



NEWS RELEASE

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FORMER VICE PRESIDENT URGES BUSINESSES TO HELP SAVE PLANET

Former US Vice President Al Gore has urged Scottish business leaders to act now to help stop climate change.

The politician and leading environmentalist was speaking alongside Hans Blix, Chairman of the International Commission on Weapons of Mass Destruction, at a conference in Glasgow on Tuesday 16 January 2007.

The event, organised in association with Glasgow-based procurement solutions company BiP Solutions Ltd, was entitled 'What Our Future Holds: the Major Issues Affecting Our World' and drew hundreds of prominent figures from the Scottish business and political communities.

Addressing the audience, Mr Gore warned that the damaging effects of climate change were already being felt, but commended Scotland on the steps it was taking to minimise future damage to the environment. He said: "I congratulate Scotland on taking a leadership role in tackling climate change and reducing carbon emissions – this is not a political issue, it is an ethical issue, a moral issue."

Since his tenure as Vice President during the Clinton Administration, Mr Gore has been an increasingly vocal commentator on environmental issues, particularly climate change. A documentary film based on his book, 'An Inconvenient Truth', and featuring Mr Gore, was released to great acclaim in 2006. Following Tuesday's conference, Scottish political leaders have announced plans to show the film to every schoolchild in the country in a bid to halt the development of global warming and its potentially catastrophic effects.

Ron Burges, CEO of event media partners BiP Solutions, said he was proud to associate the company with speakers of such international acclaim and praised Mr Gore for his 'no nonsense' approach to tackling climate change.

Mr Burges said: "During Mr Gore's tenure as Vice President, the world was changing fast, and he played a major role in helping develop global environmental policy – he has left a significant legacy for both the US and the world. It was particularly pleasing to hear him praise the efforts of smaller businesses, such as BiP, in reducing their 'carbon footprints' and thereby helping to prevent further damage to the environment.

"The expertise and depth of knowledge of speakers of the calibre of Mr Gore and Herr Blix can serve as valuable tools to the business leaders of today's world and empower them to shape the future of the corporate and social environment of the twenty-first century and beyond."