

Sustainable Decentralised Energy Supplies by Royal Approval

Utilicom Group Limited are delighted that **our market leading position in delivering sustainable district/decentralised energy schemes across the UK** over the last 28 years, has again been recognised, with the Queens Award for Sustainable Development.

Utilicom offers a full energy solution (conception, design, build, finance and long term operation) for all market sectors, including residential, private and public bodies, using a robust business model delivered via long term energy services contracts.

Our energy supplies of heating, cooling and electricity deliver significant cost and carbon savings to clients and consumers. The environmental benefits arising from our existing schemes include CO₂ emission reductions of over 30,000 tonnes per annum.

Our schemes range from a 300 housing unit development with a care home in Hatfield, to City wide projects such as Southampton and Birmingham. Technologies utilised range from small and large scale combined heat and power, to deep well geothermal energy and biomass.



Utilicom Staff with Carbon Calculator illustrating the CO₂ savings delivered each year by the company

Simon Woodward, Chief Executive of Utilicom Group said

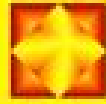
“We are delighted to win this award which recognises our unique track record in developing decentralised sustainable energy scheme across both small and large scale urban areas. **We deliver schemes where previously the sustainable decentralised solution was seen as too complex, with high capital costs and therefore often abandoned**”

“The environmental benefits we deliver come not just from the energy we supply, but also from operating a business which itself cares for the environment with wide ranging internal initiatives on transport, waste handling and equipment recycling”

“Utilicom will continue to embody sustainability throughout all of its expanding operations, as sustainability is more than a performance criterion to the company, but the foundation of which all of its successes are based. The award illustrates that sustainable development is embedded

throughout the energy solutions which Utilicom deliver, where green business is continually demonstrated as good business”

“Utilicom utilises its many years of experience in this sector to allow the company to maximise the benefits delivered through these efficient and cost effective technologies”



utilicom

**Copy of the Queens Award Citation Contained in the London Gazette
21st April 2008**



Utilicom Group Limited receive the Award for continuous achievement in the provision of district energy derived from Combined Heat and Power systems (CHP). The company proactively seeks to maximise the benefit which accrues from strong environmental management, embedding sustainability in its own operations and administration. Innovation is seen in the design and delivery of the company's district energy systems, which supply heating, electricity and cooling to clients from all market sectors. In addition to delivering energy cost savings and meeting clients wider strategic sustainability objectives with these systems, Utilicom has achieved considerable commercial success, reinforcing that this is also a viable business operation. This is a commendable example of a well managed and sustainably focused company which is offering a product of tangible benefit to immediate and wider communities.

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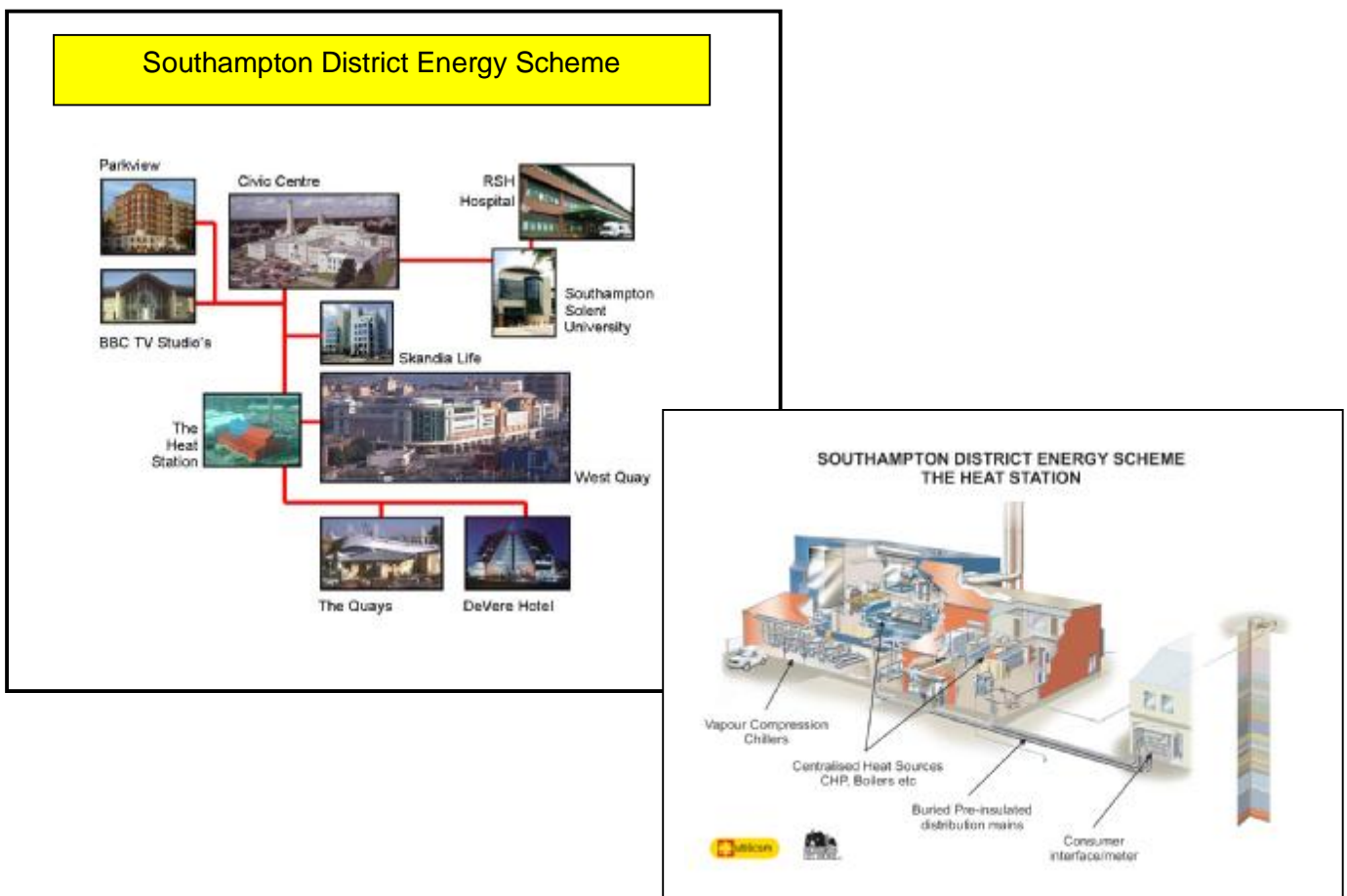
Notes to Editors

For further information

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All photographs and images in this press release are available in their original high resolution form

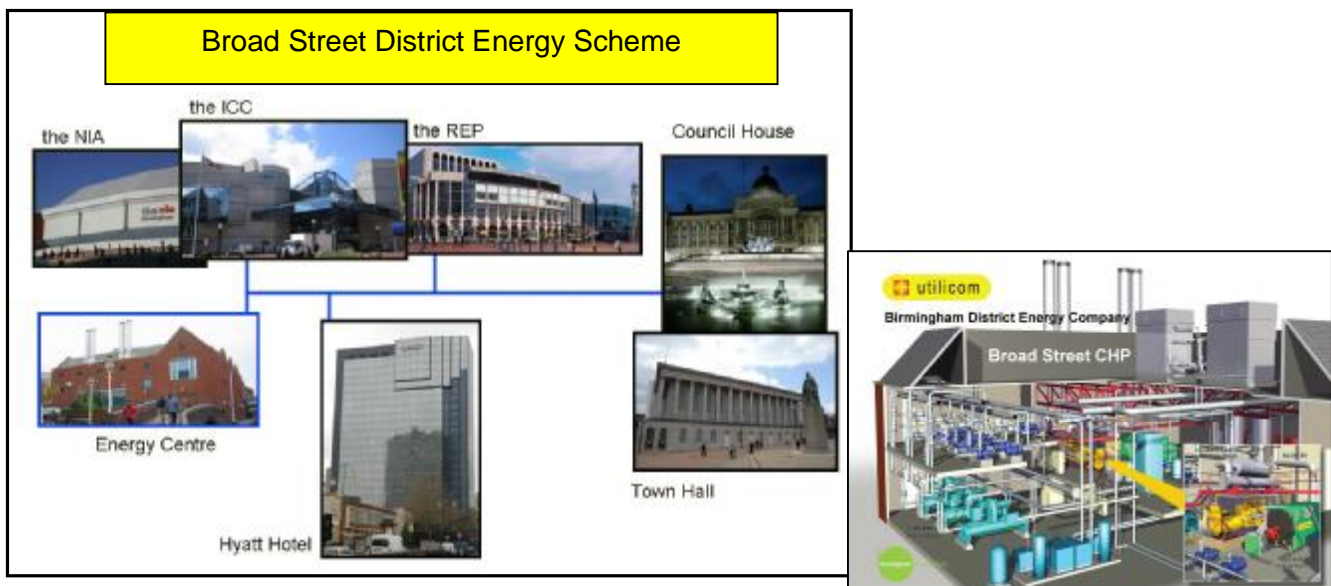
- Ø Utilicom is the UK's leading provider of decentralised district energy schemes and is part of the IDEX Group; the largest privately owned Energy Services Company in France. The Group has over 3000 employees and an annual turnover of €500 million.
- Ø Utilicom's head office is in Crawley, West Sussex but it has operational bases throughout the UK.
- Ø In 2001 Utilicom received the Queen's Award for Sustainable Development for its subsidiary Southampton Geothermal Heating Company (SGHC). SGHC was established in 1987 in partnership with Utilicom and Southampton City Council to deliver a citywide district energy scheme utilising efficient sustainable energy technologies. The scheme features large and medium scale Combined Heat and Power (CHP), energy extracted from a geothermal well and large scale chilled water plant used for air conditioning purposes across the City.



Ø Utilicom are also developing a City wide district energy schemes in Birmingham, commencing with the Broad Street District Energy Scheme which has been operational since October 2007. The scheme, founded on a collaboration between Utilicom, who own Birmingham District Energy Company (BDEC), and Birmingham City Council, serves many of Birmingham's most prominent and prestigious buildings including:-

- The International Conference Centre (ICC)
- The National Indoor Arena (NIA)
- The Town Hall – a Grade 1 listed building
- The Council House – a Grade 2 listed building
- Hyatt Regency Hotel
- Paradise Circus – Leisure and retail area
- The 'REP' Theatre

The scheme will result in cost savings for those linked to it and reduce the City Centre's CO2 emissions by 20% over the next four years. Further Schemes under development include Aston University and Birmingham Childrens' Hospital



Ø The state of the art Comet Square (Equinox) decentralised district energy scheme in Hatfield supplies heat and electricity to 270 residential customers over a private heat and electricity network. This scheme which includes a combined heat and power unit and thermal store, delivers over 1,500 tones of CO2 savings per annum compared to an electrically heated development. By generating the energy centrally for this development it is totally future proofed enabling the integration of biomass or fuel cells as these technologies mature.



**Comet Square (Equinox)
Energy Centre**