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Koch Fertilizer Press Release - February 2010

Made in Bristol Spring Fair

10th & 11th April

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Wizz Air launches Bristol to Warsaw

Bristol Airport Press Release—29th March

Wizz Air, the largest low fare, low cost airline in Central and Eastern Europe announced today that it would launch a new route from Bristol to Warsaw.

The twice weekly flights will start on 19 September

Government cash and company expansion delivers 500 new jobs to Bristol

Evening Post (extract) - 26th March

More than 500 jobs will be created in the Bristol area thanks to a £1.9 million government grant and an insurance company's expansion.

Money for 303 jobs will come from the government Future Jobs Fund, with 215 to be created in Bristol and the rest in North Somerset and B&NES.

NFU Mutual will create 250 jobs when it takes over an extra floor in the building where it already has offices.

£600m deep sea terminal will put Port of Bristol in 'premier league'

Evening Post (extract) - 26th March

The Port of Bristol will be pushed to the “top of the premier league” after the Government backed plans to build a new £600 million deep-sea terminal at Avonmouth, creating 500 new jobs in the process.

The new terminal will be built partly on land reclaimed from the River Severn and will enable Bristol to welcome some of the world's biggest container ships, which are currently unable to fit through the narrow lock entrances at the existing docks.

Creating the new terminal will mean the Port of Bristol will be able to handle an extra 1.5m 20-foot equivalent container units a year enabling the port to serve regions outside the South West, such as the West Midlands, even more effectively. It will be located in the estuary negating the need to pass through locks.

Simon Bird, chief executive of Bristol Port Company, said: “We are very alive to what is happening in the market place. I can't put a timescale on it because nobody knows what will happen with the economy.

“We are delighted to have approval. If ports were ranked like the football league, this will put us at the top of the premiership.”

Transport Minister Sadiq Khan said: “The ports sector plays a vital role in our national economy, with the vast majority of goods arriving in or leaving the UK through one of our ports.

“Today's decision will be of huge benefit to the region and the country as a whole.

“Bristol has a rich maritime heritage, and these proposals will enable the city and its commercial port to see this continue long into the future, as well as providing a major boost to the local economy.”

International company expands into Bristol, bringing up to 40 jobs in next three years

SWRDA Press Release (extract) - 25th March

An international service engineering company that is planning to create 40 new jobs in Bristol in the next three years has set up offices in the city, with help from the South West RDA (Regional Development Agency).

EUROGICIEL, which has annual turnover of 50 million euros, employs 700 people in France and Germany and has now added a presence in Bristol to be closer to its biggest client, Airbus.



Hugues Morel, vice-president at EUROGICIEL, said: "The South West RDA has been instrumental in helping establish our presence in Bristol by introducing us to new business opportunities and ensuring we are embedded in the region's aerospace sector. This has been crucial in helping us get to the point where we now have a fully operational office in Bristol.

"For a new company in the city, and indeed new to the country, these connections are vital if we are to continue to thrive and reach our goal of employing up to 40 people in the next few years.

"As a major centre for aerospace, Bristol is the right place for us to be if we are to continue to grow our business and work more effectively with existing clients that are based here."

Alveston House is Bristol's small hotel of the Year

Alveston House Hotel Press Release (extract) - 23rd March

Alveston House Hotel near Thornbury has won the Small Hotel of the Year award at this year's Bristol Hospitality Awards 2010.

The independently-owned hotel faced competition from other shortlisted quality hotels including the Hotel du Vin Bristol, Winford Manor and The Rodney Hotel, but was named overall winner in the small hotel category and carried home the coveted title at last night's awards ceremony, which took place in Bristol.

Alveston House, which is located 10 miles north of Bristol on the A38, prides itself on its 30 comfortable bedrooms, conference facilities for over 100 guests, an award winning restaurant and the highest AA rating of any 3 star hotel in the Bristol area.

Alveston House Hotel, which is described by guests as "a stunning find", "an oasis of calm" and "a hidden gem" on hotel review website tripadvisor, is a former Georgian home which

became a guesthouse in the late 60's and which has steadily grown over the past 30 years.

Bristol-based S&B Automotive Academy receives award

Evening Post—19th March

A Bristol automotive academy has been recognised for its contribution to skills development by receiving an award from Prince Michael of Kent.

Jon Winter, chief executive at S&B Automotive Academy in Bristol, was presented with a platinum SkillMiles Trophy at a London awards ceremony as part of an initiative organised by the Institute of Motor Industry (IMI), whose patron is Prince Michael of Kent.

The SkillMiles scheme was set up to provide official recognition of a person's or company's contribution towards the IMI's work in meeting the skills needs of the automotive industry.

Points are awarded to individuals and businesses that support the drive for better skills.

Jon said: "This award is for everyone at the academy who work so hard to make it the excellent place of learning that it is.

"They should all be extremely proud of their achievements."

Hydrogen ferries are the future

Bristol City Council Press Release—18th March

A hydrogen-powered ferry could be the future for Bristol Harbour. Bristol City Council is inviting companies with the technological know-how to design, develop and demonstrate a hydrogen-fuelled boat in partnership with a local ferry operator.

The aim is to showcase hydrogen fuel cell

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technology which is emerging as a possible clean and green alternative to traditional diesel and petrol engines. It is hoped that this project will demonstrate the advantages to the public and businesses, kick-starting a hydrogen economy in Bristol and attracting new environmental innovators into the city.

The trial is set to run for between three and six months, starting in the Summer. The ferry will be expected to run for 42 hours over a six day week to demonstrate the advantages of the technology in this setting, including a less noisy and smelly experience for commuters and tourists.

Hydrogen fuel technology is seen as a possible fuel of the future as it is clean, with the potential for significantly lower environmental impacts than other fuels; the only waste product of hydrogen fuel cells is water, so it will help to reduce air pollution in the Harbour.

Councillor Jon Rogers, Executive Member for Transport and Sustainability, said; "We are looking at alternative environmentally-friendly technologies for all Bristol transport. The harbour is a great place to trial a new innovation which sends this message, as it draws crowds and is enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of people every year."

"Bristol has a long history of maritime innovation and this is hopefully the next step. We want to show that Bristol is a place to try out new environmental technologies, creating new jobs while combatting climate change, peak oil and other environmental concerns. We are hopeful that the ferry will also reveal other hydrogen-based opportunities, maybe including the next generation of rapid transit."

International wind turbine firm moves to Bristol

Bristol City Council Press release—18th March

Bristol's place as a leading green city and a magnet for low carbon investment has been further reinforced with the news that international wind turbine company Vestas is moving to the city - creating 20 new jobs.

Vestas Spare Parts & Repair - a division of Vestas Wind Systems - has moved into an office located at Portwall Place in Bristol in order to build close connections with the University of Bristol and the local business community.

This location decision by Vestas, a world-leader in modern energy, demonstrates the growing international profile of Bristol as a leading environmental technology centre with over 300 environmental sector companies present in the Bristol area employing 13,600 people.

Welcoming the news, City Council Leader Barbara Janke said: "This is a further sign of Bristol's strengths as a leading green capital city and our attractiveness as an investment location for international companies.

"The environmental technologies sector is increasingly important to Bristol's economy and the decision by this leading wind turbine company to invest here is a very welcome development."

Bristol City Council's Invest in Bristol team successfully attracted the location of Vestas Spare Parts & Repair, in 2009, despite strong competition. From their first contact with Invest in Bristol, Vestas have benefited from the Council's 'red carpet' Reception Service for Major Investors ensuring their location requirements were successfully met resulting in this high profile investment win for the city.

Alan Bailey, Chair of the Bristol Environmental Technologies Sector partnership commented,

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"I think Vestas moving their Spare Parts and Repair Division to Bristol is tremendous news for both the city and the strong Environmental Technology sector that is located here.

It is also important to remember that it is particularly significant for Bristol and the sector to attract companies of this calibre when the economic outlook has been so challenging." Invest in Bristol's location support for Vestas consisted of a bespoke proposition including business case justification, property search assistance, city orientation visits and key introductions to the local business community and higher education sector.

Invest in Bristol continues to provide after-care support to Vestas including advice on building its relationship with the city, information on schools and housing, and support for future growth plans. For more information on the Invest in Bristol programme visit www.investinbristol.com

Student numbers at College of Law's new Bristol centre expected to top 200 in first year

College of Law Press Release (extract) - 19th March

The College of Law's new centre in Bristol looks set to exceed its student targets by nearly 10 per cent when it opens in September.

High levels of applications to study on its Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) and Legal Practice Course (LPC) have led the College to predict that more than 200 aspiring lawyers will enrol in the first year.

The new centre, in Bristol's Temple Quarter, is The College of Law's first in the South-West, representing a £1.2m investment and creating 40 new jobs. It will serve the whole of the South West region and consolidate the College's position as the UK's leading provider of postgraduate professional legal education.

The large amount of interest surrounding the new Bristol centre, located in the Temple Circus

building, has led to high attendance at the College's open days for prospective students, with nearly 120 people registered to attend its next event in Bristol on March 24.

Bristol-based Co-operative Legal Services, which is attending the open day, has just announced that it will provide regular work placements for College of Law students to allow them to gain valuable work experience in the legal sector.

Nigel Savage, Chief Executive of The College of Law said: "The College has an excellent reputation as a top quality, high end legal education provider that doesn't compromise on quality. Nationally we are market leaders in professional legal education and I am delighted that our reputation has also translated so quickly into dominance within the legal education sector in the South West region.

"Our investment in the Bristol centre speaks for itself. We're based in a fantastic new building offering students a state-of-the-art working environment.

"Our highly motivated staff are all qualified lawyers and provide unrivalled levels of face to face teaching, which complements our cutting edge e-learning technologies.

"We have relationships with over 400 law firms nationwide, including three of the six biggest in the world, and provide highly-resourced careers advice services, giving our students the best possible start to their legal careers."

National Composites Centre to be built on Bristol's SPark

SWRDA Press Release (extract) - 17th March

SPark, the Bristol and Bath science park, will be home to the UK's National Composites Centre (NCC) - a brand new research facility for composite materials, which are increasingly used to improve efficiency in the aerospace, automotive and wind turbine industries.

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The National Composites Centre Steering Board confirmed the state of the art centre's location at a conference in Bristol today, attended by Business Minister Ian Lucas and hosted by the South West Regional Development Agency (RDA) and the University of Bristol.

The conference was held to encourage major manufacturers to join companies such as Airbus, AgustaWestland, GE, GKN, Rolls-Royce and Vestas to become National Composites Centre partners and supporters.

The centre will be an independent, open-access facility for the design and rapid manufacture of high quality composite products. The 70,000 sq ft (6,500 sq m) building will provide the very latest in design and a high-tech manufacturing facility, all in one place. More than 200 leading industry researchers and academic experts will be based at the centre, working together to speed new technologies through the design and laboratory phases and into production.

Rocket scientist visits UWE for Science and Engineering Week

UWE Press Release (extract) - 15th March

The rocket scientist who is developing one of the engines for the Bloodhound SSC supersonic land speed record attempt will be speaking at the University of the West of England on 17 March. Daniel Jubb will describe his work on Bloodhound's hybrid rocket, designed to power the car to speeds of over 1000mph.

His talk is part of UWE's programme of events for National Science and Engineering Week (NSEW) and will be aimed at all students from higher education institutions in the region.

The Bloodhound full-size show-car is also on view at UWE's Frenchay campus during NSEW. The car itself is being constructed at a site adjacent to Brunel's ss Great Britain on Bristol's Harbourside.

Bristol named Britain's most musical city

Evening Post—12th March

Bristol – the city which produced bands such as Massive Attack and Portishead - has been named Britain's "most musical city" in a new survey.

The city has more musicians relative to population size than any other in the UK, according to research by PRS for Music, which collects artists' royalties.

The PRS (Performing Right Society) used its 65,000-strong database to locate the birthplaces of its membership.

The figures were then weighted by population to reveal what it claims are the country's most musical hotspots.

While London has the greatest number of musicians living in it, it did not make the top 20 for musical births, coming in at number 26.

Bristol has gained a reputation as one of the UK's leading producers of both professional and amateur musical talent.

Furthermore, music is "engrained into the culture", the researchers found, with Clifton pub the Coronation Tap being voted the "UK Music Pub of The Year" two years running.

The city is well-known for the "trip-hop" music scene of the 90s, with acts such as Tricky, Massive Attack, and Portishead leading the way.

Ellis Rich, chairman of PRS, said: "Bristol has been a longstanding contributor to the British music scene, constantly injecting its unique pizzazz of trip-hop and rock bands.

"The city's culture has always warmed to an eclectic music dynamic, paving the way forward for many of the country's greatest venues whilst also inspiring a hotbed of music talent."



Perfect Bristol pie firm grows

Evening Post (extract) - 8th March

A chef who travelled the world cooking for rock stars and a London bar owner are the unlikely pair behind one of the South West's biggest food phenomena of recent years.

Brothers-in-law Jon Simon and Tristan Hogg, formed Pieminister in 2002, Tristan having been inspired by the tasty and well-made pies he had eaten while travelling around Australia. Jon also knew a thing or two about good food, having owned bars in London.

Pieminister was launched to instant success in 2003 in a former print works in Bristol and after much trial and error with ingredients and baking.

Pieminister pies are still made by hand in Bristol using the freshest and most local ingredients available and without additives or enhancers, although the kitchens have now moved to a larger site.

Pieminister now has two shops in Bristol and outlets in London, Oxford, and Trentham, near Stoke-on-Trent, while its Piemobile touring pie kitchen has become a familiar sight on the UK festival circuit.

It also sells to some of the UK's finest food halls and delis, including Harvey Nichols and Wholefoods in London.

Sainsbury's recently joined Waitrose as a stockist, a move expected to help take turnover through the £5 million mark this year.

HRH The Duke of York opens new chapter in Macquarie's future

Macquarie Press Release (extract) - 2nd March

Macquarie's new premises in St Thomas Street, Bristol, were officially opened today by His Royal Highness The Duke of York, in his capacity as the UK's Special Representative for International

Trade and Investment.

The St Thomas Street building in Bristol, known as The Core, has become the new headquarters of Macquarie's retail operations in the UK. Bristol was chosen due to the South West's expanding retail financial services infrastructure, access to its growing professional financial planning community and the ability to attract and retain quality staff.

Peter Maher, Group Head of Macquarie Banking and Financial Services said: "We are delighted that The Duke of York was able to open our state-of-the-art new office. By opening the headquarters of our Banking and Financial Services business in Bristol, we demonstrate our continued commitment to the UK.

"Our new premises provide us with space to expand as our business develops and it gives our staff the working environment that is necessary for us to capitalise on the new opportunities in financial services."

350 jobs created as Tesco moves distribution centre

Evening Post (extract) - 2nd March

A brand new distribution centre, which will see more than 800 jobs come to the South West, has opened this week.

The Tesco warehouse and distribution centre at Pilning, near Bristol, will employ 826 people and supply the whole region, along with South Wales.

As a result of the move, 354 new jobs have been created at the warehouse, which stands close to the Old Severn Bridge.

Tesco said the 483,000sq feet distribution centre at the Portal West Distribution Park would allow it to offer a better service to its stores across the South West, south of England and Wales.

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Avonmouth, U.K.: Koch Fertilizer**Koch Fertilizer Press Release—February 2010**

Koch Fertilizer Trading Sàrl has entered into an agreement with Bristol Port Company to expand its existing storage space to add 25,000 metric tons of capacity, for a total of 35,000 metric tons. The expansion will feature new blending facilities coupled to electronic weighbridge systems and computerized product handling. Construction is expected to be complete by third quarter 2010.

Made in Bristol Spring Fair - 10th & 11th April

Colston Hall - 11 - 4

Free Entry

Best of the South West Food Producers Showcase

60+ Art & Craft Stalls

Free Childrens Art Workshops

Live Music

Cafe & Restaurant

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