

British Chamber goes carbon neutral by offsetting 48 tonnes of CO2e emissions; launches SEA business outreach

September 28, 2020: The British Chamber of Commerce Singapore is proud to announce that we have achieved carbon neutrality for 2019, offsetting our carbon emissions with the support of member company Swire Pacific Offshore.

Since September 2019, the British Chamber has been focused on the sustainability of our own activities and holding important conversations with our network across the global agenda. As a first step, the Chamber announced an [Equality and Sustainability Commitment](#) one year ago, peer-reviewed by our engaged member committees. On World Earth Day in April this year we launched our **Road to Net Zero theme**, encompassing a series of webinars, business outreach, interviews, podcast episodes and thought leadership articles to position the important discussions around COP26 in a commercially relevant understanding for our members. **Since launch, close to 2,000 people have actively chosen to engage with our net zero activities** with the broader member network kept updated with all the opportunities. Live conversations, and permanent content are made available to all. Editors can find out more about these activities at <https://netzero.britcham.org.sg>, which would not be possible without the support of our engaged and knowledgeable volunteer [business committees](#).

In today's announcement, the Chamber is delighted to share details of the work we have been doing alongside Swire Pacific Offshore to review and offset our carbon emissions throughout 2019. Here, **Simon Bennett, General Manager - Sustainable Development**, outlines our work together:

"Swire Pacific Offshore as a long-term member of the British Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, and sitting on its Sustainability Committee, is very happy to help BritCham kick off its journey to be more sustainable.

We helped the chamber evaluate its 2019 Carbon Footprint in relation to its office energy consumption plus the emissions generated from the few flights taken by staff on business, and the 110 events of all types, in venues around Singapore, and attended by 6,844 individuals in the calendar year 2019.

We then offset this footprint to make BritCham "Carbon Neutral for 2019" using credits generated by a Wind Farm Project to utilize wind resources for electricity generation through the construction of a wind farm with a total capacity of 20.4MW in Yishui County, Shandong Province, China. The electricity generated from the project will be sold to North China Power Grid (NCPG), which will achieve obvious greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions through the displacement of electricity delivered by NCPG, which is a fossil-fuel dominated grid. The project involves the installation of 24 wind turbines with capacity of 850 kW each, which amount to a total installed capacity of 20.4MW.

This is of course just the first step. We (would have then) started working with BritCham to reduce its carbon footprint for the year 2020 – except that 2020 took care of itself, with few flights and almost no in person meetings! We are also supporting BritCham to start reporting its activities from a sustainability viewpoint, as what gets measured, gets managed."

The Chamber's next step is a **regional business outreach**, utilising the British Chambers in South East Asia informal network (BiSEA). Today, we are launching a Road to Net Zero survey across eight markets, asking businesses in each country network to tell us how they prioritise sustainability, if they are working towards carbon targets, publishing Sustainability Reports, and how the pandemic has impacted their efforts. The results of this outreach is expected to be published in early November, one year ahead of the [COP26 dialogue being co-hosted by the UK in 2021](#).

Executive Director of the Chamber, David Kelly, commented:

"I am immensely proud of the work we are doing alongside our members such as Swire Pacific Offshore and our committees to make an impact on sustainability. It is important that we support our members to make sustainability a core element of their strategic mission and share their successes and learnings along this Road to Net Zero with the business community for the benefit of all. This is a major step forwards for the Chamber in our sustainability journey; we hope that this sets a good example of what is achievable and will continue to monitor and reduce our environmental footprint going forwards.

We look forward to celebrating the work of businesses in this area as we award the winner of the Sustainability Champion of the Year category in our upcoming 21st Annual Business Awards."

Businesses in Singapore interested to partner with the Chamber on our net zero drive may contact [Lucy Haydon](#) for further information. Confirmation of the Chamber's carbon emissions offset can be seen in the attached certificate.



END

About the British Chamber of Commerce

The British Chamber is an independent membership organisation with almost 4,000 members committed to strengthening the ties between the UK and Singapore. We have done so since 1954. Our goal is to deliver member value through the services we offer, that all work towards supporting our members in achieving their business objectives and aligning with our mission of Building Networks, Connecting Businesses and Creating Opportunities. Whether a company is just starting research into ASEAN by scoping the market opportunities in Singapore, have established their business and seeking growth, building connections to the UK Government, or looking for brand exposure and employee development activities, the Chamber is available to support their needs at every stage of the journey. With a full calendar of activities throughout the year including events, publications and opportunities to collaborate with our members, the Chamber team is available to help as a point of resource, introductions, networking, learning and profile-raising. Ultimately, our entire network benefits from our leading position as a strong and credible voice for our members and British businesses in Singapore and beyond. For further information visit <http://www.britcham.org.sg>.

For any enquiries, please contact:

Lucy Haydon, Head of Marketing, Communications & Partnerships / Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 67180535 / 90047035 | Email: lucy@britcham.org.sg

 @britchamsg |  bccsingapore |  britchamsingapore

 British Chamber of Commerce Singapore (BritCham)