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Ricardo renewable energy director named as chair of RenewableUK Marine Strategy Group

New chair of Strategy Group of RenewableUK – the leading industry association representing the interests of the UK wind, and marine renewable energy sector – aims to provide crucial input to policy development relating to tidal stream and wave energy systems and innovation

It was announced today that Paul Jordan, the market sector director for clean energy at Ricardo plc, has been named as chairman of the Marine Strategy Group. In addition to acting as an industry forum for this highly innovative and rapidly developing industry sector within the UK, the group will provide a focus for the development of RenewableUK policy and advice to Government and other key stakeholders in the development of the UK marine renewable power industry.

Commenting on this new appointment, Paul Jordan said:

“I believe that it is important that the UK maintains and significantly grows its pre-eminent position in marine energy technology development and deployment. The UK currently hosts the majority of the world’s leading wave and tidal stream technology developers and the potential environmental, economic and security of energy supply benefits for the country are huge. Studies have shown that wave and tidal stream energy could supply up to 20 percent of the UK’s electricity demand. The key to unlocking this potential, however, requires a clear and concise long-term framework, focussed on delivery by both the public and private sectors, and covering the industry requirements in terms of finance, site development and innovation. RenewableUK has a crucial part to play in successfully driving forward development of the marine renewable power industry and my aspiration as chair of the Marine Energy Group is to help facilitate this in coordination with the sector’s key government and industry stakeholders.”



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Paul Jordan joined Ricardo plc in April 2010 as market sector director for clean energy and power generation. Prior to his current role with Ricardo he has held high profile business development positions most recently with Ocean Power Technologies (a leading wave energy technology developer), as well as a number of international roles within Rolls-Royce. Prior to his time at Ocean Power Technologies, he worked in the Innovation Programme of the UK Carbon Trust where his primary focus was to set-up and run the Marine Energy Challenge programme which assessed the growth potential of marine energy technologies.

Gordon Edge, director of policy for RenewableUK said:

"We are delighted to welcome Paul Jordan as the new chairman of our Marine Strategy Group and the wealth of experience he brings with him from the marine renewables sector. The next few years will be critical for the UK if we are to unlock the full potential of marine energy resources to deliver clean green energy, jobs and economic development for generations to come. There are very important decisions that must be made and for its part, the Marine Strategy Group will play a key role in keeping policy-making in this area on track and driving forward recommendations from the Marine Action Plan published by Government last year."

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Ricardo plc: With technical centres and offices in the UK, USA, Germany, the Czech Republic, France, Italy, Russia, China, Japan, India and Korea, Ricardo is a leading independent technology provider and strategic consultant to the world's transportation sector and clean energy industries. The company's engineering expertise ranges from vehicle systems integration, controls, electronics and software development, to the latest driveline and transmission systems and gasoline, diesel, hybrid and fuel cell powertrain technologies, as well as wind energy and tidal power systems. Ricardo is committed to excellence and industry leadership in people, technology and knowledge; approximately 70 percent of its employees are highly qualified multi-disciplined professional engineers and technicians. A public company, Ricardo plc posted sales of £178.8 million in financial year 2009 and is a constituent of the FTSE techMark 100 index – a group of innovative technology companies listed on the London Stock Exchange. For more information, visit www.ricardo.com.

RenewableUK is the trade and professional body for the UK wind and marine renewables industries. Formed in 1978, and with 621 corporate members, RenewableUK is the leading renewable energy trade association in the UK. Wind has been the world's fastest growing renewable energy source for the last seven years, and this trend is expected to continue with falling costs of wind energy and the urgent international need to tackle CO2 emissions to prevent climate change. In 2004, RenewableUK expanded its mission to champion wave and tidal energy and use the Association's experience to guide these technologies along the same path to commercialisation. RenewableUK's primary purpose is to promote the use of wind, wave and tidal power in and around the UK. It acts as a central point for information for our membership and as a lobbying group to promote wind energy and marine renewables to government, industry, the media and the public. It researches and finds solutions to current issues and generally acts as the forum for the UK wind, wave and tidal industry.

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