

News release

RSA press office

RSA

Encouraging enterprise
Moving towards a zero-waste society
Fostering resilient communities
Developing a capable population
Advancing global citizenship

Photocall Opportunity: You are invited to send a photographer / journalist / film crew to At-Bristol on Tuesday 6 June. There will be an official announcement for industry at 12midday by Bristol City Council. All press to meet in foyer at At-Bristol. Contact on the day is Lynda Wookey, press officer, Bristol City Council on 0781 0506 649. After the announcement the media are invited to tour the showcase event and talk to exhibitors.

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Free Two-Day Seminar and Showcase to Help Green Businesses

A free two-day event, showcasing cutting-edge environmental technologies and services, is being held in Bristol, on Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 June.

The event is being hosted at At-Bristol and is a must for:

- businesses in the environmental industries sector and
- companies who want to improve their efficiency and environmental performance, or explore sustainable market opportunities

The event is being organised by Bristol City Council's Business Support team.

The programme is as follows:

- A full day seminar on Monday 5 June entitled, '*Clean design and technology*'. This gives companies practical experience in and knowledge about, environmentally conscious design.
- '*Cutting Edge: Bristol's Environmental Technologies and Services Showcase*' event follows on Tuesday 6 June. This showcases around 30 businesses from Bristol's environmental technologies and services sector. It offers delegates the chance to network with relevant industries, and will help them to improve their own environmental performance through sustainable solutions. Throughout the day there is a full seminar programme, starting at 7.30am with a *Sustainable Construction Breakfast*. More talks and workshops will follow until 4.30pm. Contributors include: The Environment Agency, Envirowise (a government supported environmental consultancy) and Envolve (a charity that

The Royal Society for the
encouragement of Arts,
Manufactures & Commerce
Founded in 1754
Registered as a charity in
England and Wales no. 212424

delivers specialist environmental consultancy to businesses) – see the attached flyer for the full programme. An evening event at 6pm will feature Sir George Cox, President of the Design Council.

One of the hot topics to be discussed at the event will be the new Waste and Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive. This aims to prevent waste electrical and electronic equipment arising, encourage reuse, recycling and recovery of WEEE, and improve environmental performance of all operators involved in lifecycle of WEEE. Awareness about the new directive is being further highlighted by the arrival of the RSA WEEE Man sculpture on Bristol's Harbourside on 15 May.

Councillor Gary Hopkins, Executive member for Sustainable Environments and Neighbourhoods, Bristol City Council said,

'Bristol is the perfect setting to showcase the latest environmental technologies and services. This event will illustrate the huge business opportunity that has opened up by the need for becoming sustainable. As well as the environmental industries, businesses and industry from across all sectors should benefit from the seminar programme and showcase event, by finding out how they can improve resource efficiency and comply with legislation.'

For more information, including exhibitor and visitor information, and to register free:

- Go to www.bristol-city.gov.uk/cuttingedge
- Contact Catherine Hale, in Bristol City Council's Business Support Team, by email: catherine_hale@bristol-city.gov.uk or telephone: 0117 922 2925
- If you are interested in attending the evening event on Tuesday 6 email jenny.pearcy@bristol.ac.uk

There are still a few spaces available for the business showcase event. Any business that is interested in having a stand at At-Bristol on Tuesday 6 June, should contact Catherine Hale on 0117 922 2925 without delay.

ENDS

For more information contact Corporate Communications on 0117 922 2650.

Notes to Editors

More details about the free two-day seminar and showcase

- See attached flyer for details about Tuesday's event. More information about Monday's event available from Catherine Hale on 0117 922 2925.
- Please mention in any articles that there are still a few spaces available for the business showcase event. Any business that is interested in

having a stand at At-Bristol on Tuesday 6 June, should contact Catherine Hale on 0117 922 2925 or visit www.bristol-city.gov.uk/cutting edge.

- Seminar and Showcase contributors include: Envirowise (a government supported environmental consultancy), Envolve (a charity that delivers specialist environmental consultancy), the Environment Agency, Lyons Davidson Solicitors, the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme, IMS Consulting, University of Bristol and Bristol City Council.
- **The RSA WEEE Man** is a seven metre tall, 3.3 tonnes humanoid figure made out of old tv's, mobile phones, washing machines and other waste electrical and electronic equipment. He will be in Waterfront Square, Bristol Harbourside, for one month from 15 May. His intention is to make us all think twice about the amount of domestic WEEE each of us use in our lifetime and how we can prevent large amounts of WEEE ending up in landfill. As well as hosting the two-day business seminar and showcase on 5 and 6 June, RSA WEEE Man will also host 'Sustainable Bristol' – a two-day festival over the weekend of 3 and 4 June. This event is aimed at the public, to encourage more of us to do our bit to conserve the planet's natural resources. More about WEEE Man can be found at www.weeman.org. More about the RSA WEEE Man and the Sustainable Bristol Festival can be found at www.weeman.org and www.bristol-city.gov.uk/weeman.
- The RSA WEEE Man is part of the RSA's 'moving towards a zero waste society' manifesto challenge and is an environmental awareness initiative aimed at changing attitudes and behaviour to the disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment.
- The RSA WEEE Man project was developed and managed by Rob Holdway, Giraffe Innovation Limited, based on an original idea conceived by Hugh Knowles and developed in partnership with Mark Fremantle, both Fellows of the RSA. The RSA WEEE Man has been designed by Paul Bonomini and was produced by Stage One.
- The RSA is an ideas exchange for the 21st Century. Drawing on an influential network of leaders from every field and background, the RSA confronts the complex issues facing today's world with initiatives effecting real and lasting change.
- **The WEEE Directive:** aims to prevent waste electrical and electronic equipment arising, encourage reuse, recycling and recovery of WEEE, and improve environmental performance of all operators involved in lifecycle of WEEE. Producers will be responsible for financing more of these activities; retailers/distributors have responsibilities in terms of take-back of WEEE. Likely to come into force in 2007. More information can be found at www.netregs.gov.uk
- The RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) Directive says that certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment must be either removed or reduced to within maximum concentrations. See www.netregs.gov.uk for more information.
- **Reuse your WEEE** - Bristol City Council promotes the reuse of domestic WEEE so if it is still working or repairable please consider giving it to the Sofa Project for refurbishment and resale. Call Sofa Project on 0117 954 3567 to arrange free collection within the Bristol

area. After testing & refurbishment these goods will be offered for sale at low prices to low income families.

- **WEEE disposal facilities in Bristol** - The two main recycling centres in St Philips and Avonmouth accept all domestic Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). We cannot accept any business WEEE for recycling or reuse. More information can be found at www.bristol-city.gov.uk/recycling or Tel: 0117 922 3838.