



Press Release

SFW to deliver interactive river restoration solution for Environment Agency

Knowledge management system to link restoration planners across Europe

3 January 2012

The Environment Agency has selected SFW to develop an interactive knowledge management system to compile and share information on around 500 river restoration projects throughout Europe. The Wiki-style online information source will be used by European government agencies, engineers, ecologists, planners and other parties involved in restoring rivers.

The system will be key to the RESTORE partnership for river restoration in Europe, a project funded by the European Commission's LIFE Programme which supports environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU. The knowledge management system will be part of a pan-European network linking policy makers, river basin managers, river restoration practitioners and experts to develop the tools and skills to restore rivers and create sustainable river environments.

The system will be built using open source software in combination with the Environment Agency's existing infrastructure, saving on costs. It is due to be delivered in June 2012 at www.restorerivers.eu.

Antonia Scarr, RESTORE project manager at the Environment Agency commented "We were impressed by the innovative solution proposed by SFW. It incorporates metadata and a semantic search function to help navigate the mass of information that will be captured, making the system even more valuable for its users."

Peter Hornsby, director of SFW said "We are delighted to have been awarded another significant contract to develop a software system for the Environment Agency. SFW's experience in open source technology, combined with our status as an SME and our agile approach to development make us a perfect fit to carry out projects in line with the Government's current ICT procurement strategy."

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About the RESTORE Partnership

RESTORE is a partnership which aims to develop the tools and skills by sharing knowledge and promoting best practice on river restoration in Europe. It encourages the restoration of European rivers and floodplains for increased ecological quality and flood risk reduction plus social and economic benefits. It is managed jointly between public organisations in the UK, the Netherlands, Finland, Romania and Italy and is funded by the LIFE financial instrument of the European Commission.



About SFW

SFW Ltd is an IT systems and services company based in Woking, Surrey. SFW delivers climate change IT systems and services to public and private sector organisations. It is the IT partner responsible for supporting and maintaining several systems which support the EU ETS including the Greta and Seringas Registries, the Registry Electronic Interface (REI) and ETSWAP, the workflow system used by the UK Environment Agency for monitoring, reporting and verification of emissions by the aviation sector.

SFW offers consultancy, software development, systems support, and maintenance services. SFW understands the complexities and challenges of implementing climate change solutions, and has the ability to deliver streamlined emissions management, registry and connectivity solutions.

For any press-related queries regarding SFW Ltd, please contact:

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About The Environment Agency

The Environment Agency (the EA) is a Non-Departmental Public Body (NDPB) and resides under the sponsorship of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the National Assembly for Wales (NAW). It is the leading public body responsible for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales.

The EA is structured into 7 regions and 21 areas. Further information on the Agency and its activities can be obtained from www.environment-agency.gov.uk