





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

What's in the press?

-  Green Futures: Cool and smart sustainable design <http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/>
-  Sustain Magazine: The Built Environment <http://www.sustainmagazine.com>



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Snippet	Source, Go to	Date
Automotive sector and sustainable mobility		
Internet campaign launched to spark zero emission vehicle marketplace www.ZeroEmissionPledge.com is a means for consumers to collectively use purchasing power to drive change in the automotive industry.	http://www.sustainable-cities.org www.ZeroEmissionPledge.com	Dec 5
Britain's first pay-per-drive motorway opens M6 Toll around Birmingham has taken 23 years from conception to completion and is designed to relieve congestion.	http://www.edie.net/gf.cfm?L=left_frame.html&R=http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7867.cfm	Dec 12
EU research agreement to reduce air pollution from traffic has been made with the US, Japan and China. Signed during the COP9 conference on climate change, it will allow for joint research on emissions and vehicle testing.	Edie	Dec 12
Three buses powered by hydrogen are to be introduced on routes in central London as part of a two-year trial.	BBC	Jan 9
Hybrids Steal the Auto Show Vehicles that use gasoline engines with electric motors (better mileage and lower emissions) wowed the Detroit Auto Show.	ENS and http://www.oneworld.net/article/view/76215/1/	Jan 8
Detroit Show: General Motors featured Saturn RELAY, a sport van, is designed to reduce emissions. GM is focusing its most advanced hybrid technology on its largest, least-fuel-efficient, high-volume vehicles models and plans for them to reach showrooms in 2007.	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3607 & http://www.greenbiz.com/news/reviews_third.cfm?NewsID=26305	Jan 15
Detroit Show: Ford's 2005 Focus range is expected to produce 32 percent fewer smog-forming emissions than its 2004 range, while improving horsepower and fuel economy. A fuel cell version of the Focus is being road tested. The hybrid version of its Escape sport utility vehicle goes on sale this summer.	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3607	Jan 15
Detroit Show: DaimlerChrysler: This year plans versions of its Jeep Liberty and Mercedes-Benz E-Class with fuel-efficient diesel engines in the United States, as well as a hybrid version of its Dodge Ram pickup.	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3607	Jan 15
Detroit Show: Toyota: The company's Prius, the world's first commercially mass-produced hybrid car, was named 2004 North American Car of the Year. Lexus 2005 RX 400h described as world's first luxury hybrid SUV (!).	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3607	Jan 15
Detroit Show: Honda: Hybrid mid-sized Accord will have a V6 with fuel economy comparable to four-cylinder Civic. Honda already sells two other hybrids, the Insight and the Civic Hybrid.	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3607	Jan 15
US and Japan intend to pursue fuel cell and hydrogen research and development.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7954.cfm	Jan 16
European competition regulators cleared a joint recycling venture between Volkswagen and steel group Salzgitter. 'Car Cycling', involves the creation of a new car plant to scrap end-of-life vehicles.	Edie	Jan 16
Toyota plans to have a hybrid for each of its market segments within a few years and is also aiming for its 'hybrid synergy' drive to be standard on almost all vehicles by 2012.	http://www.greenbiz.com/news/columns_third.cfm?NewsID=26312	Jan 26
Running out of oil earlier than expected? Some articles for consumption.	www.monbiot.com	Jan 26

Japan introduced "new long-term regulations" on vehicle emissions that are the most stringent in the world (NOx, HC, PM), including trucks and buses. In order for Japan to meet its commitment under Kyoto, it must reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions 6 percent below 1990 levels by 2010 (auto emissions make up about 17 percent of the CO2 total). Japan wants auto industry to cut emissions by 20 million tons & wants 10m hybrid & FCV cars on its roads.	http://www.japanfs.org/db/databas_e.cgi?cmd=dp&num=501&dp=data_e.html	Jan 27
Auto-making is now the largest manufacturing activity on Earth, and by 2030, there could be 1 billion cars on the planet. An increasing percentage of them will be in China, which is turning its back on the bicycle.	http://www.greenbiz.com/news/reviews_third.cfm?NewsID=26305 Article suggests green cars to buy	Jan 26
Carbon dioxide emissions from new cars (mainly European and Japanese) in the EU decreased by nearly 11% between 1995 and 2002.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8071.cfm	Feb 13
Belgium has pledged to work for sustainable mobility in the car industry through public-private partnerships.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3882	Feb 5
Consultation on the End-of-Life Vehicles (Producer Responsibility) Regulations.	http://www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=18623&heading=e-mail+alert	Feb 5
EU's goals for green transport fuels The European Commission is drafting a directive aimed at increasing pressure on EU states to increase the share of greener, alternative automotive fuels up to 2020.	http://europa.eu.int/comm/energy_transport/envir/2003_report_en.pdf	Feb 12
Renault out of tune? Their report is good on their approach to sustainability but this is lost in all the financial reporting, and seems to be peripheral rather than core to the business. They do however have a policy for sustainable mobility in the report.	http://www.renault.com/gb/finance/rapports_annuels_p6.htm	Feb 12
Three hot sources Sustainable mobility needs de-mystifying! Sources of help: www.sustainabletransport.org.uk , www.mobilitymanagement.be ; and try this for sustainable mobility fun!: It's a UNEP-sponsored site on sustainable driving tips http://www.greener-driving.net/site/home.html	Sd3 EEP UNEP	Feb 12
GLOBE 2004 will feature the world's most advanced vehicles, as top auto manufacturers General Motors, Ford and Toyota announce their participation in North America's business & environment conference.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2496.html & http://www.globe2004.com/	Feb 13
WBCSD Sustainable Mobility newsletter re-launched.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/worinspace/default.asp?WSpaceId=NIE	Feb 13
Financial services sector		
Values to Value Report What is the present state of sustainable finance? How can the ideals of sustainable development be incorporated into the business practices and models of the finance sector? This report helps with answers.	www.unepfi.net/v2v	Jan 2
Swiss Re to go neutral by reducing its emissions by 15% over the next ten years and offsetting the rest via the World Bank Community Development Carbon Fund (CDCF) for local environment and community projects. Swiss Re expects to offset at least 37,000t of CO2 per year.	http://www.unepfi.net/ebulletin	Jan 2
Norwich and Peterborough Building Society (N&P) is set to launch a unique "green" commercial mortgage aimed at environmentally active businesses and service providers. N&P first offered green mortgages in 1998 to residential homebuyers, followed by the first carbon neutral mortgage in 2000.	Edie	Jan 26
In the US, Citigroup states new policies that support signing of the Equator Principles plus environmental and social guidelines on project finance (relating to endangered ecosystems, illegal logging, and climate change).	UNEP-FI www.citigroup.com/citigroup/environment/initiatives.htm	Feb 4
UNEP-FI and the Global Compact convened workshop to develop global strategy for raising the awareness of investors.	UNEP-FI www.unepfi.net/globalcompact	Feb 4
Bank-tracked? UK banks must stop undermining the credibility of the Equator Principles. Friends of the Earth accused banks of lacking transparency and continuing to fund controversial projects. www.foe.co.uk/resource/briefings/barclays_karahnjukar.pdf	via3.net http://www.financeadvocacy.org/ www.banktrack.org	Feb 6
Barclays banking on it It takes four years to repair a damaged reputation according to a survey of US business leaders, financial analysts and journalists.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=4084	Feb 14
ICT/Electronics sector		
SONY expands its green supplier network The Green Partner Programme makes suppliers comply with operational and product improvements.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2297.html	3 Dec
Amended electro-scrap rules: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive now places the costs of financing the collection and recycling of old waste on suppliers of new equipment. EU edges towards eco-design law for appliances: on minimum energy efficiency and eco-design requirements. Local authorities get electro-scrap law guidance on how to 'do' the WEEE Directive, includes partnerships with social economy enterprises.	ENDS Daily	Jan 5

Consortium of 12 manufacturers set up company to manage the recycling obligations they face under the WEEE Directive, due to be fully implemented from August 2005. Known as 'REPIC', it includes Alba, Hoover Candy, Philips, Whirlpool and SMEG.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7960.cfm	Jan 23
Hewlett Packard's commitment to the World Economic Forum's Global Greenhouse Gas Register is just one example of how HP faces the environmental, social and economic challenges of globalisation. The Register helps increase transparency of HP's operations and show progress of its climate change programmes	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2421.html	Feb 2
The world's biggest technology manufacturers will soon feel the force of European directives on hardware disposal.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3890	Feb 5
Local authorities/Local development		
Croydon LSP has produced set of case studies that deal with the process of setting up and running a strategic partnership and its various component parts.	IDEA	Dec 9
In building sustainable communities, people consider social and cultural cohesion (encompassing safety, stability and social order) to be fundamental, along with trustworthy local government and good local services.	SPN UK http://groups.msn.com/SPNUK/mesageboard	Dec 16
Developing guidance for the Department for Transport on the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive: Consultation core draft available.	http://www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=18262&heading=e-mail-alert	Jan 9
How LSPs and CSs interrelate Exec summary is only 5 pages long and worth a read for those struggling to understand this area.	http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_024497.pdf	Jan 27
Sustainable communities resource launched by IDeA. Knowledge helps integrate sustainability in local government (from built environment to crime and safety and from transport to climate change, energy and waste). You'll need to register (it's easy).	http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/80256D350027CD0F/httpPublicPages/269C48E6684AE8D680256DE900515E72?opendocument	Feb 6
Public discontent about the quality of public spaces and the street environment is now recognised as one of the highest concerns for people about their locality.	SPN UK http://www.lga.gov.uk/Documents/Event/flyer%201%20-%20environment1.pdf	
Sustainability management in business, CSR		
Responsibility = business growth So says PepsiCo UK and other top companies at a CR conference in November 2003, agreeing also that it should be embedded in the DNA of companies, so removing the CR specialists in-house!	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2291.html	
Germany: sustainable management = success. Over half of all companies listed in the German DAX-30 index view sustainable business practices as "key to the long-term success of the company."	WBCSD	Dec 9
Who to believe? 70% of fund managers say management of social and environmental risks has a positive impact on a company's market value in the long term & 70% of CEOs say Corporate Responsibility is vital to profitability.	ADL and BitC report http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2324.html	Dec 10
But, over 70% of CEOs surveyed by the World Economic Forum believe that mainstream investors will take a greater interest in corporate social responsibility in the future than they do at present.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7927.cfm	Jan 9
AccountAbility has issued Practitioners' Notes for the AA1000 Assurance Standard developed with Novo Nordisk, BP, British American Tobacco, BT, Camelot, mm02, Novo Nordisk, and Novozymes.	jonathan@accountability.org.uk or +44 (0)20 7549 0400.	Dec 12
'Quick Wins' industrial symbiosis workshop by BCSD-UK identified 68 potential synergies in just 2 hours e.g. converting waste cooking oil into biodiesel and trialling a use for concrete from disused washing machines!	BCSD-UK	Dec 17
Kyoto a good start but clearly-defined strategies to achieve more stringent long-term emissions reductions are needed to supplement the short term goals of the Kyoto Protocol if the world is curb curbing climate change.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7883.cfm	Dec 19
By the way, we're devouring the natural world unsustainably Worldwatch Institute says >25% of the world's people now enjoy the style which used to belong to only the rich.	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/3380387.stm	Jan 9
However, investors demand action on climate change Industry has been slow to manage the risks associated with global warming, but powerful groups of institutional investors are forcing a change in attitude.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3633	Jan 16
Honeymoon over? CSR is just a mask to create a carefully manufactured image for companies that are actively engaged in unethical activities, claims Christian Aid's 'Behind the Mask' report.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7963.cfm & http://www.christianaid.org.uk/news/media/pressrel/040121p.htm	Jan 16
CSR and overseas investing Corporate social responsibility is increasingly influencing where and with whom major multinational corporations do business; see 'Race to the Top', a new study (World Bank and IFC).	UNEP-FI	Jan 18
Until now, shareowners have enjoyed free speech rights to express concerns at annual general meetings. However, a defamation lawsuit by Cintas against	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1339.html	Jan 27

an SRI firm could have a "chilling effect" on shareowner dialogue.		
Corporate reputation is a more important measure of success than stock market performance, profitability and return on investment, according to a survey of some of the world's leading CEOs and organisation leaders. Only the quality of products and services edged out reputation as the leading measure of corporate success.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2424.html	Jan 29
Boosting economic growth without playing havoc with the environment is not a lost cause: a European Commission launched the Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP) to contribute to this.	WBCSD http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3802	Jan 29
UK: ACCA and EA say environmental accounting should now be incorporated into companies' best practice techniques, something which in turn will see a real return for business.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/7988_cfm	Jan 30
Lafarge comments on the benefits to engaging in sustainable livelihoods Watch the video: http://www.wbcscd.org/web/slvideo.htm	WBCSD	Feb 6
Third successful SIGMA training course run by Sd3 and BSI Delegates enjoyed an interactive, action-packed and informative day at BSI, giving 'excellent' and 'very satisfied' feedback and saying that it made SIGMA much easier to understand.	www.sds3.co.uk & article at http://www.environmental-center.com/articles/article1414/article1414.htm	Feb 12
Environment & climate change		
BAA backs emissions payback scheme BAA's chief executive wants aviation to be within the proposed EU emissions trading scheme from 2008. This would allow aviation to offset its contribution to global warming by paying for the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by other industries.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1203	Oct 13
ISO-14001 market confidence The number of businesses requesting ISO-14001 certification is increasing by about 125 per year.	European Environmental Press	Dec 12
Survey by ENDS and IEMA revealed major concerns about the effectiveness of EMSs and the quality of their certification.	http://www.endsreport.com/issue/article.cfm?ArticleID=10821	Jan 5
Time running out for EU to meet Kyoto targets EU now further away from meeting Kyoto Protocol targets than last year: latest projections from European Environment Agency show the 15 nations, between 00 and 01, emitted over 4% more greenhouse gases than the previous year.	EDIE	Dec 5
Russia will probably ratify the Protocol after all; but Financial Times reports that US thinks it is a straitjacket to prosperity. See WBCSD's site.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3306	Dec 5
Kyoto pact a failure? Not at all The process of moving the world toward limiting releases of GHGs has clearly begun, said an ex-Assistant Secretary of State to the Clinton administration who worked on the treaty.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3308	Dec 5
WBCSD chairman reports dilemma between the, "ambition to alleviate poverty, which will require massive increase of energy use, and the commitment to combat climate change and reduce GHG emissions."	Ethical Corporation	Dec 9
A package of measures to reduce pollution and support energy efficiency in the UK was announced to help ensure that economic growth and social progress are balanced with action to protect and improve the environment.	http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/pre_budget_report/prebud_pbr03/press_notices/prebud_pbr03_press3.cfm	Dec 10
UK businesses face a raft of new European environment directives in 2004: landfill, end-of-life vehicles, waste electrical and electronic equipment, emissions trading scheme, chemical testing, batteries and environmental liability,	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=3557	Jan 8
Scientists say a national trading scheme in carbon emissions is the UK's best hope for tackling climate change. Every adult would have a fixed number of units of carbon fuel (eg, petrol and gas). People living 'green' lifestyles could sell units they did not use to people with 'polluting' lifestyles.	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/3385035.stm	Jan 12
No vision at all? Only a tiny fraction of the thousands of US companies with pollution problems have joined Bush's <i>Climate Leaders</i> programme, and of the 50 that have signed up, only 14 have set goals. Members do it because it makes good economic sense and they were nudged by the regulators.	http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?pagename=article&node=&contentId=A46212-2003Dec31&notFound=true	Jan 27
Global Greenhouse Gas Register launched Ten companies have already committed to disclose worldwide climate emissions. The World Economic Forum has launched the Global Greenhouse Gas Register, a new initiative to stimulate the disclosure and management by companies of 'climate emissions'.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2421.html	Jan 29
Head in sand? Friends of the Earth releases two studies that attribute one twentieth of global climate change to ExxonMobil over its 120 year history. "We believe that ExxonMobil is at risk of litigation" says FoE.	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1327.html	Feb 3
The evidence for warming is overwhelming Over the past 100 years the global temperature has risen by around 0.6 degrees centigrade, and it is "very likely" (95-99% chance) that the 1990s was the warmest decade and that 1998 was the warmest year, since 1861 (Source: IPCC, published in 2001.)	WBCSD http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=3850	Feb 6
Missing a trick? Shields Environmental Award for Excellence 2004 is open for entries (for innovative environmental performance that delivers positive impact on both the environment and the business). Closing date 5pm March	Edie	Feb 13

12th. Winners announced at the Royal Albert Hall. www.bitc.org.uk/awards

Reporting/verification

BASF has just issued its latest Sustainable Development Newsletter featuring: partnership with an NGO in Brazil, turning residue into substitute fuel, new CHP plant, new eco-efficiency analysis of propylene carbonate...	Ethical Performance magazine http://www.basf.de	Dec 12
Joint reporting tool between GRI and SA8000 is being set up thus eliminating duplication in reporting. The draft tool is being tested by a number of companies.	www.sa-intl.org	Dec 19
Ford looking for the opinions of people who have read its Corporate Citizenship Report to understand how it is being used and how they're doing. Feedback is an essential part of their reporting process.	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/release.cgi/2339.html	Dec 23
Doh! Despite clear documentation of the problem, multiple solutions proposed, and petitioning to enhance enforcement, corporate underreporting of material environmental liabilities continues.	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1300.html	Dec 30
IPPR calls for company disclosure on social and environmental performance Progressive business policies could be stimulated if major companies were obliged to report on social and environmental issues such as workforce diversity and greenhouse gas emissions, says their report	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/7735.cfm	Jan 9
Go-Ahead transport group social & environmental report available http://www.go-ahead.com/group/policies/environmentalreport.html	Ethical Performance	Jan 15
Eighty per cent of FTSE 100 companies report on a moderate to full scale on their corporate social responsibility performance, according to the Association of British Insurers.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/7995.cfm	Jan 30
Review of corporate social responsibility during 2003 by academics and practitioners, argues that it's time for CSR "to grow up or fade away". Issues covered include corporate tax dodging, as well as CSR reporting focusing on quantifiable measures of the costs and benefits of corporate activity.	www.lifeworth.net & www.christianaid.org.uk/indepth/0401csr/index.htm	Feb 2
Honesty and trust are the big issues of the day, not least in the PR industry, but opinions are divided on whether ethics can be taught.	WBCSD http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=3823	Feb 5
GO TO THIS EVENT! Communicating Responsibility and Building Trust A Judge Institute/Institute of Public Relations one-day symposium, 30th March 04. Strictly limited to 60 participants. Find out more....	Sd3 http://www.ipr.org.uk/direct/traininq.asp?v1=conferences	Feb 13

Products/packaging waste/supply chain/logistics

Double recycling The European Commission welcomes the agreement reached by the European Parliament and Council Conciliation Committee to increase the minimum recycling targets for packaging waste from 25 to 55% by 2008. The agreement overcomes the last hurdles in a long debate on the revision of the 1994 Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive.

www.eep.org

Construction, flood defence

Water Framework Directive reaches Parliament It's designed to reverse the deterioration of the water environment through integrated river basin management and consideration of the whole water cycle for rivers, lakes, coasts and groundwater.	Edie	Dec 19
Cost and scepticism towards the environmental agenda inhibit small construction firms in the UK from acting in a more environmentally conscious manner, say researchers at Kingston University.	Edie	Dec 19
Floods. Rising investment levels for England and Wales.	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/	Feb 2
Economic sustainability and flood management UK's Environment Agency completed flood risk assessment in Lower Thames stating a stronger economic case than first thought.	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/news/	Feb 5
A £2.5m centre for sustainable construction The Genesis Centre is expected to attract thousands of visitors from all over the UK and aims to promote sustainable construction.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/8036.cfm	Feb 6
Babtie Group has backed the Scottish Executive's new planning policy on flooding, announced this week.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/8036.cfm	Feb 6
New device to help flood risk management around the UK was launched by the Government's Chief Scientific Adviser.	http://213.38.88.221/gnn/national.nsf/TI/B0E239B68DD4AEE580256E3F00416106?opendocument	Feb 13