



ASSURANCE STATEMENT

SGS UNITED KINGDOM LTD'S REPORT ON SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES IN THE PREMIER FARNELL PLC 2009 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) REPORT

NATURE AND SCOPE THE ASSURANCE

SGS United Kingdom Ltd was commissioned by Premier Farnell plc to conduct an independent assurance of the 2009 CSR Report. The scope of the assurance, based on the SGS Sustainability Report Assurance methodology, included the text, and 2008 data in accompanying tables, contained in pages 45-56 of this report.

The information in the CSR Report of Premier Farnell plc and its presentation are the responsibility of the directors and the management of Premier Farnell plc. SGS United Kingdom Ltd has not been involved in the preparation of any of the material included in the CRS Report. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the text and data within the scope of verification set out above.

The SGS Group has developed a set of protocols for the Assurance of Sustainability Reports based on current best practice guidance provided in the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Reporting Guidelines (2006) and the AA1000 Assurance Standard (2003). These protocols follow differing levels of Assurance depending the reporting history and capabilities of the Reporting Organisation.

This report has been assured using our Level 1 protocol for content veracity. The assurance comprised a combination of interviews with relevant employees at Premier Farnell plc facilities in UK and USA; documentation and record review and validation with external bodies where relevant.

Financial data drawn directly from independently audited financial accounts has not been checked back to source as part of this assurance process.

STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE AND COMPETENCE

The SGS Group of companies is the world leader in inspection, testing and verification, operating in more than 140 countries and providing services including management systems and service certification; quality, environmental, social and ethical auditing and training; environmental, social and sustainability report assurance. SGS United Kingdom Ltd affirm our independence from Premier Farnell plc, being free from bias and conflicts of interest with the organisation, its subsidiaries and stakeholders.

The assurance team was assembled based on their knowledge, experience and qualifications for this assignment, and comprised auditors registered with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment in UK and Canadian Environmental Auditing Association, accredited in USA through RABQSA International.

ASSURANCE OPINION

On the basis of our methodology and the verification work performed, we are satisfied that the information and data contained within the 2009 CSR Report verified is reliable and provides a reasonable representation of Premier Farnell plc's CSR activities in 2008.

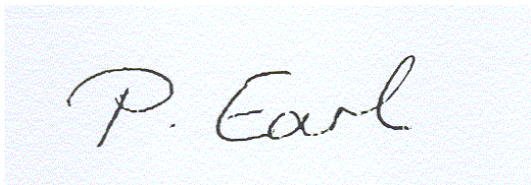
We believe that the organisation has chosen an appropriate level of assurance for this stage in their reporting.

Key areas for improvement to data collection, submission and manipulation and to report content were identified during the assurance process and, as far as possible, were addressed to incorporate improvements into this report. These improvement opportunities are outlined below to enable further review and establish the need for system or process changes in future reporting cycles and to consider reporting on additional information in future reports.

- Normalisation of data could be undertaken using a factor more directly related to the size and scale of operations;
- Actual data could be obtained for newly acquired sites in future reporting cycles;
- Consideration should be made to reporting on supplier impacts where they have a significant impact;
- Consideration should be given to reporting on all data collected to provide a more complete representation of the company's impacts;
- Estimation should be minimized wherever possible and checks should be carried out on information provided by suppliers;
- Conversion factors should be maintained with reference to up to date information sources;
- A system should be considered for ensuring source data is available to those responsible for reporting it and maintained as evidence for assurance process;
- Consideration should be made to reduce the number of manual data entries and transfers to the minimum in order to reduce errors in reporting.

Signed:

For and on behalf of SGS United Kingdom Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue textured background. The signature reads "P. Earl" in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Pauline Earl
Managing Director
08 April 2009

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