



Marshall's

Transforming Britain's Landscapes

Transport

Transport has a major impact on Marshall's' environmental footprint but by positive well managed programmes, the logistics operation is contributing to Marshall's' overall environmental improvement exercise as part of its target of achieving a sustainable future to the benefit of all stakeholders.

The challenge for Marshall's is acknowledging that there has to be a balance between reducing carbon emissions as part of the overall strategy and the overall needs of running the business efficiently. Marshall's' corporate footprint has increased because Marshall's has brought much of its logistics and transport requirements in-house. Using less third party suppliers means that Marshall's becomes more efficient.



Marshalls carried out a major review of its transport operations with the aim of developing a more sustainable approach. The review has achieved excellent results, as follows:

- Improvement in customer service and reliability has reduced customers' stock holdings due to their ability to rely on Marshalls to deliver product on time to a measured programme
- Investment in Euro III vehicles – 20% improvement in fuel (miles per gallon) and a CO₂ reduction on like for like operations of 84 tonnes CO₂ per annum
- Reduction in 4,000 journeys by better utilisation of vehicles and the use of larger payloads – a further reduction in CO₂ of 515 tonnes per annum
- Strategic alliances with other companies has provide back loads for some of Marshalls' night trunking operations. This has proved very successful with environmental advantages for all parties.
- Air suspension and tri-deck rear steering mechanism has doubled the life of tyres
- In 2007, a full time Driver Trainer was appointed to enhance driver behaviour. Already the trainer's work has shown that a 10% improvement in fuel efficiency is possible and that this work has the potential to remove 1,200 tonnes of CO₂.
- All batteries are collected for recycling in, all oil filters are collected and crushed, worn tires are sent to Vellco Ltd, recycled and reused
- Marshalls has investigated the alternative of rail and water transport for long distance material supply. As a result of investigations into using rail and water transport for long distance material supply, Marshalls now uses rail transport for product transferred from the national manufacturing site in Bedfordshire to Scotland. The potential for water transport is still being evaluated.

Marshalls increased the proportion of journeys carried out using its own fleet during 2008 by investing in more modern vehicles. This was designed to reduce the overall environmental impact of distribution activity by allowing more efficient transport planning and replacing older sub-contracted vehicles that were in the main more polluting. Improved customer service has also led to fewer returns.

Marshalls Service Centres ensure that the majority of stock is now held within a two hour drive of 95% of stockists. Through the use of sophisticated planning software and the careful utilisation of both our own, and third party transport, Marshalls maintains a very high load factor with minimal running of unloaded vehicles.