

# Schools Benefit from Industry Off-Cuts

## ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

epm:technology, NISP East Midlands and Derby Scrapstores

## DESCRIPTION

NISP member epm:technology in Draycott, near Derby, specialises in the manufacture of high performance carbon fibre products for the motorsports sector. Following on from their earlier successes they sought to further reduce their waste outputs through shop-floor business-led improvements.

As part of a business-led drive, epm:technology sought to provide their clean, non-toxic industry off-cuts to a local school-based charitable network through using their contacts at NISP East Midlands. epm:technology were able to supply 6 wheelie bins per month of clean textile felt, coloured plastic films (of various grade thickness) and cardboard cores as a matter of routine.

The local network of 'scrapstores' operate to take suitable non-toxic off-spec materials from local industry for re-use in creativity school projects. Some scrapstores deal with anything up to 1,000 children per week and as such the demand for suitable clean materials is quite high. The plastic film and textile felt off-cuts are considered ideal for school creativity projects and the provision of these materials free of charge is of great assistance to the network.

The benefits of the synergy are largely social and economic since it is recognised that the creativity materials will at some point be discarded via the trade or domestic waste stream. However, the symbiosis allows for greater resource efficiency within the education system, which has related economic benefits. Buying suitable replacement materials, as new, would have otherwise cost the local schools network a substantial sum of money.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Cost savings to the local schools network
- Cost savings to the industry (disposal costs)
- Societal benefit – industry helping local schools / local education authority
- Increased asset utilisation through enhancing local networks/business support services
- Environmental benefit – helping to maximise the use of a resource and extend its useful life
- Up to 0.5t/yr temporary diverted away from landfill.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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