

The first Retraders

The very first swap on the Retrader website took place between local businessman Dave Beesley and keen Oxford gardener Steph Griggs-Trevarthen.

Dave runs b-line business supplies an Oxford based supplier of stationery, print and furniture committed to driving down procurement costs and increasing product quality and reliability.

As a business with pretty impressive green credentials (last year b-line made savings of £8,000 by implementing environmentally friendly measures and complying to ISO 90001 and ISO 14001) using the Retrader website was another way Dave could reduce his company's environmental footprint.



Wooden pallets were the items 'retraded' between Dave and Steph, and the transaction was done within hours of Dave listing the items on the website. "I'd been looking to start composting on my allotment, and while I knew the council had a great deal on compost bins I was keen to make my own" says Steph. "I saw the pallets listed on Retrader and knew they'd be perfect. Since speaking with Dave he's delivered eight pallets to my allotment and I've constructed what I think are the fanciest looking compost bins on the site! He's agreed to supply as many as my allotment site would like, so we'll all be able make our own compost units safe in the knowledge that the pallets would otherwise have been waste."

Dave too enthuses about the project: "Retrader is such a fantastic platform, not only for local businesses to be able to exchange resources and reduce waste, but to enable us to make new connections and network with one another" he says. "The website enables us to interact with people who may not have come on our radar before and will encourage us to develop further business opportunities."

In a very short space of time Dave has become a strong advocate of Retrader. "This is just the kind of innovative service that the council can provide to help local businesses in a tough economic climate. I congratulate the Retrader Team and Oxfordshire Waste Partnership for getting the facility up and running," says Dave. "I'm proud that b-line was involved in the first retrade: I'm sure it won't be our last."

Dave welcomes any interested visitors to his business premises in Stanton St John so they can see what they have done to achieve saving money by being green.

