



Programme Details

Envirowise, supported locally by Invest Northern Ireland, offers businesses free, independent, confidential advice and support on practical ways to increase profits, minimise waste and reduce environmental impact.

On average, a business working with Envirowise can save £1,000 per employee per year, converting an additional one per cent of turnover directly to profit.

The Company

Asset Management Ireland (AMI) Data Removal and Disposal are based in Newtownabbey Co. Antrim and specialise in the management of redundant IT assets. The company is involved in IT, PC, electrical and electronic equipment recycling. AMI collect redundant computers from companies' premises, fully data-wipe all systems, recycle end-of-life hardware and re-market hardware. AMI can also provide a simple hassle free solution to companies concerned about meeting new WEEE EU directives on the disposal of electrical equipment.

The Challenge

Asset Management Ireland has high energy and packaging costs and there are potential wastages in these areas. The company recognised that an Environmental Management System (EMS) would help to minimise and control the amount of energy and waste used by AMI annually. This would not only result in the company becoming more environmentally efficient but would also provide financial benefits.

Envirowise Intervention

AMI benefited from a *Fast Track* visit by an Envirowise Advisor. The *Fast Track* visit consisted of a one day review of company operations looking

at raw materials, processes and the amount of waste produced. The Envirowise Advisor drew up an action plan highlighting no-cost and low-cost measures to minimise waste. The Envirowise Advisor also helped to raise the level of general environmental awareness within the company.

The Solution

Having visited the company and examined the company's packaging processes the Envirowise Advisor recommended a returnable packaging scheme in order to help streamline the company's packaging systems. Improved energy management, especially during out of hours was also recommended in order to reduce wastage of electricity within the company.

The Benefits

As a result of implementing the strategies proposed by the Envirowise team, the company will achieve an overall reduction in the amount of resources used on a daily basis. The *Fast Track* visit carried out by Envirowise enabled AMI to work towards implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS). AMI are also currently finalising the implementation of a scheme to reduce the requirement for the packaging of materials being dispatched from their plant. This will reduce the



amount of new cardboard boxes and plastic wrap utilised and will result in a significant reduction in operating costs. In addition, by revising the policy on shutting down equipment overnight and revising lighting arrangements the company will reduce CO₂ emissions.

By implementing the waste minimisation strategies recommended in the *Fast Track* visit report by Envirowise, AMI could make overall savings of up to £7,757.

The scheme has also helped AMI to achieve certification to ISO 14001 standard from Environmental Management. This now sits alongside the ISO 9001 (Quality) and ISO 18001 (Health & Safety) which the organisation has in place.