

**BROWN &
CARROLL
LONDON**

About this report

This is Brown & Carroll's first environmental report. It spells out our commitment to achieve a leading environmental performance, reflects on our progress, and sets out our future aspirations.

Doing business in a sustainable way is something that we've long been passionate about. We were one of the very first to gain FSC accreditation in 2004, at a time when sourcing timber from sustainable forests was far from easy. And continuing to care for our environment is a real commitment that we take very seriously.

The move to our new factory at the end of 2010 has enabled us to step up to a new level of environmentally friendly technology. Our investment in a biomass boiler, for example, is now saving over 500 tonnes a year of wood off-cuts and dust from having to go to landfill.

Our ambition is to consistently achieve the best environmental performance in our industry. We aim to do this in three related ways:

- > by supporting our clients' own corporate and social responsibility goals
- > by running an operationally efficient, profitable and sustainable company
- > by doing all we can to minimise our impact on the environment

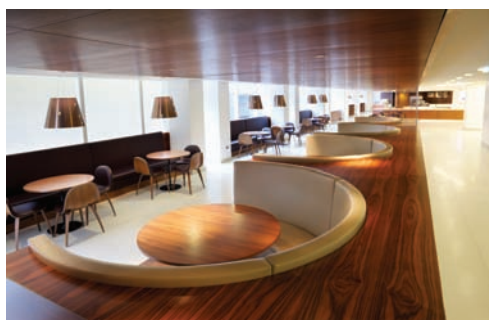
“ Our ambition is to consistently achieve the best environmental performance in our industry ”



Fitting out London's finest buildings

Our work involves transforming the spaces where others go to work - enabling architects to bring their designs to life, contractors to deliver business-critical projects on time and on budget, and clients to create a perfect business environment. We do it by producing some of the most beautiful, bespoke and practical joinery you'll find anywhere in the world.

Ours is a no fail business. We do whatever it takes to have all the resources and staff in place to turn drawings into manufactured units of the highest quality – and we're proud that we've never missed a handover date in nearly twenty years. But we also understand the importance of financial stability to our clients. So we work just as hard to maintain our sound financial position with a strong balance sheet and first class credit rating.



Our close-knit, award-winning team of loyal, highly skilled and motivated people are routinely asked for by name by our clients, time and time again. Many of our total workforce of around 150 full time people, including project managers and foremen, have been with us since we started in 1993. We also run active apprenticeship programmes to help develop new generations of tradesmen.

We're certified members of the following major schemes. They guarantee our commitment to supplying timber products that comply with rigorous, audited procedures:

- > The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
- > Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)
- > The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Scheme
- > The Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC) Scheme
- > The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Scheme USA

We're accredited and work to these quality standards through our integrated management system:

- > ISO 9001 - 2004
- > ISO 14001 (environment) - 2008
- > ISO 18001 (health and safety) - 2008

“We've been FSC accredited since 2004, when sourcing timber from sustainable forests was far from easy”

Review of environmental performance

The move to our new factory

Back in 2005, we started our search for a new consolidated site where we could create the best specialist joinery facility in the UK. We wanted a highly efficient manufacturing layout where everyone could work in the best possible surroundings and with the right amount of space. We knew that a traditional factory building would suit both our still largely traditional manufacturing and highly skilled workforce - and we found such a building at Honywood Road. Built in the 1960s as a coach works before becoming a printing facility, the ideal layout for our processes was clear to see. All that was needed was some imagination and a plan.

What followed was a complete refurbishment, as well as the addition of modern technology for our recycling, heating, lighting, IT, security and fire protection systems. We now believe we have the best of both worlds - bringing proven tradition into a state-of-the-art new home where the next generation of commercial fit outs are being designed and created.

Since relocating to Honywood Road in December 2010, we've been working to establish new monitoring, measurement and data collection routines. These are enabling us to create benchmarks against which we can set

targets for future incremental improvements in environmental performance and reductions in carbon footprint.

Energy – heat

In December 2010 we made a £300,000 investment in an on-site biomass boiler. All of our wood waste is now combusted in this boiler to generate hot water for our factory, welfare facilities, heat our spray booths and provide underfloor and blown air heating for our factory and offices. This investment alone has reduced our energy and running costs. It also reduces our reliance on natural gas and in turn reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

As we expand our operations in the future, it's likely that excess heat will be produced, particularly in the summer months. We're looking at options including providing heat to other local companies, converting it into air conditioning, and upgrading the boiler to generate electricity for the factory and electric vehicles.

“ More than 500 tonnes per year of wood off-cuts and dust are now generating heating and hot water”



Review of environmental performance

Energy – equipment and appliances

As well as transferring all of our machinery and equipment from our previous factory to our new site, we've installed new electrical appliances such as extraction fans, and a new bespoke spray booth which is heated by our biomass boiler.

We're putting in place metering and monitoring regimes to understand which appliances are the greatest users of electricity. As a result of this we plan to take further active steps to reduce consumption.

Energy – lighting

High quality lighting plays a critical part in ensuring the high quality and finish of our products, and an important factor in the choice of our new factory was the much improved natural lighting levels over the previous location. These are enhanced when necessary by our increasing use of supplementary low energy lighting which is automatically switched off as natural light levels reach an optimum level. We've also installed motion-sensitive PIR switches to lighting in our offices and toilets.

We will be metering our lighting consumption with an aim to reduce it significantly further in the future.

Waste

Since our factory move, we're sending less than 3% of our waste to landfill. We do this by managing all our waste streams separately through recycling and re-using. More than 500 tonnes per year of wood off-cuts which previously went to landfill are now combusted in our on-site biomass boiler to generate hot water and heating. All our print cartridges are recycled. Fluorescent tubes are returned to our supplier to be de-gassed. Paint and lacquer waste is managed responsibly using accredited waste management specialists.

The hazardous nature of paint and lacquer waste and emissions is reducing as suppliers use more innovative, water-based methods of production. We're committed to keeping abreast of new developments so we can advise on and offer different options including the very latest in low or no VOC paints and lacquers. This will include adopting water-based paint options as soon as the technology is proven, viable and available.

“We're now sending less than 3% waste to landfill”



Transport

Since many of our clients are in central London, our location in Basildon just thirty miles away means that the large majority of our journeys are short ones. Our modern fleet of vehicles, all Euro 4 diesel since 2007, generally travel full to client sites with multi drops wherever possible.

We are actively investigating responsibly sourced biofuel and the longer term potential for electric vehicles to reduce our carbon impact.

Timber and adhesives

All our timber is from accredited sustainable sources. 97% currently comes from FSC accredited suppliers, while 3% is PEFC accredited. We actively promote the use of low formaldehyde E1 grade MDF by default.

We're currently in the process of introducing low urea formaldehyde resin adhesive for hot pressed veneer panel fabrication.

Carbon emissions

We commissioned an independent assessment of the carbon emissions at our previous factory, and used accredited emissions offsetting services to become carbon neutral – a position we maintained for 3 years. Once our monitoring and measurement programmes at our new site have produced a new base of data we'll measure our carbon footprint again.

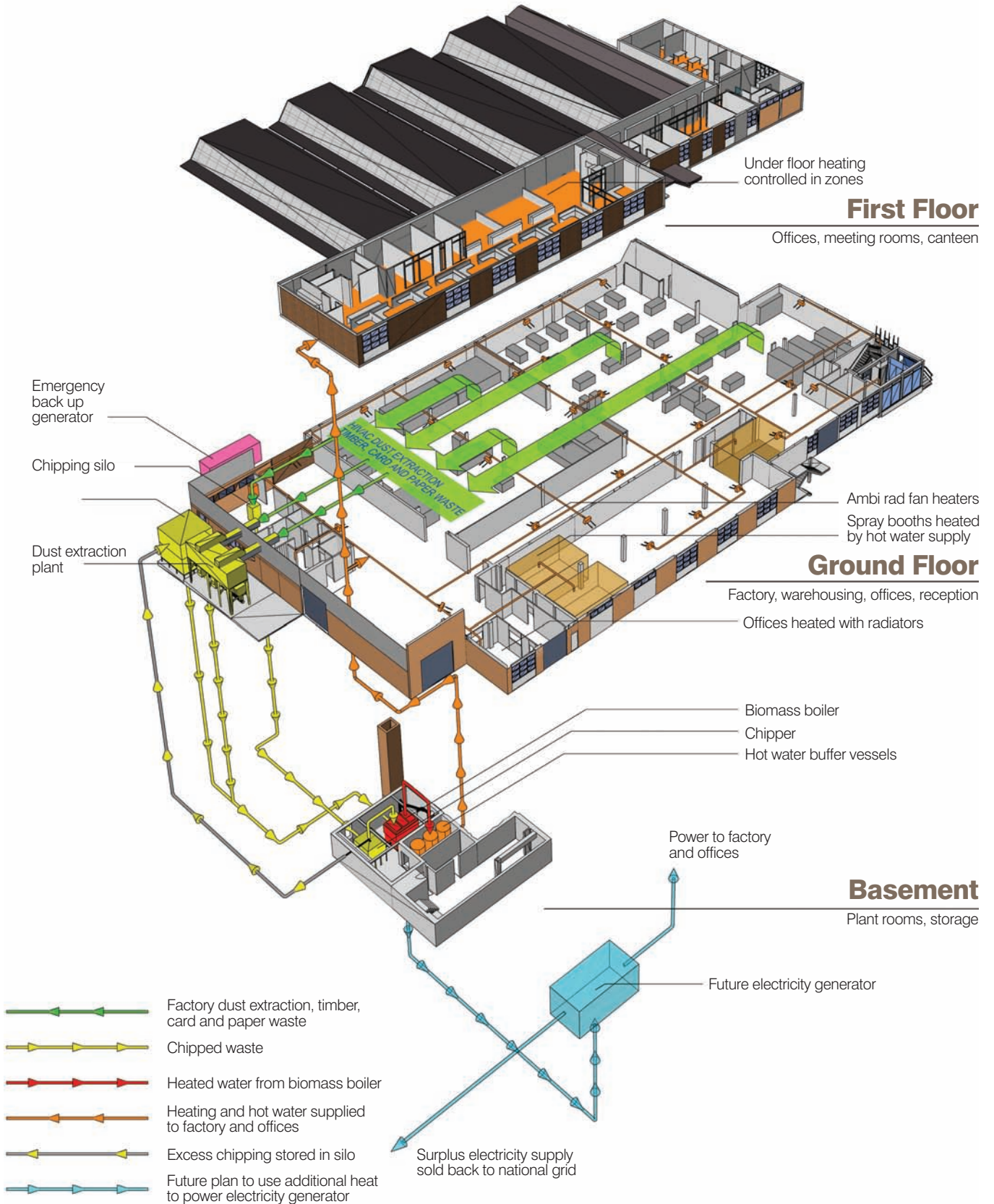
Our aim is to demonstrate as soon as possible that we're again carbon neutral, and then to improve our performance still further in order to become carbon negative. We also plan to produce an individual environmental statement and carbon footprint summary for each completed client project.

“ 100% of our timber is from accredited sustainable sources ”



Our partnership with the Evans Cycles “ride to work” scheme is enabling fifteen out of our 65 people at our Honywood Road site to cycle instead of driving.

Our biomass boiler



Our environmental aims

In order to fulfil our ambition of consistently achieving the best environmental performance in our industry, we've set ourselves these goals:

To complete the benchmarking in our new factory by March 2012

To set in place a new action plan for reducing our impacts by September 2011

To demonstrate a carbon neutral position by December 2011

To become carbon negative by March 2013

To work with our clients and suppliers to ensure environmental impact of the whole supply chain is minimised

“It’s very clear that Brown & Carroll are committed to sustaining their operation through robust environmental management, health and safety and quality systems. The new factory offers huge potential to secure further efficiencies in key areas such as energy and waste. These will make them even more competitive and will give clients even greater confidence in the sustainability of their products.”

Dr Simon Gerrard,
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