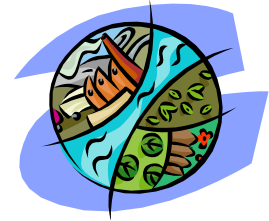


**Innovation and Technology Commission**

**Environmental Report 2003**



## **1. Introduction**

This is the fourth Environmental Report published by the Innovation and Technology Commission, covering the Commission's environmental policy, targets and achievements in different environmental aspects in calendar year 2003.

The mission of the Innovation and Technology Commission is to spearhead Hong Kong's drive to become a world-class, knowledge-based economy. To this end, we:

- ♦ promote and support applied research and development, and technology transfer and application;
- ♦ foster an innovation and technology culture in the community, and promote technological entrepreneurship;
- ♦ facilitate the provision of infrastructure and development of human resources to support innovation and technology;
- ♦ formulate, develop and implement the Government's policies, programmes and measures to promote innovation and technology;
- ♦ promote internationally accepted standards and conformity assessment services to underpin technological development and international trade; and
- ♦ develop high calibre and motivated staff to contribute to Hong Kong's technological advancement.

## **2. Environmental Policy**

Innovation and technological development cut across different fields, of which environmental management is one. We aim at providing support to Hong Kong industries to develop and implement advanced technologies for environmental management.

This Commission is also committed to providing a green office environment at the workplace and to ensuring that our operation is conducted in an environmentally conscious and responsible manner. We also educate and train our staff to ensure that they are aware of our departmental environmental policy, initiatives and their responsibilities such that they can participate actively in protecting the environment.

### **3. Support Measures to the Industry on Environmental Matters**

Local industries and the society at large were more conscious about the environment than before. Industries recognised the need to adopt cleaner and more environmentally friendly technologies. The Commission continued to provide funding support to the development and adoption of clean environmental technologies and processes suitable for application in Hong Kong. Funding was available for eligible environmental technology-related projects under the Innovation and Technology Fund and the Applied Research Fund.

The Environmental Projects Vetting Committee under the Innovation and Technology Support Programme of Innovation and Technology Fund would vet those environmental-related project applications for funding support from the Innovation and Technology Fund. The Committee also monitored the implementation as well as effectiveness of the funded projects.

In 2003, the Innovation and Technology Fund provided funding support to 18 environment-related projects with a total commitment of about \$102 million. These projects were mainly related to the following:

- development of functional nanomaterials and technologies;
- building and operation of a Ground Receiving Station of the ENVISAT Remote Sensing Satellite for all weather environmental monitoring;
- application of plasma technology for air purification to control bacteria/virus in indoor environment;
- development of plasma treatment technology for manufacturing of multifunctional garment for textile and apparel industry;
- development of new air-conditioning system based on ultrasonic actuation and RMZ Heating; and
- development of eco-technology for leather production.

To develop practical and cost-effective technologies that could help addressing the air pollution problems, in particular the street level pollution and indoor air quality problems, we proactively solicited applications from projects relating to air quality improvement in the latter part of 2003. Under this solicitation arrangement, funding support was provided to 4 projects at a total amount of \$9.7 million. These projects are for the development of:

- photocatalytic disinfection technology for air quality improvement;
- particulate removal technology for diesel engines;
- a system for removal of organic aerosols and odors in cooking exhaust; and
- satellite informatics system for surface particulate matter distribution.

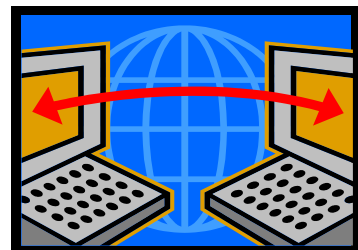
#### 4. Green Housekeeping Measures

In support of the Government's efforts to protect the environment, this Commission is committed to ensuring that our internal operations are conducted in a manner conforming to environmental protection principles and practices. To show our commitment to environmental improvement, we continued to adopt the following practices:

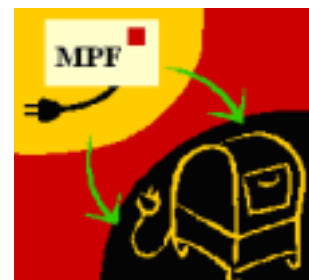
##### *Reduce*

##### ➤ *Paper consumption*

⇒ Staff continued to make full use of the electronic modes for internal and external communications, official correspondences and information circulation. We also made wider use of the electronic Admin bulletin board to disseminate information. In 2003, the number of electronic mail users increased by about 4% when compared with 2002.

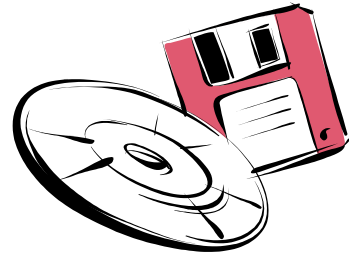


⇒ We introduced electronic Mandatory Provident Fund statements so that concerned staff could receive the statements electronically through emails.



⇒ We trimmed subscription for newspaper from 21 to 8 copies and periodicals from 43 to 28 titles.

⇒ We ceased printing 3,000 copies of the 350 pages annual directory on accredited laboratories and distributed soft copies using CD-ROM. We also uploaded it onto the website for public access. We stopped sending the printed Supplementary Criteria and Information Notes to accredited laboratories and assessors. We informed users via email to visit our website to download new or revised Supplementary Criteria or Information Notes.



⇒ We continued to encourage reducing the printing of hard copies of documents.

⇒ We used recycled paper in place of white paper when printing work was required.

⇒ We sent festive greetings electronically.

⇒ We issued press releases and distributed application forms for funding support to members of the public through our website.

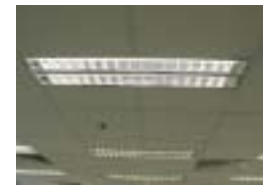


➤ *Energy consumption*

⇒ We replaced worn out 17" CRT monitors with 15" LCD monitors requiring around 70% less energy consumption.



⇒ We used energy saving fluorescent lamps. We have also reminded colleagues to switch off lights and electrical appliances when not in use. To save energy, a duty staff would turn off all unnecessary lights and electrical appliances after normal office hours. All lights in store rooms and conference rooms were switched off when not in use.

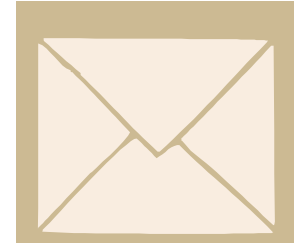


⇒ We minimised the provision of extended air conditioning to our offices during overtime work.

## **Reuse**

### ➤ *Paper and Envelope*

- ↻ Colleagues have established the practice of reusing envelopes and loose minute file jackets where practicable. They also remained alert to use blank side of used paper for drafting, photocopying and faxing documents.
- ↻ As a result of our effort, the envelope consumption has been largely reduced by 60% in year 2003.



## **Recycle**

### ➤ *Paper and Envelope*

- ↻ We provided green boxes in offices for collection of waste paper and newspaper for recycling.
- ↻ We collected used printer toner cartridges for recycling.



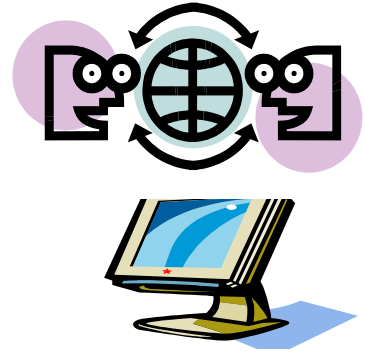
## **5. The Way Forward**

To ensure that the green efforts will be maintained and further improved, the Commission will continue to provide funding support to environment-related projects. Besides, we shall continue to promote and encourage the adoption of effective green measures to provide a green working environment. We shall also keep encouraging and promoting staff participation. For year 2004, we commit to



1. review and minimize the number of office equipment being used
2. adopt environmental measures in the fitting-out of our offices
3. conduct Indoor Air Quality Measurement in our offices with a view to pursuing a good air quality

4. equip our staff with adequate computer facility and individual email account to facilitate the efficient transaction of departmental business by electronic means
5. replace the bulky CRT monitors reaching their normal life span by LCD monitors



## 6. Feedback

We welcome your valuable feedback on this Environmental Report. Please contact the Green Manager of the Commission by :

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This report is also available on the homepage of the Commission at <http://www.itc.gov.hk>.

Innovation and Technology Commission