



### ***Fife's top environmentally-friendly business announced***

A St Andrews-based farm, holiday cottages and leisure facility will be named as one of Scotland's most environmentally-friendly businesses at a prestigious awards ceremony taking place in Glasgow today (Wednesday 5 December).

Beating off stiff competition from companies of all sizes across Scotland, St Andrews-based Morton of Pitmilly will be crowned finalist at the Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) Awards today at Glasgow's Radisson SAS hotel.

In all, ten companies from across Scotland were awarded finalist prizes while two companies – REpower and Solway Recycling – were awarded special prizes for outstanding service.

VIBES chair Gillian Bruce, commented: "All of the VIBES finalists showed fantastic commitment to reducing their environmental impact and involving staff and the wider community in their initiatives. The VIBES judges were impressed by the winners' outstanding achievement – both in terms of their business savings and their environmental improvements."

Morton of Pitmilly will receive the gong for its use of low emission vehicles and eco-products and for its significant reduction in site waste. Judges were also impressed by its financial contribution and time spent towards increasing the biodiversity of the site.

John Parker, owner of Morton of Pitmilly, commented: "As a small business we have a real responsibility to look after our environment. By using our business resources in new and imaginative ways we have made our business carbon neutral and at the same time greatly increased the bio-diversity of our immediate area."

Now in its eighth year, VIBES recognises and rewards the efforts of Scottish businesses to become more efficient and competitive through improving environmental performance and benefiting a company's bottom-line.

By winning a VIBES award, finalists are eligible to enter the European Environmental Awards in 2008 which attract around 200 entries per year from the cream of Europe's most environmentally positive businesses. VIBES is the only award scheme in Scotland that feeds into these prestigious European awards.

There were also three overall winners announced at the ceremony:

- Large company (more than 250 employees) category – Total E&P UK Ltd: an oil and gas company based in **St Fergus, Aberdeenshire**.
- Medium company (more than 50-250 employees) category – Ertelle UK Ltd: provider of ducted network and blown fibre solutions based in **Hawick, in the Borders**.
- Small company category (fewer than 50 staff) – Cream O’Galloway Dairy: a family-run, luxury ice-cream manufacturer from **Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Galloway**.

Those awards details in full. The large company finalists are:

- Robert Wiseman Dairies (East Kilbride)
- BAE Systems Surface Fleet Solutions (Glasgow)
- Apex International hotel (Edinburgh)
- Radisson SAS hotel (Edinburgh)

The medium company finalists are:

- Gas Call Services Ltd (Glasgow)
- Mackie’s of Scotland (Aberdeenshire)

The small company finalists are:

- Morton of Pitmilley (St Andrews)
- Rabbie’s Trail Burners Ltd (Edinburgh)
- Scottish Seabird Centre (North Berwick)
- Press Mains Farm (Coldingham)

In addition special Service Awards will be given to two companies the VIBES judges felt provide outstanding service. Winners are as follows:

- REpower UK Ltd: a leading manufacturer of wind turbines whose UK headquarters are based in Edinburgh.
- Solway Recycling Limited: the one-stop recycling service for farmers from Dumfries and Galloway.

**Ends**

**5 December 2007**

**Issued on behalf of the VIBES Steering Group by Weber Shandwick. For further information please contact Hayley Ford or David Sawyer on 0141 333 0557 / 07770 886 950/ 07770 886 923. E-mail: [hford@webershandwick.com](mailto:hford@webershandwick.com) / [dsawyer@webershandwick.com](mailto:dsawyer@webershandwick.com)**

**Press pictures of all winners are available by email. Contact Hayley Ford on 0141 333 0557.**

A media invite was issued on Monday 3 December. Photographers and reporters are cordially invited to attend a photocall/media briefing at 3.15pm at the Radisson Hotel in Glasgow on Wednesday 5 December.

### **Notes for Editors**

Case studies of all Scottish winners are available via e-mail. Please contact Hayley Ford on 0141 333 0557.

Businesses from any sector or any type located in Scotland are encouraged to apply for a VIBES award. There are three categories:

- Businesses with more than 250 employees (Large)
- Businesses with between 50 and 250 employees (Medium)
- Businesses with less than 50 employees (Small)

The VIBES competition is supported and managed by a partnership of organisations in Scotland:

- CBI Scotland
  - Envirowise
  - Federation of Small Businesses in Scotland
  - Forward Scotland
  - Highlands and Islands Enterprise
  - Environmental Protection UK Ltd
  - Scottish Environment Protection Agency
  - Scottish Government
  - Scottish Water Business Stream
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- The European Business Environment Awards have been running since 1987 and attract around 200 entries per year from the cream of Europe's most environmentally positive businesses. VIBES is the only award scheme in Scotland that feeds in to these prestigious European awards.
  - For more information on VIBES, please visit [www.vibes.org.uk](http://www.vibes.org.uk)

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