

Environmental Fleet Management

Reduce your fleet costs by lowering your CO₂ emissions.



Going **green** reduces more than just your carbon footprint

Whether or not you are concerned about the impact of human activity on the environment, green issues are becoming an increasingly important part of fleet management.

The 2008 Budget made it clear that fleets must choose less polluting vehicles, or pay a high price. High polluting fleets incur increased taxation and higher running costs. From October 2008, London Congestion Zone charging will be based on a vehicle's CO₂ emissions and the London Low Emission Zone already penalises high polluters. With plans for congestions zones in many other major UK cities, and the rising price of fuel, the cost of ignoring the environmental aspect of fleet management is set to increase.

Implementing a 'green fleet' policy doesn't have to be difficult. Not only will it reduce the environmental impact of your fleet, it can also be an effective way to reduce your fleet costs and address your company's Corporate Social Responsibility issues.



DID YOU KNOW?

“Almost two-thirds of companies that have taken steps to reduce their emissions have saved money as a result”.

Source: Energy Savings Trust

Four simple steps to Environmental Fleet Management

Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions has developed a four-step plan to help fleets of 100 vehicles or more to reduce their environmental impact. Working with you to follow this simple process, we will help you to identify the most effective measures for reducing the carbon footprint of your fleet and, as a result, deliver substantial cost savings.



DID YOU KNOW?

“A company with a fleet of 100 vehicles could save up to £90,000 a year by implementing green fleet policies”.

Source: Energy Savings Trust

STEP ONE REVIEW

Our trained environmental manager will work with you to review your current fleet arrangements. The aim is to understand where you are now.

We will assess all aspects of your fleet, including your current:

- Fleet policy and strategy
- Fuel policy
- Mileage capture and management system
- Maintenance and accident history
- Pool car usage and policy
- HR policies, such as home working and travel planning

The fleet audit is a detailed review that investigates all aspects of your employees' business travel arrangements. This ensures that you benefit from a comprehensive assessment, identifying the most appropriate initiatives for your business.

Our recommendations are not driven by political initiatives or restricted by time limits and the methodology used is clearly explained in your review report, enabling you to revisit and compare results at a later date.

At the end of the review process, we will provide you with an analysis of your fleet and details of your current CO₂ position, benchmarked against the Hitachi Capital fleet and the UK fleet average. This will enable you to set goals for the CO₂ emission reductions you would like to achieve.



STEP TWO RECOMMEND

Based on the information provided by your fleet audit, we will recommend ways in which you could reduce the environmental impact of your fleet, and thereby reduce your fleet costs.

The recommendations we make will be different for each customer, as they are based on your fleet make up, business objectives, internal policies and the nature of your business. We understand that not all potential recommendations will be appropriate for your business, but our recommendations may include:

- Revising your fleet policy
- Taking into account green whole-life costs
- Considering low-carbon vehicles
- Considering alternative-fuel vehicles
- Driver training encouraging environmentally aware driving
- Introducing a travel planning policy
- Introducing video or telephone conferencing
- Introducing a telematic system
- Measuring the carbon footprint of areas not currently reported on
- Offset your remaining carbon emissions once measures have been taken to reduce them as far as possible

As part of our recommendation process, we will provide you with:

- a detailed list of recommendations and action areas
- a CO₂ reduction breakdown, outlining how the implementation of our recommendations would reduce your environmental impact
- a financial savings overview
- demonstrable return-on-investment and cost savings information

Our written report will provide you with information that can be used across your business to demonstrate the environmental and cost benefits of implementing environmental initiatives.



STEP THREE REDUCE

Hitachi Capital will work with you to implement our recommendations and provide ongoing management information, enabling you to monitor and demonstrate the reduction in your fleet's carbon footprint, as well as the cost savings made.

Our online management reporting system, Capital Control, ensures you have easy access to the real-time information you will need to understand the impact of the environmental initiatives implemented.

Capital Control provides all the information you need to demonstrate the benefits of implementing environmental initiatives to senior management. It also provides you with robust information about your CO₂ reductions, which can be used externally to demonstrate your commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility.



STEP FOUR RE-EVALUATE

Managing your business's carbon emissions is an ongoing process. Whether your main focus is reducing environmental impact or lowering costs, to enjoy the greatest benefits you will need to regularly review the measures that have been put in place.

Your account manager will work with you to re-evaluate the recommendations implemented and identify what else could be done to reduce your environmental impact – and costs – further. We will:

- Benchmark your current position against that of the Hitachi Capital fleet and the average UK fleet, so you can see the impact of the measures you have implemented
- Benchmark your carbon emissions against the target you set during the 'recommend' stage
- Identify initiatives that could further reduce your carbon footprint, and fleet costs
- Work with you to implement new initiatives to further reduce your carbon emissions

Review meetings will take place at least once a year to ensure that we are always working to reduce your environmental impact, and that you are gaining the most benefit from the associated cost savings. Regular reviews will also ensure that, as your business changes over time, we continue to implement the measures that are most appropriate for your circumstances.



Hitachi Capital and the environment

Hitachi Group is working towards a long-term environmental plan called Environmental Vision 2025. Through this plan, the Group is determined to curb CO₂ emissions associated with its products by 100 million tonnes in fiscal year 2025.

Environmental Vision 2025 was a result of two factors. One was recognition of the importance of developing decisive measures to meet the target, set by the 2007 G8 Summit, of halving greenhouse gas emissions worldwide by 2050. The second factor was a desire by the Hitachi Group to devise a concrete plan of action to strengthen environmental initiatives on a Group-wide level.

Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions has made a commitment to reducing the average CO₂ emissions of its own fleet. The Government has committed to reducing the average CO₂ emissions of new cars to 130g/km by 2015. By reducing our fleet's average CO₂ emissions by 5% each year, we intend to reach this target by 2014.



Four simple steps to Environmental Fleet Management

Implementing a 'green fleet' policy doesn't have to be difficult and could reduce your fleet costs. Hitachi Capital Vehicle Solutions has developed a simple four-step plan to help you monitor and reduce your environmental impact.

Contact us today to find out more about how we could work with you to reduce your carbon footprint and your fleet costs.



Call **01635 574640** or email **info.vs@hitachicapital.co.uk** for more information.