

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE?

Products, Processes, Stock and Raw Materials

Ask Yourself?

- Have you thought about where you store your products, stock and raw materials?
- Do you know how to contact your employees out of hours to get assistance in moving or protecting stock?
- Do you have any processes or products that are temperature or climate sensitive?

Take Action:

- Raise your stock off the floor to reduce its vulnerability to a flood. Do not store stock in the basement if possible.
- Pay particular attention to the storage of chemicals and harmful substances, storing in waterproof containers if possible to avoid pollution during possible flooding.
- Know where your drains are and keep them unblocked.
- Empty oil traps regularly to minimise pollution in the event of floods.
- Check processes and re-design where necessary considering climatic thresholds e.g. temperature.
- Think about expensive stock such as plant and vehicles and whether they can be relocated quickly.

Further Information:

- The **Rivers Agency** flood advice leaflet may be downloaded from:
http://www.dardni.gov.uk/riversagency/rivers_agency_flooding_leaflet_2009_-_final.pdf.pdf
- **NI Business Info** provides a step-by-step guide on how to protect your business from flooding:

<http://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/bdotg/action/layer?r.l1=1079068363&r.l2=1087319510&r.s=tl&site=191&topicId=1075437245>

- An online flood preparation guide for businesses is available via the **Environment Agency** website, which although targeted for England and Wales provides useful information regarding how to prepare for flood risk: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/32354.aspx> and <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/31644.aspx>

- **UKCIP's BACLIAT tool** gives some information on the risks and opportunities a changing climate may pose for logistics: <http://www.ukcip.org.uk/bacليات/>

- **The Northern Ireland ARENA Network (Business in the Community):** ARENA Network provides advice and guidance on the development of the following:
 - Environmental policies (waste, energy, transport, purchasing)
 - Supply chain management
 - General environmental signposting
 - Grants/loans

Further information available from:

http://www.bitc.org.uk/northern_ireland/what_we_do/planet/additional.html

This information has been adapted from the Weathering the Storm Business guide produced by the West Midlands Climate Change Adaptation Partnership. The concept originated and was developed by the following funding partners within the West Midlands: Environment Agency, Sustainability West Midlands, UKCIP, Government Office West Midlands, Advantage West Midlands, Business Link West Midlands and DEFRA.

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