

Augean's East Kent Waste Recovery Facility (EKWRF) provides specialist storage and waste management services to pharmaceutical and research companies within Discovery Park as well as other customers requiring such services regionally and nationally. The on-site incinerator is unique within the UK in that it recovers energy and so is attractive to customers wishing to increase their environmental performance by using this more sustainable method of waste disposal.

You are always welcome to visit the site so that you can see our operations first-hand and a site visit can be arranged by appointment at any time. Augean always aims to be a good neighbour; to report any concerns regarding our site or to arrange a site visit, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Andy Scorer – Site Manager, East Kent Tel: 01304 450010 Email: [info@augeanplc.com](mailto:info@augeanplc.com)



## Setting High Standards at East Kent

Accreditation from the British Standards Institute (BSI) gives assurance that a company has been independently assessed against internationally recognised standards and operates to the highest levels of quality and service. Augean is assessed on a regular basis by BSI for standards of Quality Management (ISO 9001), Environmental Management (ISO 14001), Occupational Health and Safety Management (OHSAS 18001). As part of the continuous assessment of Augean by BSI, our East Kent site was recently audited and we are very pleased to report that the auditor from BSI was very impressed by our knowledgeable plant personnel and only a very minor issue identified for improvement.

As a company that deals with society's more difficult to manage wastes, Augean is also assessed on a regular basis by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) under the COMAH (Control of Major Accident Hazards) regulations to ensure that as an operator we have taken all measures necessary to prevent major accidents and that any accident that might happen has limited consequences for human health and the environment. Recent audits by the HSE at the East Kent site only identified very minor observations.

## All Together Better at Augean

Augean has always believed that our main asset are the people that work for us. For the Company to do well it is essential that our employees are satisfied, motivated and can work together effectively with common objectives and values.

A representative Working Group of senior managers at Augean were tasked with considering how the Company core values of Respect, Integrity, Teamwork and Excellence could be embedded into the everyday culture of the business. To deliver this the Working Group formulated a Values, Beliefs and Behaviours Framework and a series of key initiatives.

Under the banner All Together Better, the framework and key initiatives have been formally launched so they can be integrated into every aspect of Augean's business practice. As part of the launch, members of the Working Group met with as many colleagues as possible; in total around 310 colleagues attended one of the 24 sessions held across ten sites, making it the largest internal engagement event in Augean's history.

While the focus of All Together Better has been on attitudes and behaviours within the Company to help deliver the needs of our customers, we believe that the same values extended to our colleagues and customers should also be expected when dealing with outside organisations, visitors and the local communities around every Augean site.



Augean

**All Together Better**

Respect • Integrity • Teamwork • Excellence

# Delivering a more sustainable future

Augean has for many years been at the forefront of handling more difficult to manage wastes, and has pioneered new ways of bringing materials back into beneficial use that would once have gone straight into landfill. We are active in helping to research and develop new techniques that will help to ensure that even more materials can be recovered and reused in the future.

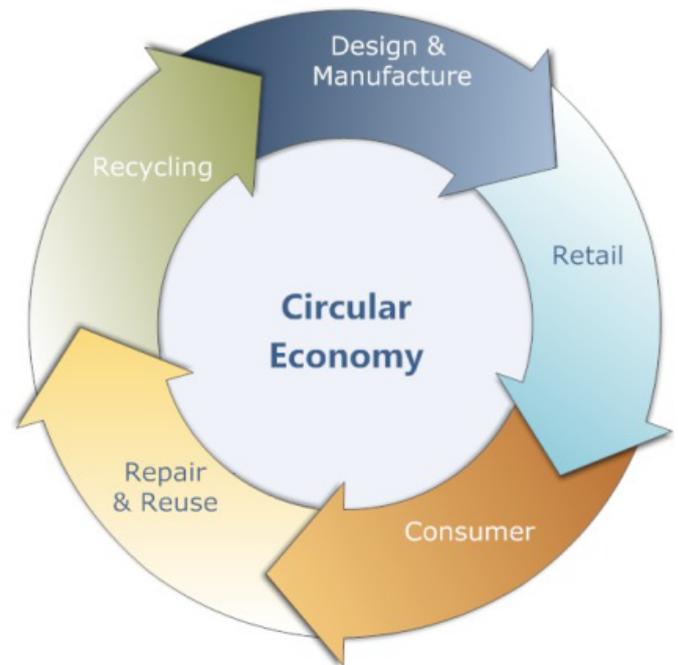
Many people will be familiar with the concept of the Waste Hierarchy that underpins much of current waste legislation and practise. This is a clearly defined list of the preferred outcomes of dealing with waste, from the most preferred option of Prevention through to Reuse, then Recycle, Recover and the finally the least preferred option of Disposal.

However, how familiar are you with the term Circular Economy? The Circular Economy is not a replacement or repackaging of the Waste Hierarchy, it is a far more complex, and therefore less clearly defined, concept with far reaching implications for how we behave and manage finite resources in the long term. For much of modern human history we have operated a Linear Economy, where there is a start, a middle and an end; we take resources, make use of them and then dispose of them. In this economic model there is an emphasis on virgin resources being freely and cheaply available. However, in a Circular Economy resources are kept in use for as long as possible, maximising the value of the resource while it is being used and finally to regenerate and recover products and materials when the resource can no longer be used in its current form.

One of the difficulties in delivering a Circular Economy is the availability of techniques that enable materials to be recovered and fed back in to the beginning of their lifecycle. While we are all familiar with the ease with which newspapers, bottles or tin cans can be recycled, not all wastes are as easy as these to recover material from for reuse. At Augean's Waste Recovery Park at Port Clarence, we have developed an integrated range of innovative hazardous waste technologies that are used to efficiently recycle, recover and reuse waste materials, such as oil and mercury. Even more techniques are expected to be added in the future as new processes become more readily available or new research comes to fruition. At the Port Clarence Landfill and the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) are the country's largest soil treatment centres, where contaminated soils are cleansed to remove a wide range of contaminants and clean material is recovered and recycled. The soil treatment centres have supported large scale remediation and infrastructure projects like the Olympic Park and Crossrail.

In moving towards a more Circular Economy there is also a greater emphasis on designing out waste from the very beginning so that manufacture is less wasteful, the product or component is intended to last longer and be easily repaired and at the end of its life the product could be remanufactured for another purpose or materials can be recovered or recycled and fed back in to the beginning of the process. Augean's knowledge and experience of waste and the waste industry is already being drawn on to create ways to make this goal a reality.

In a consortium led by the University of Warwick, Augean is currently helping to develop research for the reuse and recycling of Lithium batteries that are typically used in electric vehicles. The



research looks at ways that innovative approaches to battery system design can extend the life and serviceability of the battery. Augean is especially helping to deliver an entire lifecycle for the battery, so that options have already been mapped out at the beginning of its life for ways in which it can be recycled, remanufactured or used in a different way from the original purpose at the end of its life.

Augean is continuously pushing the boundaries of increasing the amount of material that can be recovered, but some wastes by necessity do need complete destruction in order to ensure there is no further possibility of harm to human health or the environment. An example of these include wastes classed as persistent organic pollutants, such as polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), which has been used in a wide range of applications such as a coolant for electrical equipment. The High Temperature Incinerator located at our East Kent site can operate at temperatures up to 1200 degrees Centigrade which can ensure these are completely destroyed. Even though the actual waste is not recoverable or reusable, the heat from the incineration is not wasted, but harnessed and converted into energy that is used to provide heating for the adjacent business park.

Building a more sustainable future will not be easy or quick; the latest European target is a recycling rate of 65 per cent by 2030, so there is still a long way to go. However, through research and further innovation, Augean is already helping to lead the way.

## Integrated Services

Operating from our East Kent site is Augean Integrated Services, a business unit of the Augean Group. Integrated Services offers a total waste management service, through a team of highly knowledgeable experts that work with customers, typically medium to large manufacturers, on a consultative basis to address their waste management and compliance needs and offer tailor made solutions. These needs are often fulfilled by the High Temperature Incinerator located at our site, which is designed to incinerate high-value but low volume goods, such as pharmaceutical or other specialist waste, in a secure fashion at temperatures up to 1200° Centigrade. In addition to our site at East Kent, Integrated Services also operates our Cannock site, the primary location for Integrated Services, which serves as a transfer station allowing the acceptance of mixed loads and the segregation and storage of these containers, before transfer as full loads to other Augean facilities for further processing.

