

## Business Resilience to Severe Weather

17 April 2013

In conjunction with Sustainability West Midlands (SWM), Climate East Midlands and the Environment Agency, BESST held a Business Resilience workshop at the University of Wolverhampton Telford campus.

This event focussed on how severe weather affects businesses, and how businesses can increase their resilience to such events.

The presentations From SWM and the EA gave insight into the importance of building business resilience and outlined what issues climate change already has, and will pose to business activities. The presentations also provided good practice case studies from Ricoh, Epwin Group and Globehuggers Emergency Supplies.

Dr. Simon Slater (SWM) chaired the event and welcomed the speakers.

- Midlands Business Resilience Support program - Dr Simon Slater, SWM
- Ricoh UK Products Ltd. Business Continuity - Andy Whyte, Ricoh / BESST
- Business Resilience to Flooding - Emma Walker, Environment Agency
- Epwin Group Business Continuity Flood Plan - Paul Nelms, Epwin Group / BESST
- Emergency Supplies - Debi and David Massey, Globehuggers Emergency Supplies

There were several opportunities during the workshop to discuss and develop best practice. The event finished with SWM presenting the results of the West Mids Resilience survey, showing that 14% of respondents indicated that they had not considered the potential impacts of extreme weather events and have not taken any action, and that only 15% of respondents indicated that they had considered the potential impacts of extreme weather events and have a robust business continuity plan in place that is regularly updated.

Presentations from the event are available from the download section of the BESST website.

For further information on any of the environmental topics discussed please contact the BESST Coordinator Jaclyn

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