



PRESS RELEASE

SEGF invests £250,000 into National Pipe Care

25 May 2007

The South East Growth Fund (“SEGF”), a Venture Capital Fund investing in high-growth businesses across the South East region, has today announced an equity investment of £250,000 into National Pipe Care, to enable the company to continue the rapid expansion it has experienced since trading commenced two years ago.

National Pipe Care is the trading name of Drainmate Limited, a company that exploits technologies to repair and replace underground drainage pipes without the need for major excavation. National Pipe Care has proven capabilities in this sector, having carried out no-dig rehabilitation works for water companies, construction companies, owners of industrial parks and private residents. The technologies reduce cost and disruption to clients and lend themselves particularly to work on pipelines that are difficult to access, such as those buried under buildings or roads.

Avent Bezuidenhout, who led the deal for SEGF, said:

“National Pipe Care is a very exciting company to be involved in, with an excellent management team, highly specialised and sought after services and in a growing and under-serviced sector. Together these factors provide huge potential for continued growth at National Pipe Care and we look forward to supporting management in the future.”

MD of National Pipe Care, Martin Woodford commented,

“We are very pleased to be working with SEGF and believe that the funding and ongoing support they provide will ensure that National Pipe Care continues to deliver

the highest quality service to our customers and that the business continues on its growth trajectory”.

The South East Growth Fund is managed by experience fund manager WM Enterprise* which manages a number of regional funds across the UK.

Ends

Editors Notes

About SEGF

The South East Growth Fund (SEGF) is one of nine Regional Venture Capital Funds covering the English regions. SEGF makes initial venture capital investments of up to £250,000 with follow-on investments up to a further £250,000, in SMEs at all stages of their development and expects to support up to 100 SMEs over the life of the fund.

The fund is able to consider investment into companies based in the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East Sussex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey and West Sussex. The £30m fund is managed by WM Enterprise* and its investors include Barclays, Berkshire Pension Fund, Royal Bank of Scotland, GE Commercial Finance, the European Investment Fund, the DTI and WM Enterprise.

For more information on this deal contact Avent Bezuidenhoudt (01883 337111).

For more information on the fund visit www.segrowthfund.co.uk or contact the SEGF investment team directly on:

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National Pipe Care Services

For further information on National Pipe Care services, please contact: info@nationalpipecare.co.uk or visit the National Pipe Care website at: www.nationalpipecare.co.uk

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