-group.com/changingdrivers">www.sam-group.com/changingdrivers</a>	Nov 25
<b>Costs of achieving higher fuel economy standards by 2015:</b> estimates that the costs per vehicle differ by a factor of 25, from \$650 for BMW to less than \$25 for Honda.	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html</a>	Nov 25

<b>In terms of capitalizing on lower-carbon technologies</b> , Toyota stands out from the crowd by excelling in all three potential carbon-reduction technologies--diesel, hybrid, and fuel cells.	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1273.html</a>	Nov 25
<b>The paradigm shift for the auto industry</b> is the opportunity of hybrid vehicles, says Toyota. In October, when the new Prius reached the US, dealers got 10,000 orders before the car was available. James Press, chief operating officer at Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc says, somewhat curiously, "The next era is full-size trucks and luxury, environmental, and youth cars".	Business Week; Issue 3858, p114	Nov 17
<b>Financial services sector</b>		
<b>Sustainability Leaders in Computer Industry Win Big</b> A new report on the global computers and peripherals industry finds a strong correlation between sustainability leadership and return-on-investment and operating profit.	<a href="http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=25581">http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=25581</a>	Sep 8
<b>Major UK banks criticised for treatment of credit card customers</b> Barclays, HSBC, Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds TSB came under fire from MPs at Treasury Select Committee for failing to cut interest payable on credit cards in line with interest rates set by the Bank of England. Banks were also criticised for offering seemingly good deals with hidden charges or catches, such as minimum expenditure.	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1221">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1221</a>	Oct 15
<b>Deutsche Bank chair is facing a second investigation</b> for fraud and breach of trust in connection with the sale of life insurer Deutsche Herold to Zurich Financial Services. Investment analysts are fearful of the detrimental effect another high profile court case could have.	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1214">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1214</a>	Oct 15
<b>Environmental Management, Reporting and Indicators (EMRI) Update</b> New work programme to produce a GRI Sector Supplement (Environment) for the International finance sector will focus on indirect environmental impacts of the sector's products and services.	UNEP FI <a href="mailto:niamh.osullivan@unep.ch">niamh.osullivan@unep.ch</a>	Nov 17
<b>CIS landmark environmental certification</b> Co-operative Insurance Society (CIS) has become the first financial institution in the world to gain total business certification to ISO14001. <a href="http://www.cis.co.uk">www.cis.co.uk</a>	UNEP FI	Nov 17
<b>Values to Value</b> Report from UNEP-FI gives 100 essays from sustainable finance experts on asset management, climate change, environmental management, reporting & indicators and many other insights into the fascinating world of sustainable finance.	<a href="mailto:regina.kessler@unep.ch">regina.kessler@unep.ch</a> <a href="http://www.unepfi.net/v2v">www.unepfi.net/v2v</a>	Nov 17
<b>The question that keeps coming back to proponents of socially responsible investing (SRI)</b> is: does SRI perform competitively when it comes to financial returns? If the question is posed in Australia, the answer seems to be "yes," according to AMP Henderson Global Investors.	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1272.html">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1272.html</a>	Nov 19
<b>ICT/Electronics sector</b>		
<b>A protest regarding hazardous materials in computers</b> last month incited Dell Inc. to expand its corporate recycling program in an effort to keep toxic computer components out of landfills.	<a href="http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=3112">http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=3112</a>	Nov 20
<b>Local authorities/Local development</b>		
<b>Government guidance on Strategic Environmental Assessment available</b> <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_025198.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_025198.pdf</a>	<a href="http://info4local.gov.uk">Info4local.gov.uk</a>	Oct 27
<b>UK pledges greener public purchasing</b> The UK government has taken new steps to green public sector purchases of goods and services, promising a "major shift" towards sustainable procurement practices.	Environment Daily 1542 UK environment ministry <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/">http://www.defra.gov.uk/</a>	Oct 30
<b>London overview of all community strategies</b> and how sustainability has been mainstreamed is being funded by Government Office for London, supporting London 21, London Sustainability Exchange and the London Environment Coordinators Forum in their work. Contact <a href="mailto:n.wilson@sx.org.uk">n.wilson@sx.org.uk</a> for details.	<a href="http://www.london21.org">www.london21.org</a>	Nov 14
<b>New sustainable communities guidance</b> for planning authorities, which will put the creation of sustainable communities at the centre of the planning process is out soon.	<a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/</a> & SPN UK	Nov 21
<b>Recycling pays!</b> Stafford Borough Council is looking for a Bicycle Recycling Project Co-ordinator, with an 18k salary offer.	SPN UK	Dec 1
<b>Learning to Last Toolkit</b> on Education for Sustainable development (ESD), funded by the Learning and Skills Council, helps practitioners with a network of ESD experts, ESD project management, links to useful organisations, reports and other publications.	<a href="http://www.lsda.org.uk/Sustainable/Toolkit/">http://www.lsda.org.uk/Sustainable/Toolkit/</a>	Dec 1
<b>Sustainability management in business, CSR</b>		
<b>Environmental policy benefits outweigh costs</b> A US government report concludes that the financial benefits of environmental regulations far outweigh their costs. Savings from environmental policies were five to seven times higher than the costs to industry and government ('93-'03).	New York Times	Oct 20
<b>UK companies choose cost over corporate responsibility</b> The majority of UK companies' purchasing departments are putting price over issues of corporate social responsibility and ethical trading, claims a report issued by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS).	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1197">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1197</a>	Oct 29
<b>Companies urged to engage in good citizenship</b> after huge corporate scandals in Japan and the United States.	<a href="http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2879">http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2879</a>	Oct 29
<b>Guiding corporate governance</b> Japanese Housewives' Association helps consumers evaluate companies on top management commitment to sustainability, codes of conduct,	<a href="http://www.japanfs.org/">http://www.japanfs.org/</a>	

consumer protection, and compliance.		
<b>Tesco has been expelled from the '95+ Group'</b> , an ethical trading initiative run by the World Wildlife Fund UK, for selling timber illegally harvested from Indonesian rainforests.	<a href="http://www.sundayherald.com/35730">http://www.sundayherald.com/35730</a>	August 30
<b>Second white paper on CSR is to be</b> issued by European Commission. Dominique Be, employment and social affairs director general at the Commission, confirmed white paper was likely to appear in late 2004.	Ethical Performance	Nov 17
<b>Investors rally behind global warming project</b> 75 institutions with more than \$7,000bn under management has launched the world's biggest initiative on corporate responsibility by asking the 500 largest quoted companies for information about their greenhouse gas emissions.	<a href="http://www.cdproject.net">www.cdproject.net</a>	Nov 17
<b>Prince of Wales launches guide to help local producers</b> by helping small businesses looking to work with large food retailers and foodservice or catering companies.	CSRWire <a href="http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2265.html">http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2265.html</a>	Nov 19
<b>UK companies make progress on corporate governance</b> A new study claims to show that FTSE 100 companies have improved their corporate governance performance over the past year.	Ethical Corporation <a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1335">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1335</a>	Nov 20
<b>New report on the business case</b> for corporate responsibility shares global experience & best practice. <a href="http://www.conversations-with-disbelievers.net">www.conversations-with-disbelievers.net</a> is a unique on-line initiative led by AccountAbility and Boston College in the USA.	<a href="http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2263.html">http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2263.html</a>	Nov 25
<b>Work-life balance employers of the year</b> are: Telford and Wrekin Borough Council, The Birmingham and Solihull Job Centre Plus, Central Scotland Forest Trust, Happy Computers, Citigroup and Farrelly Engineering & Facilities.	Business Respect 37	Dec 2
<b>Environment &amp; climate change</b>		
<b>India committed to Kyoto Protocol</b> The Union Minister for Environment and Forests said that India was committed to the cause of global environment and sustainable development by acceding to the Kyoto Protocol.	The Hindu, via WBCSD <a href="http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2795">http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=2795</a>	Oct 22
<b>2002 was the second hottest since records began</b> in the 1880s: global average temperature up to 14.52 degrees C. The nine warmest years on record have occurred since 1990; scientists link the warming trend to the build-up of carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gasses.	<a href="http://www.worldwatch.org">www.worldwatch.org</a>	Oct 23
<b>Airport management giant BAA backs emissions payback scheme</b> and aims to get the industry to address its contribution to environmental change.	<a href="http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1203">http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1203</a>	Oct 29
<b>Nyet to Kyoto</b> The Kyoto Protocol is likely to die on the steps of the Kremlin, as Russia legislators are no longer fooled by its 'illusionary' benefits and the unrealistic emission levels it sets out for the country.	<a href="http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=3055">http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&amp;id=3055</a>	Nov 14
<b>Packaging waste</b> The revision of the packaging waste Directive is being discussed in a "conciliation" meeting to iron out remaining differences. Using quantitative targets for recycling has proved controversial.	EU	Nov 21
<b>Climate change represents major opportunities</b> UK Environment Secretary Beckett tells the Institutional Investors' Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) conference in London. Opportunity: new cleaner technologies greenhouse gas emissions trading; Risk: for those in business who do not address it properly.	<a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2003/031126c.htm">http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2003/031126c.htm</a>	Nov 27
<b>Over one third of Irish companies are violating environmental legislation</b> ignoring instruction from the Irish Environment Protection Agency, and not complying with their Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) licenses.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7797.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7797.cfm</a>	Dec 1
<b>Global slowdown to major greenhouse gas growth</b> Methane has stopped growing in the atmosphere says Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). "Over the past four years: no growth, compared to a 15% rise over the preceding 20 years and a 150% rise since pre-industrial times." Methane is second most important greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, responsible for a fifth of the enhanced greenhouse effect.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7810.cfm">www.edie.net/news/Archive/7810.cfm</a>	Dec 1
<b>New centre created to find industrial uses for crops</b> Car parts, lubricants and beauty creams are just a few of the hundreds of products that can be manufactured using plant-based materials. The National Non-Food Crops Centre launched this week by a UK Food and Farming Minister, aims to raise awareness of the potential and emerging market in such uses.	<a href="http://www.edie.net/news/UK/28112003.cfm">http://www.edie.net/news/UK/28112003.cfm</a>	Nov 28
<b>Reporting/verification</b>		
<b>Japan leads on CSR reporting</b> 54% of companies listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange disclose information about their environmental performance publicly (Global Reporting Initiative reporters).	GRI	Oct 20
<b>Body Shop tries radical new reporting approach</b> by issuing separate social reports aimed at specific stakeholder groups	Ethical Performance	Nov 9
<b>Get your stakeholders involved!</b> Alcoa wants feedback on its 2002 CSR Report by inviting 'CSRWire News Alert' readers to read it and fill in the questionnaire. Vauxhall Motors is also beefing up its feedback mechanism - watch this space.	CSRWire, & per comm	Nov 12
<b>NGOs believe sustainability reports that reveal faults</b> eg non-compliance, poor social or environmental performance, and big challenges	<a href="http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1268.html">http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1268.html</a>	Nov 18
<b>Accountability's on the ball again</b> Their "Impacts of Reporting" programme and new study, "Does Reporting Work? The Effect of Regulation", finds ways to improve sustainability reporting for companies and stakeholders; argues that the debate shouldn't be "voluntary or mandatory" but "what makes reporting effective and to whom?"	<a href="http://www.accountability.org.uk/uploadstore/cms/docs/AQ21flyer.pdf">http://www.accountability.org.uk/uploadstore/cms/docs/AQ21flyer.pdf</a>	Nov 27

## Products/packaging waste/supply chain/logistics

**Germany's packaging law too strict** The European Commission has expressed concern that Germany's regulations governing the collection of recyclable drinks containers is too strict, forcing shops to remove some products from their shelves.

[www.edie.net/news/Archive/7670.cfm](http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7670.cfm)

Oct 29

## World development

**Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** highlights invaluable contribution small-scale farmers make throughout the world focusing on genetic erosion of the world's food supply.

[www.idrc.ca/seeds](http://www.idrc.ca/seeds)

**Suez has successfully** teamed up with French development NGO ESSOR and Brazilian NGO ADEIS to put in place a pilot project "Water for All" to demonstrate that Suez can serve poor communities and grow its formal customer base at the same time.

<http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3240>

Dec 2

**E x p l o r e s u s t a i n a b i l i t y** with Sd3's new knowledge centre at <http://www.sd3.co.uk>