



Hambleside Danelaw Ltd
Press release – 12 October 2007

Hambleside Danelaw's rooflights feature in BeAware research project to reduce waste and improve efficiency

As a manufacturer of plastic building products, Hambleside Danelaw is studying the resource efficiency of their glass reinforced plastic (GRP) rooflights through the BRE's BeAware research project.

The Group is dedicated to continually improving its performance with regard to resource efficiency and the project has greatly assisted with this aim.

The two main improvements being developed are the end of life issues for GRP and the incorporation of GRP waste back into new products.

GRP is currently not recycled in the UK even though the technology exists. Hambleside Danelaw is the first company in the UK to purchase recycling equipment for GRP to use on a commercial scale.

With help from NetComposites, a source of end-of-life GRP has been collected and processed by Hambleside using the new equipment. The University of Loughborough is now conducting waste characterisation studies on the recyclate to determine the best end uses for the material.

Commenting on the project, Robin Jeffery, Hambleside Danelaw's vice chairman, said: "Hambleside's commitment to sustainability through the careful design and selection of raw materials for its products to ensure an extended service life, coupled with the recycling of production waste, results in the continued reusability of the original fossil based material. This commitment has been achieved after a detailed review of production methodology, technological advancement of its products

including extending the service life expectancy of its product range, to seek to ensure that they had a long life cycle, reducing the need for product replacement.”

ENDS

Contact: Aidan Relf – tel. 07710 305182

Notes to editors

1. About Hambleside Danelaw

Hambleside Danelaw Ltd (www.hambleside-danelaw.co.uk) manufactures Glass Reinforced Polyester (GRP) rooflights and other roofing and ventilation products in Inverness and Daventry. As part of the Hambleside Danelaw Group with headquarters in Waterlooville in Hampshire, its turnover is currently in excess of £10 million a year and it employs almost 90 people. The Group was established in 1975 with its first factory at Inverness for manufacturing GRP products becoming operational in 1978. In addition to winning numerous environmental awards, the factory has attained BS 14001:2004 in recognition of its environmental management systems and has now been independently assessed as carbon neutral. In 1992, the company began producing in Daventry non-GRP products primarily for roof and cavity wall ventilation.

In 2006, the Group won a Business Commitment to the Environment award, presented by David Cameron MP, as well as a Queen’s Award for Enterprise: Innovation for its Insulator GRP thermally efficient rooflight. Last November, the Group won its third UK national Green Apple award for Environmental Best Practice before being recognised by The Green Organisation as ‘Green Heroes’. This was followed by Hambleside Danelaw’s third Vision in Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) award in five years in the medium sized companies’ category. The Group has been recently accredited with the Planet Positive mark by leading carbon solutions company dcarbon8 and last month it collected the Scottish Natural Heritage Award for Excellence in Environmental Sustainability at a Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI) Highlands and Islands awards ceremony.

2. About BRE

The BRE Group (www.bre.co.uk) is a world leading research, consultancy, training, testing, and certification organisation delivering sustainability and innovation across the built environment and beyond. Among several ongoing programmes, it runs a DBERR and industry funded project called BeAware – Built Environment Action on Waste Awareness and Resource Efficiency. A consortium of construction products manufacturers are participating in it.

Construction accounts for 150 million tonnes of UK waste, of which 40% is from manufacturing process. By 2008, Hambleside Danelaw will generate only 3 tonnes of waste, equivalent to that of the average British household.