



# SABMiller Position Paper - On-Site Waste

## *Working towards zero waste operations*

### 1. The issues

The increasing costs, and in some cases scarcity, of raw materials across the globe has led companies such as SABMiller to focus on the efficiency of their resource usage and maximise the value extracted from their raw material supplies. To date research has investigated the alternative uses for solid wastes either within our manufacturing process or by selling them to other industries that are able to utilise it.

At the same time, growth in population coupled with economic growth, has led to a notable increase in the amount of waste being generated globally. These two aspects in conjunction with the pursuit of improved living standards, the dwindling availability of landfill sites and increasingly punitive legislation, have led to a situation where it is becoming prohibitively expensive to dispose of solid waste streams.

Consequently there is a strong incentive for SABMiller to minimise the amount of waste produced during the production process and to reuse or recycle the wastes that are unavoidable. In regard to breweries, the majority of wastes that are produced are recyclable or re-usable to some extent.

The majority of the wastes produced by our breweries are organic by nature and are considered co-products as opposed to wastes. This includes materials such as spent grains and surplus yeast, which are typically sold to farmers and the food industry. In addition a number of other waste streams are regarded as by-products that can be readily reused and/or recycled such as metals and waste packaging. Consequently there is very little that leaves our breweries intended for landfill.

Additionally the relationship between waste and energy is developing. This presents the possibility of making greater use of our waste streams as energy sources to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

### 2. SABMiller's response and commitments

SABMiller manages its waste streams in a manner that aims to ensure that we utilise our waste resources to the greatest extent possible. SABMiller's aspiration is to achieve a zero waste brewery system. In order to achieve this goal we place an increasing emphasis on reduction, reuse and recycling of waste generated as a result of our production process. When all reasonable options have been exhausted to realise this, we ensure that any remaining wastes are disposed of in a responsible manner.

In order to achieve this goal, we will seek to:

- **Classify and segregate waste groups:**
  - in a manner that will allow for maximum reuse/recycling capability, and
  - prevent cross contamination
- **Reduce waste going to landfill through:**
  - working to ensure that all waste groups are reused or recycled internally or externally,
  - exploring waste to energy solutions, and
  - encouraging suppliers to adopt a "take-back" system for used packaging
- **Reduce the impact of any wastes sent to landfill by:**
  - ensuring wastes are being disposed of at appropriate waste handling facilities
  - checking that waste sites being used are fit for purpose
  - ensuring that waste contractors have a proven competency to handle the types of wastes involved and
  - requiring safe disposal certificates from contractors removing hazardous wastes from site

This Position Paper represents aspirations rather than binding commitments as the contents are forward looking and involve certain risks and uncertainties which are difficult to predict.