

Accounting software answers emissions call

Karen Dearne | August 19, 2008

Another local company, NDEVR, has created a tool to aid business compliance with the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act, which became law on July 1.

Chief executive Maureen Clifford says the need for a reporting tool was identified through NDEVR's accounting and financial reporting software experience in the property management, engineering and construction sectors. "Tenants were asking how green their buildings were, and owners are now aspiring to achieve five or six-star ratings for their properties," she says.

"We realised owners needed to be able to report their emissions and decided to build a product that would capture the data and put it into a format for reporting."

NDEVR has based its tool on the Department of Climate Change's standard emission factors used to calculate greenhouse gas emissions.

Carbon data is automatically captured when invoices for electricity and fuel are processed for payment (invoices are an auditable source of data); the tool then completes the calculations and provides the report.

Clifford says the product is also drawing interest from manufacturers, including car makers, steel producers and large transport firms.

"One of the key requirements under the act is comparability between companies within a sector," she says.

"In this way we can see which companies are doing well and which need to put more effort into reducing emissions.

"Ongoing monitoring and reporting will provide insight into problem areas that need to be addressed."

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