

NPOWER TO EMPOWER TULLIS MILL

Papermaker Tullis Russell has signed a contract that will see RWE npower renewables supply its Markinch paper mill in Scotland with heat and electricity from a new biomass-fuelled energy plant. The plant will replace Tullis Russell's existing coal-fired power plant, and will reduce the mill's annual carbon emissions by 250,000 tonnes. This represents 6% of Scotland's renewable generation targets.

The 50 megawatt plant to power the Markinch paper mill will consume around 400,000 tonnes of virgin and used wood from a wide range of sources. Contracts are being put in place with local and national suppliers of biomass.

Chris Parr, CEO of Tullis Russell Group, said that



Tullis Russell at Markinch, where the biomass power plant will be built

500 jobs at the papermaker would be secured by the project, as well as the undeniable environmental benefits: 'The plant will reduce our carbon footprint by 72%, thereby significantly enhancing our credentials as an environmental leader in the production of boards within our cho-

sen market sectors of cards, covers and premium packaging.'

The power plant is scheduled to enter operation in 2012. Across Europe, RWE Innogy, the parent company of RWE npower, is aiming to build biomass plants with a total capacity of 390 megawatts by 2013.

GARNETT IMPROVES VAPI MILL

Speciality paper manufacturer Garnett Papers has announced a range of environmental improvements made to its FSC certified Vapi mill, near Mumbai in India.

The mill uses both pre-consumer and post-consumer waste fibres and has put in place a Micro

Filter fibre recovery system, which ensures fibre is recycled and re-used in the papermaking process. Water conservation is helped by a closed loop water system, and the mill's common effluent treatment facility is the largest of its kind in Asia.

PRINTCITY LAUNCHES ECO STUDY

PrintCity, the alliance of equipment manufacturers that includes manroland, UPM, M-Real, Sappi and Sun Chemical, has distributed industry intelligence in the form of a research study entitled 'Sustainability, Energy & the Environment'.

The report has been sent to more than 12,000 people worldwide in the industry, and can be ordered from the PrintCity website (www.printcity.de/shop).

The partners named above, as well as Megtec and Adphos Eltosch, were the primary contributors and sponsors of the project. The report covers a multitude of areas related to the topic of sustainability, including treatment of waste, improving energy efficiency, carbon footprints, the role of forest products, and actions that print companies need to take now and in the future.

TORRASPEL REVEALS GREEN GAINS

Spanish paper maker Torraspel has published its 2009 Environmental Progress Report, revealing a number of improvements it has made to its paper manufacturing processes from a green perspective.

According to the

report, the company has reduced paper usage by 26%, specific energy consumption by 12%, CO₂ emissions by 7% and solid waste sent to landfill by 29%. In addition, Torraspel increased the proportion of pulp it purchases from certified forests to

86%, stating that 'the remaining 14% comes from controlled sources accepted by the certifications themselves'.

As reported in *Print & Paper Monthly* last month, Torraspel also recently gained EMAS environmental certification.

SÖDRA ADDS FSC TO PEFC

Swedish pulp producer Södra Cell has reacted to a perceived UK preference for FSC certified paper by adding the certification to its existing PEFC qualifications. Presently, more than 1.5 million hectares of Södra's forestry (representing 15,500 mainly

small private forest owners that are Södra members) are covered by PEFC – this being 66% of the total Södra Cell membership area. It said its aim is for two-thirds of this area to be dual certified this year.

The company also

claimed to have achieved a world first at its flagship Värö mill: a pulp mill free from fossil fuels in its day to day operations. It said recent investments included energy efficiency, electricity production, and flue gas cooling for heating local houses.

RICOH AHEAD OF GREEN GAME

Ricoh claims to be a year ahead of its long term environmental impact reduction plan, which targets a reduction of 87.5% by 2050. Green procurement policies and partnership programmes and increased production collection and recycling have allowed Ricoh to

get ahead of schedule.

That schedule was set in 2004, and put in place interim targets for 2007, 2010, 2020 and 2030. Having achieved its 16% impact reduction target in 2007, the 2010 target of a further 20% was actually reached in 2009, the company said.

FROM BLANKETS TO BAGS

Trelleborg has worked with Italian designer Sergio Missiaggia to create a range of everyday items out of used printing blankets and thereby reduce landfill.

When shown the substrate he would be working with, Mr Missiaggia apparently created a bag that was suitable to carry a laptop computer in, in just half an hour. 'Since

then he has made a variety of bags, holders, clocks, covers etc. The potential is almost endless and every item is different because of the images on the blanket,' said Trelleborg's marketing manager, Manuela Re.

She said that the next step was to examine how the items could be produced on a much larger scale.



Put to good use: used printing blankets are proving to have more uses than anyone realised