






Sd3's sustainability snippets May - July digested, cut down and pasted from various sources.

What's in the press?

-  Green Futures: Urban SD, fuel efficiency... <http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/>
-  Sustain Magazine: Carbon legislation <http://www.sustainmagazine.com>
-  And the cinema? The Day after Tomorrow - climate change Hollywood-style!
www.thedayaftertomorrow.com/ & also www.climateprediction.net/index.php



Go to, in this document...

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

Snippet

Source, Go to

Date

ESSENTIAL SNIPPET: UK Government issues new direction on corporate social and environmental reporting:

From next year, quoted UK companies are required to begin producing Operating and Financial Reviews that account for their social and environmental performance. Sd3 offers a briefing which is available free via our website. Do call if you'd like additional advice on this.

www.Sd3.co.uk/new06.html

Jun 04

Automotive sector and sustainable mobility

First water-powered car from Honda was launched as part of engineering project in the Pacific

<http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5172>

May 05

Ford Motor Company has overhauled its River Rouge complex, focusing on environmental and ergonomic improvements.

<http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2059>

May 17

Recent policy initiatives designed to promote biofuels could result in a displacement of 5% of the world's gasoline demand by 2010

<http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5414>

May 28

The Institute of Public Policy Research has stated that fuel tax does not impair economic growth, and has highlighted the importance of fuel tax on reducing vehicle emissions.

www.edie.net/news/Archive/8446.cfm

Jun 04

Sustainability Mobility: "Mobility 2030: Meeting the Challenge to Sustainability" will be launched in Europe on 5 July 2004 in Brussels

<http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5568>

Jun 08

Give it a chance! Diesel could be a great way for America to balance its burning desire for fast cars and big trucks with its urgent need to cut consumption of imported oil. If the US doesn't explore diesel for better fuel economy, it won't take off as in Europe, where nearly half of all cars use it.

<http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5541>

Jun 08

Fuel cell fleet hits Beijing streets

<http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5454>

Jun 08

More judicious use of hydrocarbon-based fossil fuels would reduce U.S. energy consumption by 33% and save consumers \$438 billion a year by 2014, according to an analysis by Cornell University ecologists.

<http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5436>

Jun 08

Toyota participates in major demonstration of hydrogen in transportation focusing on advancements in hydrogen-based transportation infrastructure including up to 24 fuelling stations

<http://www.socialfunds.com/news/release.cgi/2774.html>

Jun 08

Cars and girls galore at Beijing Motor Show China is the world's third largest car market with sales of over 2 million cars in 2003. VW 800,000 ; GM 650,000; Mitsubishi 151,000 ; PSA Peugeot Citroen 150,000; Ford 120,000; Honda 120,000; Toyota 98,000; Nissan 74,000; DaimlerChrysler 37,000. "Everybody wants to own a car", says rickshaw driver Zhang Shaojun.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/3791645.stm>

Jun 10

Towards a UK strategy for biofuels The Department for Transport has launched a consultation paper on the UK's plans for supporting biofuels in the transport sector

www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_roads/documents/page/dft_roads_028393.hcsp

Jun 14

Overall fuel efficiency of Canadian vehicles is worse today than in 1982, when manufacturers persuaded the government to rely on a voluntary agreement instead of regulations. And a 1912 Model T Ford could get up to 35 miles per gallon of gas, surpassing the fuel efficiency of all but one model in Ford's 2003 vehicle line-up (if the driving conditions and tests were equal: modern cars do account for real-life driving in during tests and calculations).

<http://www.globeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20040607.wboyd07/BNSStory/Full/>

Jun 22

Another Mitsubishi boss arrested Mitsubishi Motors has received another embarrassing blow with the arrest of a former president over his involvement in the company's widening cover-up scandal.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2201	Jun 22
French system rewards drivers who buy small vehicles French drivers who go for large, gas-guzzling cars will have to pay up to €3,500 more for a new car from January next year under a radical government road tax scheme	The Guardian	Jun 23
Biofriendly Corporation completed certified tests with the Beijing Automobile Research Institute. The tests showed major reductions in harmful emissions as well as a substantial improvement in fuel economy when using Biofriendly's Green Plus liquid fuel combustion catalyst	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2821.html	Jun 23
Survey - Help promote sustainable mobility; please complete the www.sustainabletransport.org online survey (5mins) at www.blueprojects.co.uk/survey/?sid=1. Thanks!	Sd3 Ltd, Wastebusters, and the Judge Institute of management, Cambridge University	Jun 04
Volvo's fourth Corporate Citizenship Report (GRI-based) focuses on safety, quality, environment, core stakeholders and issues such as traffic safety, future urban transport, climate change, supply chains and diversity.	www.volvocars.com/citizenship	Jun 28
Financial services sector		
UK's Co-operative Bank says the contribution to its profits from ethically-motivated customers increased by more than a third, to £40 million, in 2003.	Ethical Corporation	May 10
The FTSE4Good index has had a "strong impact" on the "development of corporate social responsibility disclosure and commitments from companies worldwide"	Ethical Corporation www.ftse.com/ftse4good	May 17
Lloyds TSB has set out a series of strategic priorities for 2004 in its latest corporate responsibility report "Taking account"	Ethical Performance	May 18
Northern Rock has set up working groups of senior staff to help implement its corporate social responsibility policy.	Ethical Performance	May 24
One of the world's largest banks, HSBC, has published its latest report on its corporate social responsibility activities.	Ethical Performance	Jun 07
Association of British Insurers says the value of claims may triple because of increased extreme weather. The number of winter storms in the UK has doubled over the past 50 years and the 1990s were the warmest decade since records began	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/3785619.stm & http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2190	Jun 08
"About 20% of (global) GDP is affected by climate risk...(climate change) is more important than interest rate risk or the foreign exchange risk" AXA in Carbon Disclosure Project 2 Report	UNEP FI www.unepfi.net/ebulletin	Jun 09
According to a report by BankTrack, the Equator Principles are having little impact	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2188	Jun 17
Research has revealed two-thirds of people intend to become more socially responsible this year, but 82% doubt whether their investments will meet their personal ethical standards. A third are unaware that they can invest ethically.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2166	Jun 17
United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), have the pleasure to invite you to contribute to the development of the GRI Financial Services Sector Supplement	www.unepfi.net/gri	Jun 18
ICT/Electronics sector		
European Commission has launched a revision of the list of products that are exempted from bans on using hazardous substances in the manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment	Edie	May 07
Matsushita (National/Panasonic) and Toshiba produce the most comprehensive and transparent reports of corporate environmental and social responsibility in the electronics industry according to the Roberts Environmental Center, US. Close behind are Sharp, Sumitomo, and NEC	http://www.roberts.mckenna.edu	May 10
Dell commits to increase its 2005 computer recycling by 50% over 2004 levels. See also http://www.wbcso.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5338	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1421.html	May 18
Intel Corporation published its third annual Global Citizenship report which offers a balanced presentation of Intel's economic, environmental, health and safety, and social performance in 2003 and outlines the company's priorities and commitments in this arena for the future.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2767.html	Jun 02
WEEE Directive in the UK The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive was published on 13 February 2003. EU Member States have until 13 August 2004 to transpose the Directive into national legislation	Edie	Jun 11
Local authorities/Local development		
Wellbeing power is key to unlocking extra cash to improve health and	http://www.hda.nhs.uk/html/about/pre55/15062004.html	Jun 15

wellbeing of communities – says HDA. Communities would benefit from more flexible use of resources by the agencies in local strategic partnerships.		
"WE WANT YOUR VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT" ODPM Kicks Off Discussion on 10-Year Vision	www.odpm.gov.uk/localvision	Jun 18
Survey of Sustainable Development Activity within Local Authorities and National Park Authorities in Wales concluded that "there is little evidence of sustainable development being seriously considered within Wales' Improvement Programme or Community Strategies"	http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/idk/aio/92088 Help at http://list.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/t/104/94150/36/13/	Jun 24
Sustainability management in business, CSR		
Monsanto drops its plans for Genetically Modified wheat The world's first genetically modified wheat is to be axed due to consumer resistance.	http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/3702739.stm	May 11
Japan Business Federation (Nippon Keidanren) has revised its Charter of Corporate Behavior to promote the implementation of social responsibilities by member companies, such as protection of human rights and personal information and adoption of environmental measures	www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5302	May 20
Hundreds of major corporations are beginning to factor climate change issues into their business decisions, according to a major industry survey released by an investors' group last week.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5442	May 28
Canadian companies that operate in heavily regulated/political industries are most likely to have strong corporate social responsibility (CSR) management and disclosure practices. "What the data show is that Canadian companies are making progress in CSR, but the progress is slow and it is not universal"	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2773.html	Jun 06
EU's Reach proposals on implementing the precautionary principles in the chemical sector: "Human beings are now exposed to widespread chemical and toxic pollution" say medical experts. "Most of the substances or products concerned are currently being marketed without prior and sufficient toxicological testing and risk assessment to human health."	ENDS DAILY 1665	May 11
Ikea tops list of retailers taking responsible attitude to chemicals. Hamley's, Morrison's, Sainsbury's, Superdrug, Toymaster, and Toys 'R' Us did not respond to the survey. ASDA, BHS, Homebase, Iceland, and Tesco provided limited information but did not answer the questions that were asked.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2160 & www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/risky_chemicals_in_high_st_27052004.html	Jun 17
Customers' health matters more than shareholder value Is the obesity crisis the weightiest test yet of the contradictions at the heart of the corporate social responsibility movement? (Answer: Probably)	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5686	Jun 10
Commitment to Corporate Responsibility 2004 sees a record number of 101 companies being awarded the 'BIG TICK' standard in Business in the Community Awards for Excellence	Email: sue.garland@bitc.org.uk	Jun 17
GlaxoSmithKline is facing prosecution on both sides of the Atlantic for allegedly not informing health authorities about suicide risks associated with its antidepressant Paxil-Seroxat.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2173	Jun 17
White-collar criminals, eg from Worldcom, are getting paid to tell their stories of crime to business schools, professional associations and companies. "It's a powerful message," the Haas School of Business told the New York Times. "You get to see the consequences of poor ethical decision making." Pros & Cons is an agency that specialises in white-collar criminal speakers!	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2179	Jun 17
Industry's sense of urgency: initiatives are being done but better communication on them seems necessary	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5959	Jun 24
What will an Environmental Management System Cost? It's variable and often proportional to the size and complexity of the operation. Costs between 12,000-120,000 Euros per site have been reported, plus registration costs.	http://www.environmental-expert.com/articles/article1429/article1429.htm	Jun 30
Environment & climate change		
Climate Group, launched by Prime Minister Blair, funded by the Rockefeller foundation, is a new non-profit organisation which aims to spread best practice in reducing CO2 emissions across business, government, and civil society groups around the world. Supporters include HSBC, BP, Lafarge, Timberland and Shell among others.	Ethical Corporation www.ethicalcorp.com	May 05
A new EU Directive should save costs and will allow European companies participating in emissions trading to count credits from emission reduction projects around the world towards their obligations under the European Union's emissions trading scheme.	EEP	May 20
Carbon Disclosure Project has surveyed the world's 500 largest companies on global warming impacts: the total emissions from operations reported equalled roughly 13% of all emissions from fossil fuel combustion worldwide.	Edie www.edie.net/news/Archive/8397.cfm	May 21
Defra (UK government department) has published plans for delivering the commitments made by the UK Government at the World Summit for Sustainable Development	http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/eac-wssd/progress.htm	May 25
UK government's sustainability strategy consultation ends July 31 st 2004	http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/taking-it-on/	May 26

British gas and electricity suppliers will have to double their efforts at promoting domestic energy savings under terms outlined in a government consultation on energy efficiency.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8419.cfm	May 28
Sheltered children are bad for the environment The current climate of fear of paedophiles to terrorist attacks is inhibiting children's activity in their environment, potentially creating future generations scared of and ignorant of 'green' issues	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8415.cfm	May 28
Companies not yet ready for ETS Over half of UK companies surveyed are not now ready for compliance with the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). A survey of 250 companies, 50 from the UK, has said that many companies are currently unprepared for emissions trading with a minority expecting a positive impact on their profits from the ETS. It paints a bleak picture for the future of the UK emissions trading market.	www.edie.net/news/Archive/8441.cfm	Jun 07
Japanese government makes it compulsory for commercial premises over a certain size to submit reports on how much carbon dioxide they produce.	http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=5660	Jun 11
The <i>Future of Air Transport White Paper</i> remains the most glaring example of the failure of Government to put sustainable development at the heart of policy making	Edie	Jun 11
Australia would be dependent on fossil fuels for generations, Prime Minister Howard said yesterday, as he announced fuel tax breaks for business but rejected calls for a higher renewable energy target.	http://www.wbcsd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=5806	Jun 18
Reporting/verification		
Colgate-Palmolive Company has published its first Global Values Report, 'Respecting the World Around Us: Living Our Values for Sustainability'	www.colgate.com/sustainability	May 05
Five areas of social responsibility considered most important by Marks & Spencer's customers have been used as the basis for the retail company's first corporate social responsibility report	http://www2.marksandspencer.com/the-company/ourcommitmenttosociety	Jun 14
European Federation of Accountants (FEE) has issued a report saying that corporate social responsibility (CSR) reporting should be given the same status and recognition as financial reporting	http://www.edie.net/gf.cfm?L=left_frame.html&R=http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/8486.cfm & http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=16864	Jun 18
Royal Dutch/Shell has published its report on corporate citizenship, outlining the oil company's financial, environmental and social performance in 2003, with a mix of progress and shortcomings	Ethical Corporation	Jun 22
Business case for non-financial reporting: companies that use Global Reporting Initiative guidelines to report on non-financial performance have lower share price volatility and higher profit margins	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2046	Jun 24
As a discipline, auditing of sustainability reports has "graduated from kindergarten, but it hasn't yet got an official diploma"	http://www.socialfunds.com/news/article.cgi/article1443.html	Jun 29
Construction, flood defence		
New warning service is available: "vital for 'at risk' properties"	http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/	May 28
A fifth of the enlarged EU's coastline is severely affected by erosion, with coastlines retreating by between 0.5 and 2 metres per year, and in a few dramatic cases even by 15 metres.	EEP www.eep.org	Jun 03

Explore sustainability with Sd3's new knowledge centre at <http://www.sd3.co.uk>