

# Essex – Great for Environmental Technologies

EssexWorks

## Sector Highlights in Essex

- » **Home to a strong and growing environmental technology sector**
- » **12,000 people working in more than 600 companies**
- » **Sustainable energy developments offshore**
- » **Environmental commitment from leading Essex manufacturers**
- » **Strong and well developed engineering, manufacturing and consultancy skills**
- » **The home of leading environmental research**
- » **Multimodal transport initiatives**

Essex is an inspired choice for any business, offering a compelling mix of location, energetic business environment and quality of life. Essex has more than 70,000 businesses across a wide spectrum including large and small, successful start-ups, iconic brands, globally known names, and companies which have moved to Essex as a platform for growth, as well as having an outstanding record for technological innovation and manufacturing world-leading products.

Essex is a platform for doing business on a local, national or global scale. As well as being adjacent to the world financial city of London, Essex is extremely well connected through its road and rail links to other parts

of the UK and to continental Europe, as well as offering access to global markets via its international ports and airports.

### A great location for business.

For **companies in the environmental sector**, the county's skills, investment in research and commitment to greener business make it an ideal location for a European headquarters or UK office, opening up a research and development centre, starting a new business or relocating a growing company.

**INVEST**  
Essex

***"Fläkt Woods is building on a tradition of specialist engineering skills in Essex and is well placed to succeed in global markets"***

Paul Wenden, Engineering & Product Management  
Director, Fläkt Woods



Essex County Council

# Business Environment

## Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

Essex has more than 600 environmental technology companies, more than any other county in the East of England or among the counties surrounding London. The concentration of environmental companies and a commitment to greener business is stimulating continued growth in the sector.

Essex based companies are playing significant role renewable energy sector with major involvement in the development of the Gunfleet Sands and London Array offshore wind farms as well as the emerging Round 3 wind farms. This will continue to ensure

the county's businesses are contributing to and benefiting from these world leading schemes.

In other areas Essex business plays a lead role: Holman Recycle based in Tilbury Docks have opened a £5m state-of-the-art material recovery plant which sorts and recovers 25 tonnes per hour of mixed dry recyclables; DP World's London Gateway Port will feature a range of cutting edge processes most notable being the automated stacking system maximising port efficiency and the multi-modal transport system which will move 30% of freight by rail.

### Home to world-class companies:

**Alphasense** – an independent sensor manufacturing and technology company, founded in response to demand from gas detection OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) and end users for better quality gas sensors.

**Fläkt Woods** – is a key member of ABB, one of the world's largest power and automation technology groups and a centre of excellence for the design, development, manufacture and support of air movement solutions.

**Eimco Water Technologies** – a major supplier of water and waste water screening products and a global centre of excellence for the design and supply of equipment to manage large-scale water intakes for leading companies in the power, oil and gas sector worldwide.

A wide range of environmental companies who are leaders in their field are also based in Essex, including:

**Parasol Panels** – innovative insulation panels manufactured from recycled materials.

**Veolia Environmental Services** – one of the world's leading providers of waste management and cleaning services.

**Organisation for Responsible Business** – encourages socially and environmentally responsible business practices.

# Skills and Labour Force

## Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

The Environmental Sector in Essex is very broad with companies working in conservation, air, water, renewables, land reclamation and recycling. The sector employs over 12,000 people with skills in research, consultancy, design, engineering, manufacturing and technical support. The

region's universities supply 4,000 graduates annually, trained in relevant disciplines and the county's strengths in engineering, manufacturing and consultancy also provide strong support for the environmental services sector.

***"We have built up a network of high-quality suppliers and sub-contractors based in Essex and East Anglia. The county's high-technology heritage means that we can draw on a wide range of essential skills"***

Daniel Bewg, Sales Manager, Eimco Water Technologies



Flakt Woods, Colchester



Parasol Panel Systems, Harlow



Eimco Water Technologies, Colchester

# Research and Education

## Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

### Leading University research

The University of Essex carries out environmental research focusing on the analysis, conservation, protection and management of natural resources, and the institutions and policies that shape human actions.

Ford's Dunton Technical Centre carries out significant development work into green automotive technologies and is recognised as a global centre of excellence.

Writtle College has established centres of excellence, including the Centre for Environment and Rural Affairs which aims to enable the countryside to remain viable, vital and vibrant.

### Graduate and skills training

Students are graduating from the following courses qualified for roles in the Environmental Technologies sector

**University of Essex** – offers a Masters degree in Environmental Governance and has established an interdisciplinary Centre for Environment and Society that offers courses with a environmental focus.

**Writtle College** – offers a range of environmental and land management courses and works with the Centre for Environmental and Rural Affairs on research into ecological construction.

**Anglia Ruskin University** – offers a number of courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels including sustainable construction MSc and product design for sustainability.

Parasol Panel Systems, Harlow



University of Essex, Colchester



# Logistics and Communications

Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

## Links to national motorway network

Essex benefits from direct links to the UK's motorway network. It has major trunk routes linking all parts of the county to the M11 and from it London, the midlands and the north. Essex is well connected to the M25, London's orbital motorway, with major connections to the UK's major arterial roads and the south, east and west of the country and to Europe.

## London Stansted Airport

Situated in the west of Essex, it is the UK's second largest airfreight terminal and the third busiest airport in the UK. It reaches more European destinations than any other airport with more than 29 scheduled and charter airlines serving 140 destinations across 30 countries.

## High speed rail services

Essex has fast mainline rail links to London, the rest of the UK and to Europe. Stratford International Station, adjacent to the London 2012 Olympic Village provides high-speed rail services to France and Belgium.

## Super-fast broadband

Essex is benefitting from the roll out of "Super-Fast" broadband providing businesses with greater flexibility in how they use the internet. Advantages include new services and more sophisticated communications, such as high-quality video-conferencing.



*London Stansted Airport*

*"Customer support is an integral part of our business, so London Stansted Airport is important for our service, sales and engineering teams who are visiting customers overseas"*

Paul Wenden, Engineering & Product Management Director, Fläkt Woods

# Property

## Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

### Wide choice of properties and locations

Essex has a wide choice of sites and accommodation for companies in the Environmental Technology sector from modern well equipped properties on easily accessible business parks, to industrial facilities, to small serviced offices.

Visit our property portal at [www.investessex.co.uk](http://www.investessex.co.uk)

***“INVEST Essex helped us to find the right site in Harlow, a town that has a pool of skilled labour as well as good transport links”***  
Colin Taylor, Founder, Parasol Panels

### Examples of property across the county

**Gunfleet Sands Offshore Wind Farm** located approximately 7km south-east off the coast at Clacton-on-Sea has a capacity of 172MW and provides clean, renewable electricity to approximately 125,000 households. The project will make a considerable contribution to the domestic UK target of reducing CO2 emissions by 20% below 1990 levels. The construction and monitoring phases operated out of Brightlingsea in Essex.

**Harwich** – Hutchison Ports UK has joined forces with Aarsleff Bilfinger Berger Joint Venture to be the installation port for the first phase of the **London Array Wind Farm**. At 1,000MW, the project is currently the world's largest consented wind farm and will be built in two phases. This project consolidates Harwich's position as the UK's current leading port for offshore windfarm development.

**Cyclamax** is building an energy from waste (gasification) plant at the SIP (Sustainable Industries Park) in Dagenham Dock to take 100,000 tonnes and convert to 15MW electrical energy.





# Location

## Strengths of the Environmental Technologies sector in Essex

Essex is superbly positioned for business. The county is strategically located in the south-east of England close to other vibrant economies such as London, one of the world's great financial centres, Cambridge, an international centre of research, and the dynamic growth markets of Europe.

Essex is a great place to live and work, with a huge choice of quality homes at reasonable prices, excellent schools and universities, first-class leisure facilities and an environment that gives the right work-life balance.

Essex has an excellent education system, with a number of outstanding schools regularly featuring in the top ten English state schools.

The quality of life in Essex is superb. The close proximity of central London, means you can enjoy the benefits of being close to a world-famous capital city while living and working in a county with fantastic leisure facilities and huge areas of unspoilt countryside.

Hadleigh Castle



Housing at Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford



# Support

## Maximise your competitive advantage

Essex could be the perfect place for your next move. We can help you get your business off to the best possible start, maximise your potential and take advantage of all the opportunities Essex can offer.

We can provide help to find you the right site and put you in touch with professionals and suppliers who can help you establish and grow your business.

### Access to local knowledge and expertise

We have experience of working with businesses of all sizes and have helped many companies to relocate to Essex. You can draw on our extensive local knowledge of the Essex business environment, markets and supply chain as well as our established contacts with all the regional and national bodies who support inward investment.

Our property database makes it easy to find the ideal location in offices, business parks, industrial units or retail centres.

We are committed to your success and we look forward to welcoming your business to Essex.

**INVEST Essex** is Essex County Council's Inward Investment Service, providing confidential advice and practical support to companies wanting to establish a presence or expand in the UK.

We promote Essex as an outstanding business destination and help existing and potential investors make the most of our strategic location, thriving business environment and quality of life.

The logo for INVEST Essex, featuring the word "INVEST" in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, with the word "Essex" in a smaller, bold, white sans-serif font directly beneath it. The text is centered within a dark green rectangular background.

**INVEST**  
**Essex**

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