

Dubai Hotels to Reduce Carbon Emissions

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DUBAI — Dubai hotels are expected to reduce their carbon emissions by 20 per cent in 2010 as part of the environmental initiatives of the Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM) in the Emirates.

Markus Oberlin, general manager of Avireal Middle East, said the size of the carbon footprint from all 300 hotels in Dubai is around 500 million kilogrammes a year.

“That is equivalent to 60,000 round-trip flights between Dubai and London. Dubai hotels produce 6,500 tonnes compared to 3,000 tonnes on an average in Europe.”

The commitment to reduce the carbon emissions was discussed in the first of a series of workshops aimed at promoting sustainable tourism in line with the Dubai Municipality campaign called ‘Clean Up The World’.

Attending it were engineers, PR executives and other senior management staff from more than 35 Dubai hotels. It was held at the Tamani Hotel Dubai Marina.

Shaikha Ebrahim Al Mutawa, director of Environmental Committee CO2 Reduction Programme, said: “We aim to create a close working partnership not only with the hotels but also with their energy providers.

Detailed brochures have been distributed to all hotels and hotels/apartments in Dubai, clearly outlining our objectives,” she added.

Through the carbon reduction programme, participating hotels would learn how benchmarking performances would be reported on ‘Hotel Optimiser’, a web-based software that immediately recognises any abnormal deviation.

Hotels can then be grade based on their size, facilities and occupancy levels.

{ Khaleej Times }