

## Press Release

### **Boris Johnson supports ecoConnect campaign to create London's first Cleantech Business Centre.**

London (21 March, 2010) ecoConnect CIC, the UK's clean technology (cleantech) industry trade association, formally launched a campaign to establish a cleantech business centre in London at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers on day one of UK Climate Week.

The business centre will also support selected cleantech SMEs with an accelerator programme to get their businesses ready to attract investment faster. It is planned to be operational in 2011.

As well as providing a business environment where cleantech companies can interact and develop partnerships, this facility will also provide a wide range of business support services in areas including: R&D, business strategy development and IP protection.

Said Robert Hokin, ecoConnect Chief Executive, "Our ambition is to create London's first business facility for cleantech companies and to support the creation and growth of jobs in this important sector. ecoConnect's Business Centre will provide centralised, open-plan hot-desk space and meeting rooms for cleantech businesses wanting a presence in London."

He went on to say, "From engaging with our membership, we know there is a pressing need to provide greater support to the cleantech community in the UK. Many have stated they would benefit from having a reasonable cost business presence, close to London investment, professional services providers, corporate users and policy makers. ecoConnect's brand and reputation, its network and its capabilities provide a unique platform from which to address this need through the London Green Zone Business Centre."

**Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, said:** 'I am pleased to lend my support to ecoConnect. It is vital that we accelerate the uptake of cleantech solutions to help us better manage energy demand and cut carbon emissions. This will help us deliver my vision of a thriving low carbon economy which is stimulating green collar jobs and lessening our reliance on fossil fuels. I welcome the impetus ecoConnect is providing.'

About ecoConnect: ecoConnect CIC, a non-profit association, exists to serve the UK cleantech sector. It has a business register of +15,000 and membership of +3500 made up of cleantech businesses, SMEs, investors, advisors and other interest groups.

ecoConnect CIC seeks support from Professional services partnerships, Investors and Government Agencies to help implement this programme.

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