

Environmental Guidance for Aggregate Industry SMEs

In common with many sectors, the aggregates industry is facing an increasing need to both achieve and demonstrate high environmental management standards. Revisions to minerals planning policy, strengthened environmental legislation and increasing stakeholder influence mean that aggregate operations will need to incorporate more stringent environmental performance into their everyday activities. To help smaller quarry companies meet this challenge the North-East Centre for Environmental Science and Industry (NECESI) and The Environment Practice have produced an *Environmental Management Guidance Manual for SME Aggregates Companies*. The Manual, produced on-behalf of the Minerals Industry Research Organisation (MIRO) under the Sustainable Land-won & Marine Aggregates Programme (SAMP), has been developed in consultation with quarry operators, industry bodies, regulatory and mineral planning authorities and environmental consultants.

The Manual contains 'environmental topic' chapters covering noise & vibration, dust, waste, traffic, soil handling, landfill operations, energy management, water resources and ecological, geological, landscape, archaeological and heritage interests. Further chapters cover the environmental regulation of aggregates sites, restoration and aftercare issues and the implementation of environmental management systems.

A limited number of copies of the 270 page A4 sized Environmental Management Guidance Manual for SME Aggregates Companies are available for distribution free of charge to eligible companies or organisations. To obtain a copy of the Manual, or for further information, please contact either NECESI or The Environment Practice.

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The North East Centre for Environmental Science & Industry (NECESI) is an environmental unit based within the University of Durham.

The Environment Practice is a multi-disciplinary consultancy providing EMS and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) services in the UK and overseas