

## INSTITUTE URGES SKILLED ENVIRONMENTALISTS TOWARDS ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

**An international organisation dedicated to supporting environmental professionals has announced radical changes to the route to membership by formally recognising a vocational route to Associate level.**

The IEMA (Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment) is the principal professional body devoted to the promotion of environmental sustainability and to the professional development of individuals involved in the environmental profession.

The Lincoln-based Institute, which has over 10,500 members, has this week approved a new route to its Associate membership through an original and innovative course developed by Corporate Risk Systems (CRS).

Until now, the only routes of entry to the IEMA Associate level, which entitles members to professionally use the letters AIEMA after their name, have been via its Open Book assessment or an Associate Certificate course. The **new Applied Learning approach** is a path towards achieving Associate membership for experienced candidates and those with a more practical focus.

The new IEMA course avoids the need for any examinations. Instead, candidates build a portfolio of their work which is then independently assessed. The course has the added advantage of allowing candidates to work at their own pace whilst being supported on a one-to-one basis by an appointed personal adviser. Unlike other vocational qualification courses, this new programme is based specifically on the IEMA Associate membership criteria. The portfolio of evidence developed as a part of this programme also provides a base for further knowledge and experience gathering to underpin the peer interview required for Full IEMA membership – the next step up from the Associate level.

Stephen Asbury, Managing Director of CRS, said, *“IEMA has made a ground-breaking advance in recognising a competence based route into its membership.”*

*“This programme will enable delegates to make a real difference to environmental performance in their own organisations as they progress through the programme.”*

The course is based around six units, covering the key elements of any environmental management systems;

- Global environmental issues
- Environmental law
- Environmental techniques
- Environmental management systems
- Environmental communication
- Sustainability

The course is priced at £1995 + VAT, including twelve months' personal tutor support. Induction days are held regularly around the UK and CRS can also provide a similar approach for overseas candidates. For further information on the course please visit [www.crsrisk.com/environmental.htm](http://www.crsrisk.com/environmental.htm) or call Programme Leader Richard Ball on 01283 509175.

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