



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **UK PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FIRMS LEAD THE WAY IN EMBRACING THE SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA**

UK professional services firms have embraced the sustainability agenda in far greater numbers than their global counterparts, according to a report published today by the Managing Partners' Forum (MPF).

The MPF's Carbon Footprint Report 2008, which includes an inaugural "MPF Carbon Verified List", reveals that 43 out of the 50 professional services firms that have had their carbon footprint measured by an independent assessor are headquartered in the UK. Four of the firms are based in Australia, with one representative each from the USA, Netherlands and Spain.

Nick Shepherd, managing partner of property consultancy Drivers Jonas and MPF Carbon Footprint Campaign Leader, comments:

*"The Carbon Footprint Report is the first step in the MPF's campaign to persuade professional services firms to fully embrace the sustainability agenda. We are committed to growing the wealth creation potential of the professional services sector whilst reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with our individual and collective operations."*

KPMG's Richard Sharman, who also sits on the MPF's Sustainability Committee, adds:

*"Some of the world's top consulting firms, who collectively advise the planet's biggest companies, are included in the MPF Carbon Verified List. That they have all had their carbon footprints independently measured demonstrates not only how seriously they take the issue of climate change, but also the fact that they are prepared to take a lead with clients and competitors alike. **The message is clear - sustainability issues can no longer be viewed in isolation from the core business advisory activities of leading professional services firms.**"*

Ed Smith, Chair of the WWF-UK and Deputy Chair of MPF, comments:

*"Leaders are finally recognising the business benefits of joining up carbon management, workplace engagement and communication. **A key insight from the recent MPF100 Best Professional Firms to Work For Report was that those firms that are seen to be giving something back have far higher numbers of strongly engaged people. The big communications challenge facing firms is therefore how to ensure that their people are aware of what the firm is doing and feel involved in the process.** Having your carbon footprint verified is a credible public demonstration of commitment and gives a clear target to all employees how they can help reduce emissions in future years."*

MPF Executive Director Richard Chaplin adds:

*“Hundreds of firms, especially in North America, are looking to follow the pioneers in the MPF Carbon Verified list, but are unsure which assessor to appoint. The MPF is therefore publishing the “MPF Register of Carbon Assessors”, a free online showcase of the assessors recommended by MPF Carbon Verified firms. We are also working with the CarbonNeutral Company to provide an extensive free resource bank on all aspects of carbon management with guidance on practical steps and case studies. The online version of the MPF Carbon Verified list will be updated once we have been notified by a professional firm that it has had its carbon footprint independently verified.”*

**ENDS**

**Issued by Spada on behalf of the Managing Partners’ Forum**

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#### **NOTE TO EDITORS**

##### **About the Managing Partners’ Forum ([www.mpfglobal.com](http://www.mpfglobal.com))**

Founded in 1995 with its HQ in London, the 300 strong Managing Partners’ Forum is the premier association for those involved in the management of professional firms throughout the world. It actively campaigns for excellence in management through highlighting issues that stand in the way of effective management. The MPF also encourages firms to appoint management experts to their executive committees, providing survey-based insights and tailored events to enable experts to make a valued contribution.