



News Release August 09

SAFED HELPING LOW CARBON TRANSITION BECOME REALITY

Leading climate change consultancy AEA has been awarded a contract by the Department for Transport (DfT) to deliver Safe and Fuel Efficient Driving (SAFED) training for drivers in the Bus and Coach Sector.

This £1m DfT programme will require AEA to carry out a demonstration programme educating 200 SAFED driver trainers in the sector, who will then teach 1,500 drivers of Passenger Carrying Vehicles (PCVs). The training will encompass 25 case studies covering a variety of journey and vehicle types with benefits including reduced emissions, lower costs and less injuries and fatalities on our roads. The contract will run until the end of March 2010.

The contract follows a successful pilot study which AEA delivered for the sector in 2007, and represents the latest in a series of SAFED contracts awarded to AEA by the Department for Transport and the Scottish Executive.

To date over 20,000 drivers of vans and HGVs have been trained since the course was launched in 2002, representing a combined value in excess of £8m. Demonstrating the benefits of the programme, the SAFED for Vans programme typically reduced vehicle fuel consumption by 10% with the associated cost and carbon emission reductions making a major contribution to the economic and environmental bottom line.

Commenting on the contract award, AEA Knowledge Leader for Sustainable Transport, Sujith Kollamthodi said:

“With the recent publication of the Low Carbon Transport Plan, the Government has firmly acknowledged the opportunities and challenges we face from the transport sector in reducing emissions. The SAFED scheme plays an important part in helping the UK to achieve its carbon emissions targets whilst also helping both the public and private sectors make valuable efficiency savings.”

ENDS

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About AEA

AEA is one of the world's leaders in the field of climate change and energy consultancy - operating in the UK, Europe, the US and China. It is the leading provider of advisory services to the UK Government and works extensively with the EU and major private sector organisations. With internationally renowned expertise in air quality and climate change, carbon management, resource efficiency and the environmental impacts of transport, AEA employs many world leading experts and provides a high-level of policy consultancy and a range of technical services to its public and private sector clients.

AEA manages the UK government's Envirowise project, one of the world's largest resource efficiency programmes and provides carbon management expertise to many of the UK's largest private sector organisations.

AEA is voted Number One Consultancy for Climate Change and Renewables by industry consultants (Edie surveys 2006, 2007 and 2008).

For further information please visit www.aeat.co.uk.