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*the magazine for
defence equipment
and support*



**SA80 combat rifle gets
multi-million-pound upgrade**



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Foreword

Welcome to the new look Desider. As with everything we do in DE&S, we are always looking for new and innovative ways to meet our customer's needs.

"I have been honoured to serve as CEO and now look forward to supporting Simon and the rest of the Executive Team as we seek to deliver our vision of DE&S@21"



By Michael Bradley, CEO

I hope you like our new way of presenting the fantastic work our teams do to procure and support equipment for the armed forces as much as I do.

Firstly I must congratulate Sir Simon Bollom on being appointed CEO DE&S. I have been honoured to serve as CEO for the last few months and now look forward to supporting Simon and the rest of the Executive Team as we seek to deliver our vision of DE&S@21.

It has been another very busy month for our teams and I thank you all for the tremendous effort you continue to put into delivering our commitments to the armed forces.

Well done to the teams who have worked hard to deliver a number of significant milestones this month which include:

- Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson visiting RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland to signal the start of work on a £132 million facility to house the submarine hunting Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft.
- delivery of two further Typhoon flight simulators four months ahead of schedule - significantly improving training and cutting costs.
- the advanced technology being fitted to RAF bases in the UK and Falklands following an £80 million investment that will boost the RAF's ability to protect the skies against hostile forces.
- BriteCloud, a small but extremely innovative decoy

that protects combat jets from missiles, are being delivered to the RAF and the first student who has flown in Prefect – part of the UK's new fleet of training aircraft – has given it rave reviews. Fantastic news.

In this month's issue you will also read about the upgrade to the Army's SA80 combat rifle making it lighter, more accurate and easier to handle for our troops on the frontline.

And it's great to see equipment we procure and support being put to good use abroad. The smiles on the faces of the schoolchildren in Kenya on seeing their new football pitch show what we do positively affect the lives of many – not just the armed forces.

There's plenty to celebrate in our maritime domain too.

The third tanker – RFA Tidesurge – is in Cornwall and is being prepared for operations that will see the 39,000-tonne vessel travel all over the world to support the Royal Navy fleet.

And HMS Magpie, the Royal Navy's new survey ship, has been undergoing rough weather sea trials in the Irish Sea. So again, well done to all the DE&S teams who've contributed to these achievements.

I must finally celebrate a couple of DE&S staff.

In March I highlighted Daz Chapple who after taking up boxing to beat the bullies, went to Australia to lead out Team England Boxing in the Commonwealth Games. Daz has returned having led the boxing squad to the biggest medal haul ever. What a fantastic achievement.

Elsewhere Ed Smart, part of the DE&S Weapons Operating Centre, led a group of Air Cadets on an expedition to Canada last summer and won the acclaimed Shackleton Trophy for best overseas venture in the Air Cadet Organisation. Ed, you are a credit to DE&S and we are very proud of you.

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AVM Mike Quigley, Director Safety & Environment, Quality and Technology, talks to Desider about innovation and the importance of teamwork



I joined the RAF because, as a boy, I just loved aeroplanes and anything to do with the armed forces. If I'm not in a front-line job, supporting our Services and giving them safe, fit for purpose equipment is the next best thing.

Innovation has been a big part of my remit during my three years as Director Safety & Environment, Quality and Technology (previously known as Director Technical). Although it's a bit of a tongue twister of a title, my directorate now does exactly what it says on the tin: we're responsible for quality, safety & environmental protection; new technology; and cross-cutting engineering services. To me, innovation is

what distinguishes leaders from followers, so if we want to be world-leading, rather than just world-class, then we've got to be innovative!

Innovation is at the heart of what the Technology Office does. They conduct experimentation with the front-line commands to explore new and some existing technologies, working together to make them 'business ready', so they can be pulled through into military capability that will give our customers the battle-winning advantage they need.

Another innovative move has been the creation of the Internal Technical Support teams, for systems engineering, human factors integration, and independent safety advice/assurance. We're now growing a successful and relatively inexpensive internal consultancy to support project work, instead of buying in industry help. Although they moved under the Engineering Function as of April 2018, it's a result I'm particularly pleased with and has saved us over £2 million so far in Private Sector Support.

The progress we've made through our transformation

journey within S&EQT has been another significant achievement this year. I could see that we needed to change the way we operated, from being a disparate bunch of teams to working as one team, and we've done a lot of work over the past 12-18 months to accomplish that.

We've now baselined our work, produced a S&EQT catalogue of services, to better explain what we offer, and we have a prioritised the order book so we can match task and resources more effectively. We've also shared good practice and some innovative new ways of working that we've introduced, for business management and our portfolio office, with teams across DE&S. In the year ahead, we will continue embedding those new ways of working across the directorate, reinforcing that 'one team' approach and mentality, and looking for ways to reduce our indirect costs.

We live in a dangerous world and our front line customers are, quite rightly, becoming more demanding, requiring new technology and mass, faster and cheaper than ever before. We're the people to do it for them, but if we

don't improve, by standardising and streamlining our processes to become more efficient and agile, then they might look elsewhere or go directly to industry. We can't be complacent.

Talking of working as one team, I became President of the RAF Ice Hockey Association back in February 2018. I'll hopefully get the chance to get kitted out and on the ice in the next month or so - apparently, it doesn't hurt when you fall over wearing all the padding!

I'm also the President of the Abbey Wood Royal Air Forces Association and a personal highlight this year will be the RAF 100 celebrations. It's a milestone that reflects how, even all those years ago, we were ahead of our time in defence capability and innovation, creating the first independent air force in the world.

The events kicked off in style on 1 April with the Founders' Day church service at St Clement Danes on the Strand in London, and I'm particularly looking forward to the big parade and flypast in London on 10 July.

Innovation is at the heart of what the Technology Office does

Sir Simon Bollom appointed Chief Executive of DE&S

Pictures by: Jack Eckersley



The appointment of Sir Simon, who is currently Chief of Materiel (Ships), was made on April 27 by the Cabinet Secretary with the agreement of the Prime Minister.

Sir Simon, who has also served as Chief of Materiel (Air) at DE&S, will take up his new role on May 21.

DE&S Chair, Paul Skinner, welcomed Sir Simon and paid tribute to Michael Bradley.

He said: "I would like to welcome Simon into his new role, and I am delighted that we have managed to secure somebody who already has great experience in delivering equipment and equipment support. I look forward to continuing to work with him as we carry on our important work to support the armed forces.

"I should also like to thank

Michael Bradley for his excellent oversight of DE&S since January following Tony Douglas' departure."

Sir Simon's appointment follows an external recruitment competition after Tony Douglas stepped down to take up a new appointment as the Group Chief Executive Officer of Etihad Aviation Group in January.

Welcoming Sir Simon's appointment, Stephen Lovegrove, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, said: "I am delighted to announce Simon's appointment as the new Chief Executive of DE&S. His previous roles, as Chief of Materiel (Air) and more recently Chief of Materiel (Ships), means that he will bring to the role a deep understanding and knowledge of DE&S and its business. I wish him every success."

"The work of DE&S is vital to our nation and I am proud to have been given the opportunity to lead such an important organisation"

Sir Simon Bollom
New CEO DE&S

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said:

"DE&S is responsible for delivering the substantial, complex and demanding Equipment Programme. I am delighted that Simon has been appointed to this role. I look forward to working with him on the organisation's important task of driving performance in the supply chain, building capability to support our armed forces and delivering value for the taxpayer."

Sir Simon said: "I am absolutely delighted to have secured this extremely important role. The work of DE&S is vital to our nation and I am proud to have been given the opportunity to lead such an important organisation."



Pictured: A new SA80 A3 rifle at the Infantry Trials Development Unit at Warminster
Picture by: Andrew Linnett

SA80 rifle gets multi-million-pound upgrade

DE&S is upgrading the British Army's standard combat rifle to ensure troops are equipped with the best possible battle-winning kit

The SA80 A2 hand held assault weapon will be upgraded into the A3 model under the Mid Life Improvement (MLI) project, which will ensure the rifle has the enhancements needed to remain in service until 2025 and beyond.

An initial investment of £5.4 million for the project, which will be carried out by Heckler and Koch, will help sustain around 20 highly skilled jobs at the Nottingham Small Arms Factory owned by the company.

Director Land Equipment at DE&S, Major General Colin McClean, said: "The SA80 is a battle proven weapon used by the UK armed forces on operations all over the world. The upgrade will build upon the rifle's state-of-the-art features enhancing accuracy and consistency. The Mid Life Improvement project will ensure that our troops have the right equipment at the right time."

The changes to the rifle mean it is lighter, better camouflaged, easier to handle and has a bracket to secure new innovative low light sights which can clip on or in front of the day sight without the need to remove it.

Brigadier James Daniel, Head of Soldier, Training and Special Programmes, said: "The Soldier Training and Special Programmes Dismounted Close Combat Project Team has worked closely with users and industry to ensure the SA80 continues to offer UK armed forces a battle winning weapon."

The news of the upgrade was announced by Defence Minister Guto Bebb.

He said: "This multi-million-pound upgrade will give our Army a lighter, more hardwearing, better-camouflaged combat rifle so our soldiers can perform on the frontline of some of the most dangerous locations across the world.

"This investment is also a boost to Nottingham's highly-skilled gun-makers who proudly support our troops in their task to protect our country in the face of intensifying threats."

The MLI project will see 5,000 weapons upgraded initially with the intent to upgrade more weapons in the future. The fielding of the first tranche began in February 2018.

Daz triumphant

Daz Chapple has returned from Australia having led the Team England boxing squad to the highest Medal haul ever achieved in a Commonwealth Games.

As Team Leader, Daz, a RAF Warrant Officer working within the DE&S Air Commodities team, led out the team during the opening ceremony on the Gold Coast last month.

The 12-strong team has returned with six gold medals, one silver and two bronze and finished top of the boxing table ahead of India, Ireland and Australia.

Daz, who took up boxing aged 10 because he was bullied at school, said: "I feel extremely proud and honoured to have led such a superb England Boxing Team to the highest Medal haul ever achieved in a Commonwealth Games for boxing.

"Having the opportunity to lead such a great team, to such an historical moment in boxing history is monumental!"

As a boxer Daz made several national semi-finals in the 51kg division and boxed for the RAF.

In 2007 he applied successfully for a role of England Boxing Team Manager and is now Director England Boxing, (Director of Talent and Performance and GB Talent Commission).



No flying visit

This year marks a decade of Canada Geese nesting at MOD Abbey Wood.

First appearing in 2008, many staff will have seen the geese as they wander around the site and a nesting area is visible near the Central Gatehouse entrance to MOD Abbey Wood.

RAF 100 cake-cutting at MOD Abbey Wood

Chief of Materiel (Air), Air Marshal Julian Young, used an RAF ceremonial sword to cut a cake to mark the RAF's Centenary - RAF100 - at MOD Abbey Wood.

More than 100 DE&S people, mostly serving RAF personnel, gathered on 10 April for the cake-cutting, organised by Flight Lieutenant Joe Bell.

It is one of many events taking place between April 1 – the date the RAF celebrated its 100th birthday – and the end of November that are designed to reflect on the RAF's history and achievements.

AM Young told the assembled audience: "This so much more than a birthday and slice a cake, it is a chance to remember the three themes of RAF100: Celebrate, Commemorate and Inspire.

"It's a very proud year for our Service, and I am extremely

privileged to be part of it. We should all stand tall and stand proud because we are lucky enough to be in the world's oldest independent air force in its centenary year. Happy birthday to everyone in the RAF!"

The centrepiece of RAF100 events will take place on July 10 in London, when a service in Westminster Abbey will be followed by a parade in The Mall of over 7,000 RAF personnel and a spectacular 100-aircraft flypast over Buckingham Palace.





Defence Secretary visits Govan

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson visited BAE Systems' shipyard in Govan last month to check on the progress of the Type 26 warfare frigate programme.

Mr Williamson (pictured left), who had earlier visited RAF Lossiemouth (see page 12) to signal the start of work on a facility for Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA), viewed the first completed unit of the new next generation anti-submarine warship, HMS Glasgow.

Type 26 frigates will work alongside the nine-strong new P-8A Poseidon MPA fleet to protect the UK's submarine-deployed nuclear deterrent and its two new aircraft carriers.

The Type 26 frigate programme will sustain 1,700 BAE Systems jobs in Scotland, safeguarding a total of 4,000 jobs across the wider UK supply chain until 2035.

Submarine Delivery Agency established

The Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) was established as an Executive Agency of the MOD, alongside DE&S, on 1 April 2018.

This marks the delivery of a milestone set out in the 2015 Strategic Defence and Security Review to strengthen arrangements for delivery of the UK's submarine capability.

The new Executive Agency will continue to work closely with DE&S, Navy Command and the newly-established Defence Nuclear Organisation, and will lead on procuring and project

managing the construction of future Royal Navy submarines, supporting vessels in-service and decommissioning those at the end of their operational life.

Headed by Chief Executive Officer Ian Booth the SDA employs around 1,300 people, the majority of whom will be based in Bristol, with other colleagues located at sites such as Barrow, Derby, Devonport, Rosyth and Faslane.

Mr Booth said: "Our vision for the SDA is to lead a high-performing industrial enterprise that is committed to strengthening the safety, availability, reliability and security of UK submarines, including our Continuous At Sea Deterrent."

British Army re-joins Boxer programme

The British Army will re-join the Boxer programme and explore options to equip the Army with the 8x8 troop carriers to modernise its vehicle fleet and meet the Army's Mechanised Infantry Vehicle requirement.

On behalf of the MOD, DE&S conducted a comprehensive market analysis of Mechanised Infantry Vehicles in-service, entering service and in development, which was guided by the British Army's requirements and how best to deliver them. The Boxer delivered on protected mobility, capacity, flexibility, utility and agility.

This has been a challenging endeavour by the staff of DE&S throughout the acquisition journey as we strive to deliver new capability for the Army to equip the new Strike Brigades.

DE&S is now taking

forward negotiations with the Organisation for Joint Armament Cooperation (OCCAR) and Artec. The next steps within the Assessment Phase will consider the comparable benefits of manufacturing locations and different supply chains for Boxer, as well as value-for-money. Any deal will be subject to commercial negotiation and assessment in 2019 and the aim is to have the first vehicles in service with the Army in 2023. Artec, the consortium who manufacture the Boxer vehicle, is developing partnership agreements with a UK supply chain to bring at least 60% of Boxer manufacture onshore. This should secure or create at least 1000 UK jobs.

Lieutenant General Paul Jaques, Chief of Materiel Land, said: "The Boxer is the vehicle that best meets the Army's requirement and we judge to be best value for money by a significant margin. Our task is now to work with OCCAR and industry to secure the best deal for the Army and the UK to inform an investment decision in late 2019."





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Work starts on home for submarine-hunting aircraft

Pictured: Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson chats with members of the RAF in the shadow of a Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft at RAF Lossiemouth

Work has started on a £132 million facility for the UK's new fleet of submarine hunting Poseidon Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) at RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland.

On April 19 Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson cut the first turf at the site, which will comprise a tactical operations centre, an operational conversion unit, squadron accommodation, training and simulation facilities and a three-bay aircraft hangar.

"This new strategic facility at RAF Lossiemouth demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that our aircraft are maintained and personnel who operate them are properly supported"

Chief of Materiel (Air)
Air Marshal Julian Young

Once completed in 2020 the facility will be home to the country's nine-strong, new P-8A Poseidon MPA fleet being procured by DE&S.

The aircraft, which can deploy missiles capable of destroying enemy submarines beneath the sea, will work alongside eight cutting-edge new Type 26 warfare frigates to protect the UK's submarine-deployed nuclear deterrent and its two new aircraft carriers.

Michelle Sanders, DE&S P-8A Delivery Team Leader, said: "The start of construction marks the culmination of many months of detailed work by my team in DE&S, together with colleagues from Air Command, Defence Infrastructure Organisation, Defence Portfolio and Approvals Secretariat and Boeing Defence UK.

"Delivery of the strategic facility will also provide one of the first tangible symbols of the re-establishment of a fixed-wing maritime patrol capability in the UK."

At the peak of construction, the project will support 200 local jobs. When the fleet is fully operational, some 470 additional personnel

will be based at RAF Lossiemouth, taking the total number of people employed there to 2,200.

Chief of Materiel (Air) at DE&S, Air Marshal Julian Young, added: "I am extremely proud of the work the MOD has done in collaboration with Boeing Defence UK to secure this investment in vital infrastructure for the P-8A aircraft.

"This new strategic facility at RAF Lossiemouth demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that our aircraft are maintained and personnel who operate them are properly supported."

The MOD is investing £3 billion over the next decade in its Maritime Patrol Aircraft capability, and last year confirmed £3.7bn to start building the first three of eight Royal Navy Type 26 frigates on the Clyde as it continues to boost its capabilities.

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson, who warned Russian submarine activity has increased 'ten-fold' in the North Atlantic sea, said: "These submarine hunters will play a vital role in keeping the UK safe from the increasing threats and aggression we face in the skies, on the sea and below the waves."





Making a difference to lives around the world

Pictured: Members of the Army's Royal Engineers' Support Team with local schoolchildren

"The team and I always enjoy seeing photos of our equipment in action and making a contribution, through the armed forces, to multiple operations, exercises and humanitarian activities"

Lisa Fennell, Head of the Contract Management Cell (CMC) within the Land Concepts and Assessment team at DE&S

Equipment supplied by the Contract Management Cell (CMC) within the Land Concepts and Assessment team at DE&S has been used to construct a football pitch for a school in Kenya.

JCB 4CX light wheeled tractors, Caterpillar D5N Dozers and Volvo Graders were used by the Royal Engineer Support Team, part of the British Army Training Unit Kenya (BATUK), to construct the pitch.

It is located in Isiolo, a community 285 kilometres north of Nairobi, where the majority of children come from underprivileged backgrounds.

CMC manages the C Vehicle Contract that delivers and supports over 2,100 pieces of deployable construction and plant equipment including forklift trucks, container handlers and tractors.

Currently, equipment is deployed in over 20 countries,

and it has recently been used in support of hurricane relief in the Caribbean, vehicle recovery in the UK snow, and removal of contaminated vehicles in Salisbury.

Lisa Fennell, head of the CMC said: "The team and I always enjoy seeing photos of our equipment in action and making a contribution, through the armed forces, to multiple operations, exercises and humanitarian activities."

Lance Corporal Rhys Bewick, Staff Sergeant Paul Reed and Corporal Scott Lawton of BATUK all took images of the completed pitch and were delighted with the children's reaction.

LCpl Bewick, of 48 Field Squadron, said: "Completing this task was the greatest day of my career so far. I particularly enjoyed seeing the children's happiness at the end result."

Typhoon simulators doubled at RAF Lossiemouth

Pictured: A Typhoon flight simulator in action



Typhoon pilots guarding UK air space from RAF Lossiemouth can take part in crucial 'four ship' exercises after the number of flight simulators at the base were doubled.

The delivery of two new Emulated Deployable Cockpit Trainers (EDCT) allow up to four pilots to fly synchronised combat missions at the same time, a formation that is essential on operations.

Previously, with just two flight simulators, RAF Lossiemouth based squadrons had to travel to RAF Coningsby to do 'four ship' exercises in the simulators there, or 'live fly' which used valuable resources such as aircraft, fuel and support assets.

Therefore, the newfound ability to fly in four ship formation at the Scotland-based station will boost combat training and cut costs of live flying. It is also a great example

"This project is a truly remarkable example of how effective teamwork at all levels, with a shared goal, can deliver key capability early"

Andy Green, Typhoon Synthetic Training Portfolio Manager within the DE&S (FAST) team

of sustainable procurement, reducing emissions and the use of fossil fuels.

The flight simulators were delivered four months ahead of schedule, by the DE&S Fast Air Support Team (FAST), which worked alongside the Defence Infrastructure Organisation, Aircrew Training Simulation Systems at BAE Systems, the Typhoon Training Facility team, and on site supply chain specialists.

Andy Green, Typhoon Synthetic Training Portfolio Manager within the DE&S (FAST) team, said: "This project is a truly remarkable example of how effective teamwork at all levels, with a shared goal, can deliver key capability early. My thanks go to the whole team, with a particular thank you to my project manager Joe Neale for his drive and determination to deliver."

Typhoons based at Lossiemouth are on 24-hour standby to intercept rogue aircraft entering northern UK and NATO air space, with southern air space protected by crews at RAF Coningsby, Lincolnshire.

Air Commodore Ian Duguid, Typhoon Force Commander, said: "Having recently flown in a 'four ship' mission at Typhoon Training Facility at RAF Lossiemouth, I can say first-hand how important it is that this capability has been delivered. My thanks go to the Whole Force team that worked tirelessly to install the additional devices in record time."

John Bromehead, General Manager for BAE Systems at RAF Lossiemouth, added: "The delivery of this programme is a showcase of our whole force commitment to deliver effective and efficient support for our Royal Air Force colleagues."



Picture: Jack Eckerley 

On motivation, teamwork and making a difference

Brigadier Simon Hamilton is the Head of the Vehicle Support Team. His job is to keep the Air Force, Navy, Joint Forces Command and Army personnel moving

What does your role involve?

As the Head of the Vehicle Support Team I am responsible for working with a team of 400 people to ensure the Air Force, Navy, Joint Forces Command and Army personnel that use land based vehicles have the spares, support contracts and engineering and technical solutions in place to keep them training for and fighting while on operations.

What about your role is exciting, rewarding or interesting?

There is so much to answer here! As someone who has deployed on operations on numerous occasions over the last 30 years, I know only too well that our efforts in the Vehicle Support Team make a real difference every day. I find this hugely rewarding.

As I reflect on the real breadth and scale of the contracts we must maintain to serve Defence, the crucial contract management function we provide to the Army with our outsourced Service Provision Contract with Babcock, and the significant daily industry engagement necessary to assure our Fleet availability, reliability and safety, I never cease to be amazed how interesting the daily variety remains.

However, I would argue the most interesting aspect of my role is the sheer diversity of people I work alongside, each with their own skills, competencies and indispensable experience. It is genuinely a rewarding and exciting place to work.

How important to you is teamwork?

I have spent the last 30 years in the Army. My first exposure to working in the Army was as part

of a section – eight people. I then found myself in ever increasingly larger teams until I was eventually leading an 8,500 strong Brigade formation within a warfighting Division. At no stage in my working life have I ever conceived being required to work alone and without the support, friendship and confidence-inspiring dynamic of being part of a wider team. I genuinely believe we are 100 times more productive as a team than we are as individuals.

What is your view on transformation?

The first thing I need to acknowledge with this question is that I recognise how transformation can make us all feel deeply uncomfortable. We move from a place of certainty in our understanding and confidence in our knowledge and ways of working, to a state of deep uncertainty. It is very unsettling.

However, there is a famous quote that goes something along the lines of ‘.if you think change is bad, try irrelevance – it’s much worse!’ One only needs to indulge in the briefest of lessons in history to recognise the powerful benefits of transformation. Look at the transformation in medicine, transportation, engineering, technology, I could go on. We are quick to accept as normal the notion of walking around with a mobile phone as if it has been the norm for ever; for some it has! So my view on transformation is it is hard but exciting all in the same breath. When embraced and properly led, it leads to a more productive state and is something we should consider as a constant and normal process versus a series of infrequent singleton one-off events.

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

The opportunity to continue contributing to the operational outputs of the UK’s Armed Forces is phenomenally motivating on an individual level. It is the reason I am here today. I consider myself a career soldier and at this stage of my career, I can add as much value from within DE&S as I did when I was young officer on operations.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

I enjoy the sheer scale and diversity of the working environment. DE&S is a massive place and the quality of its people is tremendous. Quite simply, I find DE&S to be a professionally excellent organisation to be employed within.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I have three real passions. Being a hobby mechanic – I own an old TVR! Cross country (Nordic) skiing and supporting Manchester United Football Club – especially when they are winning!

What might surprise people about you?

My parents, brother, sister, cousins, aunts, uncles, nephews and nieces all have broad West Yorkshire accents and I don’t! Another piece of the puzzle is they are all my biological relatives, too! I have not had elocution lessons either and remain proud to be a Yorkshireman!

Ask me why when you bump into me!

HMS Magpie – the Royal Navy’s new survey ship on sea trials

Pictured: HMS Magpie battle the elements during sea trials on the Irish Sea

This amazing image shows HMS Magpie – the Royal Navy’s new survey ship procured by DE&S - undergoing rough weather sea trials in the Irish Sea.

The ship, procured by DE&S’ Commercially Supported Shipping (CSS) team, will be the newest addition to the Royal Navy’s hydrographic squadron, replacing veteran survey launch HMS Gleaner.

Her main duties will be gathering Hydrographic data,

ensuring the approaches to the UK’s ports are safe by scanning the seabed, updating charts and generally acting as another pair of eyes and ears into events in home waters.

Garrie Trowbridge, Boats Acquisition Project Manager with the DE&S Commercially Supported Shipping Team, said: “HMS Magpie is the first of 33 boats of the VAHANA (Replacement workboat) project to be delivered and will provide the Royal Navy with a very

"HMS Magpie will help lead the way in modernising the Royal Navy’s survey and underwater surveillance capabilities"

Lieutenant Commander William Alexander
HMS Magpie’s new commanding officer

capable Inshore survey vessel for the next 25 years.”

Atlas Elektronik UK is delivering a replacement for HMS Gleaner through a subcontract with Cork shipbuilder Safehaven, based on the firm’s Wildcat 60 craft. HMS Magpie, an 18-metre catamaran, is due to be formally handed over to the Royal Navy in May and be ceremonially commissioned into the service early in the summer. She will then join the rest of the hydrographic squadron in Devonport.



HMS Magpie is bigger than HMS Gleaner, can stay at sea much longer and is far more resilient in rough seas. In addition, the ship features the latest high-resolution shallow-water multi-beam echo sounder and side-scan sonar and will be able to launch remote-controlled underwater devices to search wide areas of seabed for obstructions or mines. The Royal

Navy expects HMS Magpie to be able to maintain 20 knots in a Sea State Four with waves up to 2.5 metres high.

Lieutenant Commander William Alexander, HMS Magpie's new Commanding Officer and HMS Gleaner's last, said: "HMS Magpie will help lead the way in modernising the Royal Navy's survey and underwater

surveillance capabilities.

"Her primary role will be in maintaining the integrity of coastal waters, ensuring safety of navigation and resilience of key national infrastructure in UK ports. And with an enduring presence around the UK, she will also contribute to national security at sea."



Defence Secretary announces £80 million Guardian to protect the skies

Pictured: The Air Command and Control System in operation



DE&S will invest up to £80 million in a new computer system to boost the RAF's speed and accuracy in protecting the skies.

Known as Project Guardian, the new Air Command and Control System will support the continued early detection and rapid response to potential hostile or suspect aircraft that pose a threat to UK sovereignty, be that terrorists or state-based actors.

This project will see the current systems at RAF bases in the UK and Falkland Islands replaced with the new technology. It will allow the RAF to exercise command and control of UK and NATO fighters to intercept aggressive or suspect aircraft that are a threat.

Director of DE&S Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance, Dr Simon Dakin, said: "Guardian will provide a new Air Command and Control system connecting

the UK's defence network of radars and radio and delivering several new capabilities to improve communication and interoperability between UK, NATO and coalition aircraft, vital to the protection of the UK's skies."

The RAF routinely intercept, identify and escort aircraft that transit international airspace within the UK's area of interest and continue to be on call 365 days a year.

Since 2013 RAF jets have launched 68 times to intercept or monitor suspect aircraft in the skies around Britain - half of these in response to Russian planes.

IBM Services in the UK is leading the way to develop and install the replacement system, with work being carried out by a dedicated team of specialists at IBM locations across the country.

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson, who announced the investment, said: "With

"Guardian will provide a new Air Command and Control system connecting the UK's defence network of radars and radio and delivering several new capabilities to improve communication and interoperability between UK, NATO and coalition aircraft, vital to the protection of the UK's skies"

Dr Simon Dakin, Director of DE&S Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance

hostile regimes such as President Putin's Kremlin ripping up the international rulebook and terrorists still targeting our way of life, this cutting-edge technology gives our RAF the upper hand in the face of rapidly changing and intensifying global threats."

The contract, which IBM UK won in competition, is for approximately £60 million with costed options that the MOD can exercise which would take the total value towards £80 million. It includes five years of support services following the installations.

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RAF take delivery of cutting-edge BriteCloud system

Pictured: : A CGI of BriteCloud in action courtesy of Leonardo

Cutting-edge miniature decoys developed by DE&S Technology Office to help protect combat jets from modern radar-guided missiles are being delivered to the RAF after being cleared for operational use.

BriteCloud, which is similar in size and appearance to a beverage can, was designed and manufactured in Bedfordshire and Scotland by Leonardo.

Once deployed from an aircraft's flare dispenser it uses powerful radar emissions to disrupt systems within radar-guided air-to-air and surface-to-air missiles and draws it away to a point where it no longer poses a threat.

BriteCloud was developed by the DE&S Technology Office who are committed to finding innovative equipment for the UK armed forces.

Mark Suitters, DE&S Technical Lead, said: "This work is an excellent example of how highly skilled engineers and project staff within DE&S can shape technology programmes and work collaboratively with industry. This enables us to develop world-leading capabilities for the front line while also supporting the UK prosperity agenda."

The new technology will be available for use by Tornado GR4 crews in the near future making the RAF the first air force in the world to field this new protective technology.

The acceptance into service follows a series of tests initiated by the DE&S Technology Office and carried out by the RAF in the United States in June 2017. These live firings saw dozens of BriteCloud decoys launched from Tornado GR4 aircraft by the RAF's 41 Test and Evaluation Squadron against high-tech radar guidance systems.

The tests produced a string of successful results which were then handed over for in-depth analysis by Ministry of Defence scientists at the UK's Air Warfare Centre and the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL).

Leonardo has worked since 2012 with the UK MOD to develop active expendable decoy technology, with the concept originating through a project commissioned by DSTL and jointly managed by Leonardo and DE&S Technology Office. Leonardo subsequently invested significantly in its Luton-based electronic warfare centre to develop and manufacture the final BriteCloud product.

In late 2017 the MOD approved the technology for operations and first deliveries of the decoys by Leonardo to the RAF took place this March.

"This work is an excellent example of how highly skilled engineers and project staff within DE&S can shape technology programmes and work collaboratively with industry"

Mark Suitters
DE&S Technical Lead





Ramping up for F-35 Lightning arrival

Pictured: The Lightning Operations Centre at RAF Marham

DE&S is developing its own 'estate' dedicated to the F-35 Lightning fleet as anticipation mounts around the arrival of the first aircraft in the UK this summer.

The state-of-the-art support facilities, based at RAF Marham in Norfolk, will comprise a Lightning Operations Centre (LOC), Maintenance and Finishing Facility (M&F), and Integrated Training Centre (ITC).

The DE&S buildings are part of a wider programme to provide RAF Marham with new

and upgraded infrastructure to support Lightning operations. This will support the arrival of 617 Squadron in the summer when nine aircraft fly in from the USA to occupy their new home. The squadron will then focus on preparations for the declaration of 'Initial Operating Capability' in December.



The red carpet was rolled out on February 2 when Her Majesty the Queen opened the LOC and met DE&S staff who worked on its development. Personnel from the Lightning Delivery Team (LDT), industry and Lightning Force Headquarters are co-located within the LOC. It will become the nerve centre for UK Lightning operations, providing logistic and airworthiness support for the UK F-35 fleet. It houses 125 desks, conference facilities, and even a 'white noise' generator to

aid privacy in the large open plan office.

Peter Davidson, Service Delivery Manager LDT, is overseeing the establishment of the LOC alongside George Taylor the LDT Performance and Building Manager.

He said: "Delivering an international programme on time, with directions from the US and other stakeholders, has been the biggest challenge. Meeting the Queen when she opened the LOC was lovely – she shook everyone's hand and spoke to us about what we did."

"The Lightning Operating Centre is such a technically advanced facility. It's like a new world here"

Martin Bridgeland,
Sustainment Operations
industry performance

Martin Bridgeland, Sustainment Operations Industry Performance, added: "The LOC is such a technically advanced facility. It's like a new world here."

Flt Lt Jessica Sibley, Propulsion Engineering Authority, moved to the LOC from Abbeywood. "I love being back on a station and being close to the aircraft. When F-35 arrive at RAF Marham and the team have the opportunity to physically inspect the aircraft it will help us become ever more efficient at fixing issues." she said.



Third Tide-Class Tanker undergoing customisation after arriving in UK

Pictured: RFA Tidesurge arriving in Cornwall



The third of four new support tankers is undergoing customisation having arrived in Cornwall as it prepares for sea trials before entering service with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and being deployed on operations with the Royal Navy.

Like its predecessors the 39,000-tonne tankers can carry up to 19,000 cubic metres of fuel and 1,400 cubic metres of fresh

water in support of Royal Navy operations all over the world.

The detailed customisation work to prepare RFA Tidesurge and her sister ships for operations is being undertaken at the A&P shipyard in Falmouth, sustaining around 300 jobs.

Jon Adams, MARS Tanker Platform Manager, said: "The arrival of RFA Tidesurge in Cornwall was a further reminder

for me of the phenomenal effort and dedication all the team at DE&S has put in to deliver four world class naval auxiliary tankers to the Royal Fleet Auxiliary."

While in Falmouth RFA Tidesurge will be fitted with UK specific armour, self-defence weaponry and communications systems, with the total UK work content, including A&P, in the Tide Class programme



The arrival of RFA Tidesurge in Cornwall was a further reminder for me of the phenomenal effort and dedication all the team at DE&S has put in

Jon Adams, MARS Tanker Platform Manager

worth around £150 million and sustaining further jobs at 27 UK-based companies.

The customisation work is expected to take around four months after which RFA Tidesurge will begin final sea trials before entering service in Autumn this year.

Sir Simon Bollom, Chief of Materiel (Ships) at DE&S, said: "I'm proud to say that the delivery

of the tanker programme will provide vital support for the Royal Navy, providing it with fuel and fresh water, while also being able to undertake a wide range of maritime operations; including humanitarian relief."

Minister for Defence Procurement Guto Bebb said: "The arrival of RFA Tidesurge in Cornwall marks another key milestone in the Tide Class

programme. Tidesurge will soon join her sister ships in providing the integral support which powers our warships and helps our Royal Navy maintain a truly global presence."

The fourth of the Tide Class vessels - RFA Tideforce - is expected to be delivered later this year.

60 second spotlight

"I can solve a Rubik's cube in less than a minute and my keepie uppie record is 992"

Michael Fielding

Job:

In-Service Support Engineer working for the Submarine Delivery Agency (SDA) based at MOD Abbey Wood.

Your route into DE&S?

I originally trained and worked as a plumber in Weymouth after I left school but I fancied a change in direction and joined the DE&S engineering apprenticeship scheme in September 2013. I moved to Bristol and never looked back. It's a completely different world to what I am used to but the opportunities to travel and variety of work really interest me. On a day-to-day basis I deal with support equipment changes and documentation updates.

Your claim to fame?

I am the current Ministry of Defence chess champion. I won the title at the Combined Services Chess Championship at Fort Blockhouse in Gosport in May 2017. I was also lucky enough to play for the UK NATO chess team in Amsterdam in 2015. Recently, my friend Jerry Hendy beat me to the qualification place for the next tournament in Texas – so good luck to him there. I am also a regular contender for North Bristol chess club in Bristol League and have helped to set up an Abbey Wood chess club which meets at 4.30pm on Wednesdays in the Central Facilities Building café.

Your advice to anyone?

Travel abroad whenever you can and try to go to a different place every time. Variety is the spice of life and you only get one!

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

Obviously, I play chess when I'm away from work! I'm also quite keen on keeping fit and exercise regularly and play basketball,



football and cricket whenever I can. I'm a keen reader of fiction, George Orwell being my favourite author. I'm a sucker for a pub quizzes, charity shops and random weekends abroad.

What are you most proud of?

Playing for the UK NATO chess team was a massive honour and I hope to qualify for the team again in the future. Also, completing the apprenticeship and taking my working life in a different direction was a massive step that I'm happy to have taken.

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

Firstly, I'd take the complete collection of the Penguin classics, plenty of time to do reading out there. I'd take a football to practice some freestyling skills and probably my chess materials so that one day I will be able to return an improved player!

What irritates you the most?

Sensationalist newspapers that scare people unnecessarily and rile people up.

What is your favourite place in the world?

It's always a hard question



Picture: Jack Eckersley

because every country is different. Croatia has to be my favourite country. I went to Split a few years ago and had a great time. There was a beautiful coastline, great food and drink, a great nightlife, lovely people and it was relatively cheap. Swimming in the Krka National Park waterfalls was a particular highlight. Also, one of my top tips is Ljubljana in Slovenia – a beautiful city that's not on the usual tourist radar.

What would surprise people about you?

I can solve a Rubik's cube in less than a minute and my keepie uppie record is 992.

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

Email
tom.morris114@mod.gov.uk

First student to fly Prefect gives it rave reviews

Pictured: Flying officer Jacob Weeks (left) prepares to fly Prefect

An RAF Flying Officer has become the first student to take to the skies in the new Prefect - part of the UK's new fleet of training aircraft.

Rookie Jacob Weeks took the controls of the trainer, which replaces the old Grob Tutor and will be used to teach pilots the basics of combat flying, at RAF Barkston Heath in Lincolnshire last month.

DE&S placed a contract in May 2008 for £1.1 billion with Ascent Flight Training to design, deliver and manage the full range of military flight training for all three Services until 2033 under the UK Military Flying Training System (UKMFTS).

As well as Prefect, the training fleet includes the Texan, the multi-engined Phenom, and Juno and Jupiter helicopters. Following graduation from Elementary

"This not only marks the start of Elementary Flying Training, but the beginning of a new era of military flying training under UKMFTS"

Commodore Tom Manson
Head of the UKMFTS
Project Team

Flying Training on the Prefect, students move on to the Texan turbo prop and then the Hawk T2 trainer for fast jet training, the Phenom for multi-engined training, or Juno and Jupiter for rotary wing training.

The modernisation of military flying training through UKMFTS significantly reduces the time it takes pilots to prepare for front-line duties and reduces the overall cost to Defence.

Flight Officer Weeks spoke highly of his experience, saying: "I was blown away by the performance of the Prefect. Even without having experience on the previous aircraft, I could tell that this was special."

Head of the UKMFTS Project Team, Commodore Tom Manson, said: "After the culmination of eight years of hard work by the UKMFTS Partnership DE&S,

22 Group and Ascent it is very exciting to see the first student flight of Prefect. This not only marks the start of Elementary Flying Training, but the beginning of a new era of military flying training under UKMFTS."

As well as new aircraft UKMFTS provides up-to-date ground-based training devices such as simulators and classroom learning for aircrew across the Royal Air Force, Royal Navy Fleet Air Arm and Army Air Corps.

In February Desider reported that a ceremony had been held to mark the openings of two state-of-the-art buildings to help train pilots of the future at RAF Cranwell and RAF Barkston Heath.



DE&S staff enjoy showing their adventurous sides



A member of the DE&S Weapons Operating System team led Royal Air Force Air cadets on an award-winning expedition in Canada.

Edward Smart (pictured far right), a cadet sergeant, escorted 19 cadets and staff from nine different squadrons in Bristol and Gloucestershire on Exercise Mountain Storm last summer.

The group visited Banff National Park and took part in a gruelling six-day, unsupported expedition into the wilderness following three years of planning, fund raising and training.

The searing heat and scarcity of water sources made the expedition a real challenge and the team later met with local Royal Canadian Air Cadets (878 Sqn) to discuss their experiences.

On their return Exercise Mountain Storm was shortlisted and then won the prestigious 2017 Shackleton Trophy for best overseas venture in the Air Cadet Organisation.

Edward said: "The Rocky Mountains were a once in a life time experience and Exercise Mountain Storm was a huge success. Winning the award capped off an incredible trip."

Sharon Brookes, the WOC Chief of Staff, added: "External volunteering is a key part of the DE&S ethos. Through his activities Edward is directly enabling DE&S to be regarded as an employer of choice for young people."

Members of the Land Equipment Operating Centre (LEOC) have undertaken a successful cycling training camp prior to the start of the 2018 Army Cycling Season.

The camp, which operated from Troodos Mountain Lodge in west Cyprus, exercise provided a fantastic training opportunity but also a forum for relationship building, idea sharing and for Army personnel to be immersed in a military environment.

Led by Brigadier James Daniel the team of 10 spent five hours in the saddle a day, covering an average of more than 80km with an average ascent of 1,200 metres.

Overall, 520 kilometres of road was covered with just under 8,000m of climbing – nearly the height of Mount Everest.

DM Gosport's apprentices ventured to North Wales on a resources and initiative training week to team build and develop new and existing skills.

Throughout the week, the apprentices took part in gorge scrambling, cliff jumping, canoeing and rock climbing, before setting off on a two-day expedition to climb Snowdon, camp out, and navigate their way back to the youth hostel.

The course was put together by Leeds Beckett University instructors, and apprentices said the experience would stay with them forever.

Apprentice Ashley Biginton said: "We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in lots of different activities like gorge scrambling that we wouldn't be able to do at home, making it a very memorable week."

Fellow apprentice Joe Salmon added: "I can take valuable skills I gained from this week into the workplace, to advance my processes and determination when tackling a challenging task. This also helped me to develop my self-belief, confidence and overcome my weaknesses, which can ultimately be used as tools to progress in my career."



DE&S celebrate skiing success

MOTTO the MOD Lottery January winners

This year saw 12 military personnel from Defence Munitions Kineton and Abbey Wood join forces at Exercise SKI RLC 18, the Army's biggest Corps level skiing event.

The competition, held in Ruhpolding, Germany, is split into two disciplines, Alpine and Nordic. Each competes in a series of races with timings compared against 29 other regular and reserve RLC units.

The DE&S Nordic team, which comprised two male and two female skiers, enjoyed great success in the 5, 7.5, 10 and 15 km races and 20 km Patrol Race – a long-standing tradition for

military cross-country skiing which not only tests their physical capabilities, but also soldiering and shooting skills.

The DE&S Nordic team was the only team where female competitors - Major Gill Neil and Corporal Natasha Palvou - completed the male distances. As a result the team was awarded the coveted Best Overall Mixed Team trophy.

The DE&S Alpine Team competed in six different races; from the long "Giant Slalom" which tests their muscular endurance, the Slalom which tested their technical skills to the limit and the "Super G," which is a real test of their courage as they speed down the slopes at speeds exceeding 50 mph.

- £10,000 Nicola Rees, ABW
- £2,500 Wesley Hanlon, Hollywood
- £1,000 Janet Walton, Honington
- £500 Christopher Mann, Wimborne
- £250 John Mauger, Episkopi
- £100 Gary Whiteside, Hollywood
Paul Haynes, Gloucester
Sean D'Rozario, Bristol
Stephen Lacy, Catterick
John Thompson, Bristol
Paul Short, ABW
Joseph Flood, Helensburgh
Emily Bolton, ABW
Claire Merron, Whitehall
Marcia East, Bicester
Colin Robertson, Dounreay
Elizabeth Pedwell, Surrey
Thomas Gould, Corsham
Trudy Wilson, Helston
Janice Green, ABW
Christopher Fulbrook, ABW
Nick Sutherland, Aldershot
Thomas Corcoran, Beith
Mark Wakeford, Waddington
Steven Martinez, ABW



Chief of Materiel (Ships) Sir Simon Bollom leads a DE&S team taking on the Bristol 10K on Sunday, May 13 to raise money for the Bristol Poppy Appeal. The six-strong team which will be giving poppies out along the course, has a target of £1,000.

To donate visit: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/2018Bristol10K>

Word Search

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Aircraft | Global | Skiing |
| Ajax | Kenya | Submarine |
| Britecloud | Lightning | Tanker |
| Careers | Navy | Tidesurge |
| Carrier | Poseidon | Troops |
| Cornwall | Quigley | Typhoon |
| Geese | Rifle | Upgrade |

Find which word or name is missing from this wordsearch

Note- they may appear vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward or backward

Y E L G I U Q C E F E S U Y Z E S T
T I D E S U R G E D K S T H R N R A
U A G L O B A L T I A M E E X I E N
P Y I Q E E L F I R M R I E H R E K
O N I R C U B N G T P R G T G A R E
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P I S A J A D V Z H C X B K B H J M
L Y L F W H Y I B R I T E C L O U D
L L G K S K T A A L L Y B O W M A N

Case Study

Christopher Rose, Senior Commercial Officer within ISTAR, gives his insight into some of the many benefits of working for DE&S

Name:

Christopher Rose

Job title:

Senior Commercial Officer – Special Projects Communications and Force Protection (SPCFP) Delivery Team in the ISTAR area.

How long have you worked for DE&S?

I started in the MOD in 2008 on the Business Graduate Scheme (now called the Defence Commercial Graduate Programme). I had two postings after the graduate scheme; in Typhoon and then future ship build working on Queen Elizabeth Aircraft Carrier, Type 26 and Offshore Patrol Vessels. I then left the MOD for three years for private industry to gain some specific experience and returned in August last year to a new and very different team.

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

One of my university lecturers alerted me to a job advert in the Guardian and suggested it would be an interesting career. The MOD appealed to me as it seemed like it would be a lot of fun to build ships and tanks and submarines for a job.

What does your role entail?

I am on the Management Board for the SPCFP Delivery Team and am responsible for providing the commercial support and resources to enable the team to meet its objectives and obligations to our customer, Joint Forces Command. This means managing the competing demands of project expectations and

requirements for new or replaced contracts while assuring my function that those deals are robust and provide value for money.

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

I started on one of the graduate schemes and this gave me a wide-ranging set of experiences in a very short time. The commercial function has a very solid development and training programme underpinned by the Commercial Professionalism Programme.

What do you most enjoy about your job?

The variety of projects I can work on. I also enjoy the satisfaction of coaching and developing staff. I regard this as the most important part of my job as people took the time to do for me and it's important to pass that on and build capability across the organisation.

What's your ambition?

I would like to perhaps gain experience in another function or area such as International Relations or strategy. I also hope to expand my leadership ability by learning from some of our senior leaders or those of other departments. Hopefully I can reach the heady heights of Senior Civil Servant.

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

Running the procurement for the rotary wing flying training system on MOD's behalf while I was in private industry. This was a very challenging programme due to the tight timescales. Running a competition for a new fleet of aircraft happens so rarely in MOD that I had to take the opportunity even though it meant leaving the MOD to get that experience.

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

I only fully appreciated the benefits and opportunities of working in DE&S/MOD after I returned from private industry. I realised if I wanted to change from being on a ships project to an aircraft project in private industry it generally meant moving cities while at MOD this mostly means just moving buildings at Abbey Wood.

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

There is a lot of opportunity to become involved in sports (such as the Abbey Wood field gun team) and other activities.



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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 www.des.mod.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, find out more information on the range of graduate and apprentice opportunities DE&S has to offer is available at www.des.mod.uk

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.

Rewards and benefits

We truly believe that DE&S is a great place to work, and it's important to us that all of our people feel the same way. Our unique employee experience offers:

- Pride in supporting our armed forces
- Delivery of some of the world's most complex projects
- Significant investment in personal, professional and technical development.

We want to ensure that every single employee feels appreciated and fairly rewarded. That means having the best possible benefits package. As well as competitive performance-related pay and market-leading pension schemes, our employees benefit from flexible working, generous annual leave, and access to a number of member discount, sports and social clubs. Our aim is to provide a workplace that gives you the flexibility to maintain a great work/life balance.

All our sites are designed to be accessible with good transport links, along with cycle racks and car parking. Our headquarters are in Abbey Wood, Bristol, with a range of facilities including a fully-equipped gym, on-site nursery, a range of restaurants and coffee shops, and a hairdresser's. But with over 150 locations across the world and close relationships with customers and suppliers, we also have opportunities based at RAF stations, Royal Navy and Army bases, depots and logistics facilities, or even on-site with industry partners.

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, please visit www.des.mod.uk

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

DE&S Internal Technical Support Consultancy DE&S

Bristol | £30,000 - £50,000pa | Level 3 | Closing date: 11 May 2018

Reference number **1581341** Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: ITS is Defence Equipment & Supports in-house technical consultancy team established to reduce technical support expenditure across the whole of DE&S. The team is made of 3 practices: Systems Engineering, Independent Safety Advisory and Human Factors Integration and delivers a range of engineering outputs. Roles available for Systems Engineering and Integration – Internal Consultants and Human Factors Integration Consultants.

DE&S Spatial Assessor - Technical Specialist DE&S

Bristol | £30,000 - 52,000pa | Level 3 | Closing date: 21 May 2018

Reference number **1581856** Post type **Permanent** Hours **37 Hours**

Job Description: Technical Specialists are responsible for: leading system engineering, evaluation, performance verification and demonstrations related to their technical area. As an Engineer within the Maritime Domain, you will be providing support operating and maintaining Reactor Propulsion, Ships and Weapons Systems. Working with Engineering Managers to establish technical solutions to a wide range of applications to meet customer requirements and deliver successful outputs.

Commercial Officer DE&S

Bristol | £19,000 - £33,000 | Level 3 | Closing date: 3 June 2018

Reference number **1579071** Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: As a Commercial Officer based at Abbey Wood you will be at the heart of all kinds of commercial projects, and your responsibilities can include negotiating with industry, evaluating tender documents, developing supplier relationships and Leading and Assisting with the development of appropriate contracting methods and strategies.

Future Vacancies

DE&S Health and Safety Manager DE&S

Bristol | £19,000 - £29,500pa | Level 3 | Launch date: Early May 2018

Reference number - Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: We are seeking a Health & Safety Site Manager in Donnington , Telford with skills in health & safety and knowledge of safety & environment audit and compliance

Service Delivery Manager DE&S

Bristol | £19,000 - £29,000 pa | Level 2 | Launch date: 25 May 2018

Reference number - Post type **Permanent**

Job Description: By joining us in this role, you will join a brand new community within the organisation who manage multi-disciplinary teams to efficiently deliver 'business as usual' products or services.

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