



# Evening Standard

## A new ally in the war on waste

**A** FIRM of solicitors with four offices in London and Surrey is celebrating saving 30 per cent on its water bills and 14 per cent on the cost of phone calls. A Hampshire clothing company is equally chuffed to have reduced its gas budget by nearly a third.

Both are clients of Paul Fisher, one of a growing number of utility cost management consultants helping firms cash in on the competition between the suppliers.

He says: "UK firms have cut their costs to the bone to survive, but until privatisation they couldn't save



on the utilities. Now they can, and boost bottom-line profit."

Most companies, don't have the in-house skills to monitor costs and compare constantly-changing tariffs. Fisher's company, Putney-based CRS (Cost Reduction Services), splits the savings it makes 50-50 with the client.