

Acorn Branches Out

First Acorn Certificate issued in the South West

Pepper Communications, a printing and mailing services company based in Plymouth were inspected to Phase 3 of Acorn this past month by Acorn inspection body NQA. Pepper Communications is the South West's first Acorn registrant.

The small company established an EMS with assistance from various regional initiatives –Envision assisted with an environmental baseline audit and further support was gained through Groundwork's PEM+ programme.

In addition to improving marketing opportunities and driving staff culture change, Pepper delivered an 80% reduction in waste destined for landfill through their waste segregation policy. Annual cost savings of £15,000 have been made through achieving Phase 3 of Acorn with a further £6,000 savings projected for next year.

First Acorn Certificate issued in Wales

Ceredigion County Council's Highways, Property and Works Department were both the first local authority to be inspected to Acorn and also the first Acorn registrant in Wales. Inspected to Phase 2 of Acorn, the scope of the EMS covers highway maintenance.

IEMA embrace Acorn in the supply chain

Finally, congratulations to all of the team at Consilience Media who have been successfully inspected to Phase 3 of Acorn. Consilience, a professional publishing and design company, work closely with the Institute and produce the IEMA's flagship magazine 'the environmentalist'.

For further details on the IEMA Acorn Scheme visit www.iema.net/acorn.

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Ends

Notes:

1. **The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)** is an independent membership body which provides recognition and support to environmental professionals, combining the disciplines of environmental management, auditing and assessment, encompassing both public and private sectors.
2. With over 10,000 members, the IEMA is a leading UK membership organisation dedicated to the promotion of the goal of sustainable development and to the professional development of individuals involved in environmental management and assessment. The IEMA is licensed by the Society for the Environment to award the Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) professional qualification.
3. **The IEMA Acorn Scheme**, an officially recognised EMS standard recommended by the government, offers accredited recognition for organisations evaluating and improving their environmental performance through the phased implementation of an environmental management system (EMS).
4. Acorn focuses on environmental improvements that are linked to business competitiveness and is flexible so that all types of organisation, whatever their size, can participate.
5. Acorn provides a clear route to ISO 14001 certification and EMAS registration.
6. Full details, including the benefits of the scheme, how to participate, the Acorn register and details of the inspection bodies, can be found at <http://www.iema.net/acorn>.

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