

Clean Air Charter

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government has endorsed and signed the Clean Air Charter, a project launched by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (HKGCC) and the Hong Kong Business Coalition on the Environment (BCE) aiming to engage the whole community in tackling air pollution. We are pleased to report our progress made under the Charter as follow

Commitment 1: Operate by a recognised world-class standard, or the standards established by the Hong Kong / Guangdong governments on emissions of air pollutants, even if it is not required to do so here.

Measures Implemented: We have adopted the ISO 14001 "Environmental Management System - Requirements with Guidance for Use" Standard. The system featured a decentralised management framework with each division ensuring that its operations comply with internationally recognised standards and legislative requirements in Hong Kong.

Commitment 2: Use continuous emissions monitors (CEMs) at significant sources such as large and medium plants.

Measures Implemented: Indirect CO₂ emitted from electricity consumption is the major source of our emissions. To minimise its environmental impact, we have established yearly electricity saving objectives and consumption data are monitored closely. In 2007/08, we reduced electricity consumption by 840,000 kWh, equivalent to the reduction of about 600 tonnes CO₂ emissions.

Commitment 3: Publish information on energy and fuel use, as well as total emissions of air pollutants annually and timely, if emissions are significant.

Measures implemented: We have published ever since 1999 our environmental performance data in our annual "Environmental Report" (renamed as "Social and environmental Report" in 2007). Data on electricity consumption, our main source of emissions, is disclosed every year in the report.

Commitment 4: Undertake to adopt energy efficient measures in operations.

Measures Implemented: Our Energy Efficiency Office provides advice on energy efficiency and renewable energy measures and application technologies to other government bodies as well as our own colleagues. Guidelines on energy saving measures are established and made available to our staff to guide their day-to-day operations. We have also appointed Green Executives in each division/unit to coordinate matters related to energy efficiency. Besides, staggered working hours are adopted to reduce emissions caused by traffic congestion.

Besides, energy efficient and renewable energy systems and facilities have been incorporated into the design of our headquarters building. Details of those features are set out at the end of this section.