

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



Sustainable Products and Services Procurement

Making the right procurement decisions can have far reaching environmental, economic and social impacts. The volume of public sector procurement in the UK and wider EU is sufficiently large for it to be seen as an area that can help tackle a wide range of central policy issues, such as climate change, providing the right goods and services are procured.

The action plan produced by the Government's Sustainable Procurement Task Force identified a number of key commodity groups that would have the widest sustainability impact, and which would produce a step change in sustainable public sector procurement. The aim is to put the UK among the leaders in the EU by 2009.

ESPO has led the way in carrying out an EU compliant procurement initiative across these key commodity groups and is launching a new '**Sustainable Products and Services Catalogue**' in autumn 2007. The first edition will include the following categories which are expanded on below and opposite:-

- **Microgeneration Energy Products**
- **Energy Efficient Products, including Energy Saving Devices**
- **Products made from Recycled Materials**
- **Products and Services for Sustainable Parks Management, including Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)**

This new catalogue is designed to support the emerging market for sustainable products. It offers the following benefits to buyers:

- Full EU compliant competitive tendering process already carried out on behalf of customers
- Available to all buyers in the public sector throughout the whole of the UK, without the need for further tendering
- Products specified to high expected standards of quality and sustainability
- Value for money provided with many discounts for quantity orders
- Products and services support Sustainable Procurement Task Force key commodity groups.

The specifications for the products are based as far as possible on recognised environmental standards, such as key criteria from eco labels. We have endeavoured to ensure that the specifications reflect market availability whilst excluding production processes and products that are environmentally unsound. Markets for environmentally sound products in Europe are still emerging and, therefore, whilst those included in the catalogue represent current best practice, there is much scope and potential for improvement and an expansion of offer in the future.

MICROGENERATION ENERGY PRODUCTS

Biomass Boilers - Boilers which produce hot water or steam for the purpose of space heating. They are specifically designed to burn wood chips, logs, pieces of pellet fuels, short rotation willow coppice, miscanthus or other clean biomass materials.

Solar Thermal Heating Systems - For the absorption, retention, transfer and storage of heat energy, either through the use of flat plate collectors, or evacuated tube collectors. May include the manufacture, supply or maintenance of suitable units for small and medium-sized applications and may also include boilers and associated units as part of a thermal heating system.

Photovoltaic Cells - Designed and engineered to convert solar radiation into usable electricity. They may be installed on rooftops in conjunction with cool roof materials, and can be fitted during the course of building construction, or "retrofitted" at any stage in the life of the building.

Heat Pumps - A heat and cooling source using a heat pump to extract heat from either the air or ground and transfer that heat by circulating a refrigerant through a cycle of alternating evaporation and condensation. The cycle can be reversed for cooling.

Wind Turbines - This includes small wind turbines, for the purpose of electricity generation. They include those utilising either a vertical or horizontal axis. They may also be of the type which will readily combine with other microgeneration systems (e.g. diesel engines) as part of a hybrid system.

Micro CHP Units - Production of electricity and useful heat from a single plant. Uses natural gas to drive a reciprocating or Stirling engine.

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ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS, INCLUDING ENERGY SAVING DEVICES

Solar Tubes - Piped systems that reflect and concentrate day lighting into the interior of buildings.

Insulation Materials - A product offer made from renewable sources, in this instance, wool.

Casement Windows - A range of casement windows with good window energy rating (WER), made from timber or aluminium clad timber.

Energy Efficient Light Bulbs - A range of energy efficient lamps, low voltage halogen lamps and LED lights.

Energy Monitoring and Efficiency Devices - Appliances that assist in reducing energy usage, including electricity use monitors, energy saving adaptors for PCs and fridge / freezer controls.

Water Saving Devices - These include dual flush WCs, waterless urinals, water saving devices inserted in cisterns and tap adaptors.

PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS

Outdoor Furniture - Including outdoor seating and tables, picnic tables and planters made from recycled plastic.

IT Consumables - A full range of recycled and remanufactured black and coloured ink jet and laser cartridges where a minimum of 75% by weight of the remanufactured toner cartridge consist of recycled parts.

PRODUCTS and SERVICES FOR SUSTAINABLE PARKS MANAGEMENT

Machinery - A range of horticultural machinery which is used for the recycling of green waste (e.g. wood chippers, shredders) or which uses sustainable fuels, e.g. biodiesel, battery power or LPG.

Horticultural Products - A range of fertilisers, composts, soil and water treatments which use organically sourced materials for their composition.

Soil Biotechnology for Healthy Soils/Plant Growth - This category includes two product areas. One is for the control of horticultural pests and diseases that relies on natural predation from parasites, viruses and predators. This may include Integrated Pest Management. The other is for the fertilising of plants, cuttings and seedlings by using bacteria and fungi or other natural ingredients in place of chemicals.

Sustainable Building Cleaning Products - Natural biological products used as cleaning agents, to clean surfaces and drainage systems in parks buildings such as pavilions or public conveniences, in order to naturally degrade fats rather than using bleaches and other chemical agents.

Sustainable Grounds Maintenance Services - Complete services which may include as part of that service the provision of suitable sustainable products. It is the intention to provide an alternative to hazardous or potentially hazardous means of managing grounds maintenance operations by eliminating the use of chemicals, or management which results in adverse environmental impacts such as pollution or the use of non-renewable resources.

Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) - A number of sustainable products consisting of porous paving and drainage for the attenuation, infiltration and treatment of runoff.

Please refer to the 'Sustainable Products and Services Catalogue' for full details.

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