

something to take advantage of! The AC commercial team is developing this concept with Commercial Capability, which will extend this opportunity to the wider function.

Air Intelligence Surveillance Target Acquisition & Reconnaissance (Air ISTAR)

Airseeker aims to provide the UK's future signals intelligence capability previously provided by the Nimrod R1. The Airseeker capability is being provided via the procurement of three Rivet Joint aircraft and associated ground equipment from the US Government under a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) arrangement. A post here provided me a unique opportunity to develop my knowledge of contracting with the US



through FMS and the challenges this brings, as well as the use of a Memorandum of Understanding and Technical Assistance Agreements.

Commercial work for both **Sentinel** (long range, battlefield intelligence, target imaging and tracking radar for the RAF and Army) and **Sentry** (air and sea surveillance airborne command and control, weapons control and an extensive communications platform) platforms is focused on in service support work. With Sentinel due to be withdrawn from service upon completion of operations in Afghanistan and a cost and performance incentivised support contract in place for Sentry until 2025 the commercial teams for both platforms have to draw upon a wide range of commercial skills to face the challenges in operating within an environment with dominant prime contractors.

Hopefully this article has demonstrated the large variety of work AS has to offer, which may not be known to those outside the OC. I have certainly benefited from and enjoyed this variation in working on a number of different projects over a short period of time.

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Last chance to register your OGC Certificate of Competence – 31 May 2013

services@cips.org as soon as possible.

A notice for all those who undertook the OGC Certificate of Competence...

CIPS have announced the last date in which CIPS would accept an application for an exemption against the 2006 syllabus either for a single unit or an entire level (Certificate of Competence) is 31 May 2013.

After this date, the Certificate of Competence will no longer be recognised, so if you haven't already you need to contact [customer](#).