

desider

the magazine for defence equipment and support

A photograph of two children, a girl on the left and a boy on the right, wearing white lab coats and clear safety goggles. They are focused on a science experiment on a table. The girl is holding a green balloon that is inflated and attached to the neck of a plastic bottle containing orange liquid. The boy is looking at the setup with interest. On the table, there are various items including a white cup, a bottle of dark liquid, and other small containers. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and a bright indoor setting.

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cover image

Pictured: Children take part in one of the many activities laid on at Families Day at MOD Abbey Wood last month

desider

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FOREWORD

By Tony Douglas, CEO

Seeing thousands of people line the shore to watch Queen Elizabeth sail into Portsmouth for the first time was another triumphant moment for DE&S.

The appetite to catch a glimpse of the largest and most advanced warship ever built for the Royal Navy underlined that DE&S has been and remains part of something very special.

Once again the images of this flagship vessel were beamed around the globe, reflecting the enormity of this programme.

It is because DE&S is involved in such exciting and complex projects that we continue to attract some of the best talent to the organisation.

I saw some of this first hand when I went to the Tom Nevard Memorial Competition at Shrivenham and was incredibly impressed by the innovation being shown by almost 70 DE&S apprentices who had attended from Abbey Wood, DM Gosport, Devonport and DM Beith.

This year I was lucky enough to tour the workshops to chat with the apprentices at work and I was struck by their passion and dedication to their task. They are a credit to the DE&S workforce.

Talking of apprentices, another 'shout out' must go to a team of 16 at Devonport who used their imagination and skills to transform an inner-city primary school garden in Plymouth.

In terms of community matters, I was delighted to see again how very well attended the increasingly popular Families Days at Abbey Wood were this year.

I managed to attend the first one and, despite the weather, it was great to see so many people enjoying learning about what we do, especially through the range of hands-on activities on offer. Having grown in popularity over the past five years, these events are booked out within a matter of days and I urge those of you who have not yet attended to get your name down early next year. I also know that the events can't happen without the hard work of a lot of people and I'm grateful to them for their efforts.

As ever, the summer months have proved productive for DE&S.

We have signed a contract that will keep the Royal Navy's current and future warships, including the new Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers, supplied with operational essential items ranging from fittings and fixtures to pistons and pumps.

The innovative Marine Equipment Consumables (MEC) contract is also set to generate savings of around £3 million for the taxpayer by bringing together eight older contracts under a new overarching management arrangement. Tremendous work.

Elsewhere, a contract for next-generation workboats will represent a major uplift in capability for the Royal Navy. This fleet of up to 38 workboats will assist Royal Navy ships, including the two Queen Elizabeth Class Carriers, from UK bases and on operations all over the world.

Their cutting-edge modular design allows them to be adapted to suit the task they have to carry out which, including diver training, Antarctic exploration and explosive ordnance disposal.

Keep up the good work!

SENIOR LEADER COMMENT

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Morag Stuart, Director Commercial Improvement, talks to Desider about her route into DE&S, the need for change and the Olympics



Picture: Jack Eckersley

I joined DE&S in September 2015 and have since been fortunate to cover a variety of commercial roles. I started my career on the graduate purchasing scheme with British Aerospace, at the Royal Ordnance factory in Glascoed, South Wales, and ended up running the Supply Chain for a Lightweight Howitzer M777 for the US Marine Corps.

I left BAE for a once in a lifetime opportunity – to be Head of Procurement for the Olympic Delivery Authority, responsible for the procurement of all venues and infrastructure for London 2012. Being part of such an event was a phenomenal experience and an opportunity to work with some of the best people in infrastructure and construction. I then set up my own business and, following nine years of consulting across government, I decided that I really wanted to come back to Defence, and DE&S was a natural place to want to work in.

I had accumulated a lot of experience during my time at BAE Systems, and I had also gained a lot of understanding on public procurement working for the Olympics, so I wanted to combine that knowledge when I arrived in DE&S to really make a difference.

I'm delighted to say I have enjoyed this job even more than I ever thought I would. I first joined as Director of Contract Management,

with a temporary role as DG Commercial, but now, as Director of Commercial Improvement, I have an opportunity to really change things and use all the learning I've accumulated.

My role is focused on commercially-led business change – we take an idea, such as the way we manage our assets in industry, and look at a better way of doing it, taking projects from an identifying phase through to maturing phase and then into delivery. It's all about linking all areas together to create a system that is truly efficient.

DE&S has around 3,000 contracts, worth £157.3 billion. In addition, we spend £14 billion a year on new equipment and support of the equipment already in our care. There is a huge amount of activity and I'm constantly impressed by the dedication and good ideas from teams within DE&S. Lots of them have been here for over 30 years, so their knowledge and understanding is invaluable.

These are truly exciting times for Commercial. In my area, I now have the capability, resource and desire, as well as the understanding of what needs to change, to fundamentally do something different. We have scoped 32 projects which will drive significant efficiency benefits into the organisation, and we're starting to deliver

against that. The recent appointment of a Commercial Delivery Partner, Paragon, is a key highlight for me, as they will be able to take some elements of risk in providing resources.

Now that transformation is in place, the doors are open and people are ready to change – they understand why it was implemented and they have the right mentality. The functional structure is a huge benefit that will allow us to better deploy our resources and maximise our learning, turning DE&S into a truly commercial organisation.

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 There is a huge amount
 of activity and I'm
 constantly impressed by
 the dedication and good
 ideas from teams within
 DE&S
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Home sweet home: HMS Queen Elizabeth enters Portsmouth for first time

Pictured left: Thousands lined the shore for HMS Queen Elizabeth's arrival in Portsmouth. Right from top: sailors line the edge of the flight deck, crowds wave flags as the ship arrives, a flypast by Wildcat and Merlin helicopters took place, the Prime Minister Theresa May chats with Captain Jerry Kyd on the flight deck



“A momentous and emotional

Poignant images were beamed around the world as the 65,000-tonne Queen Elizabeth carrier triumphantly entered Portsmouth for the first time.

Thousands of well-wishers lined the shore from 6am on Wednesday, August 16 desperate to catch a glimpse and treasured photo of the historic event. Shortly after 7am their patience was rewarded as HMS Queen Elizabeth – which along with the Prince of Wales is the largest and most advanced warships ever built for the Royal Navy – came into view and glided gracefully towards its new and welcoming homestead.

Sailors lined the flight deck of the huge warship as she passed Portsmouth's Round Tower. HMS Queen Elizabeth was also greeted with a flypast from the Fleet Air Arm, including Wildcat and Merlin helicopters and Hawk jets.

Such was the magnitude of the occasion that Prime Minister Theresa May found time in her busy schedule to go on board and took the opportunity to address crew members and contractors about what she said was a “true testament to British ship building and design.”

The Prime Minister added: “Britain truly has the best sailors, marines and officers in the world. And I believe you deserve the very best equipment and that it what we have with HMS Queen Elizabeth. This ship is the symbol of the United Kingdom as a great global maritime

nation. Clearly she is a stunning piece of 21st Century engineering.”

DE&S Director Ships Acquisition, Henry Parker, was one of a number of DE&S representatives lucky enough to be on board Queen Elizabeth as she entered Portsmouth.

He said: “Being on board the Queen Elizabeth, watching the thousands of spectators line the shore as this iconic vessel made her first entry into Portsmouth – her home for the next 50 years - was a momentous and emotional occasion.

“DE&S has been a key stakeholder in ensuring this historic moment took place and I am incredibly proud of the QEC team for all their hard work, passion and determination.”

Mark Dannatt, DE&S QEC Head of Acquisition, who watched the carrier arrive from on board Type 45 destroyer HMS Diamond, said: “As the superstructure of the ship appeared above the Portsmouth skyline it marked the successful completion of the first phase of her sea trials programme. It was a great thrill to be present to witness this spectacle and it marked the beginning of a fantastic day.

“The atmosphere in the crowds as she passed the Round Tower and entered the harbour really brought home to me that the public shared the excitement of what this ship represents. The significance of the QEC programme, both in capability terms and more

broadly as a truly national endeavour has rightly been widely recognised.”

Also on board were several members of the Queen Elizabeth Delivery Acceptance Team (DAT) and Aviation Acceptance Team (AAT), who are based in Rosyth and whose dedication to their task had brought this day to fruition.

Lieutenant commander Chris Coles, part of the DE&S QEC AAT said: “This was the proudest moment of my Royal Navy career and

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This will be her home for the next 50 years and proof that we are entering into a new age of carrier strike capability

Vice Admiral Sir Simon Lister Chief of Materiel (Submarines)

— ” —

one that I don't think will ever be topped. To see thousands of people line the shore and take to an armada of small craft to welcome the Ship into home port for the very first time was a spectacle worth waiting for. This moment was truly once in a lifetime experience and was the cherry on top of the icing to my three years



l occasion”

on the project. Getting to this day has taken a gargantuan collaborative effort from industry, MOD and Ship Staff.”

After arriving in Portsmouth shore-based Vice Admiral Sir Simon Lister, Chief of Materiel (Submarines), who was in charge of procurement for the aircraft carriers, gave several interviews to media extolling the carrier’s capability.

He told Desider: “I am very proud of DE&S’ role in this historic programme and having spoken to many DE&S staff who have been involved I know they too were extremely proud to witness the carrier’s arrival into Portsmouth. This will be her home for the next 50 years and proof that we are entering into a new age of carrier strike capability.”

The Carrier programme has brought together the best of British industry, with construction taking place across six cities and involving more than 10,000 people. This includes 700 businesses and suppliers, 800 apprentices and nearly 8,000 jobs at shipyards around the UK.

The UK has 11 state-of-the-art F-35 Lightning II jets and 120 UK personnel training in the United States. By the end of this year that will be 14 jets, with trial flights from the carrier’s deck on track to begin next year.

Both carriers are being delivered by the Aircraft Carrier Alliance, a partnership between the MOD, DE&S and industry.



NEWS IN BRIEF

SUCCESSFUL SENTINEL MISSION

A Sentinel R1 aircraft based at RAF Waddington has been welcomed back following a successful mission supporting the coalition in the fight against Daesh.

The 5 (Army Cooperation) Squadron aircraft, procured by DE&S, landed last month after eight weeks away, where the crew supported coalition operations by supplying information that ensures the strikes carried out by the RAF and other coalition aircraft were accurate.

During the tour the Iraqi Security forces, together with their coalition allies in the air and on the ground, successfully recaptured the Iraqi city of Mosul with Sentinel playing an important role.

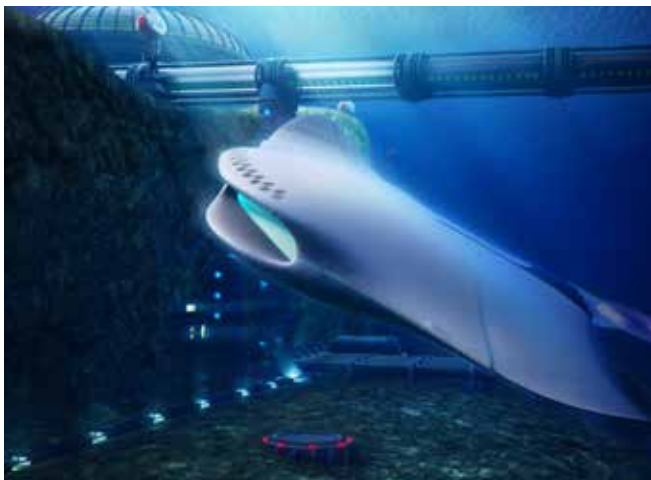
The Sentinel crew used the aircraft's powerful radar to identify and track numerous targets over great distances, passing the information in near real time to friendly forces.

The returning Sentinel aircraft has been deployed in support of operations for two months and during that time was airborne for 235 hours, flying approximately 4,200 miles.

Wing Commander Chris Melville, 5 Squadron Commanding Officer, said: "It is always difficult to recognise the work of my Squadron due to the sensitive nature of it, but this was an opportunity to publically congratulate them on a job well done."



RN UNVEIL FUTURISTIC CONCEPTS



The Royal Navy has unveiled a series of futuristic submarine concepts which mimic real marine lifeforms and radically change the way underwater warfare could look in 50 years.

UK engineers and scientists from a range of companies and organisations including Atlas Elektronik, Babcock, BAE Systems, BMT, DSTL, L3, Lockheed Martin, MOD, QinetiQ, Rolls Royce, SAAB Seaeye, and Thales, came up with designs after being challenged by the Royal Navy to imagine what a future submarine would look like and how it would be used to keep Britain safe.

The submarines, unmanned vessels and torpedoes would be built from a range of materials including super-strong alloys and acrylics, with surfaces which can morph in shape, dissolve on demand and with some being able to travel at unprecedented speeds of up to 150 knots.

Commander Peter Pipkin, the Royal Navy's Fleet Robotics Officer, said: "Today's Royal Navy is one of the most technologically advanced forces in the world, and that's because we have always sought to think differently and come up with ideas that challenge traditional thinking."

CUTTING-EDGE RADAR SYSTEMS

Defence Minister Harriett Baldwin announced that BAE Systems have been awarded three contracts worth £72m to support cutting-edge radar systems on board the Royal Navy's ships.

Two of the contracts support the Sampson Multi-Function Radar. Operational on board the Type 45 Destroyers, the radar provides surveillance and dedicated tracking in a single system, enabling the ship to defend itself and other ships in its company from attack.

Among the agreements was

a new five-year contract for technical support including on-board maintenance, spares and repairs management at BAE Systems' Cowes site on the Isle of Wight, supporting 255 jobs. The radar will also have its processing hardware updated.

BAE Systems has also won the Commander T101 radar support extension project for the next four years. Deployable by land, sea and air, Commander Type 101 radars are in service across UK territories at home and abroad.



A400M PUT THROUGH ITS PACES

A Royal Air Force A400M Atlas was put through its paces when it took part in Exercise Mobility Guardian in the United States.

The airlift aircraft, procured by DE&S, transported a variety of US Army vehicles including a 19-ton Stryker Commander Vehicle, delivered aid relief and flew aeromedical evacuation sorties during an intensive series of exercise scenarios.

Hosted by the US Air Force's Air Mobility Command, over 50 aircraft and 3,000 personnel from over 30 nations gathered at Joint Base Lewis McChord near Seattle for an exercise designed to test and improve how international partners and allies conduct humanitarian relief operations.

A400M Team Leader, James

Dowson, said: "A400M has made a great impression during Exercise Mobility Guardian. In particular it has been able to demonstrate its evolving capabilities to our international allies and partners, together with its capacity to carry a wide range of vehicles and equipment such as the large and heavy US Stryker vehicle (pictured).

"This underlines the significant growth in the capability of the aircraft in recent months with further enhancements in the pipeline. Many thanks are due to all members of the DE&S Delivery Team and the wider RAF users and Airbus stakeholders who have put in a tremendous joint effort to deliver and sustain these capabilities."



US AND UK CARRIERS MEET UP

HMS Queen Elizabeth met up with the USS George HW Bush and her carrier strike group off the coast of Scotland ahead of her entry into Portsmouth.

The Nimitz-class US carrier was taking part in Exercise Saxon Warrior which saw UK staff work with their American counterparts to fight off a series of simulated threats from enemy forces.

There were 15 ships from across NATO taking part in the exercise, called Exercise Saxon Warrior, with more than 100 aircraft and nearly 10,000 people.

During a pause in the exercise's high tempo activities, there was a

chance for HMS Queen Elizabeth to join the carrier strike group for a brief period as she continued her own contractor sea trials.

Captain Jerry Kyd, HMS Queen Elizabeth's Commanding Officer, said: "The USS George HW Bush is an awesome embodiment of maritime power projection"

HMS Queen Elizabeth's sister ship HMS Prince of Wales will be officially named at a ceremony in Rosyth this month. Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon revealed that the ceremony would take place on Friday, September 8 when he visited HMS Queen Elizabeth on sea trials in July.



WILDCAT HELPS WAR ON DRUGS



Royal Navy crew aboard a Wildcat helicopter, helped identify nine suspected illegal drugs plantations on the Caribbean island of Montserrat.

Naval aviators visited the region to assess how they could help if a volcano that destroyed the Southern part of the island in 1997 – which is now an exclusion zone – erupted again.

However, drug traffickers ignored the warning signs in the area and established illegal plantations in the exclusion zone, which was last surveyed from the air two years ago.

During the inspection, local police guided the helicopter to suspected drug hotspots and located nine sites which will now be destroyed by the authorities.

It's the second blow the

Wildcat has helped deliver in the fight against trafficking in the Caribbean. Last month, the helicopter located nearly 20 illegal drugs farms in the British Virgin Islands.

The helicopter also scouted possible landing sites and practised ferrying a tonne of water in a large cube slung beneath the Wildcat – all vital practice should Mounts Bay and her aircraft be called upon to assist islanders if there's another eruption, or a hurricane whips through Montserrat.

Earlier this year DE&S signed a £271 million deal to support the world-leading helicopters – a highly versatile aircraft which are currently in service with the Royal Navy and Army Air Corps.



Pictured: DE&S apprentices put their skills to the test. Middle: DE&S CEO Tony Douglas walked around the workshop to chat with apprentices

Winner's Panel

Tom Nevard Phase 1 Individual

Winner – Sarah Hughes (DE&S Devonport)

Runner Up – Thomas Baker (Dstl)

Tom Nevard Phase 2 Individual

Winner – Thomas Diaper-Fox (Dstl)

Runner Up – Chloe Garland (DE&S Abbey Wood)

Tom Nevard Team Event Winners

Winners – Team 1: James Wiltshire (DE&S Abbey Wood), David Thompson (DE&S DM Beith), William Robinson (Dstl), Kieran Stainer (DE&S Abbey Wood), Chloe Stephens (DE&S Abbey Wood)

Joint runners up – Team 3: Ashley Conlon (DE&S Abbey Wood), Zachary Hall (Dstl), Ashley Biginton (DE&S DM Gosport), Tom Hill (DE&S Abbey Wood), Chris Nowell-Smith (DE&S Devonport) and Team 7: Ewan Walker (Dstl), Joe Samways (DE&S DM Gosport), Stacey Bishop (DE&S Devonport), Jack Hewlett (DE&S Abbey Wood), Oliver Nicholas (DE&S Abbey Wood)

Sir Henry Royce

Winner – Luke Worrall (DE&S DM Gosport)

Runner Up – Lorn Trybis (DE&S Abbey Wood Nuclear)

DE&S apprentices showcase skills at Tom Nevard

Almost 60 engineering apprentices from DE&S visited Shrivvenham to take part in the prestigious Tom Nevard Memorial Competition.

They joined apprentices from Babcock and Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) to participate in the five-day event which has been staged since 1952 in honour of Tom Nevard, who is credited as being a member of a committee that introduced apprenticeships to the MOD.

DE&S CEO Tony Douglas paid a visit to Shrivvenham during the competition, along with Vice Admiral Duncan Potts, Director General Joint Force Development & Defence Academy, and Colonel Anna-Lee Reilly, programme leader within the DE&S Soldier, Training and Special Programmes team.

Tony said: "I was thrilled to see the innovation on show as I made my way around the workshop. Speaking to the apprentices it was clear they have a real passion for what they do and it bodes extremely well for the future DE&S workforce."

The competition features three awards: one for individual first and second year apprentices respectively, and a final award where teams comprising first, second and third year

Second year apprentices had to build a pulsating water engine or pop-pop boat with a simple steam engine typically powered by a candle or engine burner. The boat had to be able to propel itself on water for eight metres without assistance and be capable of steering around a circular course.

Third-year apprentices worked in mixed teams and had to build an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) robot with a wire cutter used by bomb disposal operators. The robot had 10 minutes to travel 60 metres along a course littered with obstacles and cut a wire before the device detonated. In addition, third-year apprentices had to produce accompanying documentation of their workings.

Rachel Crichton, a DE&S apprentice at Abbey Wood, said: "I have really enjoyed my time here. I have met a number of apprentices and have been able to network and learn new skills along the way."

Graeme Sim, a DE&S apprentice at Defence Munitions (DM) Beith, said: "I have taken part in Tom Nevard before and it's an excellent way of meeting other apprentices, sharing best practice and ideas and adding to your skill set in a fun environment."

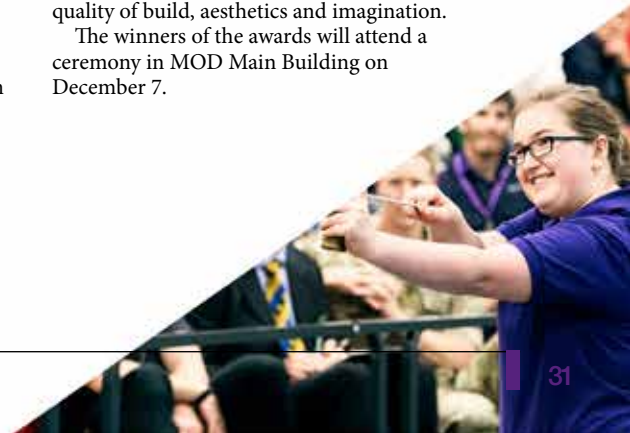
Stacey Bishop, a DE&S apprentice at Devonport, said: "It's been difficult but I feel like I have definitely progressed my skills. The networking opportunities are a real bonus."

Ashley Biginton is undertaking a DE&S mechanical engineering advanced apprenticeship at Defence Munitions Gosport and was recently part of a team that was asked to design a brass model of a Sopwith Camel and present it to Princess Anne during a royal visit (see August Desider).

He said: "Our manager thought Tom Nevard would be another great opportunity to expand our hand skills and actually put them to the test. It's also been good to meet other apprentices from different depots within DE&S and learn how we can progress our careers within the organisation."

This year again saw the Sir Henry Royce Award run alongside the competition, with apprentices being asked to design and manufacture a fixed blade hunting/survival knife. Apprentices were awarded marks for quality of build, aesthetics and imagination.

The winners of the awards will attend a ceremony in MOD Main Building on December 7.



Speaking to the apprentices it was clear they have a real passion for what they do and it bodes extremely well for the future DE&S workforce

— Tony Douglas, DE&S CEO —



apprentices work together to meet their goal.

Philip Rotherham, DE&S senior engineering apprentice development manager, told Desider: "Engineering apprentices have structured training and Tom Nevard allows them to let their imagination run wild. There are no limitations – within the realms of health and safety, of course."

For the 2017 competition the first year apprentices had to build, using any materials they wished to, a nerf (non-expanding recreational foam) gun that could fire foam darts. Their final creation was tested for a number of factors including accuracy, range, imagination and quality of build.

Innovative contract supporting

DE&S has signed an innovative contract that will supply the Royal Navy with more than 10,000 different types of consumable items – from fittings and fixtures to pistons and pumps.

The Marine Equipment Consumables (MEC) contract, signed with Babcock International, was negotiated by the DE&S Marine Propulsion Systems Team and will keep the Royal Navy's current and future warships, including the new Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers, supplied with items essential for day-to-day maintenance and operations.

The contract is also set to generate savings of around £3 million for the taxpayer by bringing together eight older contracts under a new overarching management arrangement.

Team leader Captain Stephen Large RN said: "The MEC contract spans across the entire scope of Marine Systems Support and encompasses over 10,000 items, but was managed by a relatively small project team working to a challenging schedule targeting the broader support improvement agenda.

"A combination of the project teams' can-do attitude, undaunted focus on delivery outputs and close collaboration across the whole range of stakeholders, including Navy Command, meant we could agree this important and innovative contractual framework to support the Royal Navy's ships and submarines.

"Now that the contract is fully enabled,

—“—

A combination of the project teams' can-do attitude, undaunted focus on delivery outputs and close collaboration across the whole range of stakeholders, including Navy Command, meant we could agree this important and innovative contractual framework to support the Royal Navy's ships and submarines

Captain Stephen Large RN
DE&S Marine Propulsion Systems Team

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an initial first order of over £1 million of consumable spares has already been procured and we are starting to see beneficial impact on our performance metrics."

The contract was one of several announced by Defence Minister Harriett Baldwin at Portsmouth last month, along with the news that the dredging of two million metres of mud at Portsmouth harbour has given the new Queen Elizabeth aircraft carrier a clear route into its new home.

Discussing the MEC contract negotiated by DE&S, the Defence Minister said: "The route is clear for the Navy's largest and most powerful ship to dock at its home in Portsmouth, but even ships as impressive as our magnificent new aircraft carriers need nuts and bolts to keep them running smoothly. This new contract will provide all the supplies our ships and personnel require to be effective on operations.



g Royal Navy saves £3 million

“This also brings the previous contract under one deal, delivering improved efficiencies and highlighting how we are being smarter about support. These efficiencies are ensuring that our £178 million Defence equipment plan is going towards the state-of-the-art kit our Armed Forces deserve.”

The new contract is estimated to be worth around £107 million over the next seven years, during which time it is expected to deliver around a million individual items to all current and future Royal Navy vessels. All items being supplied – including electrical cable, straps, small valves, bearings, gaskets, pipes, pistons, pumps, motors and electrical components – are ‘consumable’ in that they are impractical or impossible to repair.

The signature secures seven jobs at Babcock International with additional jobs secured at 11 companies across the wider UK supply chain.

Chief of Materiel (Ships) for DE&S, Sir Simon Bollom, added: “The Royal Navy relies on expert, sustained support through partnerships across UK Defence in order to protect the nation’s interests at home and abroad.

“This contract is not only excellent news for the Royal Navy and our partners across the Defence industry, but also for the taxpayer, due to substantial negotiated savings and incentivised contract performance.”



Pictured: The contract will support numerous ships including the Type 23 HMS Montrose and the Type 45 HMS Diamond pictured above



Pictured: Kineton Station staff march through Warwick, below the Regimental Dinner, staff working in Defence Munitions, and a parachutist entertaining crowds at the station's Open Day

Kineton celebrates 75 years

Kineton Station – the home of Defence Munitions (DM) Kineton – has marked its 75th year anniversary with a series of celebratory events including an open day for the local community.

The depot, in Warwickshire, was created as an ammunition depot in 1942 to support operations during the Second World War and in particular the D-Day Landings.

The Ammunition Technical Support Group (ATSG), part of the Defence Munitions/DE&S organisation, is the major unit on the site.

Ever since its creation the station has received, stored, maintained and issued the military its Weapons, Ordnance, Munitions and Explosives (WOME).



It has definitely strengthened our ties with our local communities

Station Commander, Lt Col Davidson
Royal Logistics Corps



It has also ensured that Ammunition Technicians and Ammunition Technical Officers have been trained in the core elements of their trade. Additionally, Kineton Station has sought to build a station community by supporting local village and county communities, entertaining a wide range

of visits, enduring continuous change and supporting Defence's operational and training WOME needs.

Anniversary events started on May 24 with station personnel undertaking the first of eight weekly 10 mile marches to complete a 75 mile march around the Warwickshire area.

The aim was to promote Kineton Station in the local community and inform them of the 75th anniversary. Those main celebrations were carried out over a three-day period.

A Regimental Dinner Night was held on July 20 in Warwick Castle, where the messes hosted military and regional VIP guests. This was followed by a Veterans Day on July 21, where the Station invited ex-forces personnel back to see how Kineton Station had changed.

The celebrations culminated on July 22 with a Freedom of Warwick Parade in the morning, where staff marched from Warwick Castle through Warwick town centre with drums beating and bayonets fixed. Shortly after the parade, Kineton Station opened its gates to the general public, where a Station Open Day and a 'party in the park' event were held.

Station Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Davidson Royal Logistics Corps, said: "All of the events were delivered with the pride and professionalism that are associated with the military, civil servant and contractor personnel who work on the Station. In doing so, it has definitely strengthened our ties with our local communities and provided opportunities for people to engage with, meet and better understand what the military and serving civil servants do on Kineton Station."



Pictured: HMS Astute, the first of the Astute class submarine
Below: Ian Booth, the new Chief Executive Officer of the
Submarine Delivery Agency



First CEO of Submarine Delivery Agency announced

Ian Booth has been announced as Chief Executive Officer of the new Submarine Delivery Agency.

He joins the MOD from the Aircraft Carrier Alliance (ACA) where he has been Managing Director since 2012.

Having been responsible for leading and delivering the Aircraft Carrier programme, Ian joins the Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) at a crucial time for the UK's nuclear enterprise and comes with extensive programmatic experience.

Prior to the ACA, Ian ran the Typhoon airframe design and build programme for BAE Systems, was Managing Director of the Astute Submarine programme and Managing Director of Fleet Support Ltd.

Establishing the SDA in April 2017 was a key milestone from the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR). The SDA has been set up to focus solely on the procurement, in-service support, and decommissioning of the UK's nuclear submarines.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will be responsible for leading a world-class delivery organisation; establishing its structure, shaping the team to deliver, and transforming its capabilities for the long-term.

A key facet of this will be to manage the Dreadnought and Astute nuclear submarine programmes to time and budget, alongside providing day-to-day support to the operational fleet of Trafalgar, Astute and Vanguard Class submarines.

Vice Admiral Sir Simon Lister, previously of DE&S, will take an intermission from his Royal Navy career and fill the role of Managing Director of the ACA.

Permanent Secretary, Stephen Lovegrove, said: "I am delighted to welcome Ian Booth as CEO of the SDA. Ian's tremendous career working on both private and public sector projects means he brings a wealth of experience and programme management skills to the role.

"I am very much looking forward to working with him on delivering our submarine programmes. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Tony Douglas, DE&S Chief Executive and Vice Admiral Sir Simon Lister for their leadership of the SDA during its inception.

"Their steadfast commitment to ensuring that we have the right structures in place to sustain an enduring nuclear enterprise has been vital. I wish Vice Admiral Sir Simon all the best in his new role as Managing Director of the ACA. He will take forward the Carrier programme at this hugely important time, bringing his years of experience to this crucial national endeavour."

Tony Douglas, CEO DE&S, said: "Ian arrives at exciting time for the SDA, as it undertakes a phased transition to full Executive Agency status no later than April 2018. Ian brings with him a wealth of expertise across the air and maritime sectors, and will work to prepare the submarines

business to stand up alongside DE&S the new organisation focussed on the procurement and in-service support of the UK's nuclear submarines."

He added:

"I am delighted at Sir Simon's appointment to the Aircraft Carrier Alliance at an immensely important time for the Carrier programme. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to him for his strong leadership of both the Maritime business and, in particular, the Submarine Enterprise over the last eight years. His unwavering commitment to and passion for improving and sustaining performance and delivery across the Submarine Enterprise has been exemplary. I am sure you will join me on wishing him the very best for the future."

Newly-appointed CEO, Ian Booth said: "I am incredibly excited to take on this role. Ensuring we have a capable, credible and affordable nuclear deterrent is a vital national endeavour and we must work hard to ensure we are leading the way to deliver world-class, cutting edge submarines.

"I look forward to bringing my project and programme experience to the role, and working with the DG Nuclear organisation, the Navy, and the wider nuclear community to deliver the commitments set out in the 2015 SDSR."

The SDA will become an Executive Agency of the MOD, alongside DE&S, under a phased approach to enable full Agency status to be obtained no later than April 2018.



Families Days a huge success

More than 3,500 people visited MOD Abbey Wood to enjoy exciting, interesting and fun equipment displays over two hugely successful Families Days.

Families and friends of employees were invited to visit the site on July 28 and August 11 for the annual Families Days events. Since their inception in 2013, more than 13,500 people have now taken the opportunity to visit.

Neighbourhood displays, amongst many others, included a parachute trainer simulator, jet ejection seat, displays of UK Military Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, historical military paraphernalia, defence clothing and food rations, an aeroplane landing challenge and a Dragon Runner military robot.

This year outdoor displays included, for the first time, Avon Valley Farm petting zoo, which proved a big hit, along with a climbing wall, birds of prey exhibit, bands and a range of vehicles including a vintage bus that had appeared at the first event four years ago.

Another popular addition this year was the Queen Elizabeth Class carrier photo booth, with long queues of people wanting to secure their virtual picture with the iconic vessel, and the ever popular Ministry of Defence Police dog display also drew large crowds.

Reserves were also on site hoping to recruit volunteers and explain their role in supporting the Armed Forces, and the Book People worked tirelessly all day selling games, and toys as well as books to promote the Civil Service Charity.

Most importantly, lots of money and awareness was raised for charities affiliated to DE&S.

Sally Wilkins, Head of Infrastructure at DE&S, said: "This is the fifth year that the Infrastructure team have been involved in the overall management of Families Days, and these events continue to grow each summer.

"Families Days are always interesting, educational and successful and we have tremendous support from across the Operating Centres who go out of their way to make the events fun too.

"It's a real pleasure to see the enjoyment of staff and their families and to showcase both our site and the equipment we provide for the Armed Forces.

"Around 3,500 visitors attended the two events this year, and I feel sure that we created an enjoyable and educational experience for everyone.

"Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of Abbey Wood Families Days."

— “ —

It's a real pleasure to see the enjoyment of staff and their families and to showcase both our site and the equipment we provide for the Armed Forces

Sally Wilkins
Head of Infrastructure at DE&S

— ” —





Pictured: Visitors to Families Days enjoying the activities on offer

F-35 production landmark

Pictured: Two RAF F-35 Lightning combat jets photographed flying over the east coast of England in July 2016

British engineers working on combat jets being procured by DE&S for the UK's new aircraft carriers have reached a key production milestone.

The 318th rear section for an F-35 Lightning II combat jet has rolled off the BAE Systems production line in Samlesbury, Lancashire, meaning that 10 per cent of the global requirement has now been produced.

The aft fuselage is the back part of the state-of-the-art aircraft's main body and, with more than 3,000 aircraft currently on order, it is estimated that 25,000 jobs will be sustained across the UK by more than 500 companies in the supply chain when at peak production.

The rear section has now transferred from BAE Systems' advanced manufacturing suite to Lockheed Martin's final assembly and check out line in Fort Worth, Texas, to be connected with other major assemblies to become one of three aircraft variants. The 318th aft fuselage in particular will form part of a UK 'B' model variant of the combat jet.

This variant has the short take-off and vertical landing capability which makes it ideal for Britain's new Queen Elizabeth Class (QEC) aircraft carriers. The F-35B jets are on track to make their first flight trials from the QEC's deck next year.

The F-35 programme is the world's largest single defence programme and, as a key partner, the UK has been working closely with the US from the outset.

Minister for Defence Procurement Harriett Baldwin said: "This is an important milestone and the latest example of how the F-35 programme is benefitting the UK's defence industry, creating thousands of jobs and helping to keep Britain safer and more secure.

"Britain is a leading partner in the development of the F-35, supporting not just the aircraft that will operate from RAF

Marham and our two new Queen Elizabeth Class aircraft carriers, but also the thousands of jets that will serve our allies around the world."



This is an important milestone and the latest example of how the F-35 programme is benefitting the UK's defence industry, creating thousands of jobs and helping to keep Britain safer and more secure

Harriett Baldwin
Minister for Defence Procurement



Andrea Thompson, F-35 Lightning II Director for BAE Systems Military Air and Information, said:

"Reaching the 10 per cent mark of production on the F-35 programme shows how far we have come, but also highlights that there is an enormous amount of work still to do.

"With an order book of more than 3,000 aircraft for the global F-35 fleet, the investments we are making in our advanced manufacturing facilities are key to ensuring we continue to deliver on our commitments."

Eric Branyan, vice president of F-35 Supply Chain Management for Lockheed Martin, said: "The United Kingdom is the F-35 programme's only tier one partner and the work of BAE Systems and other in-country suppliers has a significant positive impact on the UK economy. We look forward to many more years of partnering to deliver the most advanced and capable 5th generation fighter jet to our allies around the world."

UK industry is responsible for 15 per cent of the work on each aircraft, including every aft fuselage as well as other mission critical systems for the F-35 Lightning II programme.

The first operational Lightning II squadrons will be the RAF's 617 Squadron (The Dambusters) and 809 Naval Air Squadron. Combined with the QEC aircraft carriers they will transform the UK's ability to project influence overseas.

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Pictured: A computer generated image of the workboats in use.
Copyright: Atlas Elektronik

New £48m contract for

A £48 million contract for next-generation workboats has been secured by the Commercially Supported Shipping (CSS) team at DE&S.

The fleet of up to 38 workboats will assist Royal Navy and Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships from UK bases and on operations all over the world and will represent a major uplift in capability.

The contract, announced by Defence Minister Harriett Baldwin, was placed by the Commercially Supported Shipping's Boats team within Ships Support.

The boats, ranging in length from 11 to 18 metres, have a cutting-edge modular design, allowing them to be adapted to suit the tasks they have to carry out, which include logistic support, passenger transfer, officer and diver training, Antarctic exploration and explosive ordnance disposal.

For example, if the Royal Navy wished to quickly redeploy a boat from hydrographic

survey duties to support diving for explosive ordnance, the survey module can be quickly lifted out of the boat and replaced with the diving module containing the high pressure air required for that task.

Three of the workboats will be embarked onboard HMS Prince of Wales, the second Queen Elizabeth Class Carrier, and winched to and from the water using on-board lifting equipment, allowing them to transfer personnel and support the enormous ship either in port or on operations.

CSS Boats acquisition lead Garrie Trowbridge was supported in securing the contract by project manager Mark Milsom, commercial officer Simon Randy and boat acquisition finance manager Bridget Canny.

Garrie (pictured inset) said: "This was a challenging process in which the team had to satisfy many different user groups with just one class of workboat.

"That is why we came up with a concept

where different modules could be fitted to the platforms dependent on task."

He added: "We are very proud of this deal, as it will result in a major uplift in capability in terms of speed, payload, operational area and navigational suites.

"In addition, despite their varying roles, the boats will all have the same steering and control system, reducing the need for training and making them simpler to





workboat fleet

operate and far more efficient to support.

“This was the first new boats requirement for some years and a lot had changed in terms of the approvals process and procurement regulations.

“It was an extremely steep learning curve but seeing the workboats now come together has made all the hard work worthwhile.”

Building and supporting the boats will sustain 60 British jobs, including 15 at Atlas Elektronik UK near Dorchester in Dorset, where the boats will be built.

A further 45 jobs will be sustained across the supply chain, including at E P Barrus in Bicester, KPM-Marine in Birmingham and Mashfords in Plymouth.

Minister Harriett Baldwin said: “From the south coast to the banks of the Clyde, British shipbuilding is ensuring that our growing Navy has the reach it needs to protect our interests around the globe.

“These cutting-edge workboats will support

the likes of our iconic new aircraft carriers and the Type 26 frigates, as well as sustaining 60 British jobs. This is another step in our £178 billion plan to provide our Armed Forces with the very best equipment to keep our country safe.”

The contract will enable the design and construction of up to 38 boats as well as in-service support for the fleet for a further two years after the final boat is accepted. The first boat will enter service next year.

DE&S CEO Tony Douglas said: “These boats use modern materials and have been designed from the keel up to provide the Royal Navy with unparalleled flexibility and adaptability.

“DE&S is proud to maintain excellent working relationships with partners across UK industry, ensuring our Armed Forces continue to be provided with the equipment they need while also maintaining vital British skills and jobs.”

Features:

- Innovative modular design for rapid repurposing
- Twin waterjet propulsion
- Glass-reinforced plastic hulls
- Common steering and control systems

£48 million contract

38 Up to 38 workboats

60 Jobs supported across the UK

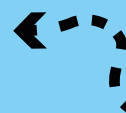
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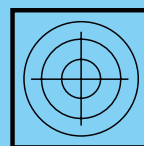
Passenger transfer for QEC Aircraft Carriers



Officer and diver training



Antarctic exploration



Hydrographic survey



Explosive ordnance disposal

DE&S apprentices transform

DE&S engineering apprentices from HM Naval Base Devonport put their skills to good use by transforming an ageing inner-city school garden in Plymouth.

The 16 apprentices consulted with the children and staff of Mount Wise Primary in Plymouth before re-designing, rebuilding and replanting the outdoor classroom and recreational space.

They created a pond with a wildlife access slope, fledgling orchard and insect haven and built in benches, raised flower beds and a footpath.

Apprentice Shelby Sewart, 18, said: "This

has been a mutually beneficial project and it's brilliant to see the children's faces as they are already interacting with the garden before it's fully embedded. We gain lots of skills - project management, working as a team, liaising with the community. It's been a very rewarding project."

Apprentice Lawrence Parker added: "The children love the garden. The biggest challenge was physically and logistically, moving heavy materials around a limited site with the bad weather adding to the challenge. But it makes it all worthwhile seeing the happy faces of our youngest customers."

The garden was officially opened by Naval Base Commander, Commodore Ian Shipperley.

Headteacher Chris West said: "This is a great space which has already sparked the imagination of the children who seem to love being in it already. Of course some of our pupils don't have a garden as they live in high-rise blocks of flats, so it's home-from-home for them.

"The garden is multi-use. It's a space for the children to study the outdoors and all linked subjects and to relax in. The gardening and science clubs were closely involved in its design.



Pictured: DE&S apprentices with children and staff from Mount Wise Primary School in Plymouth

From primary school garden

“They can see where and how food grows in our separate produce garden and will be able to harvest apples and pears. They can see the whole chain of planting and growth and then in cooking lessons – it all shows how food gets to our plates.

“We all appreciate the time and effort that has gone into this redesign and rebuild. The apprentices have been very professional, polite, hardworking and a delight to work with. They have been very patient in dealing with my many 'bright' ideas. We could not have afforded to employ commercial teams for this big project, so from that point of view this has

been an aspirational dream come true which will reward many generations to come.”

Pupil Kezhal Salih, aged nine, said: “It’s a beautiful garden. I can’t wait for the trees and bushes to grow properly. The old play area was too dangerous for us to play in but this is really good.”

Lorna Stubbs, DE&S Engineering Trainee Development Manager at Devonport, said: “DE&S engineering apprentices were delighted to help to transform the playground of the local school. All of them are science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) ambassadors and are keen to support

local STEM engagement. The opportunity also allows the apprentices to project manage, work as a team, problem solve and develop their DE&S behaviours prior to taking up placements in HMNB Devonport. We are extremely proud of the reputation the Devonport DE&S apprentices have within the local area and beyond.”





“
As a leader, one
key lesson I have
learnt is to listen
and think carefully
about your
response ”

Picture: Jack Eckerley

On valuing your team, loving a challenge and being a role model to her children

Charlotte Rhodes is project manager within DE&S Submarine Training Systems. Her job is to ensure that a new submarine single operating base in Scotland provides the best possible training for the next generation of sailors

What does your role involve?

My current role is within the Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA), within the Submarine Training Systems team.

It is a challenging position due to the move of submarine training from the south coast to Scotland, which is to become the submarine single operating base.

I am also working closely with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), who are building the infrastructure for the new base, which will incorporate training currently taking place at HMS Raleigh Submarine school for warfare and HMS Sultan for Marine and Nuclear Engineering.

I need to ensure that the base provides the best possible training for the next generation of sailors.

What about your role is exciting, rewarding or interesting?

The role is rewarding as it has provided me with the opportunity to not only apply my systems engineering skills, but all of the experience I have gained since joining the MOD in 1999.

It has allowed me to grow both as a leader and a person, because I have had to manage a change programme that involves a multitude of stakeholders and it gives me great satisfaction that I am able to challenge the requirement and direction of this programme.

I have also been lucky enough to work with the US and Canadian Navy and see first-hand the latest training technology available.

How important to you is teamwork?

Teamwork is key. Having worked in large, medium and now a small team I realise that if you don't have a strong team ethic with good relationships it can impact on team

performance. As a leader, one key lesson I have learnt is to listen and think carefully about your response.

It's also important to take the time to communicate with team members face to face in an informal setting rather than just over email and in formal meetings.

What is your view on transformation?

Although it can be difficult applying a programme of change to such a large organisation I believe transformation is the right decision for DE&S going forward.

From a systems engineer point of view I think it will allow the Armed Forces to more clearly articulate their requirements.

Why did you choose to pursue a career in DE&S?

I joined the MOD as a Graduate Engineer (DESG) in August 1999 after seeing a stand at a jobs fair when I was at Plymouth University.

After graduating I worked in a multitude of areas and eventually joined the Type 45 programme team on promotion in September 2001.

This role was my first experience of the importance of delivering against requirements, time, money and stakeholders aspirations and it enabled me to develop my skills, knowledge and experience.

This allowed me to progress professionally up the ranks and DE&S has allowed me to continue my own personal development.

DE&S has allowed me to achieve Chartered Engineers status (CENG) and, very recently, my MSC in Systems Engineering.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

The challenges it brings each day. I have to work with a multitude of stakeholders within DE&S, SDA, Naval Command and

DIO. However, I enjoy this, as I have a strong internal energy and drive to succeed when it comes to delivering a project.

A lesson I have learnt is that training and support are key. The link between equipment, training, safety and people is vital.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

My family and home life. I have two young boys and my spare time is spent with them playing football in the park, riding bikes and supporting them both at a local hockey club. When I do get spare time to myself I like going for a run, cycling and watching romantic comedies with my husband, which he hates! Any spare time at work I use to mentor and coach other people – a role I love.

What might surprise people about you?

I'm dyslexic. I'm good at talking but not so good with written words.

However, this has not stopped me achieving my goals and I am very proud that I have achieved my MSC, which included a 45,000 word thesis on submarine training.

It was hard work and I couldn't have done this without the support of my family, work colleagues, friends and, of course, Matt Summers, who was my supervisor at Shrivenham.

Dyslexia has made me more determined as a person and I am determined to be a role model to my sons, as they are both dyslexic as well.



— “ —
 A rich pipeline of scheduling talent is essential for us to deliver on our promises to our customers

Andrew Morgan, Domain Function Manager for Joint Enablers

— ” —

Pictured: Andrew Morgan, Domain Function Manager for Joint Enablers during a presentation to staff

Celebrating the unsung heroes of project delivery

With adoption of the industry-leading scheduling tool, Primavera P6, continuing across DE&S, Desider caught up with a few of our schedulers to find out what the future holds

A core part of DE&S’ transformation programme has been to establish more consistent ways of working across the organisation, and with this, increased specialisation through functional management.

One profession now receiving the focus it deserves is that of the scheduler. Because as Mark Bunyan, Project Controls Domain Function Manager for Land, explains, our scheduling capability relies on much more than the tools we use:



“The scheduler is the spine of any project. From contractors and

industry partners, to team members across all functions, the scheduler is the one that pulls everyone together – and gets everyone pulling in the same direction. They’re integral to the success of the project, supporting the project manager to deliver on our promises to our customers.”

It’s this integral role in the success of our project delivery that’s driving DE&S’ investment in our scheduling community. Abi Salami, from the Air Dominance and Suppression (ADS) project team, is one of over 100 schedulers to already complete our Planning and Scheduling Development Scheme. “Relatively new to DE&S, the three-month training programme provided a great foundation to not only build my skill set, but also get to grips with the uniquely dynamic environment in which we work.

“It was great to learn from both industry experts and experienced DE&S professionals, and I now have a strong network of colleagues to draw on for support and to share best practice.”

The programme is set to train another 40

employees over the autumn, with placements for new recruits ranging from three months to two years. And as Project Controls Corporate Function Manager, Tim Sheldon (pictured inset), explains, this continual upskilling is vital to achieve the robust scheduling capability we require:

“We need to begin looking forward as an organisation – in the past our performance management has been informed by historic lagging metrics. But with a highly skilled cadre of schedulers providing our project managers with the reliable data they need, we can drive better project decision making, anticipating and mitigating the key risks before we reach them.”

Though this is an exciting new chapter for our project teams, Primavera P6 is just the first tool of six in our new P3M tool suite – so it’s only the beginning of the story for our schedulers. Equipped with the right tools and supported with the right skills, they will provide the foresight and understanding to keep our projects on track long into the future.

CASE STUDY

Anita Woodburn, Commercial Officer Head Office, gives her insight into the benefits of working for DE&S

Name:

Anita Woodburn

Job title:

Commercial Officer Head Office

How long have you worked for DE&S?

15 years

Why did you choose to pursue a career in DE&S?

I have lived within the Downend and Bromley Heath area for nearly 30 years, and I wanted the opportunity to work for an organisation that would provide good flexible working conditions, training and was local to my community.

What does your role entail?

In my current Commercial role, I facilitate and manage MOD and Crown Commercial Services Procurement Contracts for Common Goods – such as Manpower Subs and Consultancy. I provide management information for DE&S and MOD Top Level Budgets (TLBs) to manage common goods and services.

What are the opportunities to develop and progress within your function?

Having worked within the Commercial pillar for the last 10 years, the Commercial function encourages the use of mentors as well as gaining further Commercial qualifications, for example Chartered Institute Purchasing (CIPs) levels 4-6 to progress, secure delegations and stay competitive in today's Commercial market.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

The interaction between different stakeholders and Government departments, for example Crown Commercial Services, Cabinet Office and DE&S. I also enjoy the challenge of the role and the precise approach to deliver the information each department requires.

What's your ambition?

I would like to develop my knowledge of Government Procurement further and use this knowledge to progress within the Common Goods Procurement environment, as I find this type of procurement very interesting and challenging.

What's the greatest achievement (in your role) to date?

I have been instrumental in supporting small SMEs trading companies during a crucial time of MOD transitioning payments systems – from Purchase to Payment (P2P) to Contracting Purchasing and Finance (CP&F) – by ensuring emergency payments were made to customers claiming financial difficulties. I was responsible for reviewing and requesting supplier data to make these payments, to maintain SMEs funding and ensure the MOD didn't incur in late payments.

Are you a member of any networks? Why did you decide to join and what benefits do they bring to you?

I am a founder member of the DE&S Multicultural Community Network (MCC) and during 2016 became Chair of the Network to help promote and improve Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME)



Picture: Jack Eckerstey

and Diversity and Inclusion within the MOD. I am passionate about nurturing a diverse workforce and would like to develop more successful relationships within the community and other corporate organisations who are currently leading the way in Diversity and Inclusion. I would also like to see a reflection of my community and Bristol working within DE&S.

Why would you recommend DE&S to others as a great place to work?

It provides good working conditions, opportunities and an environment in which to further develop and train in your area of specialism.

What are the social benefits of working for DE&S?

The benefits for me are flexible working, staff training and the pension scheme – and the organisation is local to my community.

WORK FOR DE&S

Welcome to this edition of DE&S jobs in Desider. There are great opportunities available at DE&S and each month we list current and future posts. For even more opportunities visit the Civil Service Jobs Portal at www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk

Graduate and apprentice schemes

DE&S offers a number of top class graduate and apprenticeship opportunities, providing successful applicants with “hands-on” experience in roles across a range of projects.

If you have recently left school or university and are interested in embarking on a career in defence but do not yet have the experience/skills required for our listed

vacancies.

More information on the range of graduate and apprentice opportunities DE&S has to offer is available at www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk

Rewards and benefits

In addition to the fantastic variety of cutting edge jobs and an excellent opportunity to develop skills through training, including working towards professional qualifications, we also provide first rate benefits for all of our employees. These include flexible working, excellent annual leave, maternity and paternity allowances as well as a very competitive pension scheme, eligibility for performance related pay, free car parking (caveats apply), proactive employee engagement, access to Benenden Medical care and the opportunity to join many civil-service clubs such as the Sports and Social Association and Motoring Club (CSMA)

which offer numerous discounts to members.

Our headquarters are based in Abbey Wood, Bristol and, like many other sites, boasts an impressive range of facilities including a fully equipped gym, an on-site nursery, a range of restaurants and coffee bistros and a hairdressers.

We understand the commitments our staff have, both inside and outside of the office. Our aim is to provide you with a place of work which allows you the flexibility you require to maintain a great work/life balance.

Equality and diversity

DE&S is committed to embracing diversity: it is one of our core values. Irrespective of gender, marital status, race, religion, age, disability and without reference to social background or sexual orientation, DE&S operates an inclusive environment to allow you to develop your career.

Whether uniformed or civilian, we expect the attitudes of our people to reflect our approach to diversity by:

- fostering a working environment where all staff feel comfortable, welcomed and valued for their contributions

- promoting a workplace that values dignity, respect and fairness
- promoting high standards of behaviour and complying with the law by creating equality of opportunity

To demonstrate our commitment, we are members of Stonewall, Race for Opportunity, Opportunity Now, The Employers Forum on Disability, The Employers Forum on Age, and we are also affiliated to a: gender.

Read more about equality and diversity in MOD.

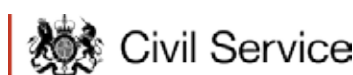
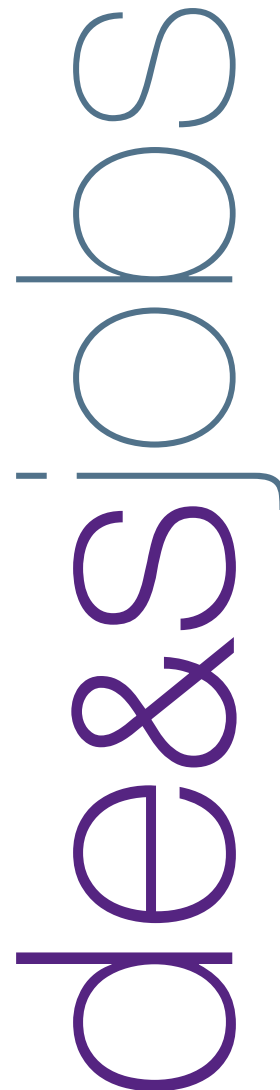
How to apply

We are looking for innovative, talented, focused individuals to join us in being instrumental in defending Britain's interest both at home and overseas.

DE&S provides the opportunity for a truly rewarding career, working on complex, interesting and often sensitive projects of great significance and consequence, with excellent training opportunities for your continued professional development.

If you would like to view all current vacancies across DE&S and the wider civil service, please visit the Civil Service Job Portal.

In addition, for an easy, hassle free way of keeping up to date with all the latest vacancies, you can now follow us on Twitter or like our page on Facebook.



CURRENT VACANCIES

Head of Support Chain Controls DE&S

Bristol | £70,000-95,000 | SCS Pay Band 1

Closing date: 10 Sept 2017

Reference number **1553085** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: You will be responsible for maintaining relationships with customers, articulating DE&S capabilities and gain funding to exploit opportunities to improve the Support Chain. You will also manage the Portfolio Plan of existing and new Projects and Services from early stage through to close down.

Cost Controller (Finance) DE&S

Yeovil, Corsham and Bristol | Up to £39,500pa | Level 3

Closing date: 10 Sept 2017

Reference number **1551490** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: You will be responsible for supporting the control of project costs ranging from tens of thousands to multi million pound budgets. The role involves reporting and performance requirements and undertaking strategic detailed analysis.

Acquisition Safety and Environmental Protection DE&S

Bristol | Up to £60,000pa | Professional I

Closing date: 22 Sept 2017

Reference number **1551799** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: You will provide audit and advice services through a catalogue of services to DE&S Delivery Teams to assure the delivery of safe and suitable equipment to the Front Line Commands.

Engineering Manager DE&S

Bristol – limited opportunities at other locations available

Up to £46,000 pa | Level 3 | Closing date: 30 Sept 2017

Reference number **1545750** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: You will be using your engineering skills as a member of a team of professionals who are immensely proud to deliver and support some of the UK's largest, technically challenging and most important engineering projects.

Commercial Officer DE&S

Bristol | Up to £33,000pa | Level 2 | Closing date: 1 Oct 2017

Reference number **1547856** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: You will be part of a team placing and managing contracts, and you will hold a commercial delegation up to £2.5m. Your responsibilities will include negotiating, evaluating tender documents and leading and assisting with the development of appropriate contracting methods and strategies.

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DE&S PEOPLE

60 SECOND SPOTLIGHT

Name?

Sean Simmons

Job?

Project Manager working in the Puma 2/ Gazelle Delivery Team (P2G DT) responsible for the delivery of the Puma 2 Mission Planning System.

Your route into DE&S?

I joined the Royal Air Force in 1988 as an air cartographer, one of the smallest trades in the RAF. Having spent most of my 26-year career working in west London and specialising in Mission Systems, I eventually left RAF Northolt and moved to Abbey Wood in the summer of 2010. Here, I worked in the Air Platform Systems project team on the Advanced Mission Planning Aid project. I finally departed the service in 2014 having been accepted into another mission systems project management role within DE&S, managing the Information, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance Mission Support System (ISTAR MSS) capability development. More recently, I was promoted and took up another mission systems role within the P2G DT where I currently work.

Your claim to fame?

As a paraglider pilot I once landed in Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's back garden. Having landed and packed my glider away, I walked down the tree lined avenue to be confronted with the biggest set of wrought iron gates I had ever seen. As I approached the gates, Sir Andrew was kind enough to open them for me automatically. I suspect his security staff had been watching me the whole time.

Your advice to anyone?

Life is no dress rehearsal. We get one chance at living it to the full. Try everything once and never say never!

What do you do when you're away from work?

I started paragliding in 1994 at the Joint Services Paragliding Centre in South East Wales and after six weeks of training I was finally awarded my wings and quickly became hooked.

I started to develop my skills from basic to more complex and started competing in the Inter-Services Paragliding Championship (representing the RAF) in the UK and Germany and on two occasions placed first. Over the last 23 years I have been fortunate to develop my skills to a level that has allowed me to become an instructor, Chief Coach for the RAF and a training member of the Avon Club. In addition, I qualified as a tandem pilot 12 years ago.

My most memorable flying experience was taking my six-year-old son on his first tandem flight and enjoying the sheer look of fulfilment



on his face after landing. He is now 16 and we have shared many hours in the air together.

My most recent memorable flight was taking off from a beautiful hill overlooking Chew Valley Lake. We climbed out to over 4,000ft and flying over the Mendips, Somerset Levels and Quantocks was some of the most stunning scenery in the country. I felt very privileged.

I love sharing our wonderful sport. And anybody wanting to have ago should drop me a line on email and I would be more than happy to both explain what we do and provide an opportunity to experience the fun of paragliding.

What are you most proud of?

My son winning one of only four flying scholarships at 15 years of age. Eighteen months later and now 16, it plays a huge part in his life. I am so proud of what he has achieved and continue to support his ambition to fly for a living. I cannot really blame him as he started flying with me on a two-seater when he was six years old!

If you were sent to a desert island, what three things would you take with you?

Bushcraft expert Ray Mears, a sailing dinghy to enjoy the surf and wind then set sail for home when I got bored and Meg Ryan, who, as it happens, always carries a large rucksack full of chocolate.

What irritates you the most?

The BBC weather forecast that always seems to predict the best flying day of the year on a day when I have a meeting I cannot get out of!

What is your favourite place in the world?

San Diego, California, USA – Torey Pines Gliderport produces the most flying days per year than anywhere else, what's not to like!

Your secret?

That would no longer make it a secret!

Do you or someone you know deserve their 60 seconds in the spotlight?

Email tom.morris114@mod.uk

Remembering Rose



More than 50 DE&S staff attended a moving memorial service for much-loved colleague Rose Connor, who died last year.

The service, led by MOD Abbey Wood Chaplain Rev Andrew Jones, was also attended by Rose's husband Mick, daughter Caitlin and her mother Heather.

Rose, who was a key member of the DE&S Submarine Production team, died from cancer aged 59 in August last year. To pay tribute to Rose, the team unveiled the Rose Connor Meeting Room and Plaque on their floor plate at MOD Abbey Wood.

Rev Jones opened the ceremony in the MOD Abbey Wood memorial garden by explaining that a rose bush was being planted in Rose's memory, before reciting a prayer.

Julie Morris, head of Submarine Production, and with whom Rose worked closely, then spoke.

"It is a year ago that we lost Rose and the team and I are still adjusting to life without her, but we are delighted to hold this memorial and that her family are here with us", she said.

"We have dedicated a meeting room to her memory but this memorial was to show the

whole of Abbey Wood what we thought of Rose and honour the contribution she made to the Submarine Production team. Most importantly, it underlines the love we have in our hearts for Rose."

Colleague Gill Bartram read the poem "If Roses Grew in Heaven" in her memory, which was part of Rose's Funeral service.

Close friend and colleague Ann Fray gave a moving speech, saying: "We are here today to remember Rose, but honestly I don't think there is anybody here who will ever forget her.

"I miss Rose. I miss walking in and seeing her smiling face, I miss that twinkle in her eyes, I miss the chats about family, husbands and the 'next beer festival'!

I miss swapping stories about holidays and where we should go next – these are just a few of the things I miss.

"Rose was such an integral part of the Astute Project and loved everything about those boats. As long as the Astute Class Boats are sailing around the world for the next 20, 30 or 40 years, Rose will be part of them.

"I can honestly say that it was an absolute pleasure to have had the good fortune of being a friend to such a lovely person. Today

is for you Rose, I hope you are still having fun wherever you are."

Rose's husband Mick said: "Rose was a very lucky lady, as she had two loving families, the one at home and the one at Abbey Wood. The family would like to thank you for this lovely memorial, which Rose would absolutely adore."



— “ —
It is a year ago that we lost Rose and the team and I are still adjusting to life without her

Julie Morris
Head of DE&S Submarine Production

— ” —

DE&S PEOPLE

Hitting the open road in remembrance of our heroes

A mixed DE&S military and civilian team will cycle from Belgium to MOD Abbey Wood to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele.

On November 6, 1917, after three months of fierce fighting, British and Canadian forces finally took control of the tiny village of Passchendaele in the West Flanders region of Belgium, so ending one of the bloodiest battles of the First World War.

With approximately a third of a million British and Allied soldiers either killed or wounded, the Battle of Passchendaele (pictured) symbolises the true horror of industrialised trench warfare.

The team of 10, who will also have a support team of four made up of DE&S staff, are aiming to complete the 600km journey in five days between September 22 and 27 and hope to raise at least £2,000 for the Royal British Legion.

It is understood the team will be joined by further riders when it departs Army HQ in Andover, on the final day and by the Royal British Legion's motorcycle team for the final 1.5 miles.

If you would like to support the team visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/TOMMY1917>



MOTTO

the MOD Lottery
May 2017 winners

£10,000	Angelina Larvin, ABW
£2,500	Paul Rogers, Blandford
£1,000	Anne Sullivan, Corsham
£500	Sarah Blacklock, London
£250	Robert Wilson, Germany
£100	Craig Edwards-Kelly, Glasgow
	Tracy Russell, Lichfield
	Lee Stevenson, Northern Ireland
	Julie Jones, Donnington
	Nicola Harrison, Corsham
	Robert Evans, Andover
	Deborah Hilton, RAF Waddington
	Anthony Hird, RAF Cranwell
	David Gray, Sutton Coldfield
	Gary Maycock, Cambridge
	Christopher Gardner, Carlisle
	Helen Thorpe, Liverpool
	Stuart Blackwood, Portsmouth
	Laura Reynolds, Catterick
	Sharon Brown, London
	Janet Waites, York
	Martin Hatherly, Corsham
	Anthony Gee, Preston
	Michael Lowe, London
	Graham Lawson, Aberdeen



Ray Spurr, from the DE&S Support Enablers Operating Centre, accompanied Normandy Veterans during a 'Back to the Beaches' commemorative trip to Normandy.

He travelled in one of 90 cabs carrying 80 veterans and their carers heading for France. Ray was assigned two veterans to personally accompany - Wally Beall and Denzil Cooper - as part of the event sponsored by the London Taxi Cab charity.

Ray said: "Wally was a wireman on Landing Craft Tank 836 which took over six Sherman Tanks and all their crew at 6.30am on D-Day. It was a successful landing but they had to wait until the next high tide to get off the beach. Incredibly they played cards while the Germans shelled the beach.

"Denzil was a Glider Pilot who flew his Airspeed Horsa glider with field gun and crew into Ranville near Pegasus Bridge on the morning of D-Day. Having done his job he managed to get a lift on board a ship and arrive back in England the same day. On the visit to Pegasus Bridge he was formally presented with the Legion D'Honneur (pictured) and it was clearly a very moving moment for him."

The trip also saw a memorial service at Bayeux and a visit to Merville Battery where 3rd Division put on an excellent lunch and service followed by a parachute jump by the Red Devils and a visit to Caen Museum where the Veterans took questions from French school children.

Sharing knowledge is key

The Chemical Biological Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Delivery Team held their third biennial Industry Day at the Defence Academy in Shrivenham.

The event (pictured) comprised presentations from Information, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) Programme Delivery Group 2 Head Ian Smith, CBRN Delivery Team Leader Ian Matthews and a host of CBRN sponsors and senior stakeholders.

Presentations at the July event outlined recent successes, including the team winning the Civil Service award, achievement of Initial Operating Capability for two strategic projects and the in-service support of more than 2,500 CBRN pieces of equipment.

Ian Matthews outlined forthcoming

requirements, including new projects being initiated and a variety of upgrade programmes.

An open Q&A session followed, where almost 200 delegates from across industry and academia were invited to put their questions to the panel of speakers.

There was a market stall event showcasing CBRN equipment and information, which included Contracting with Defence, Chemical Sense, Radiological and Biological, Hazard Management and Medical Countermeasures.

There was also an opportunity for industry to have detailed discussions with Project Managers, so they could better understand contracting with Defence.



DE&S graduates worked alongside the Institution of Mechanical Engineers to put on a workshop (pictured above) for schoolchildren at the Cheltenham Science Festival.

The festival, which organisers describe as six days of debate, discovery, experiments, enjoyment and hands on fun, is considered the premier science event in the country.

The workshop, entitled Engineering Utopia, looked at the challenges that an increasing reliance on science and technology places on humanity.

Pupils were told they lived in a city of the future where cars fly, medicine cures all diseases and famine is a thing of the past. But technology then fails

and they had to engineer new solutions to rescue their friends and get the city back on track.

The primary aim of the workshop was to apply technical thinking whilst placing an emphasis on team work and practical problem solving.

All content and equipment was constructed by DE&S graduates and apprentices in the lead up to the event.

DE&S graduate Rachel Russell said: "The day went far better than I could have imagined and that is testament to the hard work of the graduates and apprentices over the past five months."

The first DE&S Electronic Countermeasures Symposium has been held at Abbey Wood.

The event was well attended by staff from across Land Equipment and Information, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance (ISTAR).

It was held to promote closer working between DE&S staff who are involved in procuring or supporting Electronic Countermeasures (ECM) equipment (radio jammers) and provided a forum to help build relationships and share ideas with their counterparts in other delivery teams.

Those attending were given an overview of current ECM projects at DE&S and there was a presentation around the findings of the recent ECM Capability Investigation.

In addition, the commercial opportunities presented by closer working between delivery teams and the need to put the user's needs at the centre of future projects were discussed.

Following the success of the inaugural ECM Symposium, similar events are planned for later this year to look at specific ECM procurement case-studies in detail, and identify opportunities for future collaboration between DE&S ECM teams.

Anyone interested in attending should contact the organiser, David Fielding (DES SPCFP-PfM2)



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