



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **VENSON WINS 10 YEAR HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FLEET MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT AND WORKSHOP CONTRACT**

Venson Automotive Solutions, the fleet management specialists, has secured a 10-year contract to administer Hertfordshire County Council's complex vehicle fleet and undertake all service, maintenance and repair work at a new state-of-the-art workshop.

The Surrey-based company which has 11,500 cars and commercial vehicles on its books fought off stiff competition in an open tender to retain the contract, which it has held for five years.

The new contract, signed in June, has an option to extend for a further five years and is one of the longest ever awarded in the fleet industry and could potentially run until 2024.

Venson Automotive Solutions' managing director Samantha Roff said: "Securing such a long and complex contract underlines not only our marketplace competitiveness, but the faith that the council has in our business and our employees to ensure that their fleet operates at peak efficiency with vehicle downtime kept to an absolute minimum."

The contract covers Hertfordshire County Council's fleet of 2300 vehicles; cars, light commercial vehicles, welfare ambulances, library vehicles and larger commercial vehicles; and the blue light and non-emergency vehicles for Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service. Venson Automotive Solutions will provide a range of workshop



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services as well as traditional service, maintenance and repair (SMR) work. The contract also includes the provision of two mobile response vehicles on a 24/7 basis that will deliver a dedicated breakdown and recovery service to the council's fleet.

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Continued 2/2...

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Under the previous contract SMR work was carried out at the council's own workshops in Hatfield which were managed on their behalf by Venson Automotive Solutions. However, this month the fleet management specialists open a new 47,000 square feet facility in Welwyn Garden City to facilitate the smooth-running of the contract. The official opening of the premises, which includes offices, a vehicle workshop, MoT centre, bodyshop repair facility and Tachograph service centre, will take place on September 2, 2009. A total of 25 staff will be employed at the new facilities.

Venson Automotive Solutions' success in winning the council contract builds on the company's fleet partnership with Nottinghamshire Police, which operates 500 vehicles. The fleet management specialists and the force signed a 25-year fleet and workshop management contract in 2001.

Ms Roff explained: "Our specialist knowledge in delivering not only day-to-day fleet management and administration but having the capability to run workshops was crucial in winning the new council contract. Cost management and vehicle downtime management continue to remain key areas of focus for both the council and Venson Automotive Solutions."

### **Notes to editor**

Independent Venson Automotive Solutions based in Thames Ditton provides a diverse portfolio of services - traditional company vehicle funding and fleet management to accident management, vehicle equip-for-service, workshop and body shop management – to companies and organisations within the public, private and emergency service sectors.

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