

STOBBARTS DECOMMISSIONING SUCCESS

Sellafield contractor celebrates its first batch of Decommissioning trained operatives with the NDA's Dr Ian Hudson, Chair of the Nuclear Academy.



From Left to Right: Neil Patton, Gary Lightfoot, Lloyd Smith, Nicholas Aldersey, Allan McDonald (GENII), Patrick Gilmore, Keith Power, Dominic Worsley, James Crellin, Glen Boylan, Sean McCartney, Harry Mounsey

November 2006, Cumbria, UK – Along with its training partner GENII, Stobbarts Ltd are proud to announce its first eleven candidates have all passed their NVQ Level 2 in Nuclear Technology Decommissioning. This is the largest commitment to the NVQ programme of any Sellafield contractor and continues Stobbarts' trend for corporate responsibility and investment in its people.

On awarding the certificates Dr Ian Hudson commented: "It is particularly encouraging to see employers and their staff gaining expertise in the decommissioning field. The NDA is committed to ensuring the industry has a skilled workforce for the challenge that lays ahead in dealing with the UK's current nuclear legacy. Training and reskilling are so important in making the most of the opportunities that decommissioning will bring. That's why I was so pleased not just to present these certificates but to personally congratulate those who have worked so hard to achieve them."

Christopher Rogan, Stobbarts Strategic Development Manager commended his colleagues on their achievement: "This has been just over a years hard work for our operatives who along with all of those in our senior management team, believe that in order to sustain our competitive advantage that we must be a first mover on training for skills that will be in demand before the need arises. We have worked with GENII extensively both on this and other training programmes and were pleased to find that Stobbarts had showed the biggest commitment from all Sellafield contractors to the Decommissioning NVQ." He continues: "It has been a tremendous honour to have Dr Ian Hudson and Nigel Couzens of the NDA show interest in these awards and be as passionate about investment in training and development as we are. We look forward to developing this relationship and bringing our thoughts into their strategies for the future."

Keith Power, Stobbarts Supervisor, who is also training to be an assessor for the NVQ programme to speed up the number of Stobbarts' qualified operatives adds: "Having gone through the training programme with my colleagues, I'm pleased to be helping the next batch of people through the course. Being trained as an assessor is important as it allows both the company to move in a new direction more rapidly as well as assisting my role as supervisor in developing working relationships with the workforce."

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Notes to Editors:



Dr Ian Hudson of the NDA and Keith Power of Stobbarts

About Stobbarts:

Stobbarts Ltd is a multidiscipline contractor working in the construction, nuclear, decommissioning and facilities management industries.

Based in West Cumbria, Stobbarts was established over 20 years ago by John Stobbart supplying joinery services. Today, the company leads as a major contractor on many projects throughout Cumbria, North Lancashire, South Scotland and Northumbria, with high profile clients such as British Nuclear Group, NHS, Cumbria County Council and the Environment Agency. Services provided include building, civil engineering, demolition, decommissioning, ground works, term contracts, nuclear works, formwork, joinery, responsive repairs and maintenance.

Stobbarts Ltd's commitment to providing high quality services has seen the company grow rapidly over the past five years to employ 250 people across a number of sites in construction and facilities management roles. This growth was recognised by inclusion in the 2005 Sunday Times Fast Track 100, which identifies the UK's most rapidly growing businesses, following average sales increases of 66% per year, from an annualised £2.2m in 2001 to £9.8m in 2004. Turnover has also seen similar growth in 2005 to £12.8m and £16.6m in 2006. Stobbarts Ltd also holds Investors in People accreditation and was recognised as Business of the Year 2004/2005 by the North West Accountants Society. www.stobbarts.com

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