

## Alpheus joins Fareshare in Waste Awareness Initiative

Waste management specialist, Alpheus Environmental Ltd has teamed up with food redistribution charity, FareShare, to create awareness of the scale of food wastage and potential recycling opportunities.

The initiative centres around a joint paper: Food: new technologies and techniques for reduction, recovery and recycling, which was presented in collaboration with FareShare at Total Food 2004 - a four day conference hosted, last month, at the Institute of Food Research.

The paper explores the extent of food wastage, examines initiatives in place and potential solutions. Over a third of the UK's waste originates from the food sector, totalling 17m tonnes with a retail value of between £8 and £16 billion a year. Much of this surplus food could be reused within production or recycled into meals, reducing costs and associated environmental impact.

UK charity Fareshare works in partnership with over 150 companies and 250 local charities to improve the health and well being of over 12,000 homeless and vulnerable people each year. Last year alone, it distributed 1,500 tonnes of quality food, which would normally go to landfill. This surplus food contributes to over 1.5 million meals for people in need. In conjunction with FareShare, Alpheus is committed to helping the food industry by improving awareness of the alternatives available to food being wasted.

Alex Green from FareShare commented, "For the last ten years FareShare has been providing a surplus food service to some of the UK's leading companies. This ensures that the food is used for its original purpose, not sent to landfill, and therefore doesn't have a negative impact on the environment. We are able to provide this food to local charities that in turn can channel their resources into providing other essential support and opportunities for some of the most vulnerable people in the community."

Alpheus Environmental Ltd specialises in waste minimisation, water management and recycling. It is accredited to ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001:1996. For further information regarding the FareShare collaboration, and general waste management advice, contact Samantha Wallace on (01234) 686100.

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For further media information and images, please contact:

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