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### **RFU plans to reduce its carbon footprint**

Leading energy and climate change consultancy AEA has won a contract from the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to support its preparation for the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC), which started in April.

AEA is working with the RFU management team to prepare a CRC strategy and collect all the necessary data required for registration under the scheme, and will be working over the next year to prepare a complete CRC footprint report and evidence pack.

The RFU's environmental policy aims to reduce the carbon footprint of its business activity and Twickenham Stadium, which has been the home of England Rugby for the past one hundred years. This goal is embedded in the RFU's eight year strategic plan, and as such is a fundamental element of its business operations. Registration of the RFU's CRC underpins its environmental strategy and vision.

This announcement follows initial work in 2009, where AEA worked with the RFU to develop a carbon policy and reduction strategy and an Environmental Management System (EMS) to support RFU's membership of the Mayor of London's Green 500 scheme. The scheme engages with top organisations in London to baseline their carbon footprint and create a Carbon Reduction Action Plan.

Gwen Ventris, COO Europe, AEA commented:

"The RFU has demonstrated its commitment to reducing its carbon footprint by signing up to Green500 and implementing a carbon reduction action plan. We are delighted to support its efforts and help it realise business benefits. With the CRC scheme coming into force, the RFU has seen the opportunity to take a proactive stance creating efficiencies, saving money and improving brand & reputational performance whilst complying with the legislation."

Neil Theuma, Head of Technical and Facilities for the RFU, said: "Our drive for carbon reduction is supported from the very top of the organisation. Over the past year we have thoroughly reviewed the RFU's and Twickenham Stadium's environmental credentials, and have established a strategy to deliver continuous improvement to our programmes in this area, such as our "Recycle More than the Ball" campaign. We are proud of the progress we have made to date and are looking forward to working with AEA to drive our vision forward. The Stadium itself is an intrinsic part of the local community and we are committed to minimising its environmental impact on both the local and wider community."

AEA was the principal technical adviser to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) as it developed the legislation for the CRC scheme. AEA is currently working with a portfolio of over 20 clients to address a range of strategic and practical measures in preparation of the scheme's launch later this year.

The work delivered by AEA will ensure that the RFU can focus on implementing energy saving measures, and draws on AEA's experience in CRC reporting, to ensure the RFU achieves the best possible outcome from its involvement in the scheme.

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**About AEA**

AEA is one of the world's leaders in energy and environmental consultancy and information management. The company operates in the UK, Europe, the US and China advising the UK Government, the EU and major private sector organizations in energy and climate change, air and water quality, risk management, carbon management, resources and waste, sustainable transport and knowledge transfer.

AEA has been consistently voted number one consultancy for Climate Change and Renewables by industry consultants (Edie Consultancy Survey 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009).

For further information please visit [www.aeat.co.uk](http://www.aeat.co.uk)

**About RFU**

The Rugby Football Union is the National Governing Body for rugby union in England and supports participants and fans from grassroots to the national team.

For further information visit [www.rfu.com](http://www.rfu.com)

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