



For release: 20 June 2008

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NEWS RELEASE

RES CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL WIND DAY AT BEAUFORT COURT

Wind Day at Beaufort Court, the award winning eco-friendly office of Renewable Energy Systems (RES), was a huge success, with the public flocking to the former Ovaltine Egg Farm last Saturday (14 June) to celebrate European Wind Weekend. Over 100 wind farms, across 20 different European countries opened up to celebrate Wind Weekend. In the UK 20 venues were open to the public.

On what turned out to be a windy day, visitors were able to stand beneath the turning blades of the famous wind turbine just metres from the M25 and find out more about the green energy generating technology. RES staff were also on hand to provide guided tours of Beaufort Court, run wind-theme workshops for children and answer many questions people had about wind power.

A giant wind turbine was drawn in chalk on the car park and visitors were also able to add their own wind-theme pictures and messages. Wally the Woppapotamus, from Helen Bonney's book 'The Woppapotamus from Titan' was a huge hit with children, helping run workshops on renewable energy and highlighting the importance of climate change.

Visitors were able to follow the Energy Trail around the site to learn about each of the renewable energy technologies, such as the solar panels and the energy crop growing next to the motorway. Well-attended tours ran throughout the day. Wind Day was also supported by a range of local organisations, including Apsley Paper Trail, Groundwork Hertfordshire, Three Valleys Water, Herts & Beds EEAC, Hertfordshire Alternative Technology Society, Dacorum Fair-trade, Dacorum Environmental Forum, Eco-Style, Boxmoor Trust and Friends of the Earth

Rachel Anderson, RES Group Communications Team, said:

"Wind Day at Beaufort Court was a great success, over 500 visitors came to visit the famous M25 Turbine and help RES celebrate all things windy! We have had lots of positive feedback from visitors about Wind Day. It was lovely to see children getting stuck in to Wind Turbine building workshops and have fun learning about renewables."

RES hopes that Wind Weekend has highlighted how far the industry has come and has helped banish some of the myths that have been holding it back We are also delighted to announce that Wind Day at Beaufort Court raised over £150 for Diabetes Research UK and £760 for Watford Peace Hospice"

Visitor Comments:

- "The children enjoyed their hour building a wind turbine and we all enjoyed talking to the people on all the stalls. It was a wonderful opportunity for us"

- “ Very informative, and the whole family enjoyed the visit”
- “What an enjoyable day it turned out to be and how impressed we were with the work that has been done on the site. It is really encouraging to see people actually ‘doing something’ rather than just talking about it. We all came away with lots of ideas.”
- “A big thank you for the open day on Saturday, we are a local family with children and both my husband and I and our children loved it, there was something for everyone.”
- “The tour was very interesting and informative and the children’s activities were also fantastic, my little boy left with his face painted as a pirate carrying the paper he had made! He is 3 years old and has been obsessed with the wind turbine since moving here, so to be able to touch it made his week!”
- “The staff were great, happy to answer numerous questions and with a smile on what would usually be a day off!”

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Notes to Editors

The Renewable Energy Systems Group (RES) is a leading renewable energy company, with offices across the UK and worldwide and is part of the Sir Robert McAlpine group of construction and engineering companies. The RES Group has to date completed over 2,550MW of wind power capacity worldwide and is active in a range of renewable energy technologies (biomass, solar, ground source, wind), as well as sustainable building design. RES is a holder of the Queen’s Award for Enterprise for its commitment to renewable energy and RES and Sir Robert McAlpine are sponsors of the London Climate Change Agency. For more information, visit www.res-group.com

Renewable energy technologies at Beaufort Court include a wind turbine, solar heating, photovoltaic solar panels, energy crops, an underground heat store and a natural groundwater cooling system. A dedicated website for Beaufort Court can be found at www.beaufortcourt.com.

Photos are available

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