

TWO NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR MIST IN 2004

Following the successful Geodiversity Audit of Active Aggregate Quarries in Devon the project is extended to Somerset, and a bid is won for a new GeoValue project.

“GeoValue” Valuing Geodiversity for Conservation

David Roche GeoConsulting of Exeter in partnership with Camborne School of Mines have been awarded a six month project *Valuing Geodiversity for Conservation*. As a scoping study its aim is to develop a procedure and quantify a set of generic parameters for the measurement of geodiversity quality in a quarry, and ultimately to be able to assess its conservation value by comparing with similar geodiversity elsewhere.

GeoValue Focus Group

“An initial part of the project is to set up a Focus Group of those with knowledge, experience and interest in geoconservation, who will discuss the approach we should take and assist in establishing the criteria for developing a *Geodiversity Value Measure*”, says **project leader Professor Peter Scott**.



Bishops Court Quarry, Exeter: Permian sandstones showing classic sand dune cross bedding structures.

The project is part of the Mineral Industry Sustainable Technology Research Programme (MIST) established jointly by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Mineral Industry Research Organisation (MIRO) under the terms of reference of the Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF). The Devon Stone Federation is a partner in the project.



Colemans Quarry, near Frome: Carboniferous Limestone with good examples of infilled Neptunian dykes.

Geodiversity Audit for Somerset Quarries

An extension to the successful and well received Devon project completed early in 2004, the *Geodiversity Audit of Active Aggregate Quarries in Somerset (East Mendips)* was started in May 2004 involving seven large quarries.

“The project will build on and further develop the methodology we piloted in Devon”, says **project leader Dr Clive Nicholas**, “and again we are working in partnership with the British Geological Survey and MIRO, and with Somerset County Council and the Mendip Quarry Producers”. **The Seminar to launch the findings will be on 21 February 2005 at Foster Yeoman headquarters near Frome.**

A Team of Consultants with a Range of Capabilities

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Ground Investigations

design, siteworks, and reports

Waste Management

Consultancy – in strategy,
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Environmental Studies

& Assessments – pollution &
contamination, minerals & dust

Research Projects

in geology and geodiversity

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