

sustainable interior design not just a tick in the box



Nick Clarke argues that following the principles of environmental sustainability in the workplace can also lead you to financial benefits.

The establishment of sustainable assessments on commercial buildings, such as BRE Environmental Assessment Method and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, has led to many businesses embracing sustainable design practices for their office space.

However, making sure boxes are ticked on environmental assessments isn't just about a company doing its bit for their CSR record; finding effective and functional solutions to a business' working environment, which also utilise the principles of environmental sustainability, can bring substantial financial benefits.

Sustainable equals profitable

Businesses that use sustainable solutions to provide an energy efficient work space often utilise fittings, such as ergonomic furniture and storage systems, to make the

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comment

Technology strikes again! We are very much aware that a number of our members and readers will have attempted to contact us by e-mail during February and early March and received no acknowledgment – equally the mail will not have bounced back.

I am not a fan of naming and shaming but I feel so enraged with the incompetence shown by our website host – UK2.net – that I am making an exception on this occasion. To attempt to document events over the prolonged period would take up most of the Newsletter; suffice it to say that an error that they admit was entirely of their making, meant that large numbers of our e-mails went missing and were not able to be retrieved. We spent a number of hours on the phone to them - always speaking to someone different – at 50p per minute. Their staff were not able to call us back since they had no outgoing lines.

We were eventually offered one free month's hosting (less than £20) as compensation! Needless to say the fight continues.

An old chestnut, I know, but whatever happened to real customer service? And aren't the worst just the communications companies? When did you last try to talk to a human being at BT?

All is now well, but please accept our sincere apologies if you felt slighted. We would never disregard correspondence.

Ah well, at least there's been a slowdown in the rate of closure of pubs. Cheers.

margaret haynes,
director, ofas



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