

# The Story So Far..

## an introduction from Alex Sleeth, CEO

Since launching our new corporate structure and identity in November last year, the Environmental Scientifics Group (ESG) has gone from strength to strength through a combination of strong organic growth as well as growth through acquisitions. We have a number of leading brands including Soil Mechanics, TES Bretby, PMC and CL Voelcker and have recently reorganised our structure to deliver all our services through one legal entity – Environmental Scientifics Group.



**Alex Sleeth**  
CEO  
Environmental Scientifics Group

Six months in, I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you some of the key developments and changes which have taken place within ESG recently.

Despite somewhat challenging economic conditions we have continued to invest in our future. With investment in new facilities as well as our IT infrastructure, we are well positioned to serve our customers both today and in the long term.

In March we opened our new Group Headquarters on the Bretby Business Park in Burton upon Trent. Due to the very acquisitive nature of the company over the last few years we had inherited a number of 'head offices' around the UK. A drive for common systems and processes to increase efficiencies and control costs meant that one of our key strategies for 2010 was to bring together our central support services. The newly refurbished offices, called ESG House, brings together all our central services including Sales and Purchase Ledger, Cash Collections, HR, Sales Support,

Quality, Marketing and Information Technology.

The second phase of our investment in facilities is the creation of a new 'superlab' environment on the same business park. Due to be opened in early September, this state of the art lab will offer customers access to an unrivalled range of accredited services. We look forward to welcoming you there in due course.

I am also delighted to announce that we have expanded our testing and consultancy capabilities. The creation of our new Materials Testing Division follows the acquisition earlier this year of the Geotechnical and Testing Services business from Bureau Veritas which has now been fully integrated into ESG. In addition, following the sale of Inspectorate by our owners 3i and Inspicio, we are expanding our food testing and inspection business, by integrating our sister company Eclipse Scientific Group into the Group. This is an exciting development for us, as it offers even greater opportunities to provide wide-ranging

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support to our customers. Further information on the new Division and the Groups overall organisational structure can be found later in the newsletter. 3i (and funds managed by 3i) will remain the majority shareholder in ESG, supporting further growth and consolidation of the business

Finally, it only remains for me to thank you for your continued support to date. At ESG, we pride ourselves on both our technical ability and on our willingness to help in whatever way we can. The changes outlined all form part of this ethos and should ensure that we are in excellent shape to meet your needs both now and in the future.

Alex Sleeth  
CEO  
Environmental Scientifics Group

# Inside ESG

Following the sale of Inspectorate by our holding company, the Inspecio Group, the wider Group will be rebranded as ESG. The new ESG will comprise Environmental Scientifics Group (a UK market leader in geotechnical, laboratory and analytical and compliance testing, inspection and certification services) and Eclipse Scientific Group (a market leading food testing business in the UK and Ireland).

This Group will be led by the current management team of the Environmental Scientifics Group; with Alex Sleeth as Group CEO and Nick Louden as Group CFO.

ESG has a history dating back more than 100 years, and has consistently developed its offerings. The Group now provides a complete solution for all legislative and regulatory environmental compliance from the ground up.

Today, the business has more than 1,300 employees and serves over 6,000 customers. All the Group's services are delivered across the UK and Ireland through a strong network of local UKAS accredited laboratories supported by a new centralised head office.

**Environmental Scientifics Group specialises in four distinct areas:**



**Our new Head Office at Bretby**

## Geotechnical Services

As the UK's leading provider of site investigation services, the ESG Geotechnical Services Division really does start at ground level, offering a complete range of services from land and overwater geotechnical and geophysical site investigation, routine and advanced geotechnical laboratory testing through to geotechnical, environmental and structural consultancy. With an extensive range of in-house resources, expertise and technical capability, ESG Geotechnical Services provides quality information and solutions for all sizes and types of project.

## Laboratory and Analytical Services

The ESG Laboratory and Analytical Division offers independent laboratory and analytical testing services covering environmental chemistry, oil analysis, speciality chemistry, materials testing, nuclear testing and forensic science services. With unrivalled turnaround times, technical expertise and data integrity, the ESG laboratory is a one stop shop for all your analytical and laboratory testing needs.

## Environmental Safety Compliance

ESG Safety Compliance offers a complete and independent solution for environmental safety compliance providing a comprehensive range of services backed by industry-leading specialist expertise. Services include stack emissions testing, asbestos management, occupational hygiene and water safety management. ESG compliance helps businesses adhere to Health and Safety regulations and manage environmental risks offering customers the peace of mind that they have satisfied their legal obligations.

## Materials Testing

The Materials Testing Division of ESG delivers independent testing inspection services and advice through a nationwide network of UK facilities. We establish the physical and chemical properties of a diverse range of materials that includes masonry, concrete, plastic, timber, metal and soil, both in the laboratory and/or on-site. With an extensive range of UKAS accredited test methods we are able to support contractors, suppliers, primary stakeholders and designers at key stages of a project.

# Meet the Team

## The Executive Board

(Standing from left to right)  
Steven Woollands, Nick Louden,  
Mandy Weston, David Clay.  
(Sitting from left to right) Norman  
Sleeth, Robin Hastie, Alex Sleeth,  
Dave Watson, Richard Linney.



## Introducing Eclipse Scientific

Eclipse Scientific Group, our sister company, with offices across UK and Ireland is moving into the ESG Group, enabling us to offer customers a complete testing and analysis solution across environmental compliance and now including Food and Drink.

Steven Woollands, CEO Eclipse Scientific, will join the ESG Executive Board.



Steven Woollands  
CEO, Eclipse Scientific

Eclipse Scientific Group is the UK's market leader in analytical food and drink, chemistry and microbiology testing. All of the Group's sites are accredited to internationally recognised standards, including ISO:17025 and it currently conducts over 5 million tests each year.

Food analysis is complemented by consultancy services in areas such as HACCP, ISO:9000, food technology, legal and labelling advice – provided either by our own staff or through associate consultants with whom we have worked for many years.

Eclipse Scientific is committed to servicing customers to the highest possible standards. As a result, over the last 18 months, it has invested more than £500,000 in laboratory expansion (new laboratories and equipment), as well as over £250,000 in a new Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), to enable it to increase efficiency and improve turnaround times at all locations.

This investment, combined with being part of the enlarged Group, will allow Eclipse Scientific to continue its ongoing development.



## New 'Superlab'

In addition to our new Headquarters, Bretby Business Park houses a significant ESG coal testing and environmental chemistry laboratory. This will soon be joined by our new 'superlab' offering testing services for asbestos, water, environmental, forensics, paints and coatings

The new lab, due to open in September, will be housed in another ESG site on the Bretby Business Park, Derwent House, and is already well on the way to completion.

As well as new services, the new 1650 sqm lab will accommodate the operations that are currently housed in Derby and Ashbourne House, Bretby. We look forward to welcoming you soon.



# ESG's UKAS accreditation really is Number 1!



In 1982, Harry Stanger's laboratory in St Albans, now part of the ESG Group was the first ever British testing laboratory to be accredited by NATLAS, a forerunner of UKAS,

and was given the number 0001. Over the past 28 years, the laboratory has changed ownership through a number of acquisitions and is now owned by Environmental Scientifics Group.

The laboratory undertakes materials testing, analysis, consultancy and investigation in the fields of metallurgy, materials science and component performance.

The St Albans laboratory still holds this number today and the combined ESG Group now holds accreditation to ISO 17025 for more than 400 tests, with more than 100 of these for MCERTS.

UKAS now accredits over 1500 laboratories and laboratory accreditation has become a

fundamental element to maintaining the integrity and technical competence of organisations providing testing and calibration data. Accreditation delivers confidence in terms of reliability, traceability and accountability and has impacted on every sphere of modern life, from farming to forensic science, from aviation to radiation. Public Sector specifiers are increasingly looking only at accredited organisations, and for some testing work UKAS accreditation is already mandatory.

## Regulatory and Health and Safety Updates

### Mining Waste

Since 7 July 2009 all mining waste activities now require an Environmental Permit, regulated by the Environment Agency. Application deadlines are 30 December 2010 or 1 May 2011 depending on the nature of the mining waste operation.

ESG through its independent consulting business CL Voelcker can advise on the nature of the mining waste operation and prepare the permit application. This includes preparation of a Waste Management Plan and all associated risk assessments.

### Enhanced Asbestos Services

ESG has recently extended its asbestos management services to provide a wider range of UKAS accredited tests and faster turnaround times:

- ESG is now UKAS accredited for providing management and refurbishment/demolition surveys in accordance with the new asbestos survey guidelines. Published on 29 January 2010, HSG 264 contains the most up to date guidelines on surveying, sampling and assessment of asbestos-containing materials in commercial, industrial and domestic properties.
- In January we opened our fourth bulk analysis laboratory. Based in Doncaster, the lab is UKAS accredited and offers

bulk materials analysis to complement our existing asbestos services. Additionally, thanks to a combination of our knowledge and processes, we are now able to turn around single samples in a 24 hour period.

- From 23rd July 2010, we are also UKAS accredited for the qualitative and quantitative estimation of asbestos in soils and sediments.

These additions are a valuable extension to our existing UKAS accredited services, including: air monitoring, four-stage clearance, laboratory testing, general asbestos consultancy, awareness training and the project management of asbestos abatement work.

## MCERTS News

A recent policy change by the Environment Agency regarding the way in which the disposal of various effluent types is controlled, e.g. untreated sewage, treated sewage effluents and trade effluents, has led them to move away from policing the major water companies themselves and moving towards a system called Operator Self Monitoring. (OSM). This introduces a requirement for companies to have

MCERTS (Monitoring Certification Scheme) for sampling and chemical testing of effluents.

The Environment Monitoring Department of the compliance division within ESG has successfully completed the MCERTS accreditation assessment for their field water sampling activities. Certification will be awarded shortly prior to the enforcement of the new permitting conditions. MCERTS is a rigorous quality system, based on international standards, involving

continual assessment via external checks and annual surveillance visits demonstrating that we are more than competent in this field.

Barrie Royals, Operations Manager, said, "We are very proud to be one of the first companies to have obtained this MCERTS accreditation within the marketplace and are pleased that we will be able to continue to support our existing and new clients with this service."

ESG online

Visit our new website at [www.esg.co.uk](http://www.esg.co.uk). We are continually improving it...

## Feedback

At ESG we are continually trying to improve the information we provide to ensure you get the right information at the right time. To help us provide you with this information, we need a few details from you. You can update these by either completing our online form at [www.esg.co.uk/updatedetails/](http://www.esg.co.uk/updatedetails/) or sending in the enclosed 'Faxback' form.

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