



Sellafield Ltd

# Sellafield News

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## SPRS team achieves 500,000 man hours since last LTA

The Sellafield Product Residue Store (SPRS) project reached a major milestone of 500,000 man hours and six consecutive months without a Lost Time Accident on Wednesday 6 February, a tremendous achievement for everyone involved on the project.

Achieved during a phase of intensive civil, mechanical and electrical construction, where the multidiscipline blue collar workforce reached a peak of 350 operatives and experienced some extremely adverse weather conditions, the team safely completed a number of major milestones on the project during this period.

As if this were not enough, the project also reached their nineteenth 'Target Zero' 28 day period without an accident, a scheme which has now resulted in thirty £750 awards being made to local good causes.



*Making significant progress: the SPRS team have completed a number of major milestones while delivering the job safely*

"Whilst this is something which the whole Project Team is extremely proud of, rest assured no one is resting on their laurels and we will carry on working very closely with the supply chain to ensure we continue to manage a safe site," said Project Manager Tom Gilroy.

"The roll out of 'ZEW' - Zero Event Workplace training - has played a large part in the project's current safety record. Aimed at raising awareness of how individual behaviour impacts on the whole plant, what was originally a supply chain initiative has been so successful across SPRS that it is now going to be rolled out across the whole of Nuclear Decommissioning and Major Projects Group (ND&MPG)."

Steve Livingstone, Major Projects Superintendent, added: "The very nature of the work carried out in the construction industry means that risks can not be eradicated at all times, however appropriate leadership and management as demonstrated on the SPRS project show that they can be managed thus preventing people being hurt.

"The whole team really embraced the challenge of working to the 'ZEW' standards we are rolling out across ND&MPG, and I am really proud of their success."

# Sellafield's Fire and Rescue Team 'prepared for anything'

Seven fire-fighters from Sellafield's Fire and Rescue Service recently completed a three week Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) training course held at a dedicated emergency training facility at the Fire Service College in Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire.

The seven fire-fighters who went on the course were Gary Smith, James Benson, Perry Thomason, Richard Maxwell, Brian Lindsey, Michael Jolly and Tony Solarie.

The USAR facility at the Fire Service College consists of four buildings used to allow training for working in confined spaces, search and rescue operations in collapsed buildings and how to carry out technical searches. The facility also has an area designed to allow training in lifting and moving skills used to stabilise heavy masses as well as a 'scenario rig' which includes a rubble pile with a network of tunnels to search using acoustic and seismic equipment in trapped person scenarios.

The recent training course follows on from last year's trip to 'Disaster City', Texas, in which seven other members of the Fire and Rescue Team completed a course in USAR skills over in the United States.

Speaking about the course, Tony Solarie said: "The course was really intensive and physically demanding at times, but very interesting. There was lots of learning to take away and everyone who took part found it a very useful experience.

"Having completed this training, it now means that we have 14 personnel from Sellafield's Fire and Rescue Team equipped to provide USAR capability. It also means that we are fully equipped to provide in-house training for the other 51 members of the Sellafield Fire and Rescue Team. We are the only Fire and Rescue team in the whole of Cumbria who have this capability."



Head of Specialist Operations at the Fire Service College, Bob Ray, who is in charge of the USAR training commented: "The team from Sellafield performed to a very high level showing excellent enthusiasm, fire fighter skills, team work and this led to them developing in to excellent USAR operatives. They took on the knowledge skills and understanding easily and rose to every challenge we presented them. They were a pleasure to teach."

USAR training at Sellafield was initiated following the publication of the Fire Services Act of 2004, which placed the responsibilities for rescues of all types on the Fire and Rescue Services. Coupled with this was the need to ensure that the Fire and Rescue Team meet the requirements under 'Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear', a national requirement for all fire and rescue services.

## Sellafield Ltd hands over £20K to Senhouse Centre

Sellafield Ltd has donated £20,000 to the Whitehaven Community Trust to go towards the development of the Senhouse Centre.

The Senhouse Centre is a community centre containing several rooms for different activities including many classes and workshops, counselling and therapy treatments. The money will fund equipment for the cellar so that more people can benefit from its unique services.

Eileen Turner from Sellafield Ltd, said: "This development will help to improve the sustainability of the centre by providing activities for people to take part in. They have already started to market the facility and the response has been extremely positive."

The centre is a large part of the community, not only because it offers a wide range of activities, but also because of the training and job opportunities it holds.

Kerry Maxwell, Chief Executive of the Whitehaven Community Trust, said: "The increased business will continue to create employment and training opportunities for local people."



**Sellafield Ltd Eileen Turner (left) photographed with Kerry Maxwell, Whitehaven Community Trust**

"This will result in the Senhouse Centre becoming a big employer for people in the local community."

The refurbishment of the cellar involves a total of £22,566 worth of state-of-the-art equipment including new leather sofas, flat screen monitors and laptops as well as diary and booking software so the centre can cope with the increased business this development will bring.

The Whitehaven Community Trust works in many other areas in addition to the Senhouse Centre project, all of which benefit the community greatly. Other schemes include a local café that provides work experience and training opportunities, the Whitehaven Pottery, which opens its doors to local schools and community projects and homeless shelters for young people at Bakewell House and No. 1 Lowther Street.

# VIP trip to Yottenfews for Bookwell School pupils

A group of primary school children enjoyed a VIP visit to Yottenfews and the Visitors Centre after one of the pupils won a competition to design a safety poster for the Sellafield 2008 calendar.

The competition was organised by Sellafield Ltd's Fiona Moore from the Human Performance Team.

Fiona said: "We wrote to all the schools in the area at the beginning of September to let them know that we were having a competition and that the best entries would be used in the calendar.

"There were prizes for primary, secondary and an overall winner. We had a really good response, and some of the safety posters were very good."

The winner in each section received a science set for themselves and £50 for their school to spend on equipment.

The overall winner – Ailsa from Bookwell school in Egremont – also received the extra prize, a VIP day out for her and her classmates.



Millie Clarke, Yottenfews Co-ordinator said: "It is invaluable to make children more aware of safety and Yottenfews and the Visitors Centre was pleased to be able to welcome these VIPs of a younger generation.

"It is good for young people to see that there can be rewards for taking part and having a go at things."

## Coming next week...

Peter Bainbridge, a manufacturing engineer in the Vitrification Plant, has just become the hundredth candidate to complete an NVQ in Business Improvement techniques, at the same time becoming the first person in the North West of England to gain the award at level four – the highest on offer.

Past and present NVQ candidates will join Peter at Sellafield's Training and Development Centre on Tuesday 12 February where MD Barry Snelson will present him with his certificate.

Look out for the full story including photographs in next week's edition of the Sellafield News.

## VIP visits to Sellafield 30 January – 6 February 2008 included:

05/02/08 – Pollution prevention and control (PPC) Working Group

06/02/08 – SKB/Posiva

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