



The future is **GREEN**, or **BLUE** or **RED** or **YELLOW**!

*Whichever colour you go for it should still be **GREEN***

Public awareness of using recycled or recyclable materials has never been higher. Most of the major supermarkets are edging towards reducing the impact on our planet by using less or recyclable packaging, with announcements every week referring to this.

Not quite so well known, however, is that many new installations and refurbishments can now utilise recycled products. **Aaztec Cubicles** are leading the way with washroom and toilet cubicles and vanity units using boards made from compressed shredded industrial foodstuff containers, off-cuts of water and gas pipes or plastic bottles.

One recent installation has been at Dalby Forest Visitor Centre due to open April 2007, where the brief was to provide an ecologically sound toilet facility that was sympathetic to the environment.

Aaztec work with their clients to achieve an installation which is as environmentally friendly as possible, using not only the board already mentioned, but also water-saving sanitary ware. Energy efficient lighting and heating can be installed. Customers can also use reed beds where appropriate to filter and cleanse the water used.

Whilst appreciating that customers/clients/specifiers/end users want to know that they are choosing eco-products in preference to others, **Aaztec Cubicles** are also aware that design is also a major consideration.

Where practicable Aaztec can use boards made from recycled packaging. The colours available are green, red, blue, yellow, multi-coloured and black and colour co-ordinated fittings can be offered as well as Satin Anodised Aluminium (SAA) fittings which are recyclable. Chris Brown, Managing Director of Aaztec, says that although the board does cost more than Solid Grade Laminate there are sound ecological reasons for choosing it – not least because it uses 30-50% less energy to produce as well as the more obvious points already covered. Another advantage to its use is that it is extremely resistant to graffiti which is often a problem in public toilets.

There are, however, some drawbacks to its use – mainly the limited board sizes it comes in which means that we sometimes have to combine it with a laminated board (although this can have a centre made from recycled wood) and it is also not recommended for high fire risk areas.

Advantages are fast outweighing the disadvantages in as much that demonstrating sustainability to planning authorities is advantageous in a smooth passage through the planning process. Running costs through greater energy and water efficiency and reduced maintenance are reduced. There is also an increased appeal to ethical investors for “green” projects.

Choosing ethical products for projects makes both environmental and business sense.



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