

Carbon Footprinting Service

What is a Carbon Footprint?

A 'carbon footprint' measures the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused directly and indirectly by a person, organisation, event or product. The footprint is measured in units of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_{2e}). In the case of a product, this includes all the GHG emissions from sourcing the raw materials required to make it, all the way through to the final product being shipped to customers.

Axion's experience means we understand the process of calculating a carbon footprint. We have the expertise to ask the right questions, understand the methodology and the project scope to deliver an accurate and robust footprint of anything from a single product or event to a multinational office or complex product group. Our team is also able to provide expert advice on how you are able to reduce your carbon footprint.

What are the benefits of calculating a Carbon Footprint?

Developing an effective carbon management programme and calculating the carbon footprint of your products and processes will enable your company to:

- **Reduce costs.** In most cases, the larger sources of GHGs are the items that add cost to your business: fuel, electricity, raw materials, waste disposal and transport. Understanding and reducing your carbon footprint will deliver commercial savings for your business.
- **Gain competitive advantage and win new business.** As consumer awareness grows, companies with the most comprehensive and transparent carbon management programs will be rewarded in the marketplace.
- **Protect your brand.** Developing and communicating your low-carbon credentials will help your business to benefit from extensive media content dedicated to sustainability and environmental issues.
- **Care for the environment.** A commitment to a reduction in your carbon emissions will help your company to fulfill its corporate social responsibilities.

Axion's Carbon Footprinting Service



Axion has several consultants experienced in the carbon footprinting process and who are also registered with the Carbon Trust as qualified operators of its Footprint Expert™ carbon footprint calculation software. This has been developed to provide a consistent basis to help companies calculate their Carbon Footprint in accordance with the internationally-recognised PAS 2050 methodology. Axion can guide you through the process to calculate the carbon footprint of your product or process.

Axion offers three levels of service:

- Rapid 'Hotspot' analysis where a calculation of carbon emissions for a product or process is carried out for an organisation's internal purposes.
- Calculation of the carbon emissions of a product or process in line with PAS 2050 standards but without external auditing.
- Achievement of an externally audited certified Carbon Reduction label for a product or process using Footprint Expert™ calculation software.

Axion's Carbon Reduction label

Axion has achieved a Carbon Reduction label for its 100% recycled polymer, Axpoly PS13 high impact polystyrene (HIPS) grade material. This is the first polymer in the UK to be awarded a Carbon Reduction label.

Following the PAS 2050 methodology and being independently audited by Bureau Veritas, Axion can use the Carbon Trust approved Carbon Reduction label to show that its Axpoly PS13 product has a Carbon Footprint of 600 kg per 1 tonne compared with 3400 kg per 1 tonne of virgin polymer.** Axion has committed to achieving a reduction in this figure within 2 years.

Having learned the hard way how to do this for our ourselves, we are now offering our carbon footprinting expertise to others who also wish to gain the business benefits provided by an externally validated and internationally recognised carbon footprint calculation.

A Carbon Reduction label is awarded by the Carbon Trust following independent verification of rigorous calculations completed in accordance with PAS 2050 methodology*. A Carbon Reduction label allows comparison of carbon emissions with other products or processes that have been assessed using the same guidelines. It also demonstrates the commitment of the manufacturer to reduce their carbon emissions further.



Example Carbon Reduction logo

* Publicly Available Specification 2050 (PAS 2050) has been prepared by BSI to specify requirements for assessing the life cycle greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) of goods and services. The development of this PAS was co-sponsored by the Carbon Trust and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

** Based on independent verification of the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions for 1 te of Axpoly PS13 manufactured between 1st January to 31st December 2009 (produces 600.00 kg of carbon dioxide equivalent).

Contact the Carbon Footprint team

Axion Consulting Ltd,

Tudor House, Bramhall, Cheshire SK7 2DG

tel: +44 161 426 7731

email: info@axionconsulting.co.uk

web: www.axionconsulting.co.uk

