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## **Paper Paralysis Buries British Businesses under £230m Waste Mountain**

***Lexmark research reveals just how much money is wasted due to bad print practice in the UK***

UK businesses are each wasting thousands of pounds annually on paper according to research announced today by Lexmark, the printer manufacturer.

The research reveals that on average one out of every five pages printed is never used, either remaining on the printer or photocopier or heading straight for the bin. Few businesses, let alone employees, are aware of the economic and environmental cost of this wastage.

More than 110 billion pages are printed annually by businesses in the UK\*. The fact that 21% of these pages are not even used represents a combined cost to British businesses of at least £231m\*\*. In environmental terms, this waste is equivalent to approximately 1 million average sized trees\*\*\*.

“With document production costing between 1-3% of a company’s revenue, this is a significant expense for most businesses,” said Giovanni Giusti, Managing Director, Lexmark UK. “The fact that so much of what is printed is never even used should be ringing alarm bells in finance departments across the country. Yet incredibly, few businesses are fully aware of what their organisation spends on documents, let alone what is wasted.”

With a broad array of advanced functions found in Lexmark’s printing and multi-function technology, Lexmark and it’s channel partners are committed to helping customers use the technology to dramatically reduce both their total consumption and waste.

The research was conducted by ICM Research who asked 600 UK office workers how much of what they printed or photocopied each day was never used. The research found that, on average, 21% of printed documents are never used.

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\* Source: Infraforces

\*\* Based on an average cost of a monochrome printed page – 1p

\*\*\* Extrapolated from research conducted by USA Environmental Protection Agency.

### **About Lexmark**

Lexmark International, Inc. is a leading developer, manufacturer and supplier of printing solutions – including laser and inkjet printers, multifunction printers, and associated supplies and services – for offices and homes in more than 150 countries. Founded in 1991, Lexmark reported approximately \$4.8 billion in revenue in 2003, and can be found on the Internet at [www.lexmark.com](http://www.lexmark.com).

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