

RIDGE CREST LAUNCH UK'S FIRST TOTALLY GREEN CLEANING CONTRACT

Ridge Crest Cleaning Limited believes liaison between our clients, suppliers and local site management, forms the front line in developing environmental solutions that are in compliance with environmental protection. Maidstone Borough Council in partnership with Ridge Crest have signed up and implemented an environmentally friendly cleaning contract, the Council's offices are now some of the **cleanest** and **greenest** in local government.

Maidstone is the first council or government department to make this commitment to the environment.



In future the council's preferred cleaning contractors, Ridge Crest Cleaning Limited, will use only environmentally friendly and bio-degradable cleaning products. Every bin liner will be bio degradable and the council's paper towels and toilet rolls will be manufactured from 100% post consumer recycled and chlorine free products. Following the successful launch of this unique contract, Ridge Crest have adopted a similar approach at all of its cleaning contracts, in fact the commitment to the environment is now an integral part of the company's mission statement. Ridge Crest will achieve the European ISO 14001 accreditation in 2006. One of the first cleaning companies to obtain this award

"Everything that we use will be ecologically friendly, with a minimal effect on the environment during manufacture and in use far greater use is made of the latest steam cleaning and microfibre cleaning systems"; said Ian Beach, MD Ridge Crest Cleaning Ltd, who implemented the contract in close partnership with the council.

The cleaning products have all been tested and found to be as good as or even better than the regular alternatives. According to Ian the only difference that office workers and visitors will notice is the smell because all the new green products are virtually scent free.

Ian Beach also stated at the launch of the innovative contract, "There is a huge difference in the products because all the raw materials should be free from animal by-products and no raw materials or finished products should be tested on animals. And where possible, all the raw materials should be obtained from renewable sources. It is really great news for the environment because if we can do it, everyone else can and it hasn't cost my company or the client a penny extra. So we are clean, green and prudent."

The Council and Ridge Crest have not just thought about the cleaning products because the contract states that all containers and packaging must contain high levels of re-cycled material and the packages themselves must be recycled after use.

The list of chemicals that should not be used in Ridge Crest's cleaning products are – phosphates, EDTA, enzymes, optical brighteners, chlorine bleaches, petroleum-based additives, formaldehyde, titanium di-oxide, chemical plasticizers, synthetic dyes, sodium tallowate, glycerine and lanolin.