

Gammon Benefiting from Clean Air Charter Certification

《清新空氣約章》審核認證使金門獲益不淺

Construction giant Gammon was recently awarded Clean Air Charter Certification. *The Bulletin* spoke with Shirlee Algire, Sustainability and CSR Manager for the company, on the benefits of passing the certification process

建築界巨頭金門最近獲頒《清新空氣約章》認證。本刊訪問了該公司的集團持續發展及企業社會責任經理郝雪麗，討論通過有關認證過程的得益。

SA: On the direct benefits, most of our emissions come from energy usage. Pushing ourselves to higher levels of energy awareness and efficiency has a direct bottom line benefit via our energy bills. A good example is energy savings in our site offices.

Better understanding of our air quality impact enables us to make better decisions. For instance, focus on emissions and the VOCs from materials and chemicals helps us to address the health of our front-line workers. For example, Gammon was very supportive of switching to ultra-low sulphur diesel and we have worked with suppliers to reduce VOCs in paints and chemicals that we use. Our workers are the first receivers of emissions and we have a duty of care to communicate, mitigate and eliminate risks they face on the job. We do this by choosing better products, implementing controls and engaging with the workforce day to day.

Indirect benefits, I would say include the responsiveness from our supply chain to change or deliver products to our local market, and making less

polluting products and services – such as paints we use for steel fabrication, water-based chemicals and fuels. We also see benefits from evaluating the efficiency of our plant and equipment, from using GPS to route trucks to optimizing our maintenance programs. Lastly, being recognized as a company that follows through on our commitments benefits the Gammon brand and our competitive position.

B: *What advice would you give to other companies thinking about undergoing this process that might help them along the way?*

SA: First, understand and measure your air pollution impact. Then use the certification process to reinforce your company's mechanisms to explore alternatives to business-as-usual and take action. Finally, and most importantly, undertake the effort with heartfelt commitment to the Charter and the corporate social responsibility issues it addresses by engaging with your staff and business partners so benefits are understood and shared by all. 🌸

Bulletin: *Why did Gammon feel it important to complete the Clean Air Charter Certification process?*

Shirlee Algire: First, completing certification is a matter of following-up after signing the Charter. The certification process was an opportunity to evaluate and validate our processes and systems are able to meet Charter commitments.

Second, by going through the certification process we are showing that we are committed to address air pollution problems and responsibly manage the impacts of our operations. Air quality is one of the most pressing issues in Hong Kong and we have a responsibility to do as much as practicable to contribute to solutions. It is also our responsibility as a leading business in Hong Kong to promote, encourage and engage with the wider community to address air quality issues. Certification gives us added credibility and leverage to do that.

B: *What direct and indirect benefits have the process produced?*

Training Luncheon Roundtable Luncheon Seminar
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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>S UpClose with John Cleese</p> <p>F "Meet the Under Secretaries" Town Hall Forum Series: Kenneth Chen, JP, Under Secretary for Education</p> <p>T Introduction to Wine Tasting</p> <p>4</p>	 <p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>L AIG and The Economy – The Way Forward. Edward Liddy, Chairman & CEO, AIG</p> <p>11</p>	<p>S Breakfast Seminar: Corporate Outlook in Times of Financial Distress</p> <p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>St HKGCC Study Mission to Taipei</p> <p>R Navigating into Uncharted Waters: China's New Challenges for 2009</p> <p>18</p>	<p>C Economic Policy Committee Meeting</p> <p>19</p>	
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	

Merry Christmas

問：為何金門認為必須完成《清新空氣約章》的認證過程？



答：首先，完成認證是簽署約章的後續工作。認證過程讓我們有機會評估及確認公司的工作流程和系統能夠履行約章承諾。

第二，我們可以在認證過程中，顯示金門致力解決空氣污染問題的決心，並會認真處理公司業務所帶來的影響。改善空氣質素是本港最迫切的問題之一，我們有責任為此盡一分力。作為香港的領先企業，我們也有責任推廣、鼓勵及與社會大眾共同參與改善空氣質素的議題。有關認證讓我們在實踐時更具可信性和影響力。

問：認證過程帶來了甚麼直接及間接得益？

答：直接得益方面，由於我們大部分排放均來自能源消耗，因此當我們提高了節能意識和效率，公司所繳交的能源費用自然減少，這就是最直接和基本的得益。其中一個成功例子是我們工地辦事處的能源消耗量得以減少。

如果能更深入了解我們對空氣質素所造成的影響，便可作出更明智的決策。舉例說，注意廢氣排放及物料和化學物所含的揮發性有機化合物，有助我們改善前線員工的健康。例如，金門對於轉用超低硫柴油深表支持，我們也與供應商攜手合作，減少我們的油漆和化學物所含的揮發性有機化合物。我們的員工是廢氣排放首當其衝的受害者，公司有義務關懷他們，並且了解、減少及消除他們工作上所面對的風險。要做到這點，我們要選用更優質的產品、實施管制，以及每天與僱員通力合作。

至於間接得益，我們的供應鏈也作出響應，向本地市場輸入經改良的產品，提供更環保的產品及服務，例如我們用在鋼鐵裝配的油漆、水性化學物及燃料等。我們也受惠於廠房和設備效率的評估，並引入了全球定位系統（GPS）安排貨車路線，以及改善我們的維修工程。最後，金門獲評為一家信守承諾的企業，提升了公司的品牌和競爭地位。

問：對於其他企業正考慮參與這個有助業務發展的認證過程，你有何意見？

答：首先，你要了解及評估貴公司對空氣污染所造成的影響，然後利用認證過程改善公司機制，發掘其他方案並採取行動。最後，也是最重要的一點，就是與你的員工和商業夥伴一起全力實踐約章及企業社會責任，讓各方都明白和分享到認證過程所帶來的益處。✿

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