

MAKING GREEN PROCUREMENT HAPPEN



“Staff and management at Jacobs Babbie are committed to improving their environmental performance and helping clients to better manage theirs. Green procurement is part of this commitment and becoming members of ReMaDe Kent & Medway’s Green Buyers Club has helped make this a reality.”

Ian Parker Divisional Director, Jacobs Babbie

Jacobs Babbie is one of the leading technical and management consultancies both in the UK and internationally, operating in transport and development, environment and utilities, property and structures, defence and energy.

In Kent, Jacobs Babbie is seeking to raise its environmental profile both internally and with key stakeholders (including Kent County Council) demonstrating its commitment to environmental best practice.

Focusing on Green Procurement Jacobs Babbie identified the following objectives:

- 1. Internal Procurement - short term**
Switching office products, copier paper and formal company stationery to recycled alternatives. This case study relates to the first phase of office based procurement.
- 2. On-site Procurement - long term**
Giving Jacobs Babbie a competitive edge by offering green procurement expertise to its customers.

GREEN PURCHASING

ReMaDe Kent and Medway helped convert corporate strategy into practical action working with Jacobs Babbie to “green their internal purchasing”. Jacobs Babbie’s procurement methods were scrutinised to establish if greener alternatives to standard products and services were available. Some products investigated over the six month period include office stationery, copier paper and formal company stationery.

The work has resulted in the creation of a ReMaDe business model which can be shared and replicated by other companies in Kent.

KEY DRIVER FOR SUCCESS - AWARD OF ISO 14001

Increasingly customers such as Kent County Council require suppliers to demonstrate green credentials. This initiative supported Jacobs Babbie accreditation for ISO 14001.



SWITCHING TO GREEN PRODUCTS – KEY STEPS

PURCHASING AUDIT

ReMaDe assisted Jacobs Bابتie in carrying out a purchasing audit to assess the scope of the company's existing purchasing practices and help identify areas where "greener" recycled products could be substituted for non-recycled products. It is important to note that recommendations were made only where the recycled products were fit for purpose. The audit process involved the following actions:

- Assessment of current product purchases, volumes, prices, delivery pattern.
- Identification of those products in use that are already all or in part made from recycled materials.
- Agreement that ReMaDe would seek recycled alternatives.
- Decisions on which of these products could be introduced directly into general use.
- Revision of procurement policy to reflect outcomes.
- Creation of a one-year target for an increase in the purchase of recycled materials.

'HEARTS AND MINDS' CAMPAIGN

All levels of management and staff needed to recognise and accept Jacobs Bابتie's commitment to 'green' purchasing and recycling and this need was addressed by:

- **Senior Management** - Informing the senior management team of the relevance of green procurement, getting their endorsement of the initiative both in words and practice.
- **Middle Management** - Raising middle management awareness of the corporate commitment to green procurement and in turn gaining their commitment to support the process.
- **Front line staff** - Engaging with front line staff to affirm the company's long term objectives in "going green".

KEY OUTCOMES:

- **Office consumables** - Exchanging non-recycled files and folders for recycled products.
- **Paper** - Switching recycled copier paper for office use. The brand chosen is 'Evolve Office' made by M-real at Sittingbourne.
- **Paper** - Changing the formal company stationery over to M-real's 'Evolve Business'
- Evolve Office and Evolve Business are being supplied by Premier Paper* and supported free of charge by M-real's technical service.
- Jacobs Bابتie Kent have been sharing this locally acquired practice through the wider company.
- **Other successes** - Testing the use of various pens and other materials.
- **Phase 2** - Jacobs Bابتie are moving towards taking green procurement 'on-site' offering customers green purchasing expertise that enables them to achieve their environmental objectives and gives Jacobs Bابتie a competitive edge.



*Premier Paper

- The environment is fundamental to the business
- Premier Paper has a portfolio of environmentally responsible products
- All suppliers are vetted for their environmental policies
- The first UK paper merchant to achieve ISO 14001

"ReMaDe's primary objective is to stimulate markets for products made from recycled materials, which in turn helps to divert waste resources away from landfill sites into new uses. Working with organisations such as Kent County Council and Jacobs Bابتie enable ReMaDe to raise the profile of green procurement and provide examples of best practice for other Kent organisations to follow."

Diana Lock, Programme Manager - ReMaDe Kent & Medway

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

REMADE'S ROLE IN THE PROJECT:

- Advised on the process
- Provided the tools to implement the project
- Raised awareness within Jacobs Bابتie (making presentations and attending meetings)
- Sourced/identified alternative recycled products
- Assisted with reviewing Jacobs Bابتie's procurement policy

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