VertAx Strengthens Project Team with the addition of The Northwest Composites Centre

For Immediate Release

Guildford – 24th June, 2009 – VertAx Wind Limited, a privately owned British company, announced today at the BWEA Offshore Wind conference that it has expanded its engineering development team by including The Northwest Composites Centre, one of the world's leading research institutes in composite materials used in industry.

The Northwest Composites Centre, a collaboration of the Universities of Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Lancaster and Glyndwr, will play a vital role together with Slingsby Composites Ltd in developing the right materials for use in the large blades and rotor assembly that will power the 10 Mega Watt vertical axis wind turbine currently under development.

"VertAx is extremely pleased to have this leading research centre as a member of our project development team," said Paul Marsh, Director. "They join a group of world class experts working on this engineering development who include:

- Converteam – Electrical generation (www.converteam.com)
- Gifford – Structural design (www.gifford.uk.com)
- Slingsby Composites – Blade development (www.slingsby.co.uk)
- SeaRoc Group – Marine Deployment (www.searoc.co.uk)

"VertAx is an exciting opportunity for The Northwest Composites Centre to bring its expertise and experience to meet the challenges of this blade and support arms development. The Centre has considerable experience in researching the materials needs of the wind turbine industry. Our expertise in key composite technology areas such as high speed out of autoclave manufacture, structural 3D textiles, toughening and damage tolerance, joining and repair will all provide invaluable input into the development of a cost effective and durable wind turbine. The Centre will also make available to the team the services of its new £8.3 million National Composites Certification and Evaluation Facility" said Professor Paul Hogg, Executive Director of the Centre. "VertAx has assembled an outstanding team, its plans are unique and the proposed turbine represents a very real opportunity to develop a significant UK player in the offshore wind industry"

The Headquarters and major facilities of the Northwest Composites Centre are based at the University of Manchester. Further information can be obtained by contacting: Professor Paul Hogg, Executive Director at paul.hogg@manchester.ac.uk or telephone: + 44 (0) 161 306 5734.

VertAx is based in Guildford, UK, and is entering the second phase of its engineering development of a 10 MW vertical axis wind turbine generator designed specifically for the offshore market. The company is hopeful of attracting UK government support in its quest for lowering the cost of offshore wind energy and creating a fully home grown product with considerable potential for job creation within the British Isles as well as export opportunities. Further information can be obtained by contacting: Mr Paul Marsh: paul.marsh@vertaxwind.com or telephone: +44 (0) 7813 500443.

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