



**PRESS RELEASE:** Embargoed until 00:01 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March

## **Corus tops the list of carbon offsetters in the UK using Brazilian chemical plant credits**

Today Sandbag launches an on-line interactive map and report showing for the first time exactly what UK companies are using to comply with their carbon emissions caps and where they are getting their offsets from.

Steel company Tata Corus has two sites in the list of the top 10 users of offsets in the UK. Their steelworks in Scunthorpe was the single biggest user: 9.7% of its total emissions in 2008 were offset. The vast majority came from a chemical plant project in Brazil<sup>1</sup> (90%).

A report based on the data, which covers offsetting across Europe, is also released today and contains recommendations for improving EU offsetting policy, including introducing tighter limits on the types and origins of projects and increasing caps on EU emissions.

Commenting on the new resource Bryony Worthington Founder and Director of Sandbag said:

“Offsetting is a big part of what the UK and the EU are doing to meet their targets and we hope that this new resource will inform people about what is happening and help to drive changes in offsetting policy. By opening this information up to public scrutiny we also hope that companies using offsetting will pay more attention to the standards met by the projects they buy from.”

The new resource is a compilation of two official databases – the UN database of international offset projects and the European emissions trading registry. By linking the sources together it is possible to trace exactly what the big emitters of Europe are using as offsets to allow them to continue emitting.

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<sup>1</sup> The credits came from a project to destroy N20 gases in Brazil. Credits like these from chemical plants have attracted criticism since they are very cheap to deliver and have no additional sustainable development benefits.

## Notes to Editors

1. Sandbag is a UK based NGO focused on scrutinising and campaigning for improvements in emissions trading policy. For more information visit [sandbag.org.uk](http://sandbag.org.uk)
2. The map and report can be found here:  
<http://sandbag.org.uk/offsetmap>,  
<http://sandbag.org.uk/files/sandbag.org.uk/InternationalOffsetsAndTheEU.pdf>
3. Links to data sources that have been brought together can be found here:

**UN database of Clean Development Mechanism Projects generating offsets: <http://www.unfccc.int>**

Link to EU registry tracking compliance with emissions caps:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ets/>

Database of company information in relation to emissions trading:

<http://www.carbonmarketdata.com>

4. Top 10 sites using offsets in UK were:

Installation	Company	CERs/Offsets	Total emissions 08	Offsets as % of emissions
Scunthorpe Iron & Steel Works	Corus UK Ltd	666,500	6,880,337	9.7
Port Talbot Steelworks	Corus UK Ltd	620,000	6,920,753	9.0
Longannet Power Station	Scottish Power Generation Ltd	500,000	5,870,515	8.5
Teesside Power Station	Teesside Power Ltd	235,000	4,941,647	4.8
Lynemouth Power Station	Alcan Aluminium UK Ltd	223,000	2,802,040	8.0
South Humber Bank Power Station	Centrica	166,319	3,044,370	5.5
Cockenzie Power Station	Scottish Power Generation Ltd	150,000	4,381,868	3.4
Spalding Power Station	Spalding Energy Company Ltd	106,326	1,997,610	5.3
Damhead Creek Power Station	Scottish Power Generation Ltd	100,000	2,108,027	4.7
Coryton Power Station	Coryton Energy Company Ltd	97,731	1,642,285	6.0
Grand Total		2,864,876		

5. In another recent report by Sandbag, Tata Corus was revealed as number 3 in the top 10 'carbon fat cat' companies enjoying big surpluses of emissions allowances which insulate it even further from having to make cuts in emissions:  
[http://www.sandbag.org.uk/files/sandbag.org.uk/carbon\\_fat\\_cats\\_march\\_2010.pdf](http://www.sandbag.org.uk/files/sandbag.org.uk/carbon_fat_cats_march_2010.pdf)

6. Top ten sites in Europe using offsets in 2008 were:

Plant Name	Country	Location	Company	Total offsets	% of all offsets	% of plants total emissions <sup>2</sup>
Integriertes Hüttenwerk Duisburg	Germany	Duisburg	Thyssenkrupp	4,984,978	6	56
ES121501000743	Spain	As Pontes de García Rodríguez	Endesa	2,198,586	3	31.3
ES024401000184	Spain	Andorra (Teruel)	Endesa	1,847,240	2	39.2
ES062401000342	Spain	Cubillos del Sil (León)	Endesa	1,724,381	2	29
14220-0016	Germany	Duisburg	Hüttenwerke Krupp Mannesmann	1,720,000	2	37
ES010401000044	Spain	Carboneras (Almería)	Endesa	1,341,822	2	26.9
ELEKTROWNIA TURÓW	Poland	Bogatynia	Polska Grupa Energetyczna	1,115,864	1	8.7
ES130701000797	Spain	Alcudia (Islas Baleares)	Endesa	940,549	1	29.1
LA SNET - Centrale de Provence	France	Meyreuil	E.ON / Société Nationale d'Électricité	862,324	1	32.2
ES062401000351	Spain	La Robla (León)	Gas Natural / Union Fenosa	836,223	1	31.2
<b>Total</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	17,571,967	21	n/a
<b>Total offsets/CERs 2008</b>	<b>81553302</b>					

<sup>2</sup> Calculated using total verified emissions as submitted to the CITL registry.