






Sd3's sustainability snippets July 6th - Sep 6th.

What's in the press?

-  Green Futures: Young, gifted and green <http://www.greenfutures.org.uk/>
-  The Ecologist Magazine: Supermarkets - The Naked Truth <http://www.theecologist.org/>
-  Scientific American : Overfishing, Einstein, Defence <http://www.sciam.com>



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Snippet

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Automotive sector and sustainable mobility

German agency chief slams carmakers Andreas Troge, president of Germany's environment agency, has attacked German carmakers for doing too little to curb fine particle emissions from diesel vehicles.	http://www.environmentdaily.com/articles/index.cfm?action=article&ref=16993	Jul 5
Businesses map out sustainable transport WBCSD says international cooperation at all levels of society will be needed to make mobility sustainable. It stresses that a continuation of current mobility trends would lead to "unacceptably high" social, economic and environmental costs.	ENDS Daily	Jul 12
Tough in China The Chinese government has new greenhouse gas emissions rules for motor vehicles. New regulations aim to cut 30% in CO emissions, and a 55% cut in hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxide emissions in a bid to keep in line with the European Union's Euro II vehicle-emission standards.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2334	Jul 13
German car makers agree to fit particle filters Germany's car makers have agreed to equip diesel cars sold in Germany with filters to dramatically reduce emissions of cancer-causing fine particles.	ENDS Daily	Jul 19
ELVs The confusion clouding the processing of end-of-life vehicles (ELVs) has finally been cleared.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8649&channel=0	Jul 23
UK Transport Secretary has unveiled the government's strategy for the future of transport, which features proposals for road tolls across the country as well as approval for London's Crossrail project.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8646&channel=0	Jul 23
CO ₂ -based EU car tax system moves closer Stakeholders have been invited to comment on plans to simplify and "green" Europe's car tax systems	ENDS Daily 1706	July 21
Auto manufacturers feel the pinch Financially, GM & Ford stand to lose more than any other automakers in complying with regulations to curb emissions of greenhouse gases from cars and improve fuel efficiency. Regulations are expected to be implemented in the United States, Europe and Japan.	IHT in http://www.wbcd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=6637 & http://www.ethicalcorp.com	Jul 29
France refuses tax on cars France's new Climate Plan features 60 measures aimed at reducing carbon dioxide and other gases, including increasing the use of biofuels, and tax breaks for clean energy appliances, such as boilers, solar water heaters and high-insulation windows. Two initiatives aimed at car users were suspended after opposition from car manufacturers and politicians.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8663&channel=0	Jul 30
Ford's 2003-04 Corporate Citizenship Report now available (wide range of topics including the Escape Hybrid SUV, human rights and HIV/AIDS). Also, U.S. environmental groups said the Escape Hybrid SUV is a good start, but will have little immediate impact; Ford would have to go much further to win recognition as a company truly committed to protecting the environment.	http://www.ford.com/go/globalcitizenship & http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8697&channel=0	Aug 2 & Aug 6
Mitsubishi's business ethics committee has been formed in an effort to confront a declining brand and reputation profile, as a result of a faulty vehicles cover-up scandal that took it to the brink of bankruptcy.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2392	Aug 4
DaimlerChrysler may have to cut 6,000 jobs, warning its German workforce that the jobs could be cut if trade unions did not agree to make annual savings of €500m a year.	FT	Aug 4
Diesel or hybrid? Manufacturers are divided on whether diesel or hybrid cars are the best way to improve fuel efficiency.	http://www.wbcd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=6765	Aug
PSA Peugeot Citroën launched a website on its approach to sustainable	www.sustainability.psa-peugeot-	Aug 9

development.	citroen.com	
California revises ambitious plan to regulate global warming emissions from cars, but the state is unlikely to avert a legal challenge from carmakers. Under the revised plan the industry would have eight years instead of six to reduce global warming emissions by about 30 percent.	http://www.wbcscd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=6803	Aug 12
BOC/siGEN's clean car of the future The "Gh2ost" car: clean, silent and could travel around the world on less than two gallons of petrol equivalent. "Fuel cell vehicles will be hitting the road in the next five to ten years."	http://www.edie.net/gf.cfm?L=left_frame.html&R=http://www.edie.net/news/Archive/8754.cfm	Aug 25
Ford is adopting stringent clean air standards faster than required More than half of its 2005-model year light vehicles will meet the EPA's new tier 2 emissions standard. But, Activists have also accused Ford of "greenwash" of its gas-guzzler fleet by diverting attention to the new hybrid Escape SUV and eco-friendly exterior at its River Rouge facility, which makes its F-150 trucks.	http://www.axcessnews.com/environmental.shtml & http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2601	Aug 25 & Aug 31
Ford Think? Activists report Ford will destroy all of its THINK zero-emissions electric vehicles, despite lease-holders' protests.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2601	Aug 31
Fill up on sunflower oil Technology could lead to cleaner, more efficient hydrogen production for automobile fuel cells as well as homes, factories etc.	http://www.wbcscd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=7253	Sep 3
Financial services sector		
HSBC's new corporate social responsibility report (2003) covers the creation of a board-level CSR committee, support for the Equator Principles, the bank's work with its environmental 'Investing in Nature' partners to develop sustainable lending policies for freshwater and forest projects, and details of HSBC's \$47 million spending on worldwide community support during 2003.	http://hsbc.com/hsbc/society/corporate-social-responsibilities	Jul 12
UNEP-FI and Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) seek contributions to the development of the GRI Financial Services Sector Supplement (Environmental Performance) www.unepfi.net/gri/public	UNEP FI	Jul 12
HBOS is against prescriptive set of rules governing reporting in accordance with the OFR requirements in the UK. HBOS boss said such regulation would "take away reasons for engagement [in non-financial issues] by directors". HBOS's new corporate responsibility report uses 48 key performance indicators that are aligned with the GRI guidelines.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2337 & http://www.hbosplc.com/community/corporateresponsibilityreporting.asp	Jul 13
The first Co-operative Financial Services (CFS) Sustainability Report is now available at http://www.cfs.co.uk/sustainability2003 . Includes details of provision of loans/overdrafts to small businesses in deprived areas.	Ethical Performance	Jul 13
Sixteen financial institutions, all of which have adopted the Equator Principles, met representatives of 13 NGOs to review progress.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2416	Aug 4
Friends of the Earth have questioned the Royal Bank of Scotland on its ethical investment policies following its continued support of the controversial BP Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline. Royal Bank of Scotland produces its first corporate responsibility report.	Edie & www.rbs.co.uk	Aug 6 & Aug 26
Consumer magazine Which? accused UK banks of charging 'exorbitant' fees to customers who go over their agreed overdraft limit.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2672	Sep 6
The Wellcome Trust, the largest charity in the UK by size of assets, has appointed Insight Investment to provide a shareholder activism service on governance and corporate responsibility issues.	http://www.insightinvestment.com/documents/responsibility/ir_bulletin_summer2004.pdf	Sep 6
ICT/Electronics sector		
Hewlett-Packard has pledged to double its e-waste recycling rate over the next two and a half years. HP released its 2004 Global Citizenship report, focusing on electronic waste, increasing social and environmental standards in its supply chain and increasing access to information technology.	Greenbuzz & http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2488	Jul 12 & Aug 9
Taiwan's market regulator has compared the bankruptcy scandal at Procomp Informatics, a major Taiwanese computer hardware maker, to the collapse of the giant US energy company Enron in 2001.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2405	Aug 4
Europe's largest electronics company, Royal Philips Electronics, on track to meet target of having women in 10% of most senior management posts. Philips heads the most recent Dow Jones Sustainability Index STOXX ranking of around 600 European companies. www.philips.com/sustainability	Ethical Performance	Aug 27
Adelphia Communications, the scandal-ridden US cable company, is billing its founders \$3.2 billion for cash it claims they took from the company illegally.	Ethical Corporation monthly Global newsletter	Aug 31
Local authorities/Local development		
Almost three quarters of local governments have not considered the effects of climate change in their councils and seven percent are ignoring the legal Home Energy Conservation Act requirement.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8556&channel=0	Jul 2
Living Streets - 'Champions of streets and public spaces for people on foot'.	http://www.livingstreets.org.uk	Jul 23

Work on practical projects to create safe, vibrant and healthy streets for all.		
Road network: Best value performance indicators and survey guidance; congestion; managing the accidental obstruction of the railway by road vehicles; research; technology and trunk roads.	http://www.info4local.gov.uk/singleLink.asp?linkid=3938&heading=e%2dmail%20alert	Jul 24
Clone Town Britain survey just launched on 'the loss of local identity on the nation's high streets'.	http://www.neweconomics.org/gen/news_clonetown.aspx	Sep 3
Sustainability management in business, CSR		
ISO to develop an International Standard for social responsibility. Objective: produce "a guidance document, written in plain language which is understandable and usable by non-specialists" and not for use in certification.	www.iso.org/sr	Jun 29
'Simultaneous equations' research, "Accounting, Organization and Society", suggests "good" environmental performance is significantly associated with "good" economic performance, and also with more extensive quantifiable environmental disclosures of specific pollution measures and occurrences.	http://www.wbcSD.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=6099	Jul 1
United Nations Environment Programme says environmental and social issues must be integrated into business practices for shareholders' benefit.	Ethical Corporation http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6029	Jun 28
A 20-month European Commission forum with business leaders concluded that social and environmental issues are a key part of modern business, but that corporate social responsibility (CSR) should not be a legal obligation.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8563&channel=0	Jul 2
Leading socially responsible investing funds Henderson and Morley have sold shares in Shell due to the way the company deals with environmental issues in Africa, the U.S. and Sakhalin Island off the Russian coast.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2312	Jul 7
Shell Petroleum Development (SPD) has allegedly caused environmental damage in Nigeria. It is claimed that the spillage covers land that includes at least three villages. Local reports say SPD took more than two weeks to respond to emergency calls. Shell allege the spill was caused by saboteurs.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2298 See also http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2296	Jul 7
Questionnaire-fatigued? Many corporate responsibility departments are using technology to help respond to questionnaires.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2310	Jul 7
Overall U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions rose 0.9% from 2002 levels last year, to 5.8 billion tons.	Renewable Fuel News	Jul 16
MBA's seek ethics The WorldCom, Enron, and Arthur Andersen fiascos were partly responsible for the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, NYSE's new governance rules, and firms like the Walt Disney Co. adopting stringent guidelines on ethics. A high number of 800 MBAs surveyed (North American and Europe) were willing to forgo pay benefits to work for an organization with a reputation for ethics.	Greenbiz in http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6675	Jul 29
Check out The Small Business Journey: a way for small businesses to realise more value by behaving responsibly.	http://www.smallbusinessjourney.com/output/Page1.asp	Aug
Sustainable development most effective way to put principles into practice "Sustainable Development is important to me because it represents the best and most effective way in which a responsible company can put its principles into practice," says Lord Holme, Special Advisor to the Chairman, Rio Tinto.	http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6553	Aug 3
Ethics over pay Nine out of ten senior executives in the Northwest of England consider business ethics an "important or emerging issue"; 72% of business leaders said that good worklife balance was crucial to their feelings of achievement; and better pay is the least popular marker of success.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2423	Aug 4
Green Games put Athens to shame Extreme sports industry set a new environmental standard for sporting competitions by making the 10 th X Games the greenest in history. The idea is to educate about green issues while embracing today's influential youth culture.	Edie	Aug 24
McDonald's in the UK says it agrees with central theme of the documentary Super Size Me - that eating too much and doing too little is bad for you.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2604	Aug 31
Food industry on the right track? Frosties ("Frosted Flakes") breakfast cereal is 40% sugar, but Kellogg's is launching a 25% sugar variant.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2590	Aug 31
Royal Dutch/Shell hit with a \$1.5bn compensation claim from the Nigerian senate, & a record £17m fine from the UK Financial Services Authority.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2617	Aug 31
Coda Group researchers report an upsurge in outsourcing to consultants on ethical and corporate governance work.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2560	Aug 31
Environment & climate change		
Carbon Trust concluded that UK industry by and large will be left unharmed by the EU emissions trading scheme. The only exception could be aluminium.	Point Carbon, in http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6150	Jul 2
British industry is facing crippling rises in electricity and gas prices with bills up 30% in the past two months and further increases on the way.	The Times & http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6136	Jul 2
Landfill Directive: the practise of co-disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste will be banned as of July 16 2004.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8553&channel=0	Jul 2
Greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector have risen by almost 130% since 1990, the biggest increase in the pollutants from any sector of the economy. The rise in demand for air travel is one of the most serious	www.bbc.co.uk , Energy Compass in http://www.wbcSD.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6535 & http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8553&channel=0	Jul 4, Jul 23, Aug 6, Aug 13

environmental threats facing the world, says a University of York report.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8738&channel=0	Jul 30
Barclays Capital and Shell Trading completed the first carbon emissions trade 30 th July, using standard terms set out by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8680&channel=0	Jul 30
Climate change fires Forest fires across Portugal this summer could be the direct result of extreme weather conditions caused by global warming, according to experts at Friends of the Earth (FoE).	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8676&channel=0	Jul 30
Greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming from the original 15 EU members fell just 0.5% in 2002 (largely due to a shift from coal to gas in power generation, lower emissions from manufacturing due to an economic slowdown, and lower household fuel use after a mild winter). That followed three years in which emissions rose by 0.2% in 2000, & 1.3% in 2000 and 2001.	http://www.wbcd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=6784	Aug 6
www.smallbusinessjourney.com features a series of "how to" guides on topics ranging from cause-related marketing to employee training, and provides a comprehensive library of SME case studies.	www.smallbusinessjourney.com	Aug 10
Investors are flocking to alternative energy stocks.	www.accessnews.com in Edie	Aug 25
Mexico adopts internationally-accepted standards to measure and report business greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in a voluntary national program.	http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=7070	Aug 27
Reporting/verification		
Reports doing their job properly? The number of Australian companies producing sustainability reports rose by around 27% over the year. However Australian Shareholders' Association says reports are "an inexact science" and companies should not take on some environmental and social responsibilities.	Australian Financial Review in http://www.wbcd.org/includes/getTarget.asp?type=DocDet&id=6361	Jul 15
New tool for corporate sustainability management and reporting Two Finnish multinationals have begun using new software to manage and report on sustainability performance. It's web-based, collates site-level data across the company, and is GRI-compatible sustainability reporting guidelines.	http://eng.proventia.fi/csmregistration	Jul 23
UK Environment Agency calls for more detailed reporting on the environmental disclosures of companies on the FTSE All Share index in preparation for the Operating and Financial Review requirements, as well as the launch of the Emissions Trading Scheme.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2453	Aug 2
BP's new sustainability report is out - impressive but frustrating?	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2411	Aug 2
UK Dept. for Trade and Industry plans to make OFR mandatory for all publicly traded companies from 2005. The CBI (a business lobby group) has called for the requirement to be limited to FTSE 350 companies only.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2501	Aug 9
Comment: Corporate sustainability challenges: would you try out cumulative reporting? How many corporate sustainability reports disclose cumulative emissions? Reporting on annual emissions can lure the reader (and management) into a false sense of security.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2428	Aug 9
GRI is to launch its own sustainability report and has asked for feedback from members of its network on what that report ought to contain.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2491	Aug 9
Is ICI to be taken seriously? New sustainability report out.	http://www.ethicalcorp.com/content.asp?ContentID=2576	Aug 31
Transparent Gap New social responsibility report details, with unflinching honesty, the problems Gap Inc found in the 3,000 factories it contracted.	http://www.wbcd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&DocId=7234c	Sep 2
Choosing a report's title is a small thing, but a key issue.	http://www.edie.net/library/view_article.asp?id=782&channel=4	Sep 3
Call for Submissions to the CERES-ACCA 2004 North American Awards for Sustainability Reporting.	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2997.html	Sep 6
Products/packaging waste/supply chain/logistics		
Two of the world's largest consumer products companies - Nokia and Carrefour - have been selected to 'green' their goods, in a trial of the European Commission's Integrated Product Policy.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8539&channel=0	Jul 2
Nordic Partnership SSCM Self Diagnostic provides a source of inspiration for companies considering sustainable supply chain management (SSCM).	http://www.csrwire.com/article.cgi/2979.html	Sep 1
Construction/flood defence		
Homebuyers want eco-quality 84% would pay an average 2% more for an eco-friendly home, say the Commission on Architecture and Built Environment (CABE), WWF, and the Halifax. Environmental aspects really count eg. energy efficiency, water efficiency, air quality, and eco-friendly materials.	http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=8675&channel=0#	Jul 30

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