Severn Trent Services Receives Royal Recognition

His Royal Highness The Duke of York presents Queen's Award to company for development of Eclox™ Water Test Kit used to test for chemical contamination of water.

FORT WASHINGTON, Pa. – July 19, 2004 – His Royal Highness The Duke of York presented Severn Trent Services with the United Kingdom’s most prestigious award for business innovation – the Queen’s Award for Enterprise – at a ceremony held at the company’s Didcot, England offices on June 28. The presentation followed official notice of this year’s award winners, which was made in April. Severn Trent Services received the honor in recognition of its development of the Eclox™ Water Test Kit, which tests for chemical contamination of water in just four minutes. Originally developed for the British Ministry of Defense, the kit is now finding increasing use by water utilities as a safeguard against terrorism.

As the United Kingdom’s Special Representative for International Trade and Investment, The Duke of York provides visibility for, and works on behalf of, the governmental body that supports British companies trading internationally.

The Eclox Test Kit works by measuring the amount of light emitted when water impurities react with specially formulated reagents. They system can quickly detect chemical contaminants ranging from sewage to phenols, amines, heavy metals, cyanide, chlorine, nerve and mustard gas, pesticides and many others. Testing results can be easily downloaded to a computer using sophisticated, user-friendly software. The information is entered automatically into a database where other test results can be added and a fully auditable record maintained for future reference. The portable kit weighs less than 20 pounds.

More than 500 portable Eclox units currently are in service with various military forces around the world, many in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Eclox system also can be deployed to provide humanitarian relief in the case of natural disaster by rapidly checking for unpolluted sources of potable water.

Severn Trent Services managing director Dr. Mike Ashley praised the team that developed Eclox, which was led by Dr. Rhys Lewis, director of instrumentation. “This award is a tribute to the knowledge, experience and resources of Severn Trent Services’ people,” Ashley said. “It’s gratifying that The Eclox is finding widespread use not only by the world’s military forces, but also by many commercial and industrial companies that process and provide potable water.”

About Severn Trent Services
Severn Trent Services (www.severntrentservices.com), based in Fort Washington, Pa., is a leading supplier of water and wastewater treatment solutions. The company's broad range of products and services I concentrated around disinfection and filtration technologies, pipeline analysis, rehabilitation and repair services, contract operating services, and state-of-the-art residential metering products. Severn Trent Services is a member of the Severn Trent Plc (London: SVT.L) group of companies. An international environmental services leader, Severn Trent is a FTSE 100 company.

Photo below
Severn Trent Services Managing Director Dr Mike Ashley welcomes The Duke of York to Severn Trent Services in Didcot, England.