

**Date: June 2012**

## **Bury Schools encouraged to 'go green'**



**Schools in Bury are being encouraged to 'go green' by embracing technology that has been adopted by the council and reduces energy costs and carbon.**

Parrenthorn High School, on Heywood Road, is the first in the borough to have installed Voltage Power Optimisation (VPO)<sup>®</sup> technology that reduces the voltage within the building from the supply average of 242V to the optimum voltage for electrical equipment, which is 220V. Uniquely, the technology also features embedded power conditioning, improving the quality of power the school receives, meaning greater savings and a more secure supply.

VPO saves an average of 11 per cent on electricity costs and the technology is used by leading organisations such as Tesco, EDF Energy, National Express and the Environment Agency.

Talat Afzal, the Schools Carbon Reduction Officer at Bury Council, said: “The equipment was funded by the school and Bury Council's carbon reduction programme met the cost of installation.

Councillor Tony Isherwood, Executive Member for Environment and Transport said

“At a time when energy prices are constantly increasing and the effects of climate change are high on the agenda, this scheme at Parrenthorn makes real sense and I hope other schools will be keen to follow their lead.”

Andrew Morley, School Business Manager at Parrenthorn High said “It has been a pleasure working with the council’s Carbon Reduction Officer on this scheme. We are always looking at opportunities to improve the efficiency of our building, reduce energy consumption and minimise our carbon emissions. Installing the VPO by powerPerfector has definitely improved our green credentials. We are looking forward to taking advantage of its long term benefits.”

Anisha Mistry, powerPerfector Project Manager, said: “For schools this is a financial and environmental ‘no-brainer’. Reduced bills, a fully funded solution and the security of a performance guarantee.

“The project at Parrenthorn High School will cut electricity costs by 10 per cent and will save the school over 23,000kg of carbon every year. There is no reason why other schools won’t have similar success.”

Flexible payment options are available from powerPerfector with the North West also benefitting from an OJEU compliant purchasing framework. Janet Ackary, Carbon & Energy Manager at Wigan Council, said: “We are encouraging schools across Greater Manchester to utilise the framework. In Wigan there are 20 VPO installations, five of which are in schools. This has delivered total savings of £360,000 since the start of the programme.”

**Ends**

For interviews or images please contact:

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**Notes to Editors:**

1. **powerPerfector** is the world's only Voltage Power Optimiser, giving energy, cost and carbon savings by efficiently optimising a site's supply voltage. By optimising the voltage, electrical equipment runs more efficiently and consumes less energy.
2. **powerPerfector** deals with the discrepancy between the actual supply voltage you receive (on average 242V) and the optimum voltage your electrical equipment needs (220V).
3. The technology was developed in Japan in 1993 to combat rising energy costs due to increasing demand and a lack of natural energy resources. In the UK, **powerPerfector** is the sole supplier of Voltage Power Optimisation (VPO)<sup>®</sup> technology.
4. **powerPerfector** acquired the worldwide patents, manufacturing and distribution rights to VPO in June 2011.
5. Manufacture of the **powerPerfector** began in the UK in February 2012.
6. [www.powerperfector.com](http://www.powerperfector.com)
7. Image: *Left to Right*: Anisha Mistry, Cllr Tony Isherwood, Andrew Morley and four schoolchildren celebrate energy savings at Parrenthorn High School