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## United States Trade Mission

Invest in Bristol News (extract) - July 2009

A trade mission of clean tech / energy sector investment and R&D agencies from the United States eastern seaboard visited Bristol and Bath over 16th -17th July as part of a UK roadshow supported by the UKTI.

## Sustainable Business in Practice expo / conference (10th July) - BETS Event

Invest in Bristol News (extract) - July 2009

More than 200 companies and public sector organisations attended the Sustainable Business in Practice Expo 09, which took place at the Future Inn Cabot Circus Hotel on Friday 10 July and was run in association with the Bristol Environmental Technologies Sector Initiative (BETS).

## GVA Grimley Puts UK Cities To The Green Test - Bristol boasts enviable sustainable credentials

GVA Grimley Press Release (extract) - 24<sup>th</sup> July

Bristol remains one of the greenest cities in the UK, according to new research from property consultant GVA Grimley. The research reveals the performance of leading UK cities in terms of carbon emissions, waste levels, and the relationship between carbon and property as part of its latest Sustainability Report – Cities, Commerce & Carbon: The Role of Property.

Cities examined within the report include Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle and Sheffield.

Bristol performs consistently well across all areas of the research, including both domestic and business CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, recycling and transport.

In the business sector, in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> emission

levels per employee, Bristol again boasts the lowest levels, followed by Edinburgh and Newcastle.

Transport generated CO<sub>2</sub> was also analysed with Bristol coming out on top as the lowest carbon producer followed by Birmingham and Liverpool, and importantly reducing its levels per head of population.

Just under a quarter of waste is recycled across the cities studied in the report, illustrating an increase of over six percentage points between 2005/06 and 2007/08. This is a relative increase of some 35% in recycling across the cities. Bristol is again the top recycling performer with over 38% of its total waste recycled.

David Mace, regional senior director at GVA Grimley in Bristol, says:  
"Bristol continues to act as an exemplary catalyst for the rest of the country when it comes to its green footprint. This is excellent news for Bristol, and is a credit not only Bristol City Council and the city's residents and business occupiers, but also to property developers who have been working to encourage an ethic of sustainability over recent years.

Bristol City Council Leader Barbara Janke said:  
"I welcome this report and its thorough analysis of the issues. We are very proud of the way business actively engages with us on sustainable issues. Companies such as GVA Grimley make a tangible contribution, not only within their own organisation - but in advising the wider development sector.

"Bristol City Council strives to create the right conditions for business to flourish. In particular, our planning policy enables green development, and our transport policies aim to encourage cycling, walking and public transport use. Employers have told us that Bristol is an ideal place to locate because of the opportunities for a healthy and sustainable lifestyle."



## **New partnership to advance wind-power technology**

Bristol University Press release (extract) - 22nd July

It is predicted that wind energy could provide as much as 13 per cent of global electricity demand in 2020 and as much as 25 per cent in 2030. A partnership announced today [Wednesday 22 July] aims to advance wind-power technology using composite materials.

The University of Bristol has established a partnership with Vestas Wind Systems, a world-leading provider of wind power and services, to develop composites technology for future products.

Ian Chatting, Vice-President, Global Research for Vestas, added: "Composites are recognised as a vital component of wind turbine blades design and manufacturing capability. We already use composites but increasingly we expect higher performance composites to be applied to increasingly efficient, larger blades. Such capability will strengthen our global competitiveness.

"Bristol is a proven world-leading centre of excellence for composites research and development and we are delighted to make this the focus of our own composites research. Academic collaboration is increasingly important, and I expect Bristol will work with our international research network on this important technology area."

## **Bristol is bidding to be a host city for the World Cup in 2018**

Bristol City Council Press Release—July 2009

Bristol is bidding to be a host city for the World Cup in 2018. If successful Bristol could be selected by the England bid team to host 3-4 first round matches and possibly a quarter-final and have teams staying and training in the city as well as thousands of visitors visiting throughout

the competition.

Hosting the 2018 World Cup would place Bristol firmly on the world map - for sport, for culture, for business and tourism. Each World Cup game in Bristol would be worth many £millions to the economy of the whole sub-region. Money will be spent in hotels, on campsites, in restaurants, supermarkets, shops and on travel. Bristol will be able to capitalise on the international audience, and showcase the unique character of the city - the history, the culture and creativity.

## **Management buy-out of Bristol heating company**

Evening Post (extract) - 14<sup>th</sup> July

A FORMER engineer is to become the managing director of a heating company he joined as a newly qualified apprentice more than 30 years ago.

Ivan Hudd is leading a group of investors who are taking over Bristol company Dynamic Heating Services (DHS) in a £1.5 million management buy-out.

The firm specialises in installing low-carbon heating systems which are often a hybrid of traditional and renewable central heating systems.

Ivan has worked for DHS since 1975 after completing his apprenticeship with Crown House Engineering.

## **Government Agencies invited to relocate to Bristol**

Bristol City Council Press Release—13<sup>th</sup> July

Bristol City Council linked up with local property agents to promote Bristol's Temple Quarter Eco-Cluster as the UK's ideal relocation destination at a conference of government sector property and estate managers on Friday 10 July 2009



The conference 'Working Corporately - Exploiting government property as a corporate asset' was staged by the Office of Government Commerce at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster.

An **Invest in Bristol** exhibition stand gave delegates an opportunity to view office development brochures for the Temple Quarter and discuss their property relocation requirements.

Through **Invest in Bristol**, Bristol City Council, the Bristol Property Agents Association and other partners are working together to promote the Temple Quarter area of the city as a world-class and environmentally sustainable relocation destination for London based government departments and agencies.

"Temple Quarter offers an unrivalled opportunity which already combines an existing multi modal transport hub with a well established public sector occupier base and the opportunity to further expand Bristol's stock of environmentally sustainable buildings," says Simon Price, Partner, Alder King.

"From our work with the Government on the Lyons Report - research into over 100 locations throughout the UK which could attract Government departments out of London and the South East - we know that Bristol scored very highly indeed as a receiving location. It is really important, in these challenging times, that we all work together to attract these organisations to Bristol," adds Mike Henry, Partner, King Sturge.

## **AXA employees roll up their sleeves and save local community over £100,000**

AXA Press Release—10<sup>th</sup> July

Over 1,000 AXA employees based in Bristol have completed 150 tasks set by local charities, schools and community groups, helping to save over £100,000 pounds in labour and equipment

costs.

The projects, which are part of AXA's Hearts in Action Community Challenge Initiative 2009, included support for St Stephen's Infant School, Aspects and Milestones Trust and the Avonside District Headquarters Guide Hut.

## **New Bristol businesses booming despite recession**

Bristol University Press Release (extract) - 9<sup>th</sup> July

A robot that glides underwater and a new therapy for multiple sclerosis were just two of the pioneering technologies showcased at the annual SETsquared garden party in Bristol yesterday.

Some of the South West's most innovative technology companies from the University's SETsquared Business Acceleration Centre presented their businesses to prospective investors at the event in Goldney Hall, which attracted more investors and delegates than in the previous five years.

During the evening, six companies made a 90-second pitch about their business to an audience of South West Angel and Investor Network (SWAIN) members, investors, venture capitalists, supporters and mentors.

Bioinduction, which specialises in devices to treat chronic pain, secured the top prize of £250 and the Veale Wasbrough Elevator Pitch trophy.

Nick Sturge, SETsquared Centre Director commented:

'There is a perception that times are tough for all businesses, but there has never been a better time to found a technology start-up, the excitement around this event proves that.'

He added that the SETsquared Centre in Bristol has seen applications to join the programme double and there has been twice as much investment activity among its member



companies, with £40 million invested in the last 18 months alone.

## **BT Speeds Up Super-Fast Broadband Plans In The South West**

BT Press Release (extract) - 9<sup>th</sup> July

About 24,000 Bristol homes and businesses to have access by early summer 2010  
BT today revealed that about 24,000 homes and businesses in Bristol will benefit from it speeding up plans for super-fast broadband.

Three BT exchanges in the city covering Downend, North Bristol and West Bristol are among the latest UK locations due to be upgraded next year with super-fast fibre broadband.

## **Harvey Nics to sponsor Bristol Balloon Fiesta**

Evening Post—9<sup>th</sup> July

Harvey Nichols will be this year's main sponsor for the Bristol Balloon Fiesta.

The posh department store is not usually associated with bargains but it picked one up for itself when it won a sponsorship package worth more than £120,000 for just £2,000 last night.

Harvey Nics was one of 100 businesses that paid the £2,000 fee to take part in a VIP dinner and draw staged by the fiesta's organisers at the Mercure Holland House hotel, St Mary Redcliffe.

Its win means that this year's event, which takes place from August 6 to 9, will now be known as the Harvey Nichols International Balloon Fiesta.

Head chef at Harvey Nics' Cabot Circus branch Louise McCrimmon said: "We didn't expect to win.

"It was an absolutely great event to be part of and great to be able to support that. To win was the icing on the cake, we're really thrilled. It is the start of a friendship between Harvey Nichols and the south west. "The Balloon Fiesta is unique to

Bristol. We've got stores across the country but nowhere is there an event like this."

## **The College of Law to Open £1.2m Centre in Bristol**

The College of Law Press Release—6<sup>th</sup> July

The College of Law is establishing its first centre in Bristol, representing a £1.2m investment and creating 40 new jobs.

The new centre, which will serve the whole of the South West region, will be its eighth in the UK and consolidates the College's position as the country's leading provider of postgraduate professional legal education.

Planned for a city centre location, the Bristol College will be accepting students from September 2010.

Bristol was chosen not only as a significant centre for law firm activity but because is also fast becoming a hub for the growth of the legal services market, which is likely to further grow once the new legal services legislation is implemented.

Cllr Simon Cook, deputy leader of Bristol City Council, said: "This is a significant announcement for Bristol and we welcome The College of Law's investment in our city. Bristol is widely recognised for its highly skilled legal sector and the new College will help the region both keep and attract future talent."

## **Business booming at new Bristol hotel**

Evening Post—2<sup>nd</sup> July

Just four weeks after opening its doors for business, the boss of Bristol's newest hotel says it has already hit the 100 per cent occupancy rate.

The hotel and catering business has been one of the hardest hit sectors in the retail trade in the recession and many Bristol hotels have suffered over the last six months.



But according to the owner of the new Future Inns Hotel, which is based opposite the £500-million Cabot Circus shopping centre in the heart of the Bristol city centre, business is booming.

## **Warburtons Officially Opens Its First Bakery In The South West**

Warburtons Press Release (extract) - 1<sup>st</sup> July

Warburtons officially opened its first bakery in the South West yesterday (30 June), marking the completion of a £45 million investment and the creation of more than 140 jobs for the area.

The family baker spent almost a year building the bakery at Western Approach Distribution Park in Severn Beach and started production in December. It currently bakes 80,000 loaves every day and delivers to almost 1,000 outlets across the South West.

More than 140 new jobs have been created in the past six months during the first phase of the development on the 12-acre site, with roles ranging from bakery operatives to drivers, business development managers to management and administrative staff.

## **Waste firm chooses Bristol site for new plant**

Evening Post (extract) - 1<sup>st</sup> July

A derelict factory at Avonmouth could be turned into a recycling complex which would include an energy from waste facility.

Viridor, one of Britain's biggest waste management companies, wants to use the former Sevalco site for the £180-million scheme which would include burning waste to produce electricity.

Details of the plan come just a week after it was revealed that a £40m deal has been struck to build a plant in Avonmouth which will reduce the amount of rubbish sent to landfill by up to 80 per cent.

Viridor hope to submit a planning application to use part of the Selvaco site in the autumn.

