

THE FOURFRONT GROUP'S CARBON FOOTPRINT STATEMENT

1. Introduction

Climate change is a major challenge. It is widely accepted that mankind is the single most influential factor through its high levels of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. One of the three main GHG emissions is CO₂. Nearly all human activity generates CO₂ and these emissions caused directly or indirectly by an individual, organisation, event or product are known as the 'carbon footprint'.

Calculating the baseline carbon footprint of the Fourfront Group in 2008/09 was the first step in a programme to reduce its emissions.

2. Baseline

We use the ISO14064 standard for calculation. This is based on DEFRA guidelines and the GHG Protocol produced by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD).

The key objectives for calculating the Fourfront Group's carbon footprint as follows:

To manage our footprint and reduce emissions

Calculating the Fourfront Group's carbon footprint is an effective tool for ongoing energy and environmental management. The initial baseline review quantified key emissions sources, including, gas, electricity and transport. Having quantified the emissions, steps were identified and prioritised, focusing on the areas of greatest savings potential.

Reporting findings accurately to customers and other third parties

- Disclosure to our clients.
- For Corporate Responsibility (CR) purposes.
- To work towards the requirements of ISO14001.
- To quantify emissions that we need to offset in order to become 'carbon negative'.

4. ISO 14064:2006 Part One

We have produced our carbon footprint by following part one of a three-part standard to define international best practice in the management, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas information and data.

Part one details the principles and requirements for the design, development and management & reporting of GHG emissions. This includes determining emissions boundaries, identifying company actions for improving emissions, internal reporting and quality management.

5. Methodology

We have measured 2009/10 carbon emissions from 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010 across four areas:

- Electricity consumption based on our energy bills.
- Gas consumption based on our energy bills.
- General office business travel, based on a total expensed value.
- Car miles calculated from staff expense claims, assuming a medium sized petrol car.

6. Results

The Fourfront Group's carbon footprint for 2009/10 is 187.65 tonnes (which equates to 2.44 tonnes per full time equivalent staff member). This breaks down as follows:

- Electricity & Heating: 84 tonnes of CO₂.
- Car Travel: 69 tonnes of CO₂.
- Other Travel (air, train, bus & taxi): 34.65 tonnes of CO₂.

This is a 4.75% decrease compared to 2008/09 (197 tonnes).

7. Responses

To minimise our environmental impact we have adopted a policy and action plan to reduce our organisational resource consumption, re-use and recycle where possible, procure sustainable products, compensate for our residual carbon footprint and enthuse all staff to be environmental champions.

8. Reduction Targets

By introducing the above changes, we hope that we will be able to reduce our *per capita* carbon footprint by 5% in 2010/11 from 2009/10 figures.

9. Future Audits

The audit is an ongoing process and results will be reported annually at the end of our financial year April 30th. The following actions will be taken:

10. Verification

[Alphacello Ltd](#) are independent Environmental Consultants who have verified the Fourfront Group's baseline carbon footprint calculation. For more information email info@alphacello.com.