

**LAURA ASHLEY**  
**CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**  
**REPORT 2010**



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## BOARD STATEMENT

Welcome to Laura Ashley's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) report for calendar year 2010. Since 2001, we have publicly reported our annual environmental performance, providing information on environmental management in our various Divisions and initiatives we have taken to trade more ethically. In 2009, the report was expanded to include our corporate social responsibility activities as well. This new expanded format will be maintained going forward.

We are pleased to report that during the year in review we were again able to maintain revenue growth. Whilst the business is understandably focused on achieving commercial success, we also recognise that our activities have an impact on our staff, customers, society and the environment. Therefore, our aim is to minimise any impact by embedding such issues more directly in our day to day operations. The issues we face are varied and many and we recognise our responsibility to work hard to minimise these - issues like climate change, safety, sustainability and supplier management. Our core principles of legal compliance, responsible business and sustainability remain high priorities for the entire business and we continue to develop strategy in these areas.

We are particularly pleased to report the following achievements in 2010:

- implementation of our new 10-Point Plan on climate change and corporate social responsibility
- increasing our overall Group recycling of all wastes to 59% on average and reducing total waste by 18%
- increasing overall Group monthly recycling figures to 94% during November and December 2010 following the introduction of a new waste management initiative
- achieving 'zero-waste-to 'landfill' in November and December at one of our Distribution facilities and our Head Office
- registering our inclusion in the Carbon Reduction Commitment scheme
- providing nearly 2000 training places for our staff and launching our new Etraining website
- our extensive review of health, safety and fire compliance in all Company locations
- continuing to offer Fairtrade cotton T-shirts
- contributing £160,000 to national and local charities
- water consumption reduced by 23.5% in manufacturing
- our significant reduction of solvent use to 2.36 tonnes has led to our surrender of local authority permits that are no longer required.

These results are encouraging and, with the support of all our employees, we intend to continue building upon them in 2011 and beyond. Our priorities will remain focussed on energy efficiency and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, the continued implementation (and review) of our 10-Point Plan and the expansion of our corporate social responsibility program. Our plans for 2011 are outlined at the end of this report.

Signed:



Dated:

01/04/2011