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he main feature in this issue of TPI News focuses on South America, a part of the world that has huge potential for environmental improvement. However, the area does not have an environmentally proactive government and it is clear that those in power need considerable encouragement before they will adopt the depth of activity in environmental improvement that is seen in Europe.

However, more positively, carbon trading is stimulating considerable interest. Perhaps the trading aspect, with its possibility of making money for some people, is the trigger. If improvement schemes now take off in number, it is likely to be due to financial interests rather than a regard for the welfare of citizens.

Britain is well placed to take advantage of the potential market growth, not only by virtue of its extensive knowledge, experience and product base. Many companies are already well established on the continent and many others are making enquiries about trade possibilities.

One catalyst that promotes trade between South America and Britain is the overseas missions service of UK Trade and Investment. Two typical examples are highlighted in the Close Encounters section and it should be taken into account that such missions fulfil a two-way function. While introducing UK business people to high-level contacts in overseas countries, they also enable those contacts to see and discuss the products and experience that is on offer from Britain.

The other articles in this issue of TPI News are representative of what is on offer and are intended to serve as a taster for the range of environmental solutions available in the UK. If you do not see what interests you in this particular issue, please contact us and we will be delighted to put you in touch with a relevant source of information.

LETTERS

We are always delighted to hear from readers on all topics. Many tell us they really enjoy reading TPI News and that is good to hear. If you have any ideas for the newsletter, or topics you would like us to cover, please email caroline-e.wood@aeat.co.uk. Likewise, if you cannot find answers to environmental needs on the EISU website www.uktieisu.thedriveris.com, then please tell us.

If you would like to be put on the mailing list as first customers to receive the new free guide to UK waste management companies that is highlighted in the News section, then simply email us with your address.

Some of the people we have recently heard from include Mr RD Khimesra, President of Thai Polyphosphate and Chemicals Co; Mr Patrick Muginyi, HR Manager of CAFCA in Zimbabwe: Mr Kmalesh Pande Vice President of

Thermax India, whom we were able to help with a query on Clean Coal; and Mr Mahmood Akbar, Senior Projects Manager of Gul Ahmed Textile Mills in Pakistan with a query regarding the company's waste water treatment plant.

We look forward to hearing from more of you.