



Case study  
Sector: Law  
Country: International

Simmons & Simmons is a world class law firm providing advice to financial institutions, corporates, public and international bodies through its offices in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The firm achieved CarbonNeutral® certification in November 2006.

## Objectives

- Reduce the climate change impact of Simmons & Simmons' staff and its offices.
- Engage with and educate staff about climate change issues.
- To be an industry leader by taking action on climate change issues across all of its offices worldwide.

## Programme developed

- Conducted a greenhouse gas assessment of Simmons & Simmons across all of its offices globally.
- Developed a long-term plan to substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions by:
  - Reducing energy consumption by 15% over 2 years
  - Reducing unnecessary international air travel
  - Increase flexibility for home-working where appropriate
- Encouraged staff to take responsibility for their own carbon emissions and reduce energy by producing communication materials with guidance and advice.
- Passive Infrared (PIR) motion sensitive switched lighting fitted in all office refurbishments in London .
- Investing in renewable energy projects in India and energy efficiency in Jamaica to offset all remaining emissions.

*"Initially, we chose The CarbonNeutral Company for its long pedigree of achieving real business results for clients, now, with more than two years as a CarbonNeutral® company, the expertise, integrity and high standards of carbon management services and offsetting projects which the company has provided has helped us to deliver on our emission reduction plan in order to match our global business needs."*

James Clark, Simmons & Simmons

## Communication

- Developed a communication plan, positioning Simmons & Simmons as the first international law firm to be CarbonNeutral® across all of its offices worldwide.
- Set up an environmental committee from a varied cross section of the firm.
- All staff firm wide have been provided with tips on how to reduce their individual carbon footprint, and so also the firm's environmental impact.

## Results

- In four years, through good management and staff engagement, the London head office has reduced its annual electricity consumption by 27.3%.
- The financial translation of the energy reductions means that the cost for Simmons & Simmons to become CarbonNeutral® has been more than met by this alone.
- Across the company, savings in other business areas include:
  - 15% reduction in business travel
  - 17% reduction in waste to landfill

