



PRESS RELEASE

- for immediate publication -

Thursday 4th September 2008

The Inexus Group is delighted to announce that Envoy has achieved PAS 55 accreditation, a gold standard placing Envoy firmly at the forefront of the industry. Lloyd's Register has certified Envoy under the Publicly Available Specification 55 (PAS 55), a comprehensive process of assessment which identifies excellence in utility asset management.

The award confirms Envoy as a leader in implementing outstanding industry practice in the management of gas operations and maintenance activities throughout Great Britain.

PAS 55 is a universal standard developed by the Institute of Asset Management (IAM) and published by the British Standards Institution (BSI) that provides a consistent set of requirements for Asset Management across many industry sectors. The certification requires organisations to optimally manage investment, operations, maintenance, resources, risks, performance and sustainability for all their physical assets.

Mike Pearce, Managing Director of Envoy, said: "The achievement of PAS 55 accreditation is the result of 18 months of hard work by our project team, developing and implementing consistency throughout our asset management system. I am grateful to all the Envoy staff who have consistently demonstrated their commitment to delivering the best possible service and achieving the highest standards in every aspect of their work."

Mike Pearce continued: "The assessment process has proved invaluable to Envoy and the Inexus Group. It demonstrates our peerless ability to provide safe and reliable gas networks to our customers and stakeholders."

For further information please contact Russell Hicks or Jennifer Blackman on 029 2031 4068 or by email at russell.hicks@inexus.co.uk.

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Photo caption: Peter Glaholm of Lloyd's Register presents the PAS 55 certificate to Mike Pearce, Managing Director of Envoy, at the Inexus head office in Cardiff Bay on 4th September 2008.

For further information or higher resolution pictures suitable for print use, please contact Russell Hicks or Jen Blackman on 029 2031 4068 or by email at russell.hicks@inexus.co.uk.

NOTES FOR EDITORS:

1. Inexus was the first company to break the former British Gas monopoly in connecting new properties to the gas network in the early 1990s, delivering the benefits of competition to new housing developments across the UK. This was followed by the first operational independent electricity distribution licence and the first independent water inset application. Inexus currently owns and operates gas and electricity networks at over 9,000 locations across Great Britain and has connected more than 500,000 properties serving around one million customers, with contracts in place to connect a further 230,000 properties serving another half a million customers.
2. Envoy is an Inexus Group company that provides comprehensive asset management services to utility infrastructure providers and asset owners.
3. Lloyd's Register is an independent risk management organisation. The Lloyd's Register Group works to help improve its clients' quality, safety, environmental and business performance throughout the world, because life matters. Its expertise and activities cover shipping, railways, other asset-based industries and oil and gas. The Group comprises charities and non-charitable companies, with the latter supporting the charities in their main public benefit goal. The Lloyd's Register Group has an impressive track record in verification and related activities. The PAS 55-1 certificate was awarded to Envoy Asset Management by Lloyd's Register Verification, a member of the Lloyd's Register Group.
4. The Lloyd's Register Group used its worldwide experience of management systems and asset management expertise in a variety of industries to support the Institute of Asset Management (IAM) in the development of PAS 55. Published by the British Standards Institution (BSI), PAS 55 is a leading management systems framework upon which effective asset management strategies can be based. It was developed as a quality benchmark for management practices in asset-intensive industries such as power, oil and gas and transportation. Many organisations are adopting the PAS 55-1 principles to increase the confidence of regulators and shareholders in their management activities. PAS 55 is strongly encouraged by regulatory bodies such as Ofgem (UK), Dte (Netherlands), ORR and OPPPA (UK) for its ability to provide assurance to wider stakeholders that risks associated with complex asset systems are being appropriately managed. The Lloyd's Register Group has seen considerable interest from organisations around the world seeking to develop their asset management systems to be compliant with PAS 55 and has carried out verification activities in many sectors, including rail, electricity and gas. It has also seen interest from regulators, and national and local governments.

**For further information please contact Russell Hicks or Jennifer Blackman on
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