



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 26 JANUARY 2009**

### **NEW CARBON NEGATIVE CEMENT FROM NOVACEM TAKES TOP HONOURS AT THE ALL UK & IRELAND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY RUSHLIGHT AWARDS**

Eventure Media presented the Rushlight Awards 2008 at a packed Gala Dinner on Thursday 22 January at the New Connaught Rooms in London. Attended by investors, city advisers, specialist and general media, trade associations, government departments, agencies and particularly companies and organizations that are leading the way in clean technology, the key note speech was given by Dr David Clarke, the CEO of the Energy Technologies Institute.

The Rushlight Awards are a celebration and a promotion of new technology, innovation and best practice across the whole environment spectrum for organisations throughout UK and Ireland. Designed to highlight innovation and the holistic environmental benefit of technologies that are most likely to or are already creating a stir in the market, they are a means of disseminating the successes to support further development.

Dr David Clarke said: “The UK energy system is under increasing pressure, requiring upgrading and replacement to tackle the combined challenges of climate change, energy affordability and security of supply. The scale of the investment challenge is estimated by the UK Government to be around £100bn to reach the UK target for 15% of all energy to come from renewable sources by 2020. The majority of this will be in Engineering, Technology, Manufacturing, Installation and Operation of equipment and systems.”

The overall winner was Novacem, a spin-out from Imperial College, London. According to the company’s entry in the Rushlight Awards book: “The annual production of ~2.5 billion tonnes of Portland cement is already responsible for ~5% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and cement volumes are expected to double by 2050. Novacem is developing the next generation of carbon negative cement systems based on inventions from the 5\* Civil Engineering Department at Imperial College, London.

In contrast to Portland cement, the Novacem process causes minimal CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It then hardens by absorbing CO<sub>2</sub> and so locks atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> into construction materials. This means that for every tonne of Portland cement replaced by Novacem cement, ~1 tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> is captured and stored indefinitely. This will transform the cement industry from a significant emitter to a significant absorber of CO<sub>2</sub>.”

The judges commented: “The potential impact of the Novacem technology is huge - providing an exciting opportunity to move an industry from being a significant climate change problem to being part of the solution.”

Novacem Chairman Stuart Evans added “We aim to change the world, but this is a big job and we can’t do it on our own. We are building a global eco-system of partners and investors who can make a real difference. Plus we need to work closely with governments as well. Winning this prestigious award will help spread the word about the real difference Novacem can make”.

As well as Novacem, the other group awards winners were OpenHydro (Natural Energy), Pursuit Dynamics plc (Clean Energy), Shaw Water Engineering (Water Innovation), G&P Batteries (Waste Innovation) and Connaught Engineering (Pollution Management). Awards were presented for 24 specialist categories and it was these winners and commended entries which were then shortlisted for the group and overall awards covering renewable energy, clean fuels, power generation, water, waste and pollution management. The complete list of winners is set out below and the winners and the commended entries, together with a description of their technology and innovations, are enclosed as an appendix. Further details about many of the entries can also be found in the Rushlight Awards Book which will be available shortly on [www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk).

The judging was performed by an independent panel of recognized experts covering all the clean technology sectors drawn from academia, trade associations, government departments and specialist media.

Clive Hall, CEO of Eventure Media which runs the awards, said: “If we are going to achieve our renewable energy, waste, water and carbon emissions targets, it is not only investors who have a key responsibility...., but also government must set an appropriate framework in the context of what the new technologies are capable of delivering and ... the technology developers themselves must prove their technology, know their future markets and have a clear and supportable plan to exploit their markets commercially.”

**Overall awards winner:**

Rushlight Award (overall winner) sponsored by the Institute of Physics: Novacem

**Group awards winners:**

Rushlight Natural Energy Award, sponsored by Black & Veatch: OpenHydro

Rushlight Clean Energy Award, sponsored by Cleantech Magazine: Pursuit Dynamics plc

Rushlight Energy Environmental Award, sponsored by Welsh Power: Novacem

Rushlight Water Innovation Award, sponsored by Kilburn & Strode: Shaw Water Engineering Ltd

Rushlight Waste Innovation Award, presented by Clean Capital: G&P Batteries Ltd

Rushlight Pollution Management Award, sponsored by Clarity Authoring: Connaught Engineering Ltd

**The direct entry category winners were:**

Rushlight Solar Award	Willis Renewable Energy Systems
Rushlight Ground & Air Source Power Award	Mitsubishi Electric
Rushlight Wind Power Award	Ampair
Rushlight Marine Energy Award	OpenHydro
Rushlight Hydropower Award	University of Edinburgh undergraduates
Rushlight Biomass Award	Orchid Environmental
Rushlight Biofuels Award	Pursuit Dynamics plc
Rushlight Powered Transport Award	Artemis Intelligent Power Ltd
Rushlight Hydrogen & Fuel Cells Award	Intelligent Energy
Rushlight Power Generation & Transmission Award	Disenco Energy plc
Rushlight Nuclear Energy Award	Structure Vision Ltd
Rushlight Carbon Capture & Storage Award	Air Products plc, Imperial College London and Doosan Babcock Energy Ltd
Rushlight Energy Minimisation Award	Pursuit Dynamics plc
Rushlight Drinking Water Award	Shaw Water Engineering
Rushlight Waste Water Award	Rural Generation Ltd
Rushlight Water Management Award	Polypipe Civils
Rushlight Waste Management Award	G&P Batteries Ltd
Rushlight Waste Composting Award	Envar Ltd
Rushlight Waste Recycling Award	REFLATED Consortium
Rushlight Waste Minimisation Award	AM Technology
Rushlight Air Pollution Technology Award	Connaught Engineering Ltd
Rushlight Land Environment Award	Zander Corporation Ltd
Rushlight Water Environment Award	Polypipe Civils
Rushlight Noise Abatement Award	Industrial Noise & Vibration Centre (INVC)

**Partners and sponsors:**

The **Institute of Physics**, [www.iop.org](http://www.iop.org), is a scientific membership organisation devoted to increasing the understanding and application of physics;

**Welsh Power**, [www.welshpower.com](http://www.welshpower.com), which has Uskmouth Power, the cleanest coal-fired power station in the UK with approval to burn biomass and two further biomass projects in planning;

**Kilburn & Strode**, [www.kstrode.co.uk](http://www.kstrode.co.uk), the leading European and UK trade mark and patent agents with a particular capability in clean technology;

**Black & Veatch**, [www.bv.com](http://www.bv.com), one of the leading global consultant engineering firms which provide specific climate change focused solutions to the energy and water sectors;

**Clarity Authoring**, [www.clarityauthoring.co.uk](http://www.clarityauthoring.co.uk), who provide technical authoring services and who once again are assisting with the publication of the Rushlight Awards e-book and

**Cleantech Magazine**, [www.cleantechinvestor.co.uk](http://www.cleantechinvestor.co.uk), a leading global magazine focused entirely on clean technology.

**Judges:**

The judging panels comprised recognised leading experts from the fields of academia, government, media and trade associations. In particular, the judges included individuals whose full or part-time roles extend to representing the Technology Strategy Board, the Renewables Advisory Board, Environment Agency, BERR, Chatham House, WRAP, the Advisory Committee on Carbon Abatement Technologies, NESTA, the Carbon Trust, the Renewable Fuels Agency, the Energy Saving Trust and the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. One of the unique attributes of the Rushlight Awards is the fact that the judges are entirely independent of both Eventure Media and the sponsors and headline partners.

**Specialist media partners:**

In view of the very specialist nature of some of the categories, there were 22 media partners promoting and covering the event. The full list is available on [www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk).

**Supporting Partners:**

This year, the Rushlight Awards had over 60 supporting partners including leading institutes, trade associations, government departments and other networks which represent and promote clean technology throughout the UK and Ireland. The full list is available on [www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk).

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**Eventure Media Ltd**

Eventure Media launched the Rushlight Awards in 2007 and the event has already gained a substantial following. As the only awards for technology developers across the whole cleantech spectrum, it has attracted the interest of companies both large and small which are leading the development of renewable energy, clean fuels, power generation, water, waste and pollution management in the UK and Ireland. In addition to the Rushlight Awards, Eventure Media also runs other events focused entirely on the clean technology sector, such as the Rushlight Survey and ensuing report, Rushlight Briefings and the Rushlight Conference which will follow later in the year.

[www.rushlightawards.co.uk](http://www.rushlightawards.co.uk)

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