



## ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

Zenith International is a multi-disciplinary consultancy providing business and technical advice to the food and drinks industries in particular, but also to others. The majority of staff are office based, some making regular trips in the UK and overseas.

Zenith operates an Environmental Management System (EMS) to assure itself of its conformance with this stated Environmental Policy and to provide a framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives. The EMS was first certified to the international ISO 14001 standard in January 2008.

We recognise our business activities have direct and indirect environmental impacts and that we have a duty to manage these in a responsible manner. We are committed to continuous improvement to minimise our impacts on the environment. Compliance with all environmental legislation pertinent to our activities is a minimum requirement and an integral part of our policy. Our key areas for controlling environmental impact are:

**Individual responsibility** – Environmental protection and waste minimisation is the responsibility of every employee.

**Consultancy and fieldwork** – As groundwater, environmental, operations and commercial consultants, we routinely advise clients on efficient and sustainable use of water, energy and other raw materials with respect to their operations and the full life-cycle of their products, together with their responsibilities with regard to preventing pollution and compliance with all areas of environmental legislation. All sub-contractors are required to minimise their impact on the environment and to clean up and tidy any site on completion. For example, bio-degradable drilling fluids are specified where feasible and all hazardous materials are handled and disposed of appropriately. Zenith and our sub-contractors comply with all relevant environmental legislation in undertaking our work and are required to obtain appropriate consents or licences from the Environment Agency or other relevant bodies.

**Transport** – Use of non-car transport is encouraged, with most of our staff using alternatives such as walking, cycling and public transport for travelling to work. Public transport is encouraged for off-site travel where feasible and visitors are routinely made aware of public transport links. Where car transport is necessary, staff are encouraged to share and choose fuel-efficient vehicles. Where air travel is absolutely required, staff are encouraged to minimise these journeys by maximising the effectiveness of each.

**Energy use** – The use of energy for lighting and heating is regularly audited. We have a policy of switching off all lights and electronic equipment when not in use, and particularly at evenings and weekends – including computers, printers and photocopiers. All heating is thermostatically controlled and set to switch off at evenings and weekends.

**Communications/paper use** – The majority of non-telephone communication is via e-mail. All internal memos and messages are issued electronically. Incoming faxes are received electronically, and outgoing faxes are sent electronically where practical. Staff are encouraged to minimise printing off hard copies, and printing in duplex where possible. These policies reduce the use of paper and of post-related transport.

**Recycling** – All waste paper, old magazines and printer toner cartridges are sent for recycling. Metal cans, plastic bottles and used batteries are also collected for recycling.

**Suppliers** – Wherever possible supplies and materials are sourced locally to minimise transport impacts and support the local economy.

Zenith measures its carbon footprint and, following actions to reduce this to a minimum, offsets any remaining footprint through the Converging World carbon offset programme.

Zenith has been acknowledged by the UN as a signatory to the UN Global Compact initiative which includes a commitment to three key environmental principles: (i) to support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges (ii) to promote greater environmental responsibility and (iii) to encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

We readily accept our corporate commitments and continuously work to develop our responsibility in all environmental, social and community issues.

Richard Hall, Chairman, November 2008

