

Green procurement establishes industry targets

A [Jewson](#) product story

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Jewson, in collaboration with leading industry figures within the construction industry, has established industry-wide waste reduction targets during the second Green Procurement Group meeting.

The meeting, which was attended by manufacturers, contractors, and distributors, concluded with a commitment from all manufacturing members to help deliver greater transparency within the supply chain.

Key areas for action were referenced back to the Waste Strategy for England 2007 and [Sustainable Construction](#) Strategy documents, and focused on the implementation of sustainable products used in construction, a responsible approach to product sourcing and the reduction of waste streams directly attributable to the construction industry supply chain.

In a move that demonstrates the industry's commitment to reducing waste at all levels of the supply chain, members of the GPG have started to work towards the targets put forward during the debate, by agreeing to help Jewson and Saint-Gobain Building Distribution (SGBD) meet their own waste targets by 2012.

Targets include a reduction in packaging by 20 per cent, assurance that 50 per cent of all packaging materials will be produced from recycled materials, and a commitment that all packaging on products purchased by SGBD will be 100 per cent recyclable.

Additional industry-wide targets discussed included a 10 per cent reduction in lorry miles generated during delivery from manufacturer to building site and how products delivered to [construction sites](#) in the UK are to have auditable stewardship schemes.

Members' views will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The Group, which is chaired by Steve Millward, Jewson's Sustainability and Quality Director, now comprises major companies from the building industry supply chain including contractors, manufacturers and wholesale distributors.

Major contractors including Morgan Sindall, Shepherd Construction, Sisk and Mansell Construction Services Limited attended the second meeting, with leading

industry suppliers Lafarge, Hanson, Tarmac and British [Plaster](#) Board also committing to developing waste reduction solutions.

As Steve Millward comments: "The second Green Procurement Group meeting established targets that, if agreed by the members during the next meeting, will result in a major reduction of waste produced within one of the most 'waste-heavy' industries".

"The fact that the group now includes contractors demonstrates that we are now working towards representing the entire supply chain, which is crucial if we are going to realise our goals and produce tangible industry-wide results".

The GPG, which was formed following a Jewson-led forum with major suppliers that explored ways to reduce the industry's carbon footprint, also includes Waste Resource Action Programme, ITWCP, Bipoly, Henderson Hardware, Fischer Fixings, Visqueen [Building Products](#), Hepworth Building Products, Henderson, and ICI.