



Pearl Initiative

Event Report: Business Pledge Student Lecture



Event Report

Setting Targets for Sustainable and Responsible Growth with UPS

Business Pledge Student Lecture



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The Pearl Initiative launched the Business Pledge to call upon senior business leaders across the Gulf Region to make a public commitment to adhere to principles of ethical and responsible conduct when carrying out business and interacting with society.

The Business Pledge allows business leaders the opportunity to showcase their best practices in ethical business conduct whilst bringing students and business leaders together to discuss the four pillars of the Pearl Initiative's Business Pledge programme, these being:



Acknowledgements

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- UPS
- Peter Harris, International Sustainability Director, UPS
- UK College of Business and Computing
- Paolo Gomez, Student Services Manager, UKCBC
- UKCBC Students

The Pearl Initiative team would also like to extend a special thank you to PepsiCo as supporters of the programme and the Business Pledge Initiative.





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Event Summary

Event Location: UK College of Business and Computing

The Pearl Initiative held a collaborative event with UK College of Business and Computing and UPS on the 16th January 2020. This event is under the Business Pledge sessions which are held throughout the year as part of the Pearl Initiative's student engagement initiatives.

The objective of the Business Pledge is to invite senior business leaders from the Private Sector to make a public commitment towards promoting responsible and sustainable business in line with good corporate governance practices across the Gulf Region.

Students of UKCBC had the opportunity to learn about Setting Targets for Sustainable and Responsible Growth which was delivered which was delivered by Mr. Peter Harris, International Sustainability Director from UPS.

As a global leader in logistics and supply chain solutions, UPS facilitates international trade and applies advanced technology to efficiently manage the world of business. Sustainability, being an inherent part of UPS's strategy and business operation, extends opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for the supply chains of many businesses.

Leading the discussion, Mr. Harris shed light on the efforts taken by UPS to operate more sustainably and reduce the emissions intensity of supply chains worldwide. UPS has been able to crunch down the number of trucks used, the number of miles driven and other areas to optimise UPS's operations.

By moving 100 products to 100 different locations through UPS technology, we have successfully reduced the miles by 7 per day! Saving 100 metric tons of carbon print.

Peter Harris - UPS

Another big challenge UPS's logistics sector face is the movement of a lot of 'air'. A lot of what UPS moves is air with the packaging, and due to oversized packaging, trucks are not being filled efficiently. The space can be taken by 2 or 3 boxes for roughly the same fuel burnt and emissions per box could be cut in half or 1/3rd.

To optimise this issue with technology, UPS incorporated A.I that use laser technology to detect the size and shape of items and in turn creates a box which is optimal for its size. By doing this, the volume taken up by a the number of items to be shipped is cut in half, therefore fitting twice as much items, which then optimises the fuel used per item.

UPS is now incorporating electrification which is shaping up the objective of the organization. While it is effective and sustainable, electrification is ruinously expensive to maintain. Finally, students were encouraged to learn that Power Supply is a big challenge for UPS and those interested in taking on this endeavour will be greatly valued!