



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Unique new flood report offers commercial properties accurate flood risk assessment

*Approx. 185,000\* commercial properties in the UK are at risk from flooding*

*Unique new Sitecheck Flood report now available for commercial properties from Landmark Information Group*

*The only report which includes an independent assessment, insurance data and flood depth analysis*

With the Met Office predicting a hotter than average summer this year, it might be easy to forget the devastating effects that the last two summer's floods had on properties across the UK. Not only were thousands of homes destroyed, so too were thousands of businesses. With approximately 185,000 commercial properties at risk from flooding in the UK, Landmark Information Group is launching a comprehensive, conveyancing-ready flood report this weekend that identifies potential flood risk to a specific commercial property.

**Sitecheck Flood**, which launches this weekend, is a new flood report which provides anyone involved with a commercial property transaction with an accurate and comprehensive flood risk assessment. Unique to the report, Sitecheck Flood includes an independent professional opinion of risk from a dedicated team of expert consultants at RPS, one of the largest providers of bespoke Flood Risk Assessments in the UK.

Furthermore, it's the only report to include exclusive data from Risk Management Solutions (RMS), the leading catastrophe risk experts, covering all sources of flood risk, including surface water and minor river flooding, which is believed to have caused around 50 per cent of the damage from the 2007 summer floods that affected over 9,000 businesses.

James Sherwood-Rogers, Managing Director of Landmark Legal and Financial comments: *"The Sitecheck Flood report is a must for any UK commercial enterprise – small or large - particularly in the current economic climate where sound business decisions are vital for survival. With flooding set to become a more frequent occurrence as the issue of global warming worsens, more commercial properties are likely to be affected. In fact these days a business is more likely to be flooded than burnt down and some service providers estimate that flooding now accounts for nearly 10% of major business disruptions."*

\* Environment Agency.





Mike Rimell an IFA at Ratcliffe Financial Services in Gloucestershire is one business owner who wished that he had known the flood threat that his business was facing before it was ruined by heavy flooding in June 2007 and then again the following month. Not only does flooding result in damage to the physical structure of the building, floods cause major disruption to business activity and potential loss in customers and revenue. As well as causing complete destruction to Mike's office and ruining valuable client paper files, the company predicts that it lost 20% of predicted sales for the time that it was affected.

Mike comments: *"It is frightening to think about how quickly it all happened - there was water everywhere. The filing cabinets were completely flooded, desks were overturned and computer equipment completely ruined. Then to top it off, it happened again the very next month and we had to watch the office fill up with water all over again. Although our clients were very understanding of our situation, we predict that we lost up to 20% of forecast business for that period."*

*"I didn't know that the offices were situated on an area of flood risk and when our lease expires, we will think very carefully about relocating because we can't afford to let this happen again."*

The key features of the Sitecheck Flood report are:

- **Independent professional opinion from RPS** – one of the largest providers of bespoke Flood Risk Assessments in the UK.
- **Exclusive data on surface water (pluvial) flooding** – believed to have caused around 50 per cent of the damage from the 2007 summer floods that affected over 9,000 businesses.

## Official Environment Agency flood data

**Insurability data from Norwich Union** – indicates the likelihood that a property would be insured and also gives a property-specific assessment of river and coastal flood risk.

**Unique insurance claims data** – claims numbers are a strong indicator of flood risk and this report assesses the volume of verified flood insurance claims made in a postal sector.

**British Geological Survey susceptibility to groundwater flooding** – you don't need to be near a river or the sea to be flooded.

**A clear assessment** illustrated with five separate flood maps, showing the full details of each dataset to support the conclusions of the professional opinion.

Sherwood-Rogers continues: *"Unfortunately flooding in the UK is an issue that is here to stay and businesses as well as homeowners should take necessary steps to ensure that they are protected. Many businesses in the current economic climate cannot afford to take the serious financial hit that flooding could inflict."*

Sitecheck Flood is available from just £95.00 + VAT. To find out more about the report or any of the reports in the Sitecheck range, please visit [www.sitecheck.co.uk](http://www.sitecheck.co.uk) or call **0844 844 9966**.





For further information please visit [www.sitecheck.co.uk](http://www.sitecheck.co.uk) or contact Rachel Greaves or Kathryn Morgan on **0207 025 7572** or [rachel.greaves@trimediauk.com](mailto:rachel.greaves@trimediauk.com).

## Landmark Information Group

Landmark Information Group, part of the Daily Mail General Trust, is the UK's leading supplier of digital mapping services, property, and environmental risk information.

Its Homecheck Professional Flood Report is the UK's most comprehensive residential flood report of its kind featuring not only data from the Environment Agency, and Norwich Union (the UK's biggest flood insurers), but also includes records of actual flood claims in the local area. For more information and practical guidance on the increasing risk of flood visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.homecheckflood.co.uk"](http://www.homecheckflood.co.uk) **www.homecheckflood.co.uk**.

Landmark has recently launched the **Know Your Flood Risk Campaign** in association with the **National Flood Forum**. The campaign is to help raise awareness of the issue of flood and encourage practical guidance and support to help protect homeowners, businesses and property professionals against the risks. For more information and to join today visit [www.knowyourfloodrisk.co.uk](http://www.knowyourfloodrisk.co.uk).

