

Beacon Press and the Environment

At Beacon Press comprehensive programmes of on-site working practices seek to reduce or eliminate the pollutants produced from the printing process and support the cause for a sustainable print industry.

We have the following accreditations:

- EMAS registration
- ISO 14001 certification
- Forest Stewardship Council Chain of Custody certification
- Carbon Neutral status
- Queens Award for Enterprise: Sustainable Development

Pureprint® Environmental print technology encompasses a combination of environmental initiatives:-

- Alcohol free technology on the printing presses
- 100% 'green' electricity from re-newable sources
- Water-based coatings which replace conventional oil-based or UV coatings and varnishes (including solvent-based products). These new coatings are made from inert raw materials.
- Vegetable-based, solvent free inks are used. These are manufactured from linseed and soya based oil, replacing conventional printing inks in which mineral oil is heavily used.
- 90% of dry waste recycled:
 - Paper - sorting all waste paper for recycling
 - Fluorescent tubes - tubes are processed so that all components, even the hazardous mercury content, are recovered and recycled for industry.
 - Broken pallets – some broken wooden pallets are turned into bird nesting boxes. Pallets are also shredded for re-use in chipboard.
 - Aluminium printing plates - Aluminium plates are melted down and reused in vehicle engine blocks.
 - Toner and print cartridges – recycled
 - Empty ink cans - recycled
 - Grass cuttings - grass cuttings are composted for use on our own factory gardens.
 - Water - water recycling unit and water saving devices in all wash rooms, rain water harvester collects rain water to water the plants
 - Batteries – part recycled
 - Cardboard - recycled
 - Metal machine parts - recycled
 - Food waste – composted in our hot composter

- CDs - transformed into artificial wood, lighting cases and alarm boxes. Our 'Box it, don't Bin it' campaign - a free CD collection and recycling scheme for our customers and local businesses.
 - Mobile phones – recycled via charity
 - Clothing – sent to charity
 - Plastic barrels - are shredded and manufactured into drainpipes and other building materials or reformed as animal feed or water troughs
 - Aluminium drink cans are recycled to become - new aluminium drinks cans!
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- Press room solvents – a solvent recycling plant which enables us to re-use 95% of the press cleaning solvent from the B1 presses which would otherwise require disposal as hazardous waste.
 - Installing a power factor correction device which improves the efficiency of our power demand.
 - Biodegradable lamination and polybags are available
 - Computer to plate (CTP) technology used eliminating film and film processing chemicals.
 - Fitting all vending machines, photocopiers and extractor fans with movement sensors to ensure they are switched off when not required.
 - Installing low energy lighting where possible.
 - Operate a biodiversity policy to enhance the wildlife potential of our factory grounds.

Education and the wider community

We seek to promote and motivate discussion on environmental issues by hosting seminars, speaking at events and presenting information on environmental printing. We engage with other organisations campaigning on behalf of the environment and are:

- Business in the Community members
- WWF Forest and Trade Network members
- Partners with Forum for the Future and
- Support London ReMade