



## **News Release**

**26<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

### **ELECTRIC CAR TRIAL PUTS AEA ON ROAD TO SUCCESS**

A consortium led by AEA, the leading climate change and energy consultancy is one of eight consortia across the UK to secure government investment in a programme that will see over 340 Ultra Low Carbon Vehicle's trialled on the UK's roads. The results of the Technology Strategy Board's Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles Demonstrator Competition were announced this week by Lord Adonis, Secretary of State for Transport and Lord Drayson, Science and Innovation Minister in the newly created Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) as part of £25m trial for ultra low carbon vehicles.

The projects bring together car manufacturers, power companies, Regional Development Agencies, councils and academic institutions, and will operate demonstrator programmes in eight locations across the UK to accelerate the availability of innovative ultra low carbon cars to consumers. The eight winning projects, which include the AEA consortium, will receive a total of £25 million from the Government as part of an ongoing commitment to invest jointly with industry to speed up the introduction of ultra low carbon vehicles.

AEA's consortium, Energy Efficient Motor Sport (EEMS) will put 21 cutting edge high specification electric cars on the road for 12 months, and monitor every aspect of their performance. The project will showcase the expertise within[CC1] the UK for the specialist electric market, and to demonstrate that electric vehicle technology is applicable to high specification vehicles.

Robert Bell, AEA, Chief Technical Officer said:

"If the UK is to be at the forefront of the low carbon automotive technology then we need to invest and test new innovative products to ensure that the next generation of green vehicles is not just as good as the vehicles we currently use but actually better."

Iain Gray, Chief Executive of the Technology Strategy Board said:

“The journey towards low carbon transport will not be easy, but the demonstrator programme, which we are launching is a major step in the right direction. With over 340 cars being trialled in several regions across the UK, and with the involvement of large and small manufacturers, local authorities and infrastructure companies, it is the biggest project of its kind to date.”

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**For more information contact:**

Michael Evans/Matthew Moth[CC2]

Madano Partnership

020 7593 4000

[www.madano.com](http://www.madano.com)

Jo Wheeler – AEA PR Manager – 0870 190 2799/ [jo.wheeler@aeat.co.uk](mailto:jo.wheeler@aeat.co.uk)

**About AEA**

AEA is one of the world's leaders in the field of climate change and energy consultancy - operating in the UK, Europe, the US and China. It is the leading provider of advisory services to the UK Government and works extensively with the EU and major private sector organisations. With internationally renowned expertise in air quality and climate change, carbon management, resource efficiency and the environmental impacts of transport, AEA employs many world leading experts and provides a high-level of policy consultancy and a range of technical services to its public and private sector clients.

AEA manages the UK government's Envirowise project, one of the world's largest resource efficiency programmes and provides carbon management expertise to many of the UK's largest private sector organisations.

AEA is voted Number One Consultancy for Climate Change and Renewables by industry consultants (Edie surveys 2006, 2007 and 2008).

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

### **About the Technology Strategy Board**

The Technology Strategy Board is a business-led executive non departmental public body, established by the Government. Its mission is to promote and support research into, and development and exploitation of, technology and innovation for the benefit of UK business, in order to increase economic growth and improve quality of life. It is sponsored by the UK's Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS).

[www.innovateuk.org](http://www.innovateuk.org)