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eeegr News
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INNOVATION AWARDS

Jet pump's money-back guarantee

A jet pump system which harnesses waste energy to increase gas production and is set to save millions of pounds around the world scooped top prize at EEEGR's second annual Innovation Awards.

Caltec's Wellcom Energy Recovery System, parts of which are made in Yarmouth, increased production from BP's Inde platform and satellite wells owned by Shell by enough to supply the energy needs of 12 million people.

And it repaid its £2 million installation costs in just seven days.

The system, which has achieved similar results on other installations, is now being rolled out around the world and being adapted for use on oil wells but its performance so far was enough to win the trophy this year.

The jet pump beat off strong competition from Norfolk-based Banham Poultry's project to generate power from poultry waste and Renewable Energy Systems' zero-carbon headquarters in Hertfordshire who shared second place.

John Balch, chairman of the judges, said Bedfordshire-based Caltec's entry was "an impressive use of energy that is otherwise wasted to create enhanced production and a real economic benefit".

Banham Poultry had "turned a problem into an opportunity" and RES was an "excellent case study for renewable energy integrated with building design".

EEEGR chief executive John Best said the event at Norwich's Hilton Hotel had been a tremendous success.

He said: "We have been particularly delighted by the presentation by Camcon because they generously demonstrated that the interest they have attracted in the product couldn't have been done without the marketing prize they received in last year's awards.

"I'm also delighted with today's winner because part of its role is to develop brownfield sites and it's important that we can help by bringing that to the fore. I'm looking forward to next January when they can stand up here and show how it's helped."

John paid tribute to the other seven finalists who proved that this region is a hotbed of exciting ideas based on sound economic and environmental grounds.

Caltec managing director David Turley was delighted to take top prize.

He said in today's era of ageing and marginal oil and gas fields where everything was driven by economics there was a great need for cost-effective technologies capable of boosting production.

He said: "We need to find these solutions otherwise we'll end up like the coal mines – shut down before their time and the remaining reserves left in the ground which will have a big economic cost around the globe.

"Our jet pump not only results in a significant increase in production it increases total recovery by extending the life of the wells and it's low-cost, low-maintenance and has no reliability problems."

Clockwise from top left: Allen Mabbitt, AMGas; Ian Knox, DTi; Annette Deveson, RES; Dave Turley, Caltec; Jonathan Miles, Clean Water Systems; Robin Goram, Banham Poultry; Anna Stanford, RES; Dannie Claxton, Claxton Engineering. Centre: Energy Innovation Awards Winners - Dave Turley and

INNOVATION AWARDS

Caltec – Energy recovery without flare

Caltec's energy recovery system is rapidly establishing a winning reputation as it harnesses waste energy to exploit marginal gas reserves around the world.

And its winning ways continued on awards night as the judges said the WELLCOM Energy Recovery System had: "Clearly established itself as a functioning innovation where the benefits will enhance the potential for hydrocarbons recovery under the brownfields initiative.

"The concept is not new but the application is novel and has the potential to add significant value," they concluded.

David Turley, chief executive of the Bedfordshire-based company, said the system harnessed gas that was available on the platforms and used it to boost pressure as well as production.

On BP's Inde platform, which received gas from neighbouring wells owned by Shell, it had boosted production by enough to supply the energy needs of 12 million people or the equivalent of 10,000 60-metre span wind turbines.

David said: "You can use this technology to increase production and to extend the useful life of wells. It's low-cost, has no moving parts so there's no maintenance. It's easy to deploy and has a short payback period of seven to 10 days."

On Inde it recouped the £2 million installation costs in just seven days.

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