



News Release

15<sup>th</sup> July 2009

**eircom transport fleet aims at significant fuel bill reductions through AEA programme**

eircom, Ireland's largest telecommunications supplier, has awarded a major programme to leading energy and climate change consultancy AEA, to assist it in delivering a significant reduction in the Group's fuel bill across its entire transport fleet.

AEA will assist eircom's 3,000 fleet drivers to adopt more fuel efficient driving techniques with the core objective of reducing current fuel usage levels by at least 7% on a sustained basis.

The €100,000 order is for the first phase of a 3 year programme to deliver lasting behaviour change. Specifically, AEA is creating baseline data of current fuel use, undertaking driver training, management workshops, trainer scheduling and delivering a web-based portal to provide supporting information.

AEA originally developed the Safe and Fuel Efficient Drivers (SAFED) programme with the involvement of a range of stakeholders and driver training experts on behalf of the Department for Transport in 2002.

From its origins supporting lorry drivers, the SAFED programme has subsequently been successfully run in other sectors including vans, heavy good vehicles (HGV) and vehicles operating in the aggregates sector. It has now been used to train close to 20,000 commercial vehicle drivers and achieved significant fuel savings in all sectors, reductions in vehicle faults (particularly gear box changes), and ongoing reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on an ongoing basis.

Ends

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## **Notes to editors**

### **About AEA**

AEA is a world leader 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 has been voted Number One Consultancy for Climate Change and Renewables by industry consultants (Edie surveys 2006-8)

AEA's team of 40 transport specialists work with a wide variety of public and private sector clients to achieve a sustainable, low carbon future for all modes of transport. AEA's expertise covers emissions, vehicles, fuels and driver behaviour across road, rail, air and sea. Work ranges from leading-edge technical research and policy, through to helping fleet operators reduce fuel consumption and improve their operational efficiency. Our continuing input to policy means that we have an in-depth understanding of current and future strategic environmental challenges facing the transport sector.