

A passion for regeneration

With the launch of APEM AERIAL SURVEYS, APEM says it is proud to be the first and only company in the UK to own the latest Track-Air MIDAS technology which enables it to capture high quality images with a ground resolution of up to 8cm.

At APEM, the company constantly probes for innovative ways of delivering the highest quality scientific service in the water environment. As testament to this commitment, the company has embarked upon a new 'realm of possibilities' with the purchase of its own Cessna plane and high-tech aerial surveying equipment. Using this technology, APEM has developed an aerial surveillance system for monitoring with linear corridor photography. This assists with mapping of fish habitats (spawning, rearing, etc) and recording morphological changes over time (due to erosion, sediment deposition,



etc). As a result, APEM can compile and assess accurate records of ground truthing which, linked to Geographic Information Systems (GIS), can also facilitate assessment of physical habitat changes over time. These changes can

then be used for the baseline and assessment of various impacts (e.g. adjacent land-use) under the Water Framework Directive.

APEM pilot, Ryan Birch, said: "Innovative methods like these lead to more compre-

hensive environmental assessments of rivers, estuaries, lakes and reservoirs being made, greatly increasing the quality of the assessment in real time and facilitating coverage of much larger areas in their contextual landscape." Ryan and some of APEM's scientists will be featured on the popular ITV Granada series 'Lock & Quays', which is presented by the infamous Fred Talbot. APEM was interviewed for this programme for the company's award winning aquatic science work on the Manchester Ship Canal and at Salford Quays. The company is extremely passionate about bringing the Manchester Ship Canal back into the lives of those who live and work around it and for the past 20 years has been involved in the regeneration and monitoring of the health and well-being of Salford Quays and the Manchester Ship Canal's water quality, plant and animal life.