

For immediate release

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BIFFA BOOSTS WASTE CAPACITY WITH LORIEN

Biffa, one of the UK's leading waste management businesses, is using the expertise of Lorien Engineering Solutions to create a state-of-the-art £3 million in-vessel composting facility.

Work began this summer on site in Etwall, Derbyshire, and by March 2007 the new facility is expected to be fully operational, with the capacity to process up to 24,000 tonnes of green and kitchen waste every year.

Lichfield-based Lorien is project managing the development, which will allow local authorities to recover up to 20 per cent more household municipal waste. When complete, the new facility will boast six composting tunnels, and will double as a waste transfer station.

In-vessel composting is a fully enclosed system where waste material is processed within large, sealed concrete tunnels and where air flow and moisture content can be monitored and controlled to create the optimal conditions for naturally occurring micro organisms to break the waste down into compost.

Many local authorities currently landfill this waste, as traditional methods of composting are unable to meet the demands of the Animal by-Products Regulations, which require food waste to be composted in an enclosed system that meets specified time and temperature requirements in order to destroy organisms that may be harmful to animal and public health.

Biffa's new facility at Etwall will help East Staffordshire Borough Council, South Derbyshire District Council and Lichfield District Council recover substantially more food waste from households across the East Midlands.

During 2006, Biffa and Lorien have worked together on a number of projects, involving aspects such as facility design, project implementation management and construction safety control.

Lorien Engineering Solutions is a multi-disciplinary engineering design and project management organisation. The company has a staff of more than 60 specialists who design and deliver manufacturing capital projects and performance improvement consultancy in the brewing, drinks, food and pharmaceutical industries.

Working for many of the world's top manufacturing organisations within the UK and overseas, they were recently presented with the President's Award for occupational health and safety in construction by RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents), the company's 14th successive top-level safety award.

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Photo caption: The £3 million in-vessel composting facility at Etwall begins to take shape.

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