

## **Emissions must fall**

### **New body calls for 10% drop by 2015**

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The industry should be aiming to reduce 2006 carbon emissions levels by at least 10% by 2015, according to the Publishers' Green Network (PGN). This figure was originally agreed on by the PA/BA Environmental Action Group, which the newly formed PGN sits under; the latter is now looking to attain a consensus on this figure from its members, made up of representatives from all over the trade and at all levels.

The PGN met last week for the first time this year, with attendees representing 15 companies ranging from Random House to Earthwatch. It will continue to meet quarterly. Members agreed the importance of measuring their carbon footprints as a precursor to committing to emissions reductions, and to lobby their employers to commit to carbon audits. Key areas of concern were identified as follows: paper, energy reduction and carbon offsetting, waste management, suppliers, packaging and inks.

The PGN was set up last year by Ashley Lodge, HarperCollins (Chair); Toby Sawday, Alastair Sawday Publishing; Helen Coyle, Hachette Livre and Beka Cohen, National Portrait Gallery Publishing. It aims to complement the activities of the PA/BA EAG; while the latter will focus on concerns such as the high level of returns in the industry, and the carbon and energy efficiency of ebooks versus printed books (for example), the PGN's initiatives will include offering "grass root support" to publishers and the opportunity to share or source support.

The next meeting will be in April and will focus on waste management. PGN's website will be operational by then, and will aim to provide a resource for the whole industry via the publication of case studies.

For more information contact Ashley Lodge on 020 8307 4059

**Environmental initiatives will be taken into consideration for the Publisher of the Year and retail categories at the British Book Industry Awards in May.**

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