

## **Ibstock Environmental Report 2003**

*Produced in accordance with the BiE 10 parameters of environmental engagement - a model for environmental reporting along Government guidelines for FTSE 350 businesses.*



**Ibstock Brick Ltd was recently awarded the prestigious 2004 Building Magazine Sustainability Award for its outstanding efforts in sustainability.**

**Ibstock have become the first supplier to win this award since its creation.**

This is the fifth in the series of Annual Environmental Reports by Ibstock Brick Ltd. It builds upon the comprehensive information given in the fourth annual report (2002), wherever possible data are compared with previous years to demonstrate progress on environmental matters. Details of our sustainability policy are given in an addendum to the 2002 environment report which is available on the Ibstock website at [www.ibstock.co.uk](http://www.ibstock.co.uk)

During 2003 a very great deal of work was done to prepare ourselves for the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) Regulations which required comprehensive applications for all 24 Ibstock sites to be lodged with the appropriate local authority between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004. It is this tremendous workload which has delayed the production of this report; we estimate over one man year equivalent of work went into completing the applications on time.

### ***Environmental Management Systems***

All Ibstock Brick Ltd manufacturing sites are registered to ISO 14001 by BSI.

- During 2003 BSI conducted a risk analysis of the 24 registered sites and concluded that a reduction in the number of visits required by them was possible due to the excellent standards that are maintained.
- We continue to use the Company Intranet site for publication of documentation in order to reduce the use of resources such as paper and the handling / transportation involved with postage.

### ***Board Member with responsibility***

The Technical Director has executive responsibility for environmental matters.

The Environmental Continuous Improvement Working Group (ECIWG) met twice in 2003 to set and review strategic company objectives. It is chaired by the Company Technical Systems Manager and has three members of the Ibstock Brick Ltd Board, the Production and Technical Directors together with the Company Secretary, as attendees. Also present is a representative of the 24 factory managers, process improvement engineering and others as required.

### ***Corporate Environmental Policy***

- This has been issued within Issue 4 of the Ibstock Group Manual.
- The policy is freely available for downloading on Company Internet site. [[www.Ibstock.co.uk](http://www.Ibstock.co.uk)] Choose Company menu from the home page, then environmental issues.
- It is also contained within the publication "Ibstock and the Environment", which is available by contacting Ibstock it is also available as a download on the Company Internet site.

Our Environmental Policy is set out below.

*Ibstock Brick Ltd is a UK based manufacturer of clay bricks and associated walling components for supply to the construction market. The principle focus for the business is in housing and commercial buildings together with the industrial and architectural sectors.*

*In the conduct of its operations Ibstock Brick Ltd is committed to continuous improvement in environmental performance. It will seek to prevent pollution of the environment by the adoption of processes, practices, materials and control mechanisms which maximise the efficient use of resources. It will seek to reduce emissions to the lowest level consistent with the Industry best practice.*

*Ibstock Brick Ltd will:*

*As a minimum comply with the requirements of all relevant legislation.*

*Regularly review and, where necessary, update its management policies and activities in the light of new information concerning the impact of its business on the environment, employees or neighbours.*

*Manage efficiently the consumption of energy and materials and the generation of waste in all its operations.*

*Keep the local public informed of any major new projects which we intend undertaking.*

*Provide relevant training for employees to assist them in better understanding how they and our company can achieve the goal of improving our environmental performance.*

### ***Review of Corporate Environmental Targets for 2003***

A review of the 2003 targets derived from the objectives set during 2002 is given below. As the EMS becomes more mature and targets become more demanding it is proving difficult to achieve all targets fully within the timescale initially set:

- Prepare all 24 manufacturing sites for PPC Regulations – applications for permits to be submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.  
**Achieved:** All sites completed on time and all applications confirmed as “duly made” by local authorities.  
***This major work item has slowed progress on all other environmental targets for 2003.***
- Review all Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) plant emitting containing silica containing dust in preparation for reclassification of Silica dust.  
**Achieved:** Full data are available and personal dust levels inside the factories are known.
- Establish independent energy targets for each manufacturing site in addition to overall company target expressed as SEC per saleable tonne.  
**Achieved:** Targets are used to demonstrate compliance with Climate Change requirements.
- Conclude investigation into alternative types of kiln exhaust gas scrubbers eg “wet” scrubbing.  
**Achieved:** A small scale trial unit has showed several severe problems with wet scrubbing. Another CRH company have installed a full size unit and experienced problems which took almost 12 months to resolve. The unit is now operating at design capacity and this is to be investigated in 2004.
- Work towards 40% of all process water used by Ibstock to be recovered water / rainwater.  
**Almost achieved:** The process water recycled from quarry surface water was 36.6% of the total water demand. If abstracted water is included the total increases to 39.4%. Three sites were identified for additional rainwater recovery in 2003. One of these was severely delayed by the need to obtain planning permission for a power cable to cross a bridleway, permission was received late in 2003 and water connection was established in early 2004. A second site had concerns about the recovered water quality, these concerns were fully investigated and proven to be of very low risk, plans are now in hand to recover water in 2004. The third site was working on a major site project and a full scheme is required to be designed and commissioned, this may take place in late 2004.
- Review effectiveness of teleconferencing by phone to reduce journeys undertaken by staff.  
**Partially achieved:** Costs for a system were deemed to be excessive. Investigations with Inside UK Enterprise gave no companies who considered such technology was an advantage, several reported back that such meetings were inferior to “face to face” meetings. Measures are currently in hand for a simpler system initially within Technical Department only.
- Conduct survey into feasibility of green travel plans for staff to travel to work and car sharing etc.  
**Partially achieved:** Investigations revealed very limited enthusiasm for such schemes, employees are reluctant to have any constraints placed on their own movements.

- Establish plans for 3 ~ 0.5 MW wind turbines at selected locations.  
**Not achieved:** Investigations showed “adequate” wind generating capacity was available at 3 sites, however, the payback on capital investment was over 8 years. Strong objections to initial planning enquiries were received from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) for one of the sites. Decisions have been delayed pending the market price for electricity and a clearer understanding of future Government strategy on planning and renewable energy sources.  
***The focus of attention within Ibstock has now switched to Landfill gas (LFG) for electricity generation which is considerably more cost effective and subject to less planning constraints.***
- Review possibility of using Ibstock property to establish a wind farm to generate renewable electricity.  
**Not achieved:** As in the above, low returns on capital investment and planning issues have delayed any decision on this item.
- Implement Environment Focused Supplier Scheme.  
**Not achieved:** The tremendous workload required by PPC (over one man year equivalent of work) has prevented this item from being even started in 2003. It now moves forward into 2004 for completion, this is dependent on the number of enquiries for further information on PPC applications by local authorities.

### ***2004 Corporate Environmental Objectives***

Against a background of an increasingly wider scope of environmental objectives (some of which are not related to manufacturing over which the company has greater control) it was decided by the environmental continuous improvement group in 2003 to set fewer objectives that are challenging yet achievable within a short time frame such as 12 months.

1. Exploit to the fullest extent **all** alternative energy sources.
2. Continue to reduce use of mains water by increasing recycling, recovery of rainwater and abstracted well water.
3. Produce a “green travel plan” and implement a videoconferencing trial.
4. Produce benchmarked data on training and competence for the company.
5. Produce an “overall Ibstock” ecological site management plan and assign responsibilities.
6. Implement environment focused supplier scheme for top 10 suppliers by value.

### ***Review of Discharges into the Environment***

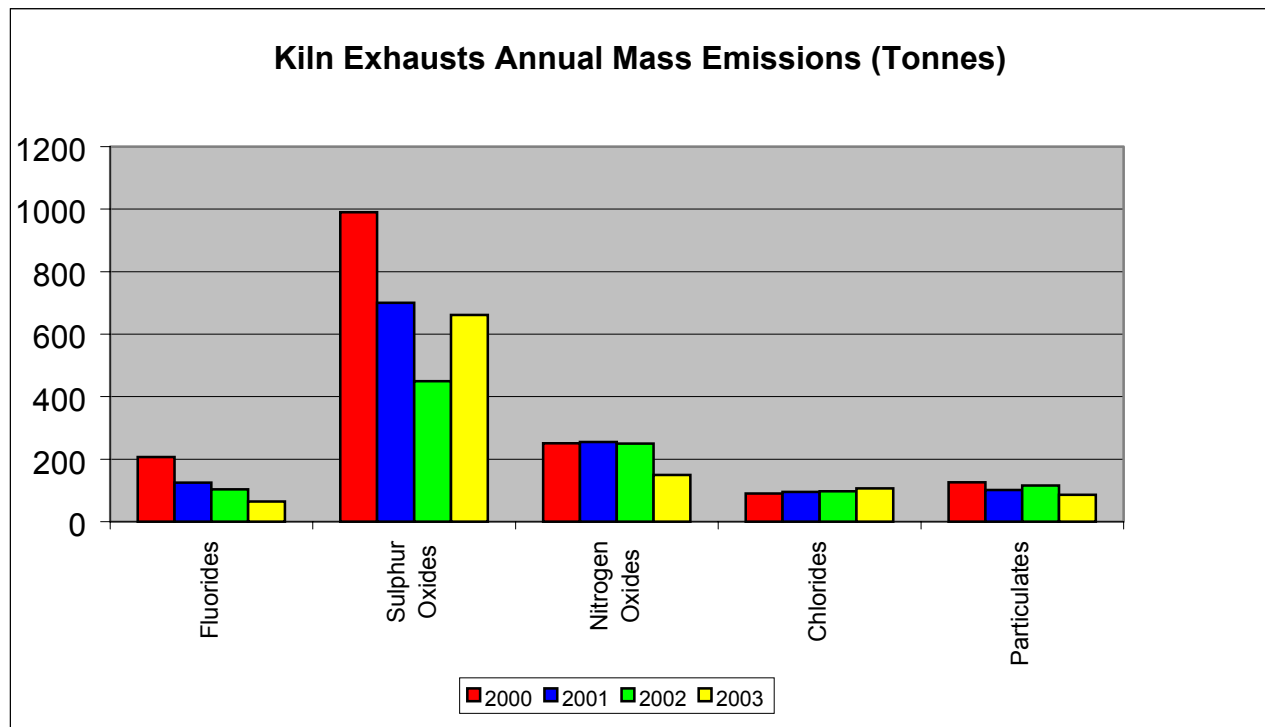
Actual emissions to environmental media have been used wherever possible, where accurate data are not available best estimates have been used, all are represented below. Figures are cumulative for all operational clay brick factories.

***Emissions to air*** (main sources kiln exhausts, does not include emissions due to transportation)  
[all figures are cumulative for all 24 clay brick manufacturing sites]

#### **Mass emission - substances in kiln exhaust stream**

**(all figures tonnes /annum)**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Fluorides (expressed as Hydrogen Fluoride)	64	103	125	207
Oxides of Sulphur (expressed as SO <sub>2</sub> )	661	450	700	990
Oxides of Nitrogen (expressed as NO)	150	250	255	251
Chlorides (expressed as Hydrogen Chloride)	106	97	95	90
Particulate matter	86	116	101	126



*Figures for Carbon Dioxide are separately reported in the next section dealing with energy.*

Fluorides are shown to have reduced slightly and the company mass emission is stabilising at approximately 100 tonnes per annum or less, although the exact figure will be ultimately dependent on product mix and the actual percent kiln utilisation. In 2003 we had a number of instances where kilns were out of action for several weeks whilst extensive repairs were carried out.

At this time we cannot account for the observed increase in Sulphur Oxides other than changes in product mix. Other emissions appear to be relatively stable.

**Average Specific Energy Consumption (SEC) as defined by Climate Change Agreement criteria:**

This is defined as the number of kWh (kilowatt hrs) of metered solid, liquid and gaseous applied fuels, together with electrical energy, per net saleable tonne of fired output.

In consultations with DEFRA our SEC baseline figure was amended in early 2002 to 897.7 kWh / tonne (expressed as primary energy) using calendar year 2000 actual consumption figures.

Based on primary energy consumed our actual figure in 2003 was 895 kWh / tonne.

During 2003 we had a number of substantial disruptions to production at a number of our factories. The additional energy requirement to slow down and then bring a kiln “up to speed” is considerable. The energy / tonne is significantly higher than it would have been if production had been continuous. Since these figures have been compiled a considerable (beneficial) decrease in SEC for the early part of 2004 has been recorded

Carbon Dioxide CO<sub>2</sub> (*from combustion of fuels and electricity generation*) is a major source of Global warming. In 2003 we estimate that the equivalent of some 357,150 tonnes/annum of Carbon Dioxide was released by our activities as according to this breakdown. (NB electricity is primary energy including transportation loss):

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>
Tonnes from the combustion of Natural Gas.	291,777	284,629	290,950
Tonnes from the generation and transportation of electricity	54,667	54,697	55,717
Tonnes from the combustion of Liquefied Petroleum Gases.	5,375	5,202	5,500
Tonnes from the combustion of Coke used in clamp firing.	5,330	5,084	4,941
<b>Total Tonnes Carbon Dioxide</b>	<b>357,150</b>	<b>349,612</b>	<b>357,108</b>

Carbon Dioxide emissions in 2003 are higher than 2002 and on a par with 2001 due to various production changes. Of these a change to soft mud production at one factory gave rise to a substantial increase in carbon dioxide as this type of manufacture (requested by customers) consumes more energy. During 2004 we will have marked improved efficiency production (with commensurate energy savings) on line at two more factories.

The most promising means of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is from electricity generation using renewable sources where the savings will include transmission losses (some 2/3rds of generated power). At the time of writing this report we are in the final stages (at last) of generating electricity from landfill gas (LFG) at Dorket Head.



Generator sets installed adjacent to Dorket Head.

During 2003 a Honda IMA car was used for a trial period to establish whether it could be suitable for certain types of company car driver to obtain fuel savings. This uses a combination of a petrol engine and re-chargeable batteries. Approximately 60 miles per gallon of petrol was obtained on some journeys. Evaluation of this type of vehicle is on-going.



***Discharges to watercourses***

The intermittent nature of the volume and concentration of very low levels of suspended solids in water at consented discharge points to controlled waters continues to make assessment of quantities discharged very difficult, these figures are still not available at the time of publication. Discharges to sewer are similarly not included at this point in time, however, no "Red List" substances are discharged at any Ibstock clay brick site.

Via the new PPC permit regime it is anticipated that we shall be requested to sample and report water discharges on a more frequent basis. Discussions are underway to ensure that a matrix of water discharges is included in our internal reporting system such that we may at least attempt to account for these in a more accurate manner in future.

Regrettably in 2003 Ibstock was prosecuted for discharges to a tributary of the River Tyne in North Eastern England. This was the first prosecution in over 12 years and the first since the introduction of the EMS. Two instances occurred on the same site (Throckley) within a short period of time, further details are available in the section "Environmental Stewardship".

Both instances had mitigating circumstances, however, the fact remains that neither should have occurred and a visual check at the point of final discharge from the site would have confirmed that discharges were contaminated. The use of specialised materials stored on site would have prevented, or at the very least minimised, the contamination leaving the site. Procedures have been tightened throughout the company and another check of all oil storage facilities has been conducted and concluded.

***Disposals to landfill etc*** all figures in Tonnes / annum (best estimate figures)

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Inert (hardcore) <i>this is sold as by-product.</i>	54,677	50,870	8,930	12,000
Non-hazardous	2,980	5,018	3,135	5,000
Hazardous	271	321	201	25 ^

**Note:** It is now accepted that the figure declared for 2000 (25 tonnes) was underestimated.

More accurate reporting at sites as ISO 14001 has been implemented is the reason behind the apparent increase in hazardous waste disposed to landfill (2000 – 2002). It is reassuring to see this now decrease in 2003. The increase in non hazardous waste disposed 2001 – 2002 reflected operations to achieve ISO 14001 status, the figure for 2003 has reduced significantly (as expected) as waste minimisation procedures become more effective.

The increase in hardcore is due to changes in sales policy regarding the lowest quality grades of product at some sites (where a decision has been taken to take these out of the supply chain). An investigation into uses for crushed hardcore has yielded very little enthusiasm from potential third parties who have access to the ultimate customers.

**Recycling of materials / resources** (estimated figures)

		<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>
Water	<b>(M<sup>3</sup> / annum)</b>	121,584	84,500*	68,800*	N/A
Metals	<b>(Tonnes / annum)</b>				
(in addition to VALPAK obligation quantity)		1,404	1,500	1,240	625
Oils	<b>(litres / annum)</b>	99,500	44,950	6,000	5,600
(various)					
Wood	<b>(Tonnes / annum)</b>				
(in addition to VALPAK obligation quantity)		290	est. 200	200	[not available]

\* estimated figure based on known process water demand and metered usage.

The recycling of recovered rainwater into the process is an encouraging trend, this now represents some 36.7 % of the total water used throughout Ibstock Brick Ltd. Further rainwater recovery schemes are in hand and this total will increase during 2004 to improve the target beyond 40%.

We are also extremely pleased with the continuing increase in the recycling of oils in 2003.

**Charitable recycling activities.**

The toner cartridge recycling scheme with Actionaid raised £ 1,058 in 2003 for Third World projects, this scheme is operated entirely by one of the Technical Department staff in her own time.



Actionaid sponsors educational projects and fresh water supplies in the Third World and we are delighted to be involved in such projects.

### ***Internal Environmental Audit***

An internal Environmental Audit has been conducted at every manufacturing Ibstock site.

Shown below are the 2003 audit results against 2002 audit results divided into 4 key areas:  
 Environmental Management System (includes controls, awareness and training)  
 Emissions & Discharges (into all three environmental media air, water, land)  
 Waste Management (includes housekeeping, waste minimisation and recycling)  
 Storage (bulk and small quantities).

Scoring of each of the 4 key areas was from 1-5.

1 represents a totally unacceptable performance which requires immediate priority attention.

3 represents an acceptable level of performance (scores less than 3 are unacceptable).

5 represents a new standard of industry best practice.

The colour of the "change boxes" shows the movement in scores from 2002 to 2003. Green coloured boxes show positive improvements, yellow boxes show no change and red boxes show a deteriorated performance. Changes no greater than 0.3 either way are shown yellow (no change) to allow for rounding in calculations and summations which may be erroneous.

<i>Factory</i>	<i>EMS</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Emissions / Discharges</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Waste Management</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Storage</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Score (Max 20)</i>	<i>Overall Change</i>
Aldridge	4	0	3.7	0.3	3	0.5	3	1	13.7	1.8
Ashdown	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Atlas	4	0	4	0	4	0.5	4	0	16.0	0.5
Birtley	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Cattybrook	4	0	3.7	0.3	4	0.5	3	0	14.7	0.2
Chailey	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Chesterton	4	0	3.7	0.1	3.5	0.5	4	0	15.2	0.6
Dorset Head	4.7	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.7	0
Ellistown	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Funton	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Laybrook	4	0	4	0.4	4	0	4	1	16.0	1.4
Leicester	4	0	5	0	4	0	4	0	17.0	0
Lodge Lane	4	0	4	0	3.5	0	3	0	14.5	0
Nostell	4	0	4	0	4	0.5	4	0	16.0	0.5
Parkhouse	4	0.7	3.7	0.1	4	0	4	1	15.7	1.8
Pinhoe	4	0	3.6	0.3	4	0	4	0	15.6	0.3
Ravenhead	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Roughdales	4	0	4	0.4	4	0.5	4	0	16.0	0.9
South Holmwood	4	0	4	0.4	4	0	4	0	16.0	0.4
Stourbridge	4	0	3.6	0	4	0	4	0	15.6	0
Swanage	4	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	16.0	0
Tannochside	4.3	0	4	0	4.5	0	4	0	16.8	0
Throckley	4	0	3.6	0.4	4	0	4	0	15.6	0.4
West Hoathly	4	0	4	0.4	4	0	4	0	16.0	0.4

Overall scores lower than 15.0 shown in black typeface.

In 2003 21 of the 24 brick making sites recorded an audit score greater than 15 which is over 87 % a magnificent performance and an improvement on the previous year.  
 No sites recorded an overall score (over the 4 key areas) of less than 13.5.

### ***Environment focused supplier scheme***

No progress was recorded on this issue during 2003 due to the heavy workload resulting from the PPC regulatory regime and the application process for our 24 brick making sites required by the regulations. This item had been delayed before and is now high priority for 2004.

### ***Employee environment programme***

This year we have completed the environmental awareness training for every new Ibstock employee. Every contractor appointed to carry out work has to accept the Company Contractors rules which contains a briefing on environmental requirements.

Continuous improvement at site level continues to be structured around the local Health and Safety meetings where environmental issues are conveniently combined with safety issues. In addition the environmental objectives of every manufacturing site are reviewed at the Annual Review Meeting and company objectives are set and reviewed at the Environmental Continuous Improvement Working Group.

During 2003 a total of £ 547,000 was spent that can be clearly identified as “minor” environmental improvements around the company. There is a substantial investment programme in new technology throughout the company (at least £ 8 million in 2003) this brings many environmental benefits, however, it is not possible to isolate the percentage of this investment which is purely for environmental reasons.

Our most recent assessment of environmental operating costs is that £ 524,000 is spent per annum, this includes equipment, labour and external audit and certification costs of £ 310,000.

### ***Environmental Stewardship***

Despite the best endeavours of all employees of Ibstock situations have arisen from time to time during 2003. Detailed below is a list of such situations, these are reported as received. Brief details of all corrective actions are given, those shown highlighted in **Red Text** have been specifically designed to prevent recurrence.

Ibstock have been subject to a prosecution this year – the first occasion for over 10 years. This was due to two separate instances at the same site for pollution of a minor tributary of a minor tributary of the river Tyne. One of these instances involved suspended solids entering the site drains from the tyres of delivery vehicles, the other occurred when a diesel spill entered a previously unknown drain (via a covered over manhole) which was not on the drains map. Although the diesel spill itself was contained on site and properly dealt with we were unaware at the time that some of this diesel had entered the drainage system and subsequently polluted a watercourse.

**We are ensuring that this experience will be used to a constructive end and we have embarked upon a second phase of drain mapping by external consultants at all sites such that we are aware of all potential entry points into site drains under both normal and abnormal conditions.**

During 2003 Ibstock Brick Ltd received a total of 15 environmental complaints from all sources eg Ibstock employees, neighbours and regulators. This compares with 23 received in 2001 and 15 in 2002. Of these 15 complaints 5 (33 %) were not found to be attributable to Ibstock activities eg unspecified noise sources.

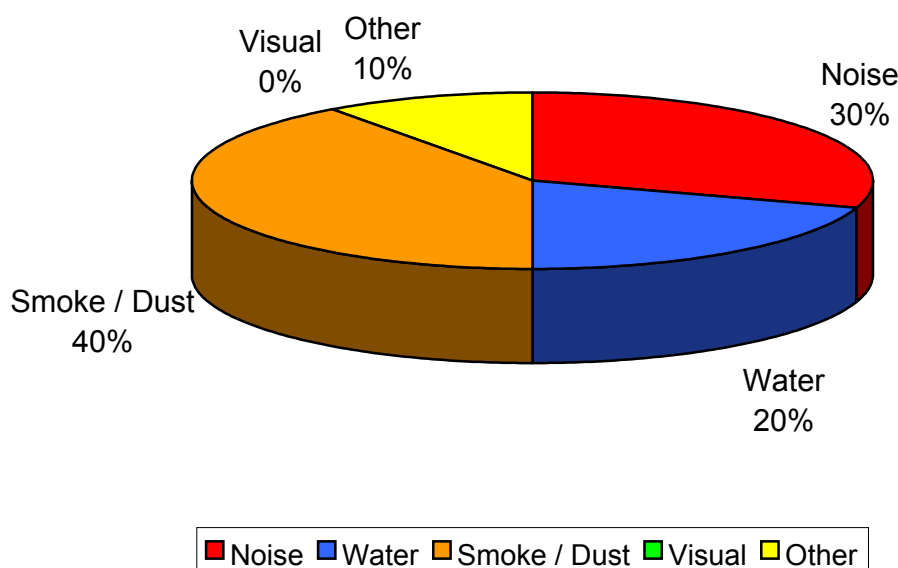
Of the remaining 10 complaints attributable to Ibstock activities:

- 3 complaints concerned noise, an increase from 2 received in 2002
- 3 complaints concerned dust, possibly an indication of the drier weather in 2003.
- 2 complaints concerned contamination of watercourses, this compares to 6 in 2001 and 3 in 2002. Unfortunately these were both major incidents and at the same site (Throckley) – see text above for further details.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Date (2003)</i>	<i>Nature of Complaint</i>	<i>Corrective Action</i>
Ravenhead (Huncoat Quarry)	January	Noise from scrambling motorbikes.	Site access restricted using boulders and earth mounds. Access route used includes a Bridleway, cannot block completely.
Stourbridge	January	Mud on road	Only very small amount of material involved. Roadsweeper had been booked to keep roadways clean during heavy rain but had not arrived on time.
Throckley	February	Suspended solids in surface water discharge exceeded.	Construction of additional ramps to contain water within clay storage area, water recycling system to be improved. Subsequently EA brought prosecution, fined £ 5,000 for first count (see below).
Throckley	February	Diesel contamination of water discharge.	See notes in text above. Entire site drainage plan re-mapped and to be improved to segregate surface run-off from other water sources. EA brought prosecution, in combination with previous incident, fined £ 10,000.
Ellistown	March	Dust	None other than to monitor in future. No obvious source available at time complaint was received at works.
Ravenhead	March	Noise Truant schoolchildren gained access to closed factory area.	Police informed and truants returned to school. Damaged fences repaired at Ibstock's cost.
Chesterton	April	Dust	Low stock levels had exposed unsurfaced areas within factory premises. Delivery vehicles had used these areas to bypass speed ramps in surfaced areas, resulting in break up of ground and dust creation. Brick packs placed in unsurfaced areas to ensure vehicles must use speed ramps and surfaced areas etc.

West Hoathly	April	Dust	Closure of coking plant had forced site to stockpile abnormal quantity of colourant material. Strong wind following 5 weeks without any significant rainfall carried dust off site. <b>Netting replaced or reinforced to capture all fine materials.</b>
Ravenhead	April	Noise (6.30 am) in closed works area.	Source unknown, no access by Ibstock before 08.00 am on same day.
Ashdown	June	Noise (unspecified source or location)	Contractors vehicles may have been at fault. Contractors requested to repair tailgate dampers on dumper trucks – removed from service immediately.
Ravenhead	July	Noise (6.30 am) in closed works area.	Source unknown, no access by Ibstock before 08.00 am and contractors before 07.00 am on same day. Contractors working some distance away.
Nostell	July	Acidic dust, alleged damage to paintwork on a parked car.	Some dust was emitted following repairs to kiln ducting. A few cars had dust on them, all except 1 car washed away without any problem.
South Holmwood	August	Noise from closed works area on a Sunday morning.	Old stock was being scrapped and placed into skips. <b>Apology given to resident concerned, instructions issued not to be repeated.</b>
Leicester	October	Noise in early morning. (reversing beepers)	Contractors vehicles on site constructing stream diversion were fitted with reversing beepers. External consultants report found no excessive noise from Ibstock premises.
South Holmwood	December	Noise during night.	Maintenance team had been working overnight. <b>Working practices changed such that only breakdowns to be worked on after 10.00 pm. All external doors to be closed after 08.00 pm.</b>

### Complaints Due to Istock Activities 2003



During 2003 Istock Brick Ltd had a total of 13 totally contained spillage incidents involving fuels or chemicals all of which were promptly dealt with on site. In each case the integrity of the drainage system was maintained and no pollution left site to any watercourse or sewer. A high number of these were due to burst hydraulic hoses on mobile plant, a trend which we shall monitor in future.

In terms of restoration of sites and related matters:

- During 2003 a total of over 9,200 trees were planted at Istock sites. This brings the total planted since 1999 (the year of the first environmental report) to over 44,100 trees and shrubs. ***additionally over 10,000 Daffodil bulbs were planted for the Marie Curie Field of Hope at Leicester in 2003.***
- During 2003 a total of 7 Hectares of land were restored and landscaped. Almost 19 Hectares have been restored since 1999.
- During 2003 approximately 35,000 tonnes of “waste” materials were recycled through our processes. These materials include Pulverised Fly Ash (PFA), Coke Breeze and others.

#### *Community relationships*

Istock Brick Ltd together with Cory Environmental Ltd founded the Istock Cory Environmental Trust (ICET) in 2001. The Trust uses funds available via the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme to provide grants to approved community projects.

Below you will find (appended in full) the ICET 2003 annual review.

Welcome to our Annual Review of 2003. This review covers the work of Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust (ICET) over the past 12 months. In this year 21 projects were approved and received project registration from Entrust and 14 have been successfully completed. There are still 31 projects running, due for completion in 2004-06.

Trustees are eager to fund projects in the areas around Merseyside, Walsall and Dudley where Cory Environmental Ltd has operational sites and which have links with Ibstock Brick factories. Other parts of the country, however, have benefited from grants where Trustees have been keen to support worthy projects for funding.

Many local communities in different areas have benefited from the grants awarded ranging from £2000 to £83,000. Parks and playgrounds have been a common theme this year for many of the grants. For example, Phoenix Park in Wolverhampton now has new fencing/gateways and local children are learning about their environment through studying the nature trails established at the Park. As in 2002, Trustees have been delighted to help with amenity improvements to church and village hall facilities such as at the Underriver Village Hall near Sevenoaks, Kent.

Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust has continued to offer support to wildlife organisations working to conserve and improve natural habitats. For example, 3 grants were awarded to RSPB for projects at Southport Pier, Nagshead Nature Reserve in Gloucestershire and Sandwell Valley Nature Reserve in the Midlands. An element of all the projects is to involve and educate the public about their local nature reserve. Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust also strengthened the support it has given to the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust at Martin Mere Nature Reserve by paying for a new Reserve vehicle to carry all sorts of kit, tools and feed needed around the Reserve.

Our Trust, and others like us have managed to carry on delivering grants for improvements in local communities at the lower level of funding allowed by the Government since April 2003. The impetus for our financing waste management schemes was stopped dead in its tracks at the end of March, and we are currently not aware that the money we are now stopped from distributing has been put to good use by the Government. The Government accused Environmental Trusts of being over bureaucratic. Even though we denied this vigorously we at least did deliver on our task of giving money to appropriately vetted causes.

Worthy projects have foundered, local initiatives have simply not happened, because of this irrational prejudice against Environmental Trusts. I for my part am continuing to exert as much pressure as possible on the Government to comply with its promises - or revert to the original plan and use the extremely cost effective Environmental Trusts.

The income Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust can now expect from the LTCS (including the 10% 3<sup>rd</sup> party grant, kindly donated by Cory Environmental Ltd and Ibstock Brick Ltd) has been reduced by two thirds. Clearly this has impacted on Trustees' decision making when considering whether to fund projects and at what level. I would like to point out, however, that Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust does still hold some 'old money' and would be pleased to consider waste management/recycling type projects until this part of the fund is exhausted.

We have yet to receive applications for the new object under the revised LTCS, in brief the conservation or promotion of biological diversity. Perhaps we can look forward to granting funds for these types of projects in 2004.

The efforts of those members of the community who have applied to Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust and won funds to undertake projects have been tremendous and I would like to thank them for supporting the work of Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust and promoting its aims. I also thank my fellow Trustees who continue to offer knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm to the Trust, despite the unwelcome changes to the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme (LTCS) that have affected the management of Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust. I would also want to express my sincere gratitude to the hard work and dedication put into the Trust's work by Michelle Coombs our very capable Trust Secretary.

Stephen Hardy MBE, Chair, Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust  
April 2004

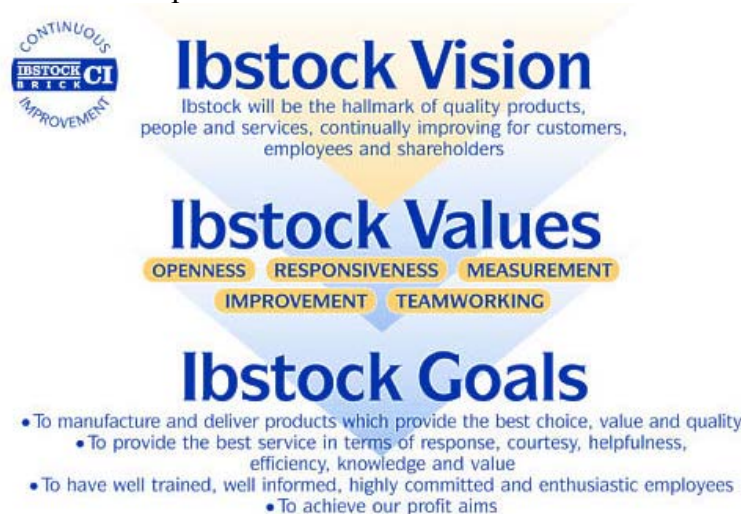
### ***Stakeholder Communication***

Ibstock continues to play a major part in developments in conjunction with Trade Associations. These include consultations on many papers issued by the Environment Agency and DEFRA (Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs). During 2003 assistance was given for the drafting of the A2 Ceramic Sector LA-IPPC guidance, known as Sector Guide 7 (SG7). The final document was published only 1 week before the close of the PPC application window for A2 ceramic processes. This was the principle work item in 2003 as PPC dominated the environment agenda.

Ibstock continues to be a major contributor and supporter of the Brick Development Association (BDA) which was a member of the "Pioneers Group" - a group of forward thinking associations who came together to consider how to address the challenges presented by sustainable development, and to devise strategies to meet these challenges.

BDA published a sustainability strategy for the clay brick industry in the latter part of 2002, one of only a very small number of sectors to do so. This sustainability strategy includes several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) derived from the Construction Products Association set of KPIs and Ibstock will also embrace these same KPIs for its own reporting purposes.

The first annual review of these KPIs is due to be available on the BDA website ([www.brick.org.uk](http://www.brick.org.uk)) at the time of publication of this report.



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