

UTILICOM GROUP



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P R E S S R E L E A S E

Royal South Hants Hospital unveils its new life saver

The Royal South Hants Hospital opens its new scheme to help save and protect future generations. February 2007 marks the month where the hospital is connected to more sustainable technology associated with the Southampton District Energy Scheme. Through an awarded of over £90,000 by the Community Energy Program, RSH has enabled its long-term energy provider, Utilicom Limited, to install a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) engine at the hospital. Utilicom, who owns and operates the Southampton District Energy Scheme under its subsidiary Southampton Geothermal Heating Company, have installed a 725kWe CHP engine this summer, which will generate 83% of the electricity used at the hospital.

It has been estimated that not only will the hospital save £18,000 per year from its energy bill, but the city of Southampton will benefit from 175 tonnes of carbon savings, in addition to the 10,000 tonnes which the city currently saves through Utilicom's scheme. Uniquely the CHP plant will meet the hospital's electricity demands, and the excess waste heat from the CHP will be fed into the City wide District Energy Scheme when the hospital's thermal demand falls below the output of the CHP.

Speaking today, Utilicom's Chief Executive, Simon Woodward, said that he was delighted to have secured a second Community Energy Fund award for Utilicom's Southampton Scheme, particularly as this is the first such award to go to the NHS. "This further demonstrates that Utilicom's District Energy Scheme in Southampton is a market leader and example of Best Practice", Mr Woodward added.

The 2-year, £50 million Community Energy programme funded by DEFRA provides support for the installation, extension or refurbishment of community heating schemes, which the government has recognised are key projects to meeting their carbon emission reductions targets.



The Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton

Directors: - A.J.M. Planchot, C.J. Maillard, P.C. Bono, Baroness Maddock (Non Executive).
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Notes to the Editors

- Utilicom Group owns and operates Southampton Geothermal Heating Company Limited, which is developed in partnership with Southampton City Council.
- Southampton Geothermal Heating Company Limited was launched in 1986 under a Joint Co-operation Agreement with Southampton City Council, serving an initial core of consumers from the geothermal well and has grown into a thriving and expanding £6 million multi-source heating and chilling scheme, to include combined heat and power generators.
- DEFRA is the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- The Community Energy Programme is jointly managed by the Energy Saving Trust and the Carbon Trust
- CHP is Combined Heat and Power, where heat is recovered during the generation of electricity (which would otherwise be wasted).

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