

HEALTH & SAFETY EXECUTIVE AWARD FRAZER-NASH NUCLEAR NEW BUILD SAFETY CONTRACT

Engineering consultancy Frazer-Nash has been awarded a further contract worth £1.8 million to provide independent advice to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE), in its review of safety aspects of designs for the UK's new generation of nuclear reactors.

The HSE's Nuclear Directorate (ND), working with the Environment Agency, is currently completing a Generic Design Assessment (GDA) for new nuclear power stations in the UK. As part of the GDA, two different reactor types - the UK-EPR designed by Areva and EDF, and the AP1000 designed by Westinghouse - are currently being assessed for their suitability to meet UK regulatory standards.

Frazer-Nash, working with partner Altran Praxis, will be supporting Step 4 of the GDA programme – 'Assessment for Design Acceptance' - which will see the companies independently examine the safety case evidence. As part of the contract the partners will carry out an in-depth review of design and safety-case documentation, which the regulators will use to inform their decision on whether or not the proposed nuclear power station designs are likely to meet the UK's regulatory requirements.

The award of the contract follows Frazer-Nash and Altran Praxis' successful completion of assessment work during GDA Step 3. The contract focused on providing technical support covering the control and instrumentation aspects of the reactor designs, including the reactor protection systems.

Paul Deeran, Nuclear Business Manager at Frazer-Nash, commented: "The award of this new contract on Step 4 of the GDA is testament to the great work produced by our team here in Warrington on GDA Step 3, and our successful working relationship with the HSE's Nuclear Directorate. We have highly valued skills and experience in providing technical safety assessments for UK nuclear projects, including recent safety and analysis work undertaken for Sellafield Ltd. We are proud to be continuing our involvement on another prestigious nuclear new-build project."

Sarah Hillier, Altran Praxis' Nuclear Business Manager, commented, "The GDA programme plays an important role in making sure that any new nuclear designs built in the UK can be operated safely and securely. By continuing our work with Frazer-Nash we're able to provide vital safety analysis for the Health & Safety Executive at this critical stage in the nuclear new build programme."

ND is expecting to produce its Step 4 reports in June 2011.

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About Frazer-Nash Consultancy

Frazer-Nash is one of the UK's largest independent Systems and engineering technology consultancies, delivering innovative solutions to some of the most complex engineering problems.

The company has over 350 permanent employees across seven offices - Dorking, Bristol, Burton-on-Trent, Plymouth, Glasgow, Warrington and Dorchester.

Turnover for 2008 was around £30 million, with consistent growth levels since 1996 of between 20 and 25% per annum.

Frazer-Nash's key markets are defence, nuclear, power & energy, civil aerospace, rail, marine, petrochemical and industrial, with customers including: Airbus, Alstom, Angel Trains, Babcock International Group plc, BAE SYSTEMS, Balfour Beatty, Bombardier, BP, British Energy, Carbon Trust, Deloitte, DLR, EADS, First Group, Fujitsu, GE Aviation, HSBC Rail, HSE, Lockheed Martin, L3-Communications, the Ministry of Defence (DE&S, Dstl), NPL, Doosan Babcock, Porterbrook, QinetiQ, RNLi, Rolls-Royce, Sellafield Ltd, Siemens, Subsea 7, Thales, UK Sport, Ultra Electronics, United Technologies & Wood Group.

More information is available at www.fnc.co.uk

About Altran Praxis

Altran Praxis is a specialist systems and software house, focused on the engineering of systems with demanding safety, security or innovation requirements. Altran Praxis leads the world in specific areas of advanced systems engineering and innovation such as: ultra low defect software engineering, Human Machine Interface (HMI), safety engineering for complex or novel systems and tools (such as SPARK) /methods for systems engineering. It offers clients a range of services including turnkey systems development, consultancy, training and R&D. Key market sectors are aerospace and defence, rail, nuclear, air traffic management, automotive, medical and security. The company operates globally with active projects in the US, Asia and Europe. The headquarters of Altran Praxis are in Bath (UK) with offices in Sophia Antipolis, London, Paris, Loughborough and Bangalore. Altran Praxis is an expertise centre within, and wholly owned by, Altran which is a global leader in innovation engineering and employs 18,000 staff across the world.

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For information on the Generic Design Assessment process, visit:
www.hse.gov.uk/newreactors