Welcome!

I am delighted to introduce this latest annual report from the Invest in Fife team which highlights the progress in attracting and securing investment opportunities in Fife during 2011/2012. The £129.9m of investment and the 970 jobs created in the past twelve months is excellent news for the Fife economy, especially during these challenging economic times. This level of investment demonstrates that Fife offers a flexible and skilled workforce, supportive collaboration between industry and the public sector and many of the key infrastructure links demanded by modern companies.

There were four major investment projects announced this year bringing two new projects to the area – Samsung Heavy Industries with David Brown Gear Systems and Meridian Salmon, plus two projects assisting companies already well-established in Fife – Diageo and Quaker Oats. Projects to support Fife’s strategic commitment to the renewable energy sector have also seen significant investment in infrastructure to keep pace with the demands of this growing sector.

The Invest in Fife team continues to work alongside national partners like Scottish Enterprise and Scottish Development International to ensure that Fife is recognised nationally and internationally, as a centre of excellence in sectors such as energy and as a great place to do business.

Announcements

First Minister Alex Salmond announced in January 2012 that Korean giant Samsung Heavy Industries (SHI) is to base its first European offshore wind project in Fife in a project worth up to £100m and expected to create 500 jobs.

SHI also signed a deal with Clyde Blowers’ owned company, David Brown Gear Systems, to supply gearbox systems for its next generation offshore wind turbine. The operation will be based in Methil at Energy Park Fife.

Polish salmon company Meridian Salmon acquired the former Lexmark building in Rosyth to become its UK headquarters and salmon processing facility creating up to 400 jobs.

Quaker Oats in Cupar has announced plans to invest £14.4 million which will lead to the creation of 30 jobs and help them to meet growing demand. Construction work began in 2012 on a new factory to house a high-speed sachet line and bagging line.

Diageo is investing £5 million at its Banbeath site to develop a new ‘luxury products’ bottling plant which is expected to create another 30 permanent jobs. Construction is due to be completed in the summer of 2012. The building will concentrate on bottling top-end spirits, mainly whisky, for export sale to emerging markets such as Asia.
**Progress Updates**

**Energy Park Fife**
Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism Fergus Ewing opened a new access road to the Energy Park Fife in December 2011 as part of the continuing investment in the area. The second phase of investment in the Energy Park Fife has progressed with £16 million being invested in quayside facilities and coastal defences. Additional extension plans to encompass the Methil Waterfront area are also progressing. The continued investment in infrastructure and facilities will ensure that the Park remains attractive to investors and meets the future requirements of the industry.

**BiFab** is developing a new 12,000m² facility at the Energy Park Fife to increase its production to 150 structures per year. Development is expected to begin in 2013.

Fife Council has successfully negotiated with the Scottish Government to develop a business case for Tax Increment Financing scheme which allows the use of income generated from non-domestic rates to be invested in expanding the Energy Park facilities and improving transport links.

Construction of the **Fife Renewables Innovation Centre**, based in Energy Park Fife, began in July 2011. The £3 million development will encourage technology and knowledge transfer in the specially designed incubation units and shared research facilities.

**Low Carbon Investment Park**
A new Low Carbon Investment Park planned for 2013 will create an additional 15 hectare business park located close to the Energy Park for supply chain companies in the renewables sector.

**Diageo**
The 16,000 sq m extension of the bottling hall in Leven was completed in June 2011. The £86 million expansion is expected to boost production to around 30 million cases a year. The construction of the bio-energy plant at their Cameronbridge distillery concluded in early 2012. The plant will, for the first time, integrate sustainable technologies, including anaerobic digestion and biomass conversion, on a commercial scale.

**Tullis Russell Papermakers**
Construction of the new biomass CHP plant at Tullis Russell Papermakers by RWE nPower Renewables in Markinch has been making excellent progress and is on track to open in 2013. More than 500 temporary jobs have been created during the construction phase. Around 37 permanent jobs will be created in the operation of the plant once built and at the Offsite Fuel Processing Facility at Cardenden.

**Amazon**
Amazon opened its new 1 million sq. ft. fulfilment centre in Dunfermline. It is Amazon’s largest in the UK and will eventually create 750 new permanent jobs across operations, IT, HR and engineering as well as up to 1,500 temporary jobs during the peak Christmas period.

**Kirkcaldy Harbour**
A joint project between Carr’s Flour Hutchisons and Forth Ports, with a freight facilities grant from Transport Scotland, saw the re-opening of Kirkcaldy Harbour. After 20 years of closure, ships are now berthing alongside the grain silo to load up, removing over 250,000 lorry miles each year from Scotland’s roads. The move is estimated to be 17 times more carbon efficient than road freight.
**Company Activity**

**Smith Anderson**, the UK's largest paper bag manufacturer, has shifted operations from Falkland to Mitchelston Industrial Estate in Kirkcaldy to bolster its lean management strategy and safeguard its 200 jobs. The company which produces 50 million bags every week turned around its fortunes in the past few years by cost cutting and investing in the latest machinery after securing a Regional Selective Assistance Grant.

**The University of St Andrews** is to establish a Green Energy Centre and a Knowledge Exchange Centre on the former Curtis Fine Papers Mill at Guardbridge. The plans will bring over £25 million investment in renewable technologies and the creation of around 100 jobs. The centre will generate and distribute energy produced by biomass, hydro-power, ground source heat pumps and possibly gas reclamation from sewage. Some of the energy will be used to power businesses and activities on the site – the rest will be pumped as hot water to St Andrews student residences.

A Dalgety Bay manufactured prototype tidal turbine has been successfully deployed at EMEC and is the first project to reach 100 megawatt hours (MWh) of supply to the national grid. The prototype was designed and built by **Tidal Generation Ltd** which is a subsidiary of **Rolls Royce**.

July 2011 saw the launch of **Aquamarine’s** Oyster 800 next generation wave device in Methil. Manufactured by BiFab at the Energy Park Fife, the Oyster device headed for the EMEC test facility in Orkney for installation.

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**Looking Ahead**

Invest in Fife continues to promote Fife as an attractive business and investment destination. Through the promotion of Strategic Investment Areas, Invest in Fife Renewables and other key sectors such as Tourism and Finance and Business Services, Invest in Fife hopes to stimulate further investment in 2012/2013 and beyond. In particular, Invest in Fife activity in 2012/2013 will:

- provide a high quality business location service to potential and successful investors
- develop new Strategic Investment Areas around Fife, matching opportunities with targeted industry sectors
- develop a new campaign to promote Fife opportunities throughout the UK and worldwide
- deliver events to Invest in Fife partners and stakeholders
- maintain an excellent Relationship Management programme with customers, networks and core intermediaries across the UK

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**Contact us and find out more**

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