



# Interest free business loans from the Carbon Trust.

## Helping businesses upgrade equipment and cut energy costs.

Upgrading to the latest energy efficient equipment can help many companies reduce energy costs, modernise production and become more competitive. And with few businesses keen to take out loans for capital investment right now, the Carbon Trust's government funded 0% business loans are the perfect solution.

## The Carbon Trust's 0% loans: benefits for purchasers and suppliers:

- Businesses can acquire the latest equipment, effectively paid for with the monthly energy savings that it produces
- Suppliers of energy efficient equipment can grow their market
- Reduced carbon emissions help to mitigate the long-term impacts of climate change.

## What equipment is eligible?

Examples of eligible equipment include lighting, refrigeration, air conditioning, power units, boilers, air compressors and power drives, with applications approved on the basis of the expected energy savings. While not a 'replacement', insulation may also qualify under the scheme as the loan would be paid off with the energy savings that result from its use.

## Loans up to £500,000.

Loan limits have recently been increased and amounts of between £3,000 and £500,000 are now available.

## Repayment periods.

Repayment periods are set at a maximum of four years, with monthly repayments calculated to be covered by energy savings. Once the loan is fully paid off, the continued savings on energy costs will go straight to the company's bottom line.

## Eligibility criteria.

The following are eligible:

- SMEs, defined as companies with fewer than 250 full time employees and with less than €50 million in turnover (approximately £43m) or less than €43 million in assets (approximately £37m).
- Larger businesses that don't fall under the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency scheme should now also qualify for a loan – this typically equates to those that spend less than £500,000 a year on electricity.

In order to comply with EU guidelines on State Aid, companies operating in agriculture, fisheries, transport or export-related activities are not normally eligible.



However farmers and fisheries will be able to apply for loans from 1st February 2010. They cannot apply in advance for the loans, but can register for a call back from us after the loans become available, call 01865 885846.

(For businesses not eligible for a 0% loan, alternative energy-saving advice and support can be found at [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk))

**No security or arrangement fees required – and a decision in 24 hours.**

Loans are granted on an unsecured basis and there are no arrangement fees to pay. Applications get a response within 24 hours.

**A straightforward application process.**

While businesses need to support their applications with full details of the proposed energy saving project and the estimated energy savings, these can be provided by the supplier of the new equipment. More information about applying for a loan is available at [www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans). Help with applications is also available on 0800 917 3030.

**Further support.**

For businesses that don't have a specific upgrade in mind, the Carbon Trust's new online training tool can help to identify energy-reducing opportunities for their workplace. Find out more at [www.carbontrust.co.uk/onlinetraining](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/onlinetraining)

Support is also available through our free workshops, on-site energy surveys and expert advice. More information is available at [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk).

**Help for suppliers.**

At a time when businesses are finding it hard to get the capital they need, our 0% loans are a very useful deal closer for suppliers of energy efficient equipment. Information Suppliers will find advice on helping their customers apply for a loan at [www.carbontrust.co.uk/suppliers](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/suppliers) and on 0800 917 3030.

**About the Carbon Trust.**

The Carbon Trust is an independent, non-profit company. It was set up by the Government to work with UK business and the public sector to reduce carbon emissions now through practical advice and support, and to develop commercial low carbon technologies for the future.