

## Entents Ltd

Our views and policies relating to the environment and sustainability.

Entents Ltd is a small, family owned, limited company, we strive for minimal running costs and continually monitor, adjust and attempt to keep those costs as low as we can, as a result our impact on the environment is minimised.

Our distribution base is sited in a former red sand quarry which is in the early stages of rehabilitation to level amenity land following an extensive, positive and comprehensive Environment Agency survey. The quarry sits at the foot of the Malvern Hills on top of a natural sandstone aquifer which supplies water throughout the local area.

Equipment is stored in 3 x re-used shipping containers, we light the containers using natural light, our grey water supply is stored in recycled plastic drums. There is no mains electricity or water supply, we do not load vans at night for obvious reasons.

We share the quarry with too many rabbits to count, a pair of breeding buzzards, pheasants, tits, robins and a single fox, there are countless examples of wild flowers and plants as well as sand pipers and bats.

This probably sounds fairly idyllic and it is a very nice place to be but the reason we are there is because it is cheap, it is sustainable and it makes sense, we are not environmental warriors and would never sell ourselves as such.

The Entents office is a log cabin built from softwood obtained from sustainable sources, it is insulated and does have a convector heater though this is rarely needed, in summer when the weather is hot we open the window. It can get very hot but air conditioning is expensive to install, maintain and run. The company MD has the cabin located in his garden, it is a short walk to the house, the toilet and the kitchen.

The company runs two vans, a 3 year old VW Transporter with a Euro IV compliant diesel engine, the other is a 2 year old Renault Master which is Euro V compliant diesel, neither vehicle is suitable for running on bio-diesel and we believe anyway that bio diesel is difficult to source, expensive and unsustainable (farmers should grow food not fuel), both vehicles use long ratio six speed transmissions enabling mpg figures unimaginable a few years ago. These vehicles are amongst the most economical in their respective classes, helping us to keep costs to a minimum and hopefully helping the environment. Our vehicles are serviced as per the manufacturers long life servicing schedules.

Entents actively minimise the amount of paper which we use, Booking Contracts and Invoices are produced and transmitted electronically as PDFs, this means less printing, no need to drive to the post box (we live in the country) and no stamps to buy. We print less than 50 x A4 sheets of (recycled) paper per week using a modern, economical, Kodak Ink Jet printer, we have no say in how these machines or their inks are produced, we chose one because it was cheap to run. Changing to a near paper free office has reduced our stationery/postal costs by an enormous amount – we need not explain the effect that this has on the environment. We pay our suppliers electronically wherever possible to further reduce postal costs and those journeys to the post box.

Failed electronic items (beyond repair) are despatched to a local specialist recycler – which is coincidentally less than 10 minutes from our office base. This company produces very little paper, plastic or cardboard waste, we occasionally dispose of this at the local authority amenity.

Games which are still safe and workable but not cosmetically suitable for continued use in the corporate entertainment market are donated to local schools and organisations. Wood is donated to one of our drivers who has a wood burner installed in his home.

As a company we look for the same set of standards from our suppliers, we work in a niche market where sales are recorded in single units rather than hundreds or thousands, almost all of our equipment is sourced from small, mature UK based companies who like us realise the consequences of being wasteful and/or irresponsible.

All of our monitors and screens are modern, energy efficient LCD based units which have now replaced all of the less efficient Plasma and CRT technology which we previously operated. This company have long understood the benefits of using stainless steel and aluminium metalwork in the production of our bespoke games, these materials are lighter and need not be painted and repainted in order to keep them looking attractive and suitable for corporate/exhibition usage. Almost all of our metalwork is manufactured from these materials.

Staffing policies, our vehicles are despatched with drivers/technicians who all live within walking distance of the office, in addition we have a large database of self-employed contractors based throughout the UK, this normally enables us to bring locally based staff on site to assist our technicians where required. Where this is not possible we will always seek to reduce travelling distance for staff who have to travel to the site of the event.

Our delivery/storage base is sited alongside the M50 motorway (1 mile from J2) which gives us a 15 minute journey time to the main M5 motorway hub, we are based near the centre of the country. The weakest point in our entire transport procedure is the mismanaged UK road network, something over which we have no control.

We hope that this will reassure potential bookers of our credibility in matters of sustainability, our policies work because they make sense, not because we use the right buzzwords, too often the matter of sustainability or being judged environmentally friendly is confused with ticking the right boxes or complying with an artificial set of standards.

Our policy re the environment is quite clear and can be embodied in a single phrase:

Common Sense.

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