

**SUBJECT: DRAFT INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE
INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY NOTE IAN003
TELECOMMUNICATIONS (CABLING) INFRASTRUCTURES AND CARBON
FOOTPRINT**

The following text is the draft Introduction and Scope prepared by the Project Leader, Peter Lythgoe, as a precursor to the “Call For Interest” within the wider membership of the TIA-B.

INTRODUCTION

A call for a report on the “Carbon Footprint of Telecommunication Infrastructures” was considered at the inaugural meeting of the TIA-B in September 2007; and was agreed to be worthy of an Infrastructure Advisory Note. This support was a reflection of the acceptance of those present that telecommunication infrastructures have a considerable impact upon the environment (27 million tons from the Internet alone).

It can not be denied that the topic represents a considerable investigation. Whilst certainly addressing the impact of the construction and operation of telecommunications infrastructures and the cabling media used, the task could also take into account the beneficial redundancy introduced into other carbon footprints of alternative communication methods e.g. digital newspapers vs. newsprint.

This Infrastructure Advisory Board IAN contains information, recommendations and guidance relating to the “carbon footprint” of telecommunication infrastructures and provides:

- users of such infrastructures with the information on the impact and guidance on how best to minimise that impact by the appropriate selection of operational and maintenance methods;
- consultants with the information to enable more considered decisions to be taken and guidance given to users and operators on design and topology;
- installers with a guide to best practices that will serve to reduce the impact of construction and installation;
- Government agencies with the information enabling legislative decision-making where appropriate.

SCOPE

This Infrastructure Advisory Note (IAN) contains information, recommendations and guidance relating to the “carbon footprint” of telecommunication infrastructures and provides:

- information on the impact of the “carbon footprint”;
- guidance on the reduction of the “carbon footprint” including;
- product selection;
- best practices within construction and installation;
- appropriate selection of operational and maintenance methods.