

**'One man's waste can be the same man's gold'.**

*Premier Contract Supplies no longer pay for their waste, they now profit from it!*



Premier Contract Supplies (PCS) was formed in April 1998 and sell bathroom ware to the construction industry from an 18,000 sq ft site in Farnborough, Hampshire. They employ 17 people and have developed increasing interest in improving their environmental performance since joining the PLATO programme.

At the start of the programme, PCS was sending around 20 tonnes of unsorted waste per annum to landfill, including various plastics and cardboard waste with only a small amount of recycling. All this cost the company around £7,000 per annum.

After studying their costs and use of resources, in the last 3 months, PCS have initiated a rigorous waste management and recycling programme. They now segregate waste, have hired to a bailer to compact it and have organised special collections. This has transformed waste from being a burden into being a resource. PCS are now being paid around £30/tonne for the recycling of their cardboard, and £60/tonne for the plastics. They have also arranged a take back scheme for wooden pallets and also have their metal waste collected for recycling.

Only 3 tonnes of waste per annum is now sent to landfill. The final result is that PCS now make a small net profit of around £75 per annum for their 'waste' as it has now become a valuable resource for processing and re-use elsewhere.

Managing Director Vince Caldicott says, 'Through our efforts since joining PLATO Sustain, PCS has turned what was an increasing cost [of dealing with waste] into something which now both generates cash and gives us a clear conscience with the environment'.