We get our waste wood from council civic amenity sites, skip hire firms, pallet manufacturers and joinery workshops.

We supply animal bedding products to supermarkets and large-scale pet wholesalers. Our brands include Snowflake and Woodpecker.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Plevin is one of the UK's leading wood processing and recycling companies
- It was formed in 1973 by Roy Plevin
- The family-owned firm is now run by Roy's sons Simon and Jamie
- We bought the Elkesley site in December 2002
- Today we employ around 50 people at Elkesley
- A further 16 permanent full-time posts, including apprenticeships, could be created if the proposed green energy plant at our site goes ahead
- In total, we collect, process and distribute 600,000 tonnes of wood a year from our sites
- We sell more than 10 million packs of baled/bagged material annually
- We get our raw materials from council civic amenity sites, skip hire firms, pallet manufacturers and joinery workshops
- Much of the wood we recycle would otherwise go to waste. In fact, we prevent 200,000 tonnes of waste going to landfill annually
- Our products include wood shavings; sawdust; hay and straw for use as animal bedding; sawdust for the production of biomass fuel pellets and wood based cat litter; and wood chips for sale to manufacturers of composite wood products and biomass power plants

Apprenticeship is Reece's 'golden opportunity'

A YOUNG man who secured an apprenticeship with us has described the training scheme as a "golden opportunity."

Reece Matthews, 22, has just completed the first year of a three-year apprenticeship at our wood processing plant at Crookford Hill.

The hands-on course sees Reece spending four days a week working as a fitter. He spends the fifth day doing practical and theory work at North Notts College in Worksop.

Former Dukeries College pupil Reece, of Petersmith Drive in Ollerton, is working towards an NVQ in Performing Engineering Operations.

The industry-recognised qualification will equip him with practical skills and further his career prospects.

He said: "The course is absolutely brilliant. It means I can work towards getting a qualification while working on the job at the same time.

"I left school at 16 and had been working at Plevin for about six months when the group engineering manager, Dean Ashton, gave me the chance to do the apprenticeship.

"It's a golden opportunity for me and I'm really enjoying it."

Dean said: "Reece is doing a great job. He is extremely hard working and I'm sure he'll have a long and successful career at Plevin."

Managing director Jamie Plevin added: "Times are tough for young people at the moment, and many are struggling to find a job.

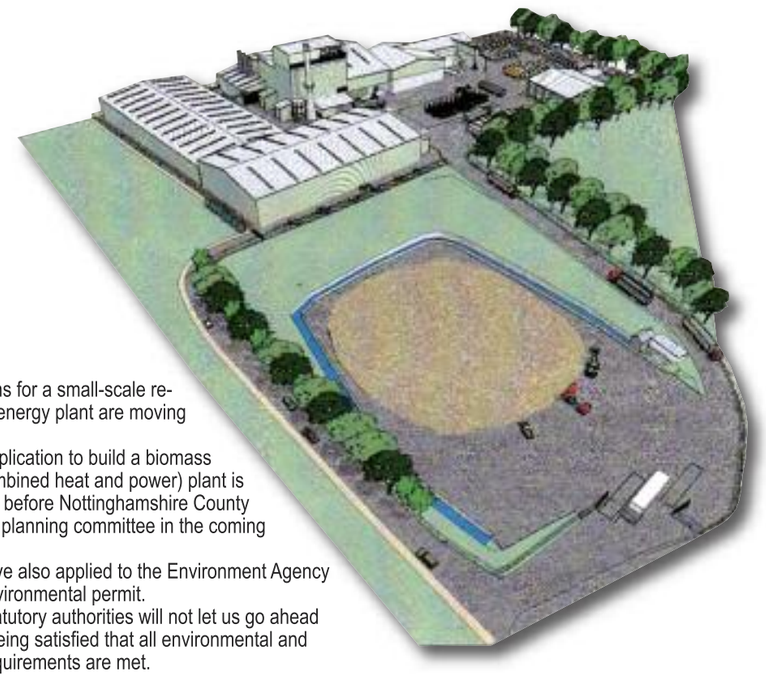
"Apprenticeships offer young people a great chance to forge a career for themselves, and Reece is a prime example of that."

Reece Matthews at work in the Plevin factory: 'The course is absolutely brilliant'

PLEVIN news

October 2011

Going green, cutting waste, creating jobs



OUR plans for a small-scale renewable energy plant are moving forward.

The application to build a biomass CHP (combined heat and power) plant is due to go before Nottinghamshire County Council's planning committee in the coming months.

We have also applied to the Environment Agency for an environmental permit.

The statutory authorities will not let us go ahead without being satisfied that all environmental and safety requirements are met.

If given the go-ahead, the carbon-neutral plant would be built at our existing site on Crookford Hill.

As well as generating renewable electricity from wood that would otherwise end up in landfill, the plant would create 16 full-time permanent jobs, including apprenticeships.

There would also be opportunities for local firms to supply goods and services during the construction period.

The plant would generate electricity to run our manufacturing plant, as well as heat to dry the wood shavings made there. Excess renewable electricity would be exported to the National Grid for supply to households and businesses in the area.

We realise that the proposals have caused concern in some parts of the community – particularly over emissions and air quality.

Through this newsletter, we address these and other questions raised by local residents.

If you have any questions regarding the plant or any other aspect of our operation, please contact us using the details on the right.

Our proposal – Your questions answered: Page 2
Apprenticeship is a 'golden opportunity': Page 4

Welcome to our new community newsletter

WELCOME to the first edition of the R Plevin & Sons community newsletter. As a long-standing family firm and a major employer in the area, we are keen to be in touch with our local community.

We hope you will find our first edition interesting as it contains articles about what we do, how we are regulated, a short history of the company and more.

This newsletter is being distributed to homes near our site.

Best wishes and thanks for reading.

Jamie Plevin
Managing Director

Getting in touch

WE are always pleased to hear from our neighbours. Anyone with queries about our site or operations can call our head office on **01457 838444** or email **mail@plevin.co.uk.**

One of our managers will respond to your enquiry.

Our website **www.plevin.co.uk** is being re-designed and will be going live in the coming months.

DID YOU KNOW?

CHP defined

COMBINED heat and power, or CHP as it is more commonly known, is the simultaneous generation of usable heat and power (usually electricity) in a single process.

CHP plants are used around the UK to provide the power we use in our homes and workplaces. Some of these plants use traditional fuels such as gas, to make electricity, whilst others use biomass, or green fuels.

Local CHP examples

EXAMPLES of CHP plants locally include the facility built by E.On at the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, which supplies all the hospital's energy needs.

The University of Nottingham's School of the Built Environment has also installed CHP generation within its highly innovative Sustainability Research Building.

Biomass CHP plants are an extremely efficient means of generating renewable energy.

We'll be carbon neutral

OUR plant would offset approximately 25,000 tonnes of CO_2 per year from electricity and heat generation, compared to using a heavy fuel oil boiler.

It would use around 22,000 tonnes of waste wood sourced mainly from local civic amenity sites. The plant would be carbon neutral.

Meeting green targets

THE UK is aiming to meet 20 per cent of electricity requirements from renewable sources by the year 2020.

Renewable energy sources such as biomass help towards meeting those targets. They also help move the UK towards a more sustainable future.

OUR PROPOSAL:

Your questions answered

Key facts

- The CHP (combined heat and power) biomass plant would offset about 25,000 tonnes of CO_2 a year – equivalent to the annual CO_2 output of about 4,500 UK households
- Fuel for the state-of-the-art plant would be mainly locally sourced waste wood from local authority civic amenity sites
- Other sources would include waste wood from skip hire firms, pallet manufacturers and joinery workshops – waste wood would otherwise go to landfill
- The CHP plant would produce 1.6 megawatts of renewable electricity and eight megawatts of renewable heat
- It would also create 16 full-time, permanent jobs including several for apprentices

DEAN ASHTON, group engineering manager, answers questions on the proposed wood-fuelled green energy plant.

Q: What exactly do the proposals involve?
A: We are applying for planning permission to build a biomass-fuelled power plant to supply energy to our existing wood-based processing site on Crookford Hill, together with a new integrated wood-chip drying plant.

Q: What would it look like?
A: The proposed development consists of four main buildings: one to dry the wood material; one to flake it; one for new office accommodation and one containing the CHP plant itself. These buildings would be connected by a high-level covered conveyor mechanism. There would be a single stack, or chimney, for the CHP, and three smaller stacks for the drier.

Q: How big is the proposed plant?
A: The chimney would have a maximum height of 30m. The buildings and smaller stacks would have a maximum height of around 20m.

Q: What would the energy be used for?
A: The plant would produce about 1.6 megawatts (MW) of electricity and eight MW of thermal energy. This would provide enough electricity for our site, plus a small excess for export to the National Grid. In addition, we will also use the thermal energy to dry wood products at our plant.

Q: Will there be air emissions and will they pollute the environment?
A: All emissions will be cleaned and made safe before they leave the stack. Emission and combustion controls in the design and operation of the plant mean all relevant air quality standards and guidelines will be achieved. Emissions to air will have no significant adverse impacts on air quality, the natural environment, or the health of local people. We would not get permission to build and operate it without proving this.

Q: Will the new plant be noisy?
A: We have incorporated several measures into the proposed design in order to ensure noise is kept to a minimum. For example, openings to buildings face the middle of the site and modern construction materials are used. The log entry conveyor has been covered and the wood flaker carefully designed. Noise levels are not predicted to increase significantly when the plant starts to operate.

Q: How much waste would be produced?
A: A minimal amount. The combustion units and associated plant would produce approximately eight tonnes per week of fly ash and bottom ash, which would be segregated to maximise the potential for off-site ash reuse and recycling. Any other waste products would be recycled wherever possible or disposed of using the local waste disposal routes. Drainage and sewerage will be processed along with that from the existing plant.

Q: How will you prevent dust escaping?
A: All potentially dusty materials would be stored indoors, within the new buildings. Environmental controls would limit the emission of dust from all buildings and processing areas.

Q: How has the plant's impact been measured?
A: The potential effects were assessed using computer-based atmospheric dispersion modelling techniques (ADMS), and other approaches. The study used worst-case assumptions and took existing air quality levels into account. Meteorological data for the dispersion model was obtained from the Met Office.

Q: What has been done to protect wildlife?
A: We plan to create bird and bat boxes and plant trees and shrubs to protect local habitats and wildlife.These measures would ensure compliance with all relevant UK and European legislation.

Q: Will emissions affect local habitats?
A: An assessment of potential emission impacts on nearby designated sites found that all process contributions were below 0.2 per cent, which is well below guidelines produced by the Environment Agency. These guidelines indicate a contribution of less than one per cent can be considered insignificant.

Q: How would the plant be regulated?
A: An environmental permit from the Environment Agency would set stringent conditions on the plant's emissions to air, land and water. If the plant is built, Environment Agency officers will have permanent access to real-time emissions data, so be able to monitor emissions 24 hours, seven days a week.

Q: When is a decision likely to be made regarding planning permission?
A: Nottinghamshire County Council will have the final say on whether planning permission is granted. The proposals are due to go before the council's planning committee in early 2012.

The PLEVIN process

Turning waste wood into everything from biomass fuel to cat litter

STAGE 1
Our raw material is waste wood. Much of this wood comes from the local authority civic amenity sites that householders take waste wood from their homes to. Examples of what we collect are kitchen cupboards, chipboard furniture and wooden tables. The waste wood is brought to site, sorted and allocated for processing.

STAGE 2
The waste wood is graded and large pieces are broken down. This wood passes through a production plant where it is chipped, or baled and packaged ready for distribution to our customers. Our finished products include wood shavings and sawdust for animal bedding; sawdust for the production of biomass fuel pellets and wood-based cat litter, plus wood chips for sale to biomass power plants and manufacturers of composite wood products.

STAGE 3
Our products are sold by customers including supermarkets and other major retailers across the UK. In the case of cat litter and animal bedding, for example, they are regularly found in the home and you may be using them already without even knowing.