



12 June 2003

**A 'BIG TICK' for Shields Environmental
named as a finalist for national award and winner of Essex
Countywide Award for Environmental Awareness**

London, England. Shields Environmental, the leading provider of environmental management solutions to the telecoms sector, was today announced as a finalist in Business in the Community Awards for Excellence 2003, the UK's most prestigious national awards for companies able to demonstrate the positive impact of their business on society through community programmes and business practices. To mark the achievement, the DTI formally presented Shields with its Big Tick mark. The mark can only be used by companies that have reached a measurable standard of excellence illustrating its position as an 'Example of Best Practice' in the field of corporate responsibility.

In addition, the company recently won the Essex Countywide Award for Environmental Awareness against other finalists such as the Ford Motor Company and DHL. The award was presented for excellence in environmental practice and was open to any company based in Essex.

Gordon Shields, Chairman and Founder said, "Being recognized by *Business in the Community* and our home county (Essex) alongside the successful implementation of our solutions demonstrates that our commitment to integrating the needs of business with a passion for the environment is delivering results for society, the environment and business."

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Julia Cleverdon, CVO,CBE, Chief Executive of Business in the Community said: "Companies achieving the BIG TICK in our Awards for Excellence, should be very proud of their achievement. I congratulate them all as examples of best practice. They have come through a rigorous and independently assured assessment process and have emerged as truly inspiring case studies delivering great benefit to wider society through their programmes and partnerships. We will enthusiastically use them to encourage other companies to improve their positive impact on society".

For more information, please contact:

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www.shields-e.com or www.fonebak.com

About Shields Environmental and Fonebak

Shields Environmental is the leader in providing environmental management solutions to the telecoms sector. The company is certificated to ISO 14001 and ISO 9001-2000 for environmental management, quality and customer service respectively. The company was one of the first in the world to achieve a certificated environmental management system, report publicly on its environmental impact, and has reported for six years via an EMAS verified Environmental Statement.

Fonebak is the world's first mobile phone recycling scheme which has the endorsement of the nation's network service providers, major retailers and the government which complies with all current and forthcoming environmental legislation. With Fonebak, consumers can return mobile handsets and accessories at over 2000 retail outlets or via freepost envelopes from O2, Orange, T-Mobile, Virgin Mobile, Vodafone, The Link, Currys, Dixons, PC World, or Sainsbury's.