

Climate Change Hits Top of Corporate Agenda

Biggest Companies Now Addressing Climate Change, says Report

LONDON - 11TH February 2008 - The issue of climate change has made it to the top of the corporate big wheel, with 87 percent of non-financial reports from Global FT500 companies reporting on the issue, according to a report from CorporateRegister.com.

CorporateRegister.com's 'Corporate Climate Communications' is the first study to assess global leading companies' *communications* on climate change, as opposed to their *carbon performance*.

During 2007, two-thirds of the Global FT500 issued a stand-alone non-financial report. Evaluating these the study reveals that 87% address climate change, with 78% publishing greenhouse gas emissions data.

Paul Scott, MD CorporateRegister.com:

"The world's largest companies are voluntarily disclosing valuable information on climate change issues, including quantified, verified data and specific targets. The era of wholesale corporate climate change denial is over: we may now be witnessing the beginnings of corporate climate activism."

With so many companies now disclosing such information, issues of credibility and accountability come to the forefront. Only 1 in 10 North American reporters provide external assurance with their climate change disclosures, compared with 3 in 5 European reporters. The average among Global FT500 reporters is 44%, evidence of a marked commitment to disclosing robust, credible climate change information.

Robert Dornau, Director Climate Change Programme, SGS

"Companies want to communicate to their stakeholders what they are doing to address their environmental and social responsibility. The question on everyone's mind, however, is 'how can I trust you?' Independent third-party assurance is an important way to respond to stakeholder concerns over credibility, especially with regard to climate change and emissions data."

Notes to Editors

CorporateRegister.com Ltd provides online global CSR resources, including the comprehensive directory of non-financial reports. Over 20,000 subscribers from the global CSR (corporate social responsibility) community subscribe to its free services.

CorporateRegister.com acknowledges contributions and support for the study from American Electric Power, GlaxoSmithKline, Shell, Telefónica, Volkswagen and Westpac.

Lead sponsor and specialist editorial contributor for this project is SGS, the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. SGS is recognized as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. With more

than 50,000 employees, SGS operates a network of over 1,000 offices and laboratories around the world.

The publication is available as a free download from

www.corporateregister.com

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