

OMAN GREEN AWARDS 2011

NOMINATION FORM

Instructions for completing the nomination form:

- 1. Please use a separate Nomination Form for each award category.
- 2. You may attach extra paper as necessary
- 3. In the event you attach photographs, Statistical Tables and Reports to support your nomination they should be clearly labeled and marked
- 4. Please note that it is mandatory to provide two independent referees for the Nomination to be considered.

Organization Details:

Organization Name Renaissance Services SAOG

CR No.

Organization Type (Business/NGO/Gov) Business

Website www.renaissance-oman.com

Location / Address CBD

Award Category Green Champion

Project Details:

Project Title Office Green Team_(OGT)

Location of Project Corporate Office

One Line Description of Project The OGT project was to set up a central department in each subsidiary that is responsible for documenting the green activities of its location and sharing the information with its management, colleagues and the Renaissance HQ OGT.

Effectiveness

What were your goals? The goal of the OGT was to inspire employee action and awareness, and to document the green activities that were already taking place at our multinational locations and share that information with other green teams. In many operations that were looking at 'cost cutting' solutions, many of those resource-saving solutions were also identifiable as 'green' solutions. For example, a head office had purchased a new fax machine which saved the fax as a pdf file



rather than printing out the document. This dramatically reduced the paper consumption at that office, which regularly printed hundreds of pages for contract tenders, though sometimes requiring <10% of that document. The green team helped identify this upgrade as environmentally friendly, and was able to communicate the development through company literature.

The OGT is also intended to raise the educational literature available to sister companies through the network of sharing. When one OGT held an energy audit at its site, it was easier for the OGT at the Dubai company to learn from the experience and do the same.

Also the OGT was meant to spread the green awareness message to all levels of the company, which is why the nominees were requested to be from various departments and levels of that location.

How have you measured your success? The OGT is a voluntary team and its members are nominated to the OGT for the duration of a quarter (3 months). The OGT meetings are scheduled weekly, and each OGT sets a short term agenda and presents that to the upper management for approval. The OGT has been successfully active for 3 different quarters, and meeting minutes and agendas help each team move forward from the team before it.

Innovation & Creativity

How were innovative methods, strategies or ideas applied?

The OGT helped to create a 'green department' which had not been available to the company and its subsidiaries prior. Each member brought a new idea to the team, some were applied and some are still in process. At the moment only the corporate OGT and one subsidiary has initiated its environmental department under the name Topaz Earth (not OGT) but the aims and system are similar.

Impact

How has the project/initiative/work motivated others to contribute to a greener Oman

I have compiled literature and reviews of eco-conferences that have been shared across the company subsidiaries, and have delivered presentations to the OGT and business heads, motivating companies to develop their green agendas and individuals to actively organize recycling initiatives and educate others on environmental issues.



Other than the OGT, I have personally spearheaded a paper and plastic recycling initiative at the corporate office. Up to 45 kilos of paper is collected each week from offices and goes straight to recycling. The plastic recycling initiative only saw a onetime successful delivery, however the company that was working on the collection of these bottles had to stop its programme for cost reasons.

Originality and Leadership

How has the nominee demonstrated vision, foresight and persistence?

When the company management strategized a 'green agenda' programme, I saw the need for an active parallel department at each site that would communicate the agenda in both an informative 'pull' and 'push' medium, which is how the OGT came to mind. It is a challenge to get members to come to the voluntary meetings and sometimes juice and breakfast is brought in to reward weekly participation, but it's still ongoing.

Continuity & Sustainability

How sustainable is the initiative carried out?

Both the OGT and paper recycling programmes are very sustainable in that they don't require many resources and positively contribute to a better world with little consumption of resource (most of the times the meetings are conducted on natural light, and notes are taken on the back sides of used papers).

Explain how it will be effective in the long term

In the long term, successful OGT may inspire other companies in the community to start their own OGT, and the ultimate objective is to begin community action through the volunteer programme, for example the CBD Green Team, the Al Khuwair Green Team, the Seeb Green Team, etc.