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For Immediate Release

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## ANTACO VOTED WORLD LEADER IN TECHNOLOGY FOR WATER MANAGEMENT



UK start up Antaco scooped the prestigious WEX Global Award 2014 for Technical Innovation in Water Management the WEX Global Summit 2014 in Madrid in February.

The awards, granted by the London based Water and Energy Exchange, identify significant achievement across a broad spectrum of disciplines within the water and energy sectors. This year they attracted a record number of entries with specific emphasis on the environment, sustainable futures, financial resilience and innovation.

Guildford based Antaco won the Technology category, in recognition of its Biocoal invention, which turns waste food, sewage and agricultural produce into a green form of fossil fuel.

The judges\* were impressed by Antaco's ability to deal with several problems in one process, simultaneously creating a new form of fuel, treating sewage and drastically lowering CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in several industries.

The process developed by Antaco effectively cooks biomass (both wet and dry) at 200 degrees Celcius and twenty times atmospheric pressure. Though not a new concept, scientists and other companies have struggled to make it economically *viable*. The unique advantage of Antaco technology, according to the judges, was that they invented a method that refines this process and makes it financially and ecologically sustainable to produce biocoal on an industrial scale using small reactor space while significantly reducing operating cost.

The process approximate the geological conditions that created coal out of organic matter, which is thought to have taken millions of years. The major difference being that Antaco's biocoal does not contain the sulphur and other undesirable impurities of 'natural' coal, which makes biocoal a clean enough fuel to use in power stations.

Antaco's process is 4-5 times more efficient than anaerobic digestion in converting sewage sludge and manure, according to a lifecycle analysis performed in conjunction with Imperial College, London. It is also 10 times better for the climate than biodiesel and bioethanol according to chemistry Nobel laureate Hartmut Michel.

Antaco founder Dominik Peus received the award from Sahana Singh, Editor Asian Water Magazine, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2014 during the WEX Global Gala Winner at the Circulo De Bellas Artes in Madrid, which attracted leaders in water and energy from every part of the world.

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\*The Award was given on the basis of written submissions and were judged by an independent panel of international experts who were:

- Jim Southworth (*Chairman, Utility Associates*)
- Pavel Policar (*Chairman of the Board, Czech Water*)
- Leon Awerbuch (*President and CTO of Leading Edge Technologies, Chairman of IDA*)
- Sahana Singh (*Editor Asian Water Magazine*)
- Oliver Grievson (*Flow Compliance & Regulatory Efficiency Manager, Anglian Water / WIPAC*)
- Fiona Griffith (*Managing Director, Isle Utilities*)
- Frank Rogalla (*Director of Innovation and Technology, Aqualia*)
- Patrick Mullen (*Water and Sanitation Specialist, International Finance Corporation*)
- Miguel Angel Sanz (*Director of Development and Innovation, International Desalination Association*)
- Marek J. Gromiec (*Chairman, National Council of Water Management, Poland*)
- Ino Navarro (*Publisher, Tecnoaqua*)