

**NEWS RELEASE – Monday 29 October 2012**

**New compost facility gains certification**

Hills Waste Solutions' composting operation has achieved two significant certifications after moving to a new, purpose-built site at Parkgate Farm, near Purton.

The compost produced on site, known as *Warrior Compost*, has been certified to the BSI PAS 100 (2011) and the Compost Quality Protocol standard and accredited by both the Association for Organics Recycling and the Soil Association.

Ed Dodd, divisional director Hills Waste Solutions, said: "PAS100 and the Compost Quality Protocol give the customer an assurance of quality and traceability via an independent assessment during the production cycle of the compost."

In addition the site's environmental management system was certified to the international ISO14001 standard following an extensive audit by an independent external certification body, SGS United Kingdom Limited. This standard ensures that key environmental issues are identified and that procedures are in place to deliver effective management, prevention of pollution, environmental improvements and legal compliance for the site.

Green waste collected from Wiltshire households via the kerbside service and at the county's 11 household recycling centres is processed at Parkgate Farm where it undergoes a rigorously monitored process. The raw material is first finely shredded, then stacked in 'windrows' and constantly turned to speed up the decomposition process which takes some 12 weeks. The final product is screened to remove any over-size particles and then bagged for sale. *Warrior Compost* can be bought in bags or loose at all the household recycling centres. It can also be purchased in bulk loads. ENDS

**Notes for editors**

**BSI PAS 100** is the national compost benchmark and the minimum requirements for the process of composting, the selection of materials from which compost is made and even how it is labelled. BSI PAS 100 stands for the British Standards Institution's Publicly Available Specification for composted material. This specification was launched in November 2002 and was developed jointly by WRAP and The Association for Organics Recycling (formerly the Composting Association). Source: [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

**Compost Quality Protocol CQP** sets out criteria for the production of quality compost from source-segregated biodegradable waste and is applicable in both England and Wales. Source: [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)

**Hills Waste Solutions** offers a range of specialist waste management and recycling services to both the public and private sector. It is a dynamic regional business which, while centred on Wiltshire, has stretched its boundaries into neighbouring areas to become one of the region's largest providers of waste solutions. Hills Waste Solutions is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Hills Group Limited, a privately owned family company established in 1900. [www.hills-group.co.uk](http://www.hills-group.co.uk)

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