

CRANE ENVIRONMENTAL LTD

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Jean Venables, Immediate Past President of the ICE and Chairman of Crane Environmental honoured with a CBE

Crane Environmental is proud to announce that its Chairman, Dr Jean Venables, was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List on Saturday, following her distinguished service as President of the Institution of Civil Engineers 2008-9. This follows her MBE in 1997 for Services to Civil Engineering and her OBE in 2004 for services to flood defence.

Jean is one of the UK's leading experts on strategic flood risk management. From 1994 to 2003, she was Chairman of the Regional Flood Defence Committee of the Environment Agency, Thames Region, the body that controlled the then £80m pa budget for flood defence in the Thames and Lea catchments, including operation of the Thames Barrier. She initiated and was then an expert advisor to the Thames Estuary 2100 Project that culminated last year in a plan for flood risk management in the Thames Estuary through to the year 2100.

Her extensive experience of the Thames has been further utilised through her Chairmanship of the Thames Estuary Partnership, an organisation that brings together individuals and organisations with different, sometimes-competing interests for the benefit of the Thames Estuary and its people.

In her role as Chief Executive of the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA), a major recent representational activity has been participation in the Pitt Review following the 2007 floods, leading to the consultation on and influencing role during the passage of the Flood & Water Management Bill in the last Parliament, to become the Flood & Water Management Act 2010.

Jean was the first woman in the Institution's 190-year history to be elected ICE President. Her major theme during her ICE Presidential Year was climate change – and especially the need for both mitigation of CO₂ emissions and adaptation to the predicted effects, and the crucial role of engineers and related disciplines in delivering both.

Jean Venables looks forward to continuing, in particular through her work with ADA, to assist the UK in tackling the challenges of day-to-day water level management and strategic flood risk management, and to contributing to Crane's work, whether strategic consultancy assignments, advice and support on responsible sourcing, training aimed at improving environmental and sustainability performance in construction, or the Scheme Management of CEEQUAL, the assessment and awards scheme for improving sustainability in civil engineering and the public realm.

Note to Editors: Crane was established in 1994 to assist construction-related organisations to reduce adverse environmental and social effects of building and civil engineering, and to improve environmental and sustainability performance. Assignments have included assisting organisations to add formal environmental management to their management systems, environment & sustainability training programmes, responsible sourcing, and strategic advice on tackling the sustainability agenda. Crane led the team that created CEEQUAL and Crane's MD Roger Venables is CEEQUAL's Chief Executive, leading a distributed Scheme Management Team that operates and develops the scheme for the civil engineering industry and profession.

Further details of Jean's work are available at www.crane-environmental.co.uk and at www.ada.org.uk, and of CEEQUAL at www.ceequal.com. Or contact Roger Venables, Crane's Managing Director, on 020 3137 2375, or email roger@crane-environmental.co.uk.

PRACTICAL CONSULTANCY TO IMPROVE THE NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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