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CEEQUAL Scheme for exemplary environmental performance on civil engineering projects sails past £1bn milestone

CEEQUAL – the awards scheme that assesses the environmental quality of civil engineering projects – has announced that the construction value of projects that have been or are being assessed under CEEQUAL has passed £1bn and now stands at £1.35bn.

Since its launch in 2003, more than 50 project teams have now signed up for their projects to be assessed under CEEQUAL. Fourteen projects have so far completed the scheme and received Awards. CEEQUAL assesses how well a project team has dealt with the environmental issues they faced. Minimum regulatory compliance equates roughly to a zero score; to receive an award, projects must score at least 25% and an 'excellent' rating is achieved by exceeding 75%.

CEEQUAL Awards made already include the high-profile Twin Rivers Diversion Scheme – part of Heathrow Airport Terminal 5 (T5) project – which gained a 'Whole Project Award' with a score of 92.7% after the project was completed on budget and ahead of schedule, and – one of the most recent – the remediation of the site for the Cardiff International Sports Village – one of the largest bioremediation operations undertaken in the UK – scoring 91.9%.

CEEQUAL Chief Executive Roger Venables said: "To positively influence the activities of more than £1bn worth of civil engineering construction activity is a huge achievement for the awards scheme and a huge credit to those undertaking important civil engineering projects in the UK with the intention of improving their environmental performance."

To find out more about CEEQUAL – and especially the projects that have received Awards – visit www.ceequal.com or contact the CEEQUAL Scheme Management Team at CIRIA, Classic House, 174-180 Old Street, London EC1V 9BP. (T) 020 7549 3300; (F) 020 7253 0523; (E) ceequal@ciria.org or at Crane Environmental, 12 Cranes Drive, Surbiton, Surrey KT5 8AL, Tel: 020 8399 4389.

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CEEQUAL Scheme developed by a team led by the Institution of Civil Engineers with support from DTI

Scheme & Company Administration: CIRIA,
Classic House, 174-180 Old Street, London EC1V 9BP, UK
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7549 3302 Fax: +44 (0)20 7253 0523
E-mail: ceequal@ciria.org

Scheme Technical Support: Crane Environmental Ltd,
12 Cranes Drive, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8AL. UK
Telephone: +44 (0)20 8399 4389 Fax: +44 (0)20 8390 9368
E-mail: ceequal@crane-environmental.co.uk

Notes to editors

For further press information, contact James Milne at press@ciria.org.

For more details on the purpose and operation of the Scheme, contact CEEQUAL's Chief Executive, Roger Venables, at roger@crane-environmental.co.uk or on 020 8399 4389.

About CEEQUAL

CEEQUAL is an awards scheme assessing the environmental quality of civil engineering projects – originally conceived as a civil engineering equivalent to BREEAM for buildings.

Its development was led by the Institution of Civil Engineers and project-managed by Crane Environmental Ltd, and is now run through CEEQUAL Ltd, a company set up for the purpose and owned by ICE, BRE, British Waterways, CIRIA, the Civil Engineering Contractors' Association, CIWEM, Costain, Crane Environmental, Hyder Consulting, Responsible Solutions, Temple Environmental and WSP Group.

CEEQUAL Ltd has a Board of non-Executive Directors drawn from shareholders and other interested parties and the Scheme is managed jointly by CIRIA and Crane Environmental, with Crane's Managing Director Roger Venables acting as CEEQUAL Chief Executive on a consultancy basis.

CEEQUAL's vision is to progressively increase the use of the CEEQUAL Scheme and its principles by both clients and their project teams, so that demonstrably high environmental performance becomes an integral part of accepted good practice on civil engineering projects.

CEEQUAL uses a points-scoring-based assessment framework, which is applicable to any civil engineering project and includes environmental aspects such as the use of water, energy and land as well as ecology, landscape, nuisance to neighbours, archaeology, waste minimisation and management, and community amenity.

A CEEQUAL Award publicly recognises the achievement of high environmental performance. Awards are made to projects in which the clients, designers and contractors go beyond the legal and environmental minima to achieve distinctive environmental standards of performance.

jm/rkv
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