



## WK Thomas at Caffe Culture

### Stand No. D12

## Feature Response for Foodservice Update - Tableware

### Top of the Tables

Whilst disposable tableware items are essential foodservice products in today's grazing society, it is also an area coming under increasing pressure to be more "green". This challenge to caterers to re-evaluate their disposable purchases is now made easy with a quick browse through the "Green Collection" catalogue from **W K Thomas**.

This comprehensive book includes a wide range of essential items that are "greener" disposable solutions. Each product contributes to the protection of the environment by using renewable resource or recycled materials or eliminates waste due to over-specification. Some interesting examples include:

- 'Goodlife' food containers are made from Sugar Cane Fibre which are fully biodegradable and compostable
- PLA clear drinks tumblers, in numerous sizes, derived of Glucose from roots crops such as corn, wheat, beetroot and potatoes
- Disposable cutlery made from 100% GM free Cornstarch or beech wood from managed forests
- Paper plates and bowls made of post-industrial waste from poly-coated milk carton production. Only reject cartons discarded at source, which have never had milk in them, are used

In addition, there is a range of recycled napkins and 'Snackers and Snacksticks, which are two types of wooden chopsticks, exclusive to W K Thomas. Plus, coming soon is a **NEW** range of **Bio-Ware paper hot cups**.



## **Green Aware**

As consumers become increasingly aware and concerned about the environment it is influencing their purchasing behaviour and choices, both in and out of home. Consequently, foodservice operators require products that cause less damage to the environment. An recent NOP (National Opinion Polls) Survey, commissioned by Scottish Power, has shown that householders in the UK have changed their buying habits as a result of genuine concern for the environment; **74% of respondents said they would buy greener goods because of a concern for future generations and the majority of respondents said that they would prefer to buy from companies which recycled waste materials and supported green energy** so catering operators cannot afford to disregard this highly topical issue.

In response to a rapid and sustained increase in demand from their customers, **W K Thomas** constantly reviews its product range. The aptly named "Green Collection" now consists of around 80 products including recyclable, compostable and bio-degradable items.

## **The Challenge**

The Government has an obligation, under the EU Landfill Directive, to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill; **by 2010 the level has to reduce to 75% of that produced in 1995**. This will impact on Local Authorities and commercial waste management companies and in turn, catering operators, who will all have to respond by finding ways to make segregation of waste for recycling or degradation easier. The "Green Collection" will certainly assist in the ability to meet this challenge.

**W K Thomas** is a leading distributor of packaging, disposables and other non-food products to the airline, airline catering and HORECA (Hotels, Restaurants and Cafés) sectors in the UK. **Packaging, whether bespoke designed or off the shelf, is available by calling W K Thomas on 0208 391 2211 or visit [www.wkthomas.com](http://www.wkthomas.com) for further information.**