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-  [Green Futures: Farming for the future](http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/) <http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/>
-  [Wired Magazine: Mavericks reinventing business, politics etc](http://www.wired.com/wired) <http://www.wired.com/wired>
-  [Fast Company: Leadership, change, culture](http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/) <http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/>



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Automotive sector and sustainable mobility

CO2 emissions from new cars in the EU down by more than 10% between 1995 and 2002. The car industry has made progress in meeting its commitments from the voluntary agreements with the Commission.	EEP & Greenbuzz	Feb 19
Mobility Management Toolbox is a software package aimed at inciting businesses to use mobility management. This European research tool is now online at www.mobilitymanagement.be .	EEP	Feb 19
Transport Energy Best Practice is a programme that offers practical advice and solutions to help you improve the environmental performance and cost effectiveness of your transport operations.	http://www.transportenergy.org.uk/bestpractice/	Feb 26
Green cars face red lights. Toyota and Honda have launched hybrid models, but the world's biggest car makers are yet to follow.	Sydney Morning Herald via http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=4130	Feb 26
EC and car makers fight over CO2 targets. The European Commission and the Association of European carmakers (ACEA) are in the middle of negotiations over the timetable for introducing more efficient cars.	Point Carbon via http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=4172	Feb 26
A hybrid Hummer in the works? Hummer and Prius Square Off - and it's not what you'd believe! When the two very different cars square off in the sales arena, the surprising outcome speaks volumes about American consumers.	(radio interview) http://slate.msn.com/id/2096425/#ContinueArticle	Mar 3
Car industry seeks refuge. Euro car industry under attack on several fronts. CO2 emission reduction EU target: 120 grams per kilometre by 2005, and by 2010 at the latest. Industry response: target is unrealistic, need more time. Reducing car emissions is very expensive. ACEA has warned that forthcoming EU regulation could push up the price of every European car by 5,000 euros (£3,330; \$6,270) in a decade. Lobbying In Feb 04, European automotive executives met the President and the Vice President of the Commission. But little progress is being made by the industry which wants less red tape and, more importantly, more time to implement emission cuts.	BBC News Online	Mar 4
Case study: Toyota - driving eco-innovation. Mobility comes at a cost to the environment because many forms of transport rely on petroleum fuel. WBSCD presents Toyota as one of several vehicle manufacturers working to develop advanced engine technologies.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=4217	Mar 16
Toyota licenses Ford to use its hybrid technology. Toyota's patents on hybrid engine system control and emission purification have been licensed for use in Ford's own system. Toyota has sold over 200,000 hybrid vehicles to date.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1782 www.toyota.com	
GM to charge \$2,500 premium for mild-hybrid pickup. GM began building the first of 500 hybrid pickups last week and is charging a premium for its first production gasoline-electric hybrid powertrain.	Reuters	Mar 18
IEA: CO2 emissions increase / energy savings decline. CO2 emissions from the transport sector "have increased steadily since 1973, driven by growth in travel activity" and a shift toward more cars and airplanes in the modal mix. Fuel intensities for all modes have declined, "but not nearly enough to offset the growth in travel activity and the shift to more energy-intensive modes." Alternative fuels such as compressed natural gas and biofuels have not made	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=4631	Mar 19

significant inroads in IEA countries, but liquefied petroleum gas is used in a few - Australia, Italy and Japan, according to IEA.		
<p>IEA: Fuel switching. One of the most important trends has been dieselization of cars in "IEA-Europe", where the diesel fuel use is still rising from less than 3% in 1998. eg, in France, share of diesel is approaching 50%." This is due to better diesel technology and reduced diesel taxes.</p> <p>IEA: Car usage. trends vary by country, IEA data show. "In Finland and Japan, there has been a noticeable decline in utilization levels over time, while in Denmark and the United States, rates have increased."</p> <p>IEA: Vehicle efficiency. Europe's auto industry is improving efficiency through voluntary commitments; Japan's "Top Runner" program has manufacturers raising efficiency to that of the best in each vehicle class. "In contrast, the U.S. CAFE [corporate average fuel economy] regulation has not changed its fleet average fuel economy requirement significantly in recent years."</p>	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=4631	Mar 19
<p>US EPA: total US greenhouse gas emissions are up by 13% from 1990 to 2002. The primary GHG emitted by human activities was CO2, representing 83.8% of total GHG emissions. The largest source of CO2, and of overall greenhouse gas emissions, was fossil fuel combustion. From 1990 to 2002, petroleum supplied the largest share of US energy demands, accounting for an average of 39% of total energy consumption.</p>	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=4631	Mar 19
<p>Swiss Transports and Environment Association (VCS) tested 500 vehicles to evaluate their environmental impact in terms of CO2, pollutants, and noise. The winner? Toyota's mixed-fuel Prius II. If you run your car by filling the tank with compost gas, produced with plant refuse, you are top of the class! VCS's study shows that Smart is the 'greenest' car manufacturer. In second place, surprisingly, is sports car manufacturer Porsche, which came top in the evaluation of production techniques.</p>	EEP	Mar 19
<p>Japanese cars are greenest, German SUV is meanest. An American consumer report scores "greenest" and "meanest" autos of 2004 (on fuel-economy, emissions and manufacturing impacts). Japanese cars are greenest (natural-gas powered Honda Civic GX, Honda Insight and Toyota Prius). Not one American or European manufacturer made it into the top 12. The VW Touareg diesel SUV was the meanest of all.</p>	http://www.greenercars.com/bestoff.html	Apr 22
<p>EU car recyclability rules. EC has tabled draft legislation to force car manufacturers to meet ELV minimum recyclability targets.</p>	Edie	Mar 19
<p>Europe and Japan reject CO2 demands. European and Japanese car makers emphatically reject suggestions that they could achieve average new vehicle carbon dioxide emissions of 120 g/km by 2012.</p>	ENDS Daily	Mar 19
<p>Mazda Motor Corporation has been awarded the "Promoting Machine Industry" Prize for its new paint application system that emits fewer VOCs.</p>	Greenbuzz	Mar 29
<p>Clever cars for smart city driving. Running on natural gas, the 'Clever vehicle' aims to use only £5 of fuel for every 100 miles. Its price tag is estimated at around £6,500 each. It would also be exempt from congestion charges.</p>	 www.edie.net/news/Archive/8257.cfm	Apr 13
<p>Ford expands hybrid line up to 3 vehicles. Now includes the Mercury Mariner alongside the Ford Escape Hybrid and a hybrid version of Ford's midsize sedan.</p>	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2627.html	Apr 14
<p>Nine European cities have started 'clean mobility' strategies to reach the 20% target set for 'clean-fuel' vehicles in European cities by 2020.</p>	SPN UK	
<p>Ford receives well-deserved recognition in the CERES/ACCA North American Awards for Sustainability Reporting.</p>	CSRWire	Apr 21
<p>Union of Concerned Scientists says, "Automakers have the technology now to meet strong global warming pollution standards, just as they have met past standards for other air pollutants or safety,"</p>	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5061	Apr 22
<p>Vehicles that pollute more should pay more, say MEPs. Air pollution and environmental damage caused by road traffic could soon be a factor in the setting of road tolls.</p>	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8308.cfm	Apr 26
<p>No to hydrogen? Hybrid cars make a lot more sense than a hydrogen future, says former Clinton administration energy official.</p>	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5129	Apr 29
<h3>Financial services sector</h3>		
<p>UNEP FI Sustainability Management and Reporting (SMR) Guidelines aim to increase SMR by financial institutions. They have an important role in sustainable development as intermediaries to accessing financial capital.</p>	UNEP FI www.unepfi.net/smr/	Apr 8
<h3>ICT/Electronics sector</h3>		
<p>DARP Environmental, the UK's first integrated plant for processing waste electrical and electronic equipment calls for government guidance notes</p>		Feb 27

The London Assembly environment committee has said that current plans to meet the objectives of the WEEE Directive are unrealistic.	http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/8110.cfm	Feb 27
IT must be greener, says UN. Worldwide efforts are needed to reduce the environmental damage caused by computer equipment. A United Nations research group says making the average PC requires 10 times the weight of the product in chemicals (often toxic) and fossil fuels.	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/3541623.stm	Mar 8
New report of CAFOD UK: "Clean up your Computer..." Labour standards and conditions in computer manufacturing can be appallingly low. Many stages of computer production are carried out by low-skilled, low-paid workers in developing countries. Computer companies have so far escaped scrutiny on labour issues.	http://www.corporate-accountability.org/docs/CAFOD-Report.pdf	Mar 29
Philips has released its second annual sustainability report and sets new targets, eg five sustainable product propositions by the end of 2004. Report focuses on applying the company's sustainability principles to its supply chain of 50,000 companies.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1841	Mar 29
CERES/ACCA North American Awards for Sustainability Reporting: Best Environmental Report: Dell: 'Creating a Model for Sustainability'.	CSRWire	Mar 29
Lucent Technologies takes action against bribery. They have sacked four senior executives in China, including the President and Chief Operating Officer, for bribery and corruption charges.	Ethical Corp	Apr 21
Intel will reduce the lead content of its most important components by 95% in 2004. The move is part of a drive to reduce environmental damage caused by discarded computers.	Ethical Corp	Apr 21
Local authorities/local development		
London Sustainability Weeks 2004. Between 5 and 19 June 2004, celebrate the action of local people working to make London's more sustainable.	www.londonsustainabilityweeks.org	Feb 25
Guidance on Best Value and Performance Plans. www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=18925&heading=e-mail+alert	Info4local.gov.uk	Mar 2
Consultation Document on Implementation of SEA Directive. www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=18950&heading=e-mail+alert	Info4local.gov.uk	
Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1) is a new vision for planning that puts SD and people at the heart of the system (eg well designed homes and offices, factories and amenities that benefit the community & stand the test of time).	SPN UK	Feb 27
EC's communication 'Towards a Thematic Strategy on the Urban Environment' can be viewed on-line at http://europa.eu.int/lex/en/com/cnc/2004/com2004_0060en01.pdf (part of the 6th EAP).	SPN UK	Mar 25
Is planning and environmental control seriously threatened by proposals drawn up at the WTO and under GATS? And if so, what can be done about it? Research needed in this area!	www.brookes.ac.uk/schools/planning/monbiot/	Apr 14
Transport and the Media toolkit available at www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk , (Improving your council / Connecting with Communities).	IdeaA	Apr 30
SEA: opportunities for the UK; a review http://www.environmental-expert.com/resultteacharticle.asp?codi=3085	EEP	May 1
Sustainability management in business, CSR		
Business benefits of health and safety. Health & Safety Commission has published case studies showing business benefits for many organisations including FTSE listed companies and global businesses. They include: around £11m savings through reduced sickness absence; 40% reduction in reportable injuries; health insurance spend down £200,000 a year; 50% reduction in civil claims; improved productivity and public image. ohscasestudies@hse.gsi.gov.uk	http://www.info4local.gov.uk/singleLink.asp?linkid=3636&heading=e%2dmail%20alert	Feb 25
Rhetoric vs. action. Many corporations have codes of conduct to hold their suppliers accountable for labour standards, but their own ruthless buying strategies often make it impossible for these standards to be met.	http://www.oxfam.org.uk/press/releases/bigbrand_090204.htm	Feb 26
Advertising targets youngest consumers. Global advertising expenditures hit \$444 billion in 2002. According to one estimate, American children are bombarded with 40,000 television ads per year, up from 20,000 in 1970. Half of these ads encourage children to request unhealthy food and drinks.	www.worldwatch.org .	Feb
Critics of CSR championed the Christian Aid report released in Jan that describes CSR as a corporate attempt to replace social and environmental regulation with voluntary initiatives. CSR supporters have rebuked the report saying that it attacks the entire notion of CSR on the basis of its cynicism of certain actions by three specific companies.	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1353.html	Mar 3
Social responsibility 'adds to profits'. The concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) is gaining ground among companies in Hong Kong and elsewhere in the region.	http://www.wbcso.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=4342	Mar 4
Results of the second UK Corporate Responsibility Index were published National Grid Transco came out on top. Participation in the Index was up by	www.bitc.org.uk/events/events_calendar/cothatcount.html &	Mar 18

14% on the previous year, with 139 companies now using it as a tool to manage, measure and report their corporate responsibility.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=1794	
Amnesty and Greenpeace board the shareholders' meetings. 13 large Swedish businesses will be visited by Amnesty and Greenpeace' who are buying shares to exert an influence.	EEP and Miljörapporten, Sweden	Apr 16
US businesses are now seriously lagging behind their counterparts in Europe, Australia and South Africa in embracing corporate social responsibility, according to a new study.	Business respect #73	Apr 22
Personality test: If a corporation is a person, what sort? Canadian documentary "The Corporation" was previewed in Toronto but it had to be cancelled two-thirds of the way through: the roof fell in...	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5091	Apr 29
Environment & climate change		
5% of global warming "caused by ExxonMobil" greenhouse gas emissions since 1882. FoE said its calculations were the first to measure any company's historic contribution to climate change, and could "prove vital in paving the way for compensation claims".	http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/exxonmobils_contribution_t_28012004.html	Feb 20
UK Environment Secretary confirmed the statutory independence of a new Integrated Agency, bringing together the work done by English Nature, the Countryside Agency and Defra's Rural Development Service.	Info4local.gov.uk	Feb 25
Europe's industry polluters under spotlight as website activates. The first Europe-wide register of industrial emissions to air and water has gone live.	http://www.eper.cec.eu.int/eper/default.asp	Feb
Kyoto Protocol now legally binding in all EU Member States following a decision of the European Parliament and European Council.	Edie	Mar 12
Taking Stock - A Material Flow Analysis and Ecological Footprint of the South East is now available on the website.	www.takingstock.org	Apr 3
New edition of the GHG Protocol now out, released jointly by the WBCSD and the World Resources Institute. The new GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard is set to meet the huge demand for up-to-the-minute guidelines on how to report on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.	WBCSD and WRI	Apr 4
Reporting/verification		
Quality reporter - What does being there mean to you? This question is put to readers by Novo Nordisk in its Sustainability Report 2003. Being there is Novo Nordisk's promise to its stakeholders.	CSRWire www.novonordisk.com/sustainability	Feb 25
ACCA presents 13 th ethical reporting awards, but more transparency called for. The Co-operative Bank plc, GlaxoSmithKline and the Royal Mail Group plc, were among the eleven organisations acknowledged for the social and environmental reporting of their business activities.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8100.cfm	Mar 3
Alcoa's 2003 Sustainability Report: released concurrently with the corporate Annual Report, and has a user-friendly GRI index.	www.alcoa.com .	Mar 10
GUESS WHAT! PEOPLE DO READ CSR REPORTS according to international poll. Consumers in North America, Europe, and Australia are consulting corporate social and environmental reports more commonly than originally thought.	http://www.globescan.com/news_archives/csr04_gri_PR.html	Apr 22
Products/packaging waste/supply chain/logistics		
Car manufacturers should design engines for remanufacture rather than disposal in order to meet guidelines on producer responsibility. ESRC at the University of Cardiff set out to find the practical problems in remanufacturing car parts and whether there were any lessons to be learned for other sectors.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8288.cfm & http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5125	Apr 16
Health/consumer goods		
GlaxoSmithKline has won two 'Anvil' awards, one for health advocacy and another for community relations. The awards, made by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines recognised "outstanding CSR projects".	Business Respect #73	Apr 22
Construction, flood defence		
Swiss Re's eco-gherkin opens its doors	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8326.cfm	Apr 30
More investment needed to insure against flood defence. Nearly 2 million properties are at high risk from flooding; the UK Government needs to maintain high levels of flood defence spending and cut greenhouse gases to prevent the situation getting worse. The Government has looked at potential scenarios: if current levels of expenditure and approaches to flood management remain unchanged, the annual economic damage could increase from £1 billion per year up to £21 billion per year in the next 80 years.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8301.cfm	Apr 26