

## STOBARTS LTD LOOKS TO SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

*West Cumbrian multidiscipline contractor announces launch of its new corporate responsibility programme*



John Stobart presenting to stakeholders at launch event held in Stobart Ltd's state-of-the-art training facilities at Sellafield

**Cumbria, UK** – Stobarts Ltd announces it is to take a more sustainable approach to business, by introducing a formal approach to the management of its wider economic, social and environmental performance. Taking the jump on local rivals, the company is the first of its size and industry sector to announce a professionally driven corporate responsibility (CSR) programme.

As part of its 'Building Partnerships' business strategy, Stobarts Ltd is looking to develop its approach to corporate responsibility to help meet the wider needs of its clients and the communities in which it does business. Launched at an event to celebrate the simultaneous award of three prestigious international management systems, over the coming months, the company will be undertaking a formal process of 'stakeholder engagement' to identify what are the key issues the company should make a priority and the performance levels it should look to achieve. In future, the company will be paying greater attention to its social and environmental performance, building on initiatives such as, an environmental programme to reduce vehicle emissions by amongst other means reviewing routes and having dedicated delivery drivers.

John Stobart, Management Director Stobarts Ltd, at the launch of the corporate responsibility programme, commented: "Our commitment to act responsibly and with integrity is not new; however, by taking a more formal approach we believe we can do much more. This is not only the right thing to do, it also makes commercial sense. If we behave responsibly our customers, employees and communities are more like to trust us. Trusted companies are successful companies."

Stobarts Ltd already has a proud record of involvement in the community, having made substantial investment in both training its workforce, for example in Decommissioning NVQ's and local community activities, such as sponsoring sporting events such as the West Cumbria Youth Football League Cup. Through its work with Cumbria County Council on local schools, Stobarts Ltd has also been heavily involved in highlighting the dangers of building sites to children through its 'Stobs Says' and 'Stob the Builder' initiatives. As coxswain of the Workington lifeboat, John himself also devotes substantial personal time and effort into community involvement.

Steve Morgan, Commercial & Contract Management Director at British Nuclear Group commended Stobarts Ltd: "British Nuclear Group is committed to developing a sustainable supply chain and we are impressed by the leadership Stobarts has taken within the construction industry with their approach to corporate responsibility. We believe purchasing has a key role to play in promoting sustainable development. By working in partnership with businesses such as Stobarts, we can ensure our shared values are put into practice, helping to promote higher standards of training, safety and environmental protection. This also makes commercial sense because businesses that are aware of their wider responsibilities are more likely to provide a quality service and are less likely to pose a business risk to us."

Colin Rogan, Chairman and Operations Director of Stobarts Ltd's Sellafield Operations, hosting the launch, remarked: "We see our corporate social responsibility programme key to innovating our 'Building Partnerships' strategy to the next level and taking its application beyond our employees, supply-chain and into our community."

**About Stobarts:**

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

Based in West Cumbria, Stobarts was established over 20 years ago by John Stobart 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.

Stobarts 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. Stobarts Ltd also holds Investors in People accreditation and was recognised as Business of the Year 2004/2005 by the North West Accountants Society. [www.stobarts.com](http://www.stobarts.com)

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