

## A&P DEFENCE DELIVERS REFIT FOR HMS SEVERN

**The reactivation refit of the River Class offshore patrol vessel, HMS Severn has been completed at A&P Falmouth as part of an ongoing support contract between A&P Defence and BAE Systems.**

The 2,109-tonne vessel underwent an extensive refit programme which followed a similar programme of work to its sister vessel, HMS Mersey, which docked in Falmouth at the end of 2018.

work on HMS Severn included a full tailshaft survey, inspection of anchor cables and sea valves, full Intersleek paint work on the hull, installation of new davits including all steel work and cabin removals, new electrical installation, complete regeneration of all cabins as well as an overhaul of the system pumps with electric motors, water tight doors and hatches.

The A&P team worked closely with subcontractors and BAE Systems, which worked on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MOD), throughout the project. The refit programme was overseen by the Commercially Supported Shipping team within Defence Equipment and Support, the MOD's procurement organisation.

Gerald Pitts, Managing Director of A&P Defence said: **"We have a strong history of supporting the Ministry of Defence and BAE Systems and this coupled**

*with our knowledge of the River Class vessels, was instrumental in securing this contract.*

*"We pride ourselves on our collaborative and commercial approach to projects such as this, something we have shown throughout our longstanding relationship with the MOD."*

HMS Severn is the latest win for A&P Defence, which secured the £239M

Future In-Service Support contract from the Ministry of Defence for the Bay Class vessels - RFA Mounts Bay, RFA Cardigan Bay and RFA Lyme Bay - as well as RFA Argus and Ocean Survey Vessel HMS Scott, in October 2018.

Bill Page, Head of Contracts for Availability, BAE Systems Maritime Services, said: **"We are proud to support the Royal Navy's fleet of Offshore Patrol Vessels, and to be tasked with the regeneration of HMS Severn. Our partnership with A&P Defence is a proven one, and we look forward to working closely with them to return HMS Severn to Operational Service."**



| HMS Severn in dock at A&P Falmouth



| Apprentice Recruitment Drive Underway...



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# WELCOME FROM DAVID MCGINLEY



**The last 12 months have been hugely positive for A&P Group - with heightened demand for all of our services allowing us to consolidate our position in key markets, secure growth, deliver service innovation and give even greater priority to our customers - which our performance is testament to.**

In the North East, we have created specialist ship repair, submarine and fabrication divisions to give these specialisms the strategic focus they require and have seen growth with multi-vessel contracts, as we leverage our experience with the defence sector to deliver greater commercial certainty and value to customers. There is increased activity and confidence in the renewables and offshore markets and our defence team continues its work with BAE on the Astute programme.

In Falmouth the team has enjoyed a busy ferry season and the defence division continues to perform strongly, with the successful completion of the MARS contract and the successful transition into

the new FISS contract. A&P Falmouth's fabrication and machining divisions have been in demand with projects including life extension works to hopper dredger Karissa and a major overhaul to United European Car Carrier's Autosun.

Our success is underpinned by our strengths in ship repair and fabrication as well as our collaborative approach and we are delighted to see new and returning customers visit our facilities across the Group. As we reach the half way point of 2019, we are committed to delivering even greater collaboration, agility, certainty and service innovation to our customers and to further develop our reputation as a centre of engineering excellence.

We hope you enjoy finding out more about our work in the field of global ship repair, conversion and fabrication in this latest issue of Excel.

**David McGinley**  
Managing Director of Atlantic and Peninsula Marine Services Limited

## PRESTIGIOUS ACHILLES UVDB AWARDED TO A&P GROUP

**A&P Group has been awarded the prestigious Achilles UVDB accreditation across all four of its facilities after achieving a 100% success rate in an audit at A&P Falmouth.**

Achilles UVDB enables the UK utilities sector to use its proven supplier pre-qualification system to manage risk within the supply chain and comply with EU regulations.

The audit specifically looks at a supplier's approach to safety, health, environment and quality and corporate social responsibility, with Falmouth scoring 100% in all ten criteria and zero non-conformances.

Kevin Peart, Group HSEQ Director for A&P, said: **"It is a huge accolade to achieve a 100% pass rate with Achilles. It means all four of our facilities are now certified and we have a group-wide certificate.**

**"Undergoing an audit encourages suppliers to improve their business**

**operations on a regular basis and step up their game each year. As part of the audit process, Achilles' qualified assessors validate everything from on-site accident records to ensuring organisations have a valid corporate social responsibility policy. This is a huge step forward for us."**

A&P's number one priority is to safeguard the safety and wellbeing of its staff, customers and sub-contractors. A&P has worked collaboratively with Lloyds Register to achieve ISO 9001:2015; ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001 - the very highest standards in quality, health, safety and environment, and has been certificated to BS 44001 by BSI for collaborative working practice in the supply of through-life support to MoD RFA ships managed by DE&S represented by CSS.

A&P Group also launched its Work Safe, Home Safe (WSHS) initiative, which outlines a set of four core values - care, commitment, communication and compliance - and forms the basis of the safety culture at A&P.

David McGinley, Managing Director of Atlantic and Peninsula Marine Services Ltd said; **"By implementing effective HSEQ management systems across A&P Group, we continue to strive to foster a positive HSEQ culture, which will ultimately sustain an injury and incident-free working environment. This is a group wide commitment which will benefit our own staff, customers and supply chain."**



# APPRENTICE RECRUITMENT DRIVE UNDERWAY

## A&P Group has launched its recruitment process for the next intake of apprentices.

There are 20 positions available across A&P Falmouth and A&P North East, providing an opportunity for young people to undertake an engineering, commercial, procurement or Health, Safety & Environmental technician apprenticeship.

Successful candidates will have the potential to move into full time employment within A&P and progress within the company and attain further qualifications. A&P Group is committed to employing apprentices and has employed numerous apprentices across a mixture of trade disciplines over the

last decade. At A&P Falmouth, 72% of its management, supervisors and technical staff started out on the apprenticeship programme.

Paul Kneebone, HR and Development Manager at A&P Falmouth, said: *"We strongly believe that continuing to invest in apprenticeships is the future for A&P and we are committed to developing a skilled workforce for the future. An apprenticeship offers the opportunity to learn new skills to secure an ongoing career here at A&P. We look forward to welcoming new talent into the business."*



A&P Tyne Apprentices

# APPRENTICE WINS TALL SHIP COMPETITION

## Twenty-year-old apprentice Tiegan Jewell has won a coveted place as a crew member on a tall ship this Summer.

Tiegan is one of A&P Falmouth's apprentice cohort and secured her place on a one-week leg of the Merseyside



A&P Falmouth apprentice Tiegan Jewell

Adventure Sailing Trust (MAST) Apprentice Ship Cup (ASC) 2019 after baking and decorating a chocolate tall ship-shaped cake, on whose sails she had written why she should represent Falmouth.

She said: *"I'm thrilled to have been selected to represent Falmouth and to fly the flag for A&P. I've only ever walked onto a ship when it's docked in Falmouth so this will be a completely new experience for me. I'm nervous and excited and eager to push myself out of my comfort zone."*

Tiegan added: *"I'm really enjoying my time as an apprentice at A&P Falmouth. I'm learning a lot. A&P is a great company to work for and I'm part of a really great team. They have supported me all along the way."*

# BBC BITESIZE

## Two of A&P North East's apprentices have been featured in BBC Bitesize's online showcase of the 'World of Work'.

Seventeen-year-old Tom, an apprentice steel fabricator and 19-year-old Ryan, an apprentice electrician both appeared in the online series which aims to help young people learn about different career options and how to apply for an apprenticeship.

Keith Henry, Managing Director for A&P North East said: *"Apprenticeships are a fantastic route for learning for young people as they provide an unrivalled opportunity to develop life skills in a real-time working environment and to shape their own career path. It's fantastic to see Tom and Ryan flying the flag for A&P Group and really showcasing the opportunities that apprenticeships offer."*

You can see the article here:

[www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z68fjhw](http://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z68fjhw)



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT: UNITED EUROPEAN CAR CARRIERS

**Precise scheduling and project management helped United European Car Carriers limit the downtime of its ro-ro car carrier, Autosun, during its annual docking period at A&P Falmouth.**

United European Car Carriers chose A&P Falmouth because of its ability to coordinate and complete all of Autosun's machining and mechanical requirements in one central location.

Autosun required a significant overhaul including both Wärtsilä gear boxes and all major mechanical propulsion and steering components, which had to be removed using specialist heavy lifting equipment and transferred to the 3,500 m<sup>2</sup> on-site machine workshop for reconditioning.

The 45-day project was precisely coordinated by A&P's team of project managers who oversaw the removal



European Car Carriers Autosun visits A&P Falmouth

and major overhaul of two gear boxes, two stabiliser fins, tail shafts, hubs and steering vanes. The team also removed and overhauled both rudders, the pintle and quarter ramp for major overhauls. The project was completed on time, to budget and very much to the satisfaction of United European Car Carriers.

A&P Falmouth operates one of the most comprehensive machining facilities in the UK and is renowned as a centre of engineering excellence. The facility also provides complex large-scale machining and small-scale machining to organisations in the utilities, drilling, energy and fabrication sectors in the South West, the UK and beyond.



# DRY DOCK & REPAIR BERTHS DEMAND REFLECTS STRONG SHIP REPAIR MARKET

**Continued demand for A&P's seven dry docks and repair berths over the past 18 months reflects the strength of the UK ship repair market, says Managing Director of Atlantic and Peninsula Marine Services Ltd, David McGinley.**

Teams across all four of A&P's UK sites have been involved in a number of high-profile projects for vessels in the dredging, ferry, offshore and defence sectors.

David McGinley said: *"For the last 12 to 18 months our dry docks and repair berths have been in near constant use, which is testament to our client relationships and the confidence and activity we're seeing across the ship repair market. Continued investment in HSEQ and our facilities is paying dividends and clients are calling on the full breadth of our expertise including our on-site design, engineering and fabrication capabilities, to deliver turn-key projects to exacting budgets and time scales."*

In Falmouth, A&P has carried out the fourth special dry-docking survey for Hanson Aggregate Marine's trailing suction hopper-dredger Arco Beck and is also delivering a major life-extension project for hopper dredger Al Avocet (ex-Karissa). This includes extensive

steel renewals, complete overhaul of the main engine, installation of a new generator, removal of the shaft, overhaul of the propeller hub and accommodation upgrade works, as well as renewal of dredger gears and associated hydraulic equipment upgrades.

Other significant projects in Falmouth include an extensive refit for River Class offshore patrol vessel HMS Severn and the five-year docking and mid-life refit of Torpoint Ferries' Tamar II.

A&P Falmouth also delivered a major 250m<sup>2</sup> car deck replacement for P&O's European Seaway in a quick turnaround project. This also called on A&P North East for the fabrication of the 50 tonne car decks using its in-house panel-line and fabrication facility.

In the North East, A&P has delivered the non-routine docking and a special survey

docking for two of Rever Offshore's diving support vessels and has also seen heightened interest in its Afloat service, which takes ship repair expertise directly to clients when needed, rather than bringing the vessels to the dock. Work has ranged from small cosmetic repairs to mobilisations in Dublin and the Netherlands, supporting GMS vessels in Blyth and carrying out significant temporary repairs to vessels in the Tees following a collision.

David added: *"It's encouraging to see the Afloat service performing well in Great Yarmouth, as it highlights the growing appetite for mobile ship repair services at the customer's convenience and enables us to expand our services beyond the capacity of our dry-docks."*



P&O's European Seaways - just one of many vessels to benefit from A&P Group's services

# A NEW FABRICATION DIVISION IN A&P NORTH EAST

**A dedicated Fabrication division has been established as part of A&P North East's commitment to opening up new markets and leveraging in-house fabrication expertise.**

Headquartered at A&P Tyne, the new division is led by Geoff Harmer who joins from Newcastle-based manufacturing business Pryme Group.

David McGinley, Managing Director of Atlantic and Peninsula Marine Services Ltd, said: *"Over the last two years we've invested heavily in the systems, infrastructure and people required to show A&P as a vibrant, forward-thinking company and to re-educate the market about what an engineering business like ours can do.*

*"The creation of a stand-alone Fabrication division allows us to give this market the dedicated and strategic focus needed to build our presence and client base.*

*There is no other business with our physical size, load-out capability, manpower or specialist engineering expertise in the North East and certainly no other*

*fabricating blocks for submarines and aircraft carriers. Under Geoff's leadership, the new division will tell that story and leverage the skills, resource and facilities*

*we have at both our Hebburn and Tees facilities."*



| A&P North East fabrication services are in high demand

## PONTOONS FOR GALLOPER WIND

**More than 263 tonnes of steel will be used to fulfil A&P North East's contract with Farrans for the fabrication of six pontoons for the Galloper Wind Farm, located 30km off the coast of Suffolk.**

A&P has already fabricated and painted two of the six 20m x 6m pontoons using the on-site panel line, which helps to ensure the efficient and high-quality fabrication of large stiffened panels up to 13.5m wide and 20m long.

The A&P team provided technical assistance to Farrans regarding several design modifications at the outset of the project and has also called on its extensive supply chain to source specialised manufactured components, in line with the design specification.

Brian Peat, Production Director for A&P North East said: *"This project is using the full range of our expertise - helping the client to solve design challenges and source materials and now fabricating the*



| Galloper Wind pontoons in construction

*six pontoons to an exacting specification, quality and timeframe."*

With an average weight of 44 tonnes each, each of the pontoons will be transferred to the West Quay for final load-out. The programme is on schedule for the planned August completion.



# REVER OFFSHORE DOCKS AT TYNE



**A non-routine docking and a special survey docking for Rever Offshore's diving support vessels Rever Sapphire and Rever Polaris, respectively have been completed by A&P North East.**

The 6,064 tonne Rever Sapphire underwent dry docking, survey and repairs earlier this year in a month-long programme of work, which was spent in dock and alongside on the West Quay.

Work included repairs to a swing-up thruster, rebranding the vessel following a name change as well as a series of upgrades including changing out boom heel pins and bearings for the Hydramarine crane, providing a series of critical welds on the slewing column, Hydramarine boom and Dreggen crane, replacing seals on the Hydramarine crane auxiliary hoist system reduction gearbox and fabricating and replacing the hyperbaric lifeboat's exhaust manifold.

The 8,234 tonne Rever Polaris followed Sapphire into the dock for an eight-week programme as part of its special survey docking. The substantial scope of work included a 35,000 hour overhaul of the port and starboard azimuth thrusters, re-routing external drainage for the helideck, replacing deluge pipework on the gas deck, relocating satellite tracking antenna, calibrating anchors and chains, repairing and repainting the bumper bars and bulwarks, replacing external walkway

lighting and carrying out extensive reactive steel repairs.

Graeme Wood, Assets and Services Director for Rever Offshore said: *"These were two high profile and strategically important projects for Rever Offshore and A&P North East did a fantastic job in supporting us and completing an exacting programme to the very highest technical standards. Whilst both scopes had their challenges, the work was completed safely and in a timely and well-organised manner, demonstrating a good, positive working relationship between A&P and the crew."*

Aaron Burbridge, Projects & Operations Manager from A&P North East said: *"Both vessels required a blend of technical marine expertise and strong project management skills to ensure the work was completed to the highest quality and the vessels were returned to service as quickly as possible. The North East team completed this work to an exceptional standard during what has been a particularly busy start to the year for the Hebburn facility."*

# OSVS DEPART FOR CASPIAN SEA WITH HELP FROM A&P'S AFLOAT SERVICE

**The wheelhouses of three of Caspian Marine Services' offshore support vessels have been removed successfully to allow safe passage through the Volga-Don Canal into the Caspian Sea, thanks to A&P North East's Afloat team.**

Caspian Marine Services' three vessels, Murovdag (formerly FD Indomitable) Savalan (formerly FD Honorable) and Shahda (formerly FD Incomparable), are now on their way to Baku, where they will be rebuilt before entering into service in the oil fields of Azerbaijan for the State Government.

Working in the Port of Sunderland, A&P deployed a specialist Afloat team of electrical engineers and project managers to oversee the schedule, which allowed just 18 days per vessel. Part of the work on Murovdag and Savalan ran in parallel and was completed within a 22-day period.

A&P's programme included a heavy schedule of electrical works,

disconnecting more than 4,000 electrical connections per vessel and ensuring the careful labelling, photographing and cataloguing of each item to support the rebuild in Baku.

Work involved removing every item from the bridges, including the masts, lights, satellite domes, antennae and electrical equipment from the wheelhouses, as well as the positioning of radar and communications systems. This in turn required deck head panels, floors, decks, joinery surrounds and pipework to be removed and stored. Blanking plates were installed into the bridges where the funnels' compartments and wheelhouses' internal staircases had been, to ensure that water could not ingress during transit.

Aaron Burbridge, Projects & Operations Manager from A&P North East said: *"This was an all-consuming and very exacting project and the first we have delivered for Caspian Marine Services. The A&P team showed great tenacity throughout and has disassembled the*

*bridges with such precision that the team in Baku will be able to rebuild the vessels efficiently and accurately."*



A&P Tyne successfully removed the bridges from three vessels belonging to Caspian Marine Services

# NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH RED FUNNEL FERRIES

**Red Funnel Ferries is the latest ferry operator to enter into a three-year commercial partnership agreement with A&P Group, to boost efficiency and reduce downtime whilst maintaining its fleet of Raptor Class ferries.**

A&P launched its commercial partnership scheme in 2015, with Condor Ferries and Torpoint Ferries becoming the first operators to capitalise on A&P's comprehensive pre-planning phase, which sees a programme engineer assigned to a project prior to the refit. By spending time onboard to clarify the full scope of work, the programme engineer is able to schedule works, procure equipment and communicate with nominated sub-contractors ahead of time to minimise the refit period and provide greater cost certainty.

The agreement with Red Funnel will see Red Falcon, Red Eagle and Red Osprey dry dock in A&P Falmouth annually for three years, with an option to extend it for an additional two years. The three vessels have visited A&P Falmouth for dry dockings and repairs for the past

five years, usually between October and February. The Raptor Class ro-pax ferries are the largest ferries ever to serve the Isle of Wight and make several crossings a day from Southampton.

Steve Jones, Managing Director Operations and Site Director at A&P Falmouth, added: *"Our commercial partnership agreement scheme is proving very successful. It enables us to plan ahead and ensure our customers are getting the best possible service as efficiently as possible."*

Mark Slawson, OBE, Operations Director at Red Funnel, added: *"We are delighted to be extending our commercial partnership with A&P Falmouth. We have worked with them for several years and they have provided us with an exceptional level of service for our three Raptor Class ferries - Red Falcon, Red Eagle and Red Osprey. As a long-standing ferry company, that runs 365 days a year, in all weather conditions, the maintenance carried out on our ferries are crucial to the operation of our business to ensure their longevity, reliability and safe service for our customers."*

A&P Group's pioneering commercial partnership agreements were launched following the Group's ongoing successful delivery of the Cluster Support Contracts with the Ministry of Defence for the Royal Fleet Auxiliary's Argus and Bay Class. The contracts resulted in collaborative, joint working and seamless integration between the MoD and A&P Group, which led to A&P Falmouth maintaining the highest level of vessel availability and increased real efficiencies for the fleet.



Steve Jones and Mark Slawson

# TORPOINT FERRIES REFIT COMPLETE



**Tamar Crossings' chain ferry, Tamar II has left A&P Falmouth on schedule following the successful completion of her five-year refit.**

Tamar Crossings' Plym II, Tamar II and Lynher II are the biggest and busiest chain ferries in operation in the UK, providing crossings for up to 8,000

vehicles and 1,500 pedestrians each day. Tamar Crossings has a contract with A&P Falmouth to carry out refits to the three ferries.

A&P Falmouth's Managing Director, Operations and Site Director, Steve Jones said: *"Tamar Crossings is committed to keeping disruption to the service of the fleet to an absolute minimum. By*

*entering into a contract with A&P, we are able to work together to minimise the down-time of each vessel."*

Tamar II's refit included replacing systems and equipment that were becoming obsolete and unsupported by spares, removing the prows to enable repairs to the steel structure, an extensive package of electrical work was required due to the age of the vessel, which is now 14 years old, and cleaning the hull and repainting the vessels, both above and below the waterline.

David List, General Manager of Tamar Crossings, said: *"The programme for Tamar included a longer time in the dry dock than previous projects to allow for the volume of work and included a contingency period in case of bad weather. Thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, excellent progress was achieved, meaning all three of our ferries were in service for the busy bank holiday weekend."*

# A&P DEFENCE UPDATE FROM GERALD PITTS

**2019 has been a very significant year for A&P Defence - securing a follow-on Future-in-Service Support (FISS) contract from the Ministry of Defence for the Bay Class vessels - RFA Mounts Bay, RFA Cardigan Bay and RFA Lyme Bay as well as RFA Argus and Ocean Survey Vessel HMS Scott.**

We have now successfully completed the transition period for this new contract, which included a minor restructuring of the support team and have completed five work packages, overseeing works here in Falmouth, elsewhere in the UK and across the globe.

Our Cluster Support Team continues to provide Fleet Time Support to the fleet whilst they are in operational theatre, our in-house design team remains in strong demand across all projects and our

procurement department is supporting the demands of the five cluster vessels.

This success is underpinned by our rigorous HSEQ and collaborative relationship with the MoD. We have achieved the ISO 44001 Collaborative Working Accreditation and have recently signed the Collaborative Working Charter



and Sustainable Procurement Charter during a ceremony in Portland.

Project highlights have included delivering a maintenance period for HMS Mersey, the regeneration of HMS Severn, ACP of RFA Mounts Bay in the Caribbean, ACP of RFA Lyme Bay, a three-week AMP for RFA Argus in Falmouth, and AMP for RFA Cardigan Bay in the Persian Gulf.

In addition to the FISS contract, we have successfully completed works for BAE Systems which included completing HMS Mersey's maintenance contract and successfully winning and completing HMS Severn's re-generation project.

We are now turning our attention to future FISS projects which include planning for work to RFA Mounts Bay, RFA Cardigan Bay and HMS Scott. We are also striving to replicate the success of our cluster support contracts on behalf of other Navies and this will be a core focus of our work for the year ahead.

**Gerald Pitts**  
Managing Director  
A&P Group Defence

# A&P DEFENCE JOINS FLEET SUPPORT PARTNERS TO SIGN NEW CHARTER

**A&P Defence has joined a group of the UK's top naval suppliers in making a joint commitment with the Ministry of Defence to work collaboratively to deliver a crucial £1 billion ship support programme for the next decade.**

Senior representatives from A&P Defence, Cammell Laird, International Paints, Lloyd's Register and UK Docks met with the MoD's DE&S Commercially Supported Shipping (CSS) team on board RFA Tiderace to sign the Future In-Service Support (FISS) Collaborative Working Charter.

The Charter sets out joint working principles which seek to find efficiency, best practice and innovation through the life of the ten-year FISS programme, building on lessons learned over the past decade of ship support at dockyards across the country.

Head of the Commercially Supported Shipping team David Farmer said: *"UK Defence is built on robust working relationships across the MOD and industry which this Charter further strengthens by driving all those involved in the FISS project to deliver in the best interests of our armed forces as well as taxpayers."*

Whilst on board, the delivery partners also signed a separate Sustainable Procurement Charter which, aided by new tools and processes, commits them to consider the environmental, social and economic impact of work under their contracts, while also promoting good practice and learning from experience.

Gerald Pitts, Managing Director of A&P Group Defence said, ***A&P Group has been working with the MoD for over 40 years, and is proud of its 12-year partnership and the achievements that our collaboration has delivered. This has included more than 150 maintenance packages on RFA ships and 43 overseas work packages to maintain the RFA fleet when deployed in overseas operation. A&P continues to strive to achieve greater efficiencies in maintaining the vessels and The Charter is a further acknowledgement of this commitment."***

The Future-in-Service Support agreement, announced by the Minister for Defence Procurement Stuart Andrew in October 2018, enables maintenance for 17 ships including the entire Royal Fleet Auxiliary fleet and the Royal Navy's Hydrographic and Patrol flotillas.



# WIND SECTOR DEAL WELCOMED BY A&P

**In March the UK offshore wind community welcomed the UK Government's new Offshore Wind Sector Deal - which will see £250 million being invested into the sector. Emma Harrick, Business Development Manager for Renewables at A&P Group talks about what this announcement means to the industry and to A&P.**

The sector deal will ensure the UK can maintain its position as world leader in renewables and continue to innovate and drive down the costs of wind farm production.

The UK's credentials are impressive. The UK has installed more offshore wind capacity than any other country and the cost of producing a wind farm has halved in the UK. Renewed support from the UK Government could: double the number of UK turbines in UK waters, take offshore wind to 30 GW and meet a third of the UK's electricity demands by 2030, grow the workforce from 11,000 to 27,000 and increase UK exports to £20 bn.

However, there is still work to be done. Businesses operating in the UK offshore wind supply chain need to continue to provide innovative solutions to support the sector if it is to continue to flourish.

A&P Group's vision is simple - to make A&P Tyne a prime hub for the offshore wind sector; offering fabrication, port services and marine capabilities to developers and service companies and we are fulfilling this through a number of initiatives:

- **SKILLS:** We have recruited 28 apprentices over the last five years and currently have a team of 14 apprentices who are being trained in fabrication, electronics and maintenance - vital skills which will benefit the future of the offshore wind sector. We are also partnering with organisations in the North East to form a supply chain cluster to provide a range of services to developers and service companies - reinforcing the North East's position as a vital hub to the offshore wind community.
- **HSEQ:** With a culture of continuous improvement, we are always striving to ensure best practice and comply with the most widely recognised quality management standards, ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & ISO 45001:2018. Effective HSEQ management underpins every aspect of the group's activities in the offshore wind sector. We are committed to maintaining a safety culture amongst our employees, suppliers and clients

through the Work Safe Home Safe (WSHS) initiative, which will also benefit clusters supporting the offshore wind community.

- **FIRST CLASS FABRICATION FACILITIES AND HEAVY ENGINEERING CAPABILITIES:** Investment in our facilities and workforce is a continual priority and we have developed a number of options to develop our sites to meet current and anticipated customers' needs. We operate two overhead remote-controlled cranes, a ramp roll-off load out which is available to minimise heavy lifting, blasting and coating facilities, a pipe and machine shop and a panel line for the production of large stiffened panels up to 13.5m wide by 20m long. A&P Tyne also offers a 4,800m<sup>2</sup> load-out quay into the North Sea and A&P Falmouth provides on-site engineering, electrical, paint and fabrication workshops and ongoing relationships with specialist contractors and OEMs.

We are also experienced in delivering large complex block builds to nuclear standards and can work with less than 6 mm tolerances and conform to complex welding standards. We are able to work with developers and service companies to build offshore substation topsides, offshore foundation structures, jackets, suction buckets, transition pieces, secondary steel work and turbine components.

- **DELIVERING FABRICATION, MARINE AND PORT OPERATION SERVICES ON TIME AND TO BUDGET:** Whatever the project, A&P Group has a strong track record of delivering on time and to budget. Our Marine Design division provides a full design, build

and installation service of port and marine structures and has recently completed the design and build of six new crew transfer pontoons for Orsted's extended Walney Offshore Wind Farm and is currently fabricating six pontoons for the Gallopers Offshore Wind Farm. In addition, all 4 of our UK sites are strategically located to undertake repairs, drydocking and engineer works to specialist offshore vessels. We also undertake mobilisations / demobilisations, conversions and life extensions of offshore support vessels.

To find out more about A&P's work in the energy sector contact Emma Harrick:

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Emma Harrick, Business Development Manager, Renewables



# OFFSHORE SERVICES FOR STENA DRILLING'S STENA ICEMAX



Image courtesy of Stena Drilling Ltd

**Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company (FDEC), part of the A&P Group, has completed a four-week contract to provide offshore services to Stena Drilling's Stena IceMAX.**

FDEC is a statutory harbour authority, responsible for the area of water immediately surrounding Falmouth Docks. FDEC offers a range of services including quayside storage and letting facilities, towage services, cruise ship operations and cargo handling services.

Falmouth's geographical location, deep water access, sheltered facilities and the shoreside services and support offered by FDEC made it the perfect choice when StenaDrilling needed to load stores and change crews.

The Stena IceMAX, the world's first dynamically positioned, dual mast ice-class drillship, anchored in Falmouth Bay for the duration of its stay. FDEC oversaw the delivery of equipment and stores to its undercover storage facility and the subsequent transfer of those stores, along with the transfer of crews, to the ship.

Drystan Jones, FDEC's Port Operations Director, said: **"StenaDrilling needed a deep-water area where they could undertake crew changes and load stores prior to going to a job in southern Ireland. We were delighted that they identified Falmouth as an ideal location to complete these works."**

**"We provided a shore-base for Stena which included a through-store capability for bringing the equipment they needed for the vessel through our secure storage facility and the crew transfer operation."**

**"This was an entirely water-based operation for us. This project showcases the capability on offer by FDEC and the A&P Group, to provide an efficient crew transfer location and stores transfer location for offshore support vessels that are not necessarily alongside the docks."**

## FORMER ROYAL NAVY OFFICER APPOINTED MARINE OPERATIONS MANAGER

**Former Royal Naval officer Tom Forster has been appointed Marine Operations Manager for the Falmouth Docks and Engineering Company, part of the A&P Group.**

Tom, who spent ten years in the Royal Navy, is based at A&P Falmouth and is responsible for conservancy, port infrastructure as well as overseeing the berthing and unberthing of all visiting vessels.

Tom spent the majority of his time within the RN serving onboard the Type 45 Destroyer, latterly as the Navigating Office in HMS Dauntless during her support to Air Operations over Iraq

and Syria. Following selection for Sea Command, Tom had the privilege of joining the Royal Navy Gibraltar Squadron as the Captain of HMS Scimitar. In 2017 he joined the Fishery Protection Squadron as the Executive and Commanding Officer of HMS Tyne and HMS Mersey; both of which he had previously brought into Falmouth.

Tom said: **"It is a delight to return to A&P in my new role - having been the customer for many years, I have a unique and first-hand understanding of the importance A&P plays in supporting global shipping; I am looking forward to joining a well-established team with a clear track record of success."**



Tom Forster joins A&P Falmouth Marine Operations

# CANTILEVER DECK FABRICATED FOR PRYSMIAN WAVEWALKER

A 34.5 tonne cantilever deck has been fabricated by A&P North East for Prysmian Services' Wave Walker. A&P fabricated the cantilever deck from seven individual sections before completing the final assembly and load-out onto the Eems Traveller, ready to sail to Eemshaven for connection to the wave walker platform.

The project was completed in just 25 days and required the cutting, blasting, priming and marking of 362 individual steel items in the fabrication workshop, before being transported to the port hard standing. The whole structure had to be transferred across the dry dock and used A&P's dockside cranes for load out to the transport vessel, which was berthed at the West Quay knuckle. The final load-out lift weighed a total of 41.5 tonnes, which included the lifting equipment.



# A BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL FOR A&P'S PENNY

**A&P Falmouth's Executive Assistant Penny Phillips was presented with her prestigious British Empire Medal (BEM) last month, after being named in the 2019 New Year's Honours List.**

Penny has worked at A&P Falmouth for 42 years and received the award in recognition of her meritorious work with The Mission to Seafarers, a charity for which she has been the chairman and centre manager since 2004.

In 2018, 4,000 sea farers passed through the door of the Mission to Seafarer Falmouth, which offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers and includes facilities such as a garden, chapel and Summerhouse. The Centre has also supported many seafarers through illness and injury until they could be repatriated or returned to their vessels.

Penny attended the official Awards Ceremony in Cornwall last month and attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on May 21st with her

husband. Penny said: *"To be recognised in the Queen's New Year's Honours is very special indeed and it shines a light on the important work of The Mission to Seafarers, which I've been supporting for the last 15 years."*

*"As with all of the BEM awards, recipients are nominated by others, so I didn't have any idea that I had even been nominated. The official letter, On Her Majesty's Service from the Cabinet Office, arrived at the end of October and it was a huge shock. It's a real honour to have my work recognised but none of this would have been possible without the support of Falmouth Mission's wonderful volunteers, supporters, the A&P Group and my partner Graham."*

Gerald Pitts, Managing Director of A&P Defence said: *"We are tremendously proud of Penny's achievement and thrilled that her dedication to seafarers and the charity has received such high-profile recognition. It is incredibly well deserved."*

A&P helped to set up The Mission to Seafarers in Falmouth by providing a

portable building to use as a drop-in centre for seafarers. Since then the Mission has grown to include a multi award-winning wraparound garden, a chapel, and a new bespoke Flying Angel Centre - designed and built in Cornwall, and a summerhouse. The Falmouth Mission to Seafarers in Falmouth is part of a global network which works in more than 200 ports and in 50 countries and provides help and support to 1.5million men and women in seafaring industries.



Penny Phillips wearing her British Empire Medal

# DAVID MCGINLEY JOINS 'STRICTLY' JUDGING PANEL

The A&P Group's sponsorship of Scotland-based Forget Me Not Club's Strictly Come Prancing event has helped the charity raise more than £20,000 for dementia support.

David McGinley, Managing Director of Atlantic and Peninsula Marine Services Limited, was on the judging panel for the competition, along with This Morning star, Alison Hammond and Trevor Thomson and Emma Stewart, of Deeside Dance Centre.

The event saw ten couples take to the dance floor to perform either a tango or the salsa in front of a 300-strong crowd. The money raised will benefit Banchory's Forget Me Not Club, which provides vital support and activities for those living with dementia, their families and carers.

Lesley Fletcher, the club's Development Manager, said: "A&P Group's support boosted our fundraising efforts enormously and we cannot thank the Group enough for its support."

"We are striving to make our communities more dementia friendly and provide real help and support for families affected. The money raised will make a huge difference to us, going directly to our projects that benefit families living with dementia."

David McGinley said: "Scotland and in particular, the North East of Scotland is a key geographical area for A&P Group. We were therefore delighted to lend our support to the Forget Me Not Club, an organisation which provides so much support to the local community. Strictly Come Prancing was a hugely successful evening and it is wonderful news that the event has raised almost £20,000 to help and support those living with dementia, their families and carers."

## FORGET ME NOT CLUB *Dementia Support.*



# A&P GROUP

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