

# Environmental Technologies

The Environmental Technologies cluster in the West Midlands, growing at a rate of 12% per annum, has an estimated turnover of £1 billion.

The West Midlands market for environmental goods and services is estimated to be worth around £1.6 billion and is expected to grow around 5% per year.

It has been identified as a key growth sector opportunity for Solihull, to be encouraged and developed within the North Solihull Regeneration Zone.



## SUCCESS so far

- There are currently around 1,200 employees working in the Environmental Technologies sector in Solihull and just under 30,000 in the West Midlands, with an expected growth of 5% each year until 2010
- The number of Environmental Technology workplaces has increased by 3% in both Solihull and the West Midlands (2003-2005)
- Regional strengths include contaminated land remediation, air pollution control, waste management and wastewater treatment including well-established, international businesses in addition to many 'new' high growth companies, diversifying from a strong manufacturing base with ready made supply chains



“We have chosen Solihull as a base for our business due to factors such as a highly skilled local workforce, the transport links that enable us to meet suppliers and customers from across the country and the support networks that are available for local businesses.”

**New World Solar**



## SKILLED FOR SUCCESS

### Education & Research Links

#### Birmingham University

The School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham, one of the largest and most dynamic schools in the country, with an international reputation for its extensive research expertise.

#### Coventry University

The Department of Geography, Environment and Disaster Management has maintained a reputation for research quality of national excellence in every research assessment over 15 years. The school hosts research groups in Rural Restructuring, Sustainable Drainage and Environmental Security with members of the Department being actively involved in studies of environments and the application of GIS and remote sensing.

#### Birmingham City University

The Technology Innovation Centre (tic) delivers a wide range of courses and uniquely integrates learning programmes with solutions for business, employing some 300 members of staff, with over a third working directly on industry-related activities. tic also operate training academies for leading global technology companies, including Cisco Systems, Microsoft and Apple.

## Local Networks & Associations

- Technology Innovation Centre ([www.tic.ac.uk](http://www.tic.ac.uk)) is a faculty of UCE Birmingham and a national centre of excellence for learning, innovation and technology transfer.
- Groundwork ([www.groundwork-birmingham.org.uk](http://www.groundwork-birmingham.org.uk)) help businesses and other organisations reduce their impact on the local and global environment and increasing their links with the local community.
- EnviroTrade WM ([www.envirotrade-wm.co.uk](http://www.envirotrade-wm.co.uk)) help businesses develop their use of environmental technologies and seize emerging opportunities through providing practical help, advice and support.
- BREW WM ([www.envirowise.gov.uk](http://www.envirowise.gov.uk)) provides support to businesses to encourage them to maximise their resource efficiency in order to increase their productivity and to reduce their impact on climate change.
- Business Sustain ([www.business-sustain.com](http://www.business-sustain.com)) is a provider of environmental training and consultancy to automotive industry in the West Midlands region.
- NISP – National Industrial Symbiosis Programme ([www.nisp.org.uk](http://www.nisp.org.uk)) is a membership organisation that facilitates links between industries from different sectors to create sustainable commercial opportunities.
- Windsupply ([www.windsupply.co.uk](http://www.windsupply.co.uk)) is a project that helps companies to enter the supply chain for wind turbines.
- Urban Mines ([www.urbanmines.org.uk](http://www.urbanmines.org.uk)) are a team of environmental specialists finding practical and innovative solutions for resource management, providing consultancy support to public and private sector clients.
- WRAP - Waste and Resources Action Programme ([www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)) can help businesses with their expansion plans through a range of business support services targeted at the recycling/reprocessing sector.



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