

**ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS PRODUCTS WINS
QUEENS AWARD FOR ENTERPRISE**

From two men in a garage to around 200 employees on two sites, London-based CSR (corporate social responsibility) business achieves £25 million turnover in a decade

London, 21 April 2004. Environmental Business Products Ltd (EBP), the world's leading environmental re-manufacturer of inkjet cartridges, has won a Queen's Award for Enterprise for International Trade. With headquarters in Park Royal, London, EBP also has recycling operations in Germany, France, Holland, Spain and a turnover of £25 million, employing around 200 staff. Today's award is for outstanding achievement in international trade, resulting in substantial overseas earnings, with growth and commercial success.

Pat Stead, managing director of Environmental Business Products Ltd, said: "Over the years we as a company have played a very significant part in both the legitimisation and growth of our industry and we are delighted that the Queen's Award gives us the opportunity to congratulate and highlight the amazing achievements of the management team and staff. We didn't need convincing that we dominated the commercial, technical and quality aspects of our chosen field and feel honoured the Queen's Award Office has given us the recognition for over a decade of hard work, building up the company."

Essentially a CSR (corporate social responsibility) business before its time, EBP created the market for re-using and recycling inkjet cartridges by developing innovative and ground-breaking technology to do so. They were the first to work with charities on printer cartridge collection programmes and to date have donated approximately £1m to schools and 15 humanitarian charities across Europe through these campaigns.

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Selling to all major high street retailers, such as Tesco, Ryman, WH Smith, Argos and Dixons, to name but a few, EBP recycles inkjets from thousands of organisations.

As an EBP customer, Clare Brine, Community Relations Manager of Dixons Group plc, says about their partnership with EBP: "Dixons Group is committed to utilising its resources in whatever way it can to reduce the impacts of modern living on the environment. We are proud to promote a scheme that supports our environmental objectives whilst simultaneously raising vital funds for our Group charities."

Each year 15,000 corporates and over 1,500,000 individuals give to charity and recycle as a result of the company's educational programmes and promotions, as well as local councils.

Jane Brewin, Chief Executive of Tommy's baby charity, enthused: "We're thrilled to have had the ongoing support from Environmental Business Products Ltd. over the past eight years and to date, the company has committed £420,000 towards Tommy's vital research into premature birth, miscarriage and stillbirth. The simplicity of the scheme and the funds they generate is fantastic - all it involves is people recycling their inkjet cartridges. In doing so, Environmental Business Products Ltd. commits essential funds to Tommy's - it couldn't be easier and their support is incredibly beneficial to our cause".

Environmental credentials

Such recycling benefits the environment by preventing the disposal of 300 tonnes of plastic each year and reducing energy consumption. Approximately 3.5 million inkjet cartridges this year have been diverted from landfill sites and recycled by EBP, saving on transport and disposal to landfill whilst obviating the need for new manufacture. Each new cartridge can require up to 6 pints of oil to make.

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Founder of National Recycling Week in 2003, EBP received support from its major customers and the charities with whom the company works on recycling initiatives. National Recycling Week 2004, is scheduled for 18-24 October 2004, with supporters British Glass, Corus, Valpak, Alcan, RECOUP, Paper Chain, Planet Ark, government body WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) and others.

Commenting on this major EBP initiative, Fiona Mason, Corporate Social Responsibility Director at Tesco, confirmed: "Tesco welcomed the introduction of EBP's National Recycling Week in 2003 to the UK. At Tesco we place a considerable amount of importance on being a responsible company and are continually looking at new and innovative ways to recycle materials in our own operations and to help make it easier for our customers to recycle more products. We hope that this week will highlight the importance and benefits of recycling to businesses and consumers across the UK".

In 2003, EBP implemented an environmental management system in accordance with ISO 14001 to ensure ethical and socially responsible standards in all its operations.

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