



**GREEN ACTION PLAN**

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# Green Action Plan

At GAP Hire Solutions, we care about the impact we have on the environment. Our **Green Action Plan** sets out the steps we are taking to reduce our carbon footprint and the support we provide to our customers to help them reduce theirs too.

We promote a positive attitude towards the environment in all of our locations throughout the UK. We aim to use less resources year on year and consider alternative practices to minimise the damage we do to the environment.

In addition to this GAP's externally accredited ISO 14001 Environmental Management System certification demonstrates our commitment to reducing our environmental impact and ensures legal compliance. Our Green Action Plan outlines the following steps we are taking to be a more environmentally friendly organisation:

- ISO 14001 Accreditation
- Reducing our Carbon Footprint
- Waste Disposal
- Renewable Energy
- Vehicle Fleet and Fuel Emissions
- Our Employees
- Responsible Supply Chain
- Equipment
- Making a Difference
- Future Steps





# ISO 14001 Accreditation

ISO 14001 is an internationally accepted standard that recognises companies with an effective environmental management system in place.

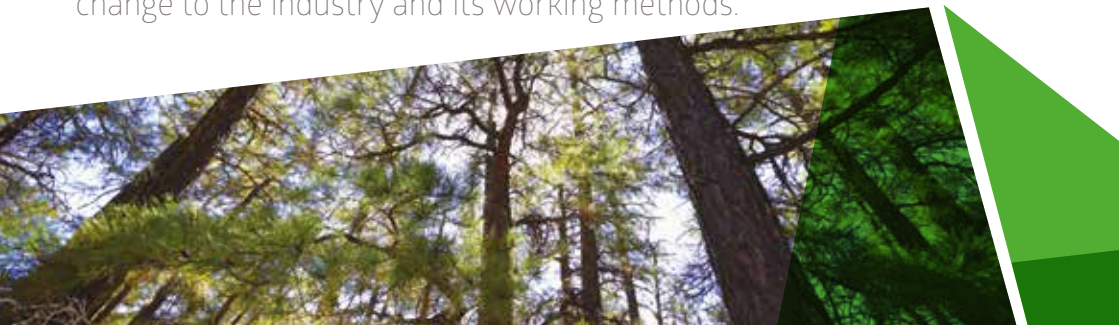
GAP Hire Solutions is mindful of its obligations when it comes to its impact on the environment and has successfully retained the ISO 14001 accreditation since 2010.

## Reducing our Carbon Footprint

As an environmentally responsible business it is vital GAP identifies how it contributes to pollution so that we can work towards reducing it. From the carbon emissions that are produced by our equipment and vehicles to the waste produced by our depots we are actively identifying sources of pollution from all areas of our operation so that we can plan ways to reduce it.

### How do we make a difference?

As a key supplier to many of the UK's largest contractors, it is important for us to help educate our customers on how to minimise their waste. We regularly inform them on the latest innovative products and liaise with them on how they can reduce their impact on the environment. By working together with our customers, we can help bring positive change to the industry and its working methods.



# Waste Disposal

As the country's leading independent hirer, GAP has a wide variety of products in our fleet. We take steps to ensure that all of our old products end their life cycle in an environmentally friendly manner, and we reuse and recycle as many parts as possible.



## ***Tomorrow's World?***

### **Reducing, Reusing and Recycling**

At GAP Head Office we have a well-established recycling system with 'Green Zones' throughout the building for recycling various materials including paper, tin cans, cardboards, plastics and printer cartridges.

As a business we look to reduce our consumption of materials. We estimate that we use 3.8 million sheets of A4 printer paper annually (2015), all of which is recycled, but our goal is to reduce this number to less than 1.2 million by 2020. In addition to this we are encouraging our customers to switch to electronic invoices to save on the amount of paper we use. GAP has increased the number of electronic invoices sent by 22% in one year - which currently results in over 27,000 less paper invoices every month.

At every GAP Plant & Tool depot we recycle up to 98% of all oils we use. We also work to minimise spills, ensuring that waste is disposed of carefully and in an environmentally friendly manner.

Our rubber tracks and tyres are also collected by a specialist supplier for recycling which is in accordance with EU Environmental Regulations.

# Renewable Energy

We set and agree annual targets to save energy and to reduce our carbon footprint. By using sustainable energy supplies our latest annual energy figures suggest that one third of our total energy purchased now comes from renewable sources. Our aim is to use energy from renewable sources wherever possible, thereby reducing our use of fossil fuels and the damaging impact they have on the planet.

GAP has installed solar panels onto the roof of our Head Office. There are a total of forty 245W panels that have produced 30,000 kWh in just under four years.

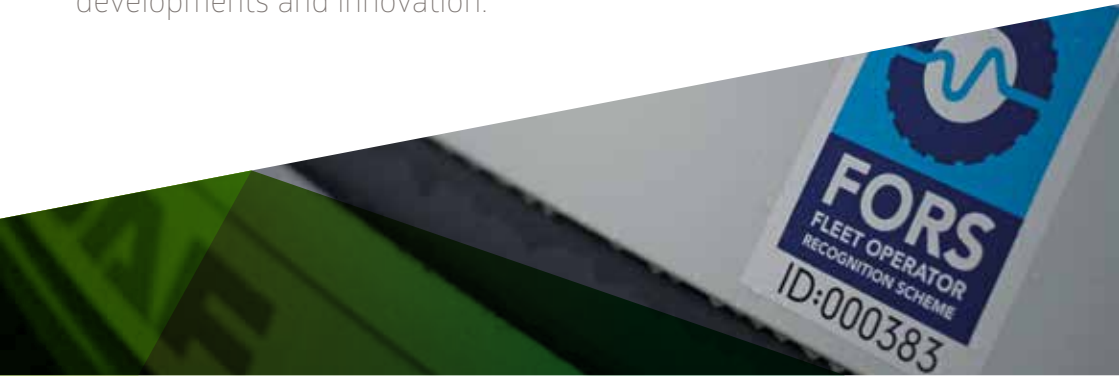


We have also installed rain water harvesting systems at many of our depots nationwide. These systems provide a naturally sourced supply to pressure washers used for cleaning equipment, allowing us to reduce mains water consumption by 70%.

Our premises throughout the country have sensor lighting to help reduce energy consumption. We have also installed energy efficient LED lights in some of our depots which has reduced energy bills by almost half in one year. As a result we are currently undertaking a review to upgrade all lighting in our depots to make them more energy efficient and save money at the same time.

# Vehicle Fleet and Fuel Emissions

GAP has fully embraced the drive to reduce carbon emissions throughout our entire vehicle fleet of over 950 cars, vans and HGV's. All HGV's purchased come with the latest Euro type engines. Our Transport Team keeps up to date with emerging technology and incorporates this into their buying policy to keep GAP at the forefront of environmental developments and innovation.



## Fuel Emissions

As part of our FORS Silver accreditation we actively monitor, measure and report on fuel consumption, mpg and carbon emissions. Our modern fleet of vehicles are markedly more fuel efficient and our mpg returns have shown a significant improvement in the past few years.

## Fuel Efficiency Training

At GAP all of our drivers participate in regular driver training to ensure they are driving efficiently and contribute towards reducing our carbon footprint. We have recently invested in a telematics package which includes a driver behaviour suite which measures mpg, harsh driving and speeding. This allows us to identify any discrepancies or poor driving trends and take remedial action where necessary.

# Our Employees

We encourage our employees to be 100% committed to protecting the environment. Our staff play an important part in keeping our company environmentally friendly - so we make it our mission to educate them on the impact their activities might have on the environment and what we can do to minimise it.

## Encouraging and inspiring greener attitudes at work

We offer our employees a Cycle2Work scheme which encourages them to leave the car at home and make an emission-free commute. Not only does this help to reduce carbon emissions, it improves the health and wellbeing of our staff.

In addition to this our company vehicle drivers are educated on making their driving routes as efficient as possible, ensuring that journeys are planned and that no unnecessary driving is undertaken.



## Responsible Supply Chain

Having strong partnerships with our suppliers is key to adapting and innovating in such a high paced industry. By having strong relationships with some of the world's leading manufacturers of construction equipment we work to share the responsibility we have to protect the environment.

GAP aims to only purchase equipment from suppliers who are environmentally responsible, committed to minimising their own carbon footprint and whose environmental outlook matches our own.





### Key supplier of Excavators

"Through the design and manufacture of our own engines, we are able to introduce unique features such as ECO Control that provides enhanced fuel economy and ensures latest compliance, which is something that complements our relationship with GAP and its Green Action Plan."



### Key supplier of Power Tools

"STIHL takes its responsibility to the environment seriously and is encouraged to support local environmental initiatives such as The Forestry Commission and Grown in Britain with our customers which include GAP."



### Key supplier of Welfare Units

"EasyCabin has a firm commitment to ensure that as new processes are developed we will endeavour to incorporate them into our systems and products. We consider that our units should have environmental benefits ingrained into their infrastructure which can be passed onto GAP and their customers."



### Key supplier of Aluminium Gantries

"Reid Lifting's products are manufactured in an environmentally friendly manner and are constructed from an aluminium alloy that is entirely recyclable once it reaches the end of its lifecycle. This makes us a viable supplier for GAP as we fully support their Green Action Plan."



# Equipment

At GAP we enjoy positive relationships with each of our suppliers, developed over decades in the industry. As a result, we are able to work together to ensure that the highest environmental standards are met. Our supply chain have similar values to ourselves, and together we are making a real difference to the world we live in.

We consciously procure green products over less environmentally friendly alternatives to keep our environment clean.

## Selection of our environmentally friendly products



Generac, a key supplier to GAP, has developed the **VT Hybrid Lighting Tower** which provides up to 86% reduction in fuel costs and a 47% reduction in carbon emissions. This results in a increase in running time of 870%.



When zero emissions and low sound pollution are essential, GAP offer the latest in battery powered alternatives, such as **battery powered compaction plates and cut off saws** along with our **Echo barriers** that ensure noise pollution is kept minimal.



Our **6 tonne and 9 tonne Eco Dumpers** have been updated with new Eco engines. These new engines offer up to an 8% reduction in fuel consumption, ultra-low exhaust emissions and an additional 13.3% of torque at a low engine speed to enhance productivity. The new Autoshift and Start-Stop engine which features on **9 tonne dumpers** will bring further enhancements on fuel efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

Our Welfare Services division supplies energy saving **Eco Welfare Units** which offer an incredible CO<sup>2</sup> emission reduction of 4,492kg per a 40 hour week compared to a standard welfare unit. The battery and generator are fully automated thanks to the hybrid power source.

We also offer night inverter units which producing zero noise pollution as the generator charges the batteries during the day and will not activate during set night hours. Perfect when working in residential or urban areas.



The **Electric Demolition Breaker** is an environmentally friendly alternative to the pneumatic breaker which can save up to 1.2 tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> over a 5 year period.

We also offer the **Pecolift** which is one of the most eco-friendly low level access platforms on the market. It is elevated simply by manually rotating a handle, and requires no battery or electric power therefore producing zero carbon emissions.

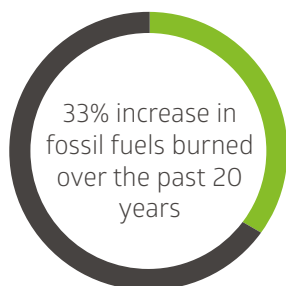
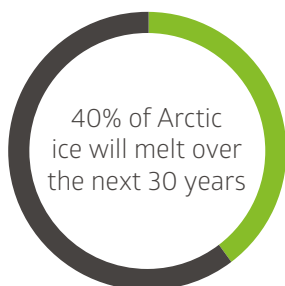
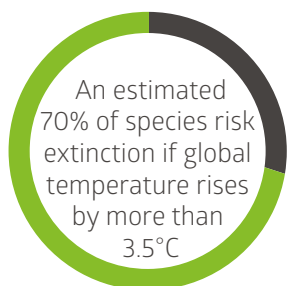
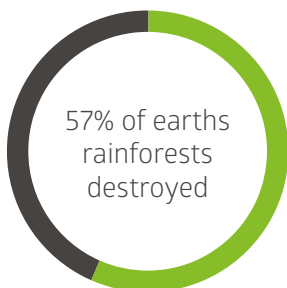
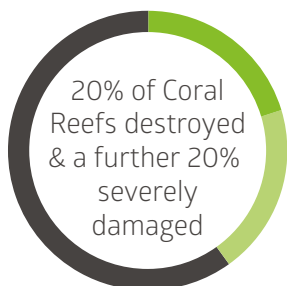
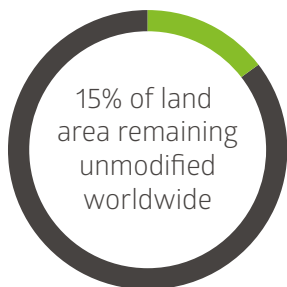


## Pilot Innovations

GAP's Innovation Team works alongside Europe's leading manufacturers to supply new products and technologies to our customers which reduce carbon footprint and boost onsite efficiency, safety and comfort. We offer our customers pilot innovation schemes, allowing them to test the latest products hands-on and give them an insight into the benefits of using GAP's eco products.



# Why we need to make a difference





# How we are making a difference



18% Reduction in  
fuel consumption  
with Eco  
Excavators

33% Power  
requirements  
from renewable  
sources

8% Reduction in  
fuel consumption  
with the new  
Eco Dumper

98%  
Recycled oils

72% fuel saving  
(Tower Lights)

70% water saving  
- Rain Water  
Harvesting Tanks



## Future Steps

At GAP we are always thinking ahead, especially when it comes to the environment. We know we can reduce the impact our business activities have and lead the way for others in the industry to follow in our (low carbon) footsteps.

GAP is working extensively to continue its environmental strategy that will help us remain a leading sustainable business for the future. As a family owned company we are passionate about our business and our environment. We have a long term goal to ensure GAP prospers in a way that keeps our environmental impact minimal. This means we will continue to invest in innovative Eco products, green technologies and environmentally friendly processes.

## Our Green Action Plan

- Collaborate with our supply chain to develop new products
- Reduce gas and electricity kwh/per employee year on year
- Reduce annual A4 paper consumption to 1.2m sheets
- Reduce the engine sizes of our vehicle fleet
- Continue to recycle rubber tracks and tyres
- Continue to invest in environmentally friendly infrastructure i.e. solar panels and sensor lighting
- Install energy efficient LED lighting in all depots across the country
- Invest in new products to ensure we have the youngest and most environmentally friendly fleet in the industry
- Educate drivers on improvements supporting fuel efficient driving







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