

A&P TYNE REACHES CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE FOR RRS SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

A&P Group's Hebburn team has bid farewell to the stern section of the new polar research ship for Britain, the RRS Sir David Attenborough, as it continues its fabrication at Cammell Laird.

The stern will form part of the new ship RRS Sir David Attenborough, which is a major UK Government investment in frontier science. Commissioned by NERC, and built by marine engineering company Cammell Laird Shiprepairers and Shipbuilders Ltd, the vessel is a Rolls-Royce design and will be operated by British Antarctic Survey when the ship enters service in 2019.

A&P Tyne's specialist team of engineers and fabricators invested more than 175,000 man hours in the fabrication of the 899-tonne steel stern, also known as Block 10, which is the equivalent weight of 71 London double decker buses and more than 23 meters long and 24 meters wide.

David McGinley, group managing director of A&P Group, said: *"This project is the very epitome of how the UK's ship building industry can work together to not only deliver the best in class*



engineering and fabrication but to hone and nurture the very best talent and skills too. As one of the country's leading fabrication businesses we've been actively involved in many major projects for the commercial marine, defence, oil and gas, subsea and offshore wind sectors and it's a privilege and honour to add such a high profile and important research ship to the list. This project is also testament that ship building continues to flourish on the Tyne."

RRS Sir David Attenborough taking shape. The ship represents an important partnership with UK industry to deliver world leading science for the UK and beyond. The load out is another incredible milestone in this amazing project. We cannot wait to take delivery of this fantastic ship."



A&P launches Work Safe, Home Safe initiative...



A&P supports second Tide Class Tanker on arrival voyage...



A&P Great Yarmouth & Peel Ports celebrate collaboration...

WELCOME



Hello and welcome to the first Excel from A&P Group.

So far 2017 has been a year of burgeoning partnerships, new leadership and high-profile projects in the defence and commercial marine sectors plus, our engineering and fabrication expertise has been firmly in the media spotlight too.

In many ways that's why this newsletter is so important; giving the team at A&P Group a chance to showcase the myriad of projects we've been delivering for clients across the energy, defence, commercial, marine and offshore sectors from our facilities in Newcastle, Tees and Falmouth as well as our new site in Great Yarmouth.

Since I joined the business at the start of 2017 I have been working closely with A&P Group's management team to evolve and strengthen our offer to customers and to extend our reach into new sectors, and I hope the results of our labours become clear in the pages that follow.

The most significant projects of the year are undoubtedly the arrival of the first Tide Class tanker, RFA Tidespring, and more recently its sister vessel Tiderace, the inaugural voyage of the Queen Elizabeth Aircraft Carrier and completion of the stern for the new polar exploration vessel RRS Sir David Attenborough - all of which you can read more about.

2017 is not yet over and there's still plenty more work to do - for now we hope you enjoying finding out more about our work in the field of global ship repair, conversion and fabrication.

David McGinley
Group Managing Director

SAFETY COMES FIRST AT A&P GROUP

A&P Group has launched a new health and safety values programme designed to keep its workforce and supply chain safe at work and at home.

Titled Work Safe, Home Safe, the values set out the group's unfaltering commitment to health and safety in all aspects of its work and reiterates the four key values that underpin its operations - care, commitment, communication and compliance.

Supported with a short company presentation and a toolbox talk, the booklet is being issued to all A&P Group employees as well as to the group's extensive supply chain.

David McGinley, group managing director of A&P Group said: *"The safety of our employees, customers and subcontractors is paramount in our day to day working lives. By implementing effective HSEQ management systems, continuing to strive to foster a positive HSEQ culture and embedding the values which are outlined in Work Safe, Home Safe, we will enjoy an injury and incident free working environment. It is critical that we all understand the behaviours required to achieve our aim and this booklet is integral to really delivering that message."*



"By working together and embracing the values of Work Safe, Home Safe we will become a safer organisation - enabling us to go home safe at the end of each working day."

To promote the Work Safe, Home Safe campaign, A&P has also launched a drawing competition for A&P employees' children, up to the age of 12. Intended to inspire young imaginations and let them play a role in the business, children are

invited to submit artwork which captures the Work Safe, Home Safe ethos.

To request a copy of the booklet or to find out more about A&P Group's Health, Safety, Environment & Quality record contact:

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NATIONAL SHIP BUILDING STRATEGY

UK Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon unveiled an ambitious new National Shipbuilding Strategy last month in response to Sir John Parker's independent report into British naval shipbuilding.

Welcomed by A&P Group and others in the UK maritime industry, Sir John Parker's report outlined recommendations to boost the prosperity of UK shipyards, jobs, skills and expertise, transform the procurement of naval ships, make the UK's maritime industry more competitive, grow the Royal Navy fleet and export British ships overseas.

The Government has now accepted all of these recommendations and announced plans to build new Type 31e general purpose frigates in the UK. These are expected to be fabricated in a similar

way to the HMS Queen Elizabeth Aircraft Carrier which saw work shared between UK yards, one of which was A&P Group, and assembled centrally.

David McGinley, group managing director of A&P Group said: *"A&P Group wholeheartedly endorses Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon's National Shipbuilding Strategy and the Government's decision to buy five British built type 31e frigates to support the Royal Navy Fleet. The Shipbuilding Strategy reinforces Sir John Parker's 2016 review of the UK market place which recognised the capability, scale and engineering strength of UK commercial shipyards and the value they deliver to the Royal Navy."*

"As the UK's largest provider of ship repair, conversion and marine

services, A&P Group operates world class engineering facilities and has demonstrated its extensive engineering expertise on the Astute Submarine Class and the prestigious HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince of Wales aircraft carriers. The success of the Aircraft Carrier Alliance was a reflection of the commercial sector's skills, resources, experience and value and we look forward to collaborating with the MoD on the National Shipbuilding Strategy.

"A&P Group supports the Government's commitment to procuring five frigates for the Royal Navy and its plans to export vessels to other navies. This will help to secure the UK's commercial shipbuilding sector and allow innovation, skills and training to flourish. It will also underpin shipbuilding in the UK."

CARRIER TAKES MAIDEN VOYAGE

The Royal Navy's largest-ever aircraft carrier, the HMS Queen Elizabeth, embarked on its maiden voyage over the Summer, setting sail from Rosyth dockyard in Scotland to begin sea trials.

Constructed in sections around the UK, A&P Group's team in Hebburn built the vessel's flight-deck and part of the hangar. The flight deck, which is equal in size to five football pitches, was a major feat of engineering and required full use of A&P's fabrication and load-out facilities.

Described as Britain's largest and most powerful warship, the vessel is home to a 700-strong crew and is expected to be in service by 2020.



INVESTING IN NEW SKILLS

The next generation of ship-building talent is learning its craft at A&P's facility in Tyne.

The appointment of ten new apprentices boosts A&P's North East workforce significantly and follows the yard's rich history of nurturing new talent through its apprenticeship programme.

The four-year apprenticeship is designed to equip apprentices with the specialist engineering skills and theoretical foundation to secure a sustainable career in the marine sector, underpinning the UK's regional and national ship-building economy. The new apprentices will train in a range of engineering specialisms

including plating, welding and electrical engineering at A&P's Hebburn yard.

The new apprentices are: Josh Bootes, Luke Campbell, William Haswell, Joseph Cromby, Callum Christie, Harry Davies, Jordan Arkley, Cameron Smith, Thomas Dunlavy and Ryan Jackman. All are aged between 16 and 18.

The new in-take of trainees follows news that A&P's last five apprentices have successfully completed their training and started full time positions at A&P. Welders, Jake Stephenson, Sam Hood, Ross Simpson and Ross Gallagher, along with electrician, Kyle Johnson have now joined A&P as part of its permanent workforce.

Darren Brown, managing director of A&P North East said, *"Apprentices are the life-blood of our industry. These passionate young people enable A&P to maintain the highly-skilled workforce that places us at the forefront of marine engineering. We are committed to continued investment in training and apprenticeships in the North East. The region is known for its engineering history and rich pool of ship-building talent and, through our apprenticeship programme, we will continue to build on that reputation."*

PARTNERSHIP WITH PEEL PORTS GROUP OPENS UP THE EAST OF ENGLAND'S BOOMING OFFSHORE SECTOR

A&P Group has announced a strategic partnership with one of the UK's largest port operators, Peel Ports Group in Great Yarmouth.

A&P Group now provides its marine and ship repair services as well as the highly successful 24/7 mobile ship repair service, Afloat, as part of Peel Ports Group's commercial diversification and extended offer to customers.

Since acquiring the Port of Great Yarmouth in December 2015, Peel Ports Group has been committed to bringing new opportunities to its customers by investing heavily in projects such as a new £7m supply base for the offshore sector and related infrastructure. The partnership with A&P is part of this commitment and offers added value services for new and existing customers.

A&P Group has opened a dedicated office on site, staffed by two new full-time project managers - Jonathan Mills and Paul Bezant, to deliver A&P Group's service and provide support to clients from the oil and gas, offshore wind and tidal sectors. The partnership demonstrates the commitment of both A&P Group and Peel Ports Group to make Great Yarmouth a centre of excellence for renewable energy, with the creation of a marine services hub.

Darren Brown, managing director of A&P North East said: *"This is a strong alliance for the A&P Group as it gives us an invaluable presence on the east coast and importantly, establishes an even stronger, working relationship with Peel Ports Group. In particular, we have a strong history of supporting wave, tidal and offshore floating wind developers as well as major renewable companies, and it's this experience and heritage that make us well placed to partner with Peel Ports Group in the creation of a marine services hub."*

"We also expect Afloat to be well received by Peel Port customers. Afloat has experienced significant success on the east coast out of our Tees facility and our new expanded footprint will ensure more vessels will benefit from our services. We have the experience, facilities and sub-contractor infrastructure to get the right engineers to customer vessels wherever they may be and at any time. In a very cost-conscious market, this 24/7 service really sets us apart."

Richard Goffin, Port Director at Peel Ports Great Yarmouth said: *"Our partnership with A&P Group is part of an ongoing commitment to offer added value services at Peel Ports Great Yarmouth, building on our existing investment programme that has seen £7m invested in facilities to support the offshore sector."*

A&P Group is a leader in its field and the impact of this partnership will create new opportunities in the supply chain, benefiting the local economy."

Jonathan Mills joins A&P Group from Marineserv UK Ltd as general manager to lead A&P's operations at the Port of Great Yarmouth. An experienced senior manager within the marine, renewable energy and oil and gas sectors, Jonathan is responsible for delivering A&P's marine and ship repair services as well as Afloat.

Jonathan Mills said: *"There's a very distinct opportunity for A&P to leverage its strong history of supporting wave, tidal and offshore wind developments in Great Yarmouth, as well as wider energy projects, and a real appetite for the whole host of ship repair and conversion expertise that A&P offers. I'm confident of a very strong response from the local market."*



A&P Great Yarmouth set to support clients such as A2 SEA

A&P

PEEL PORTS GROUP

TIDECLASS TANKERS ENTER UK WATERS



Two of the new class of Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) tankers have entered UK waters as part of A&P Group's contract to customize, fit-out and co-ordinate full military trials for the new vessels.

A&P Group has the Ministry of Defence (MOD) contract to customise and fit out all four of the RFA's new fleet of Tide Class tankers and to co-ordinate full military Capability Assessment Trials to prepare the ships for operational service. The new Tide Class tankers will maintain the Royal Navy's ability to refuel at sea and support deployed amphibious, land and air forces close to the shore and is designed to support the new Queen Elizabeth Class Aircraft Carriers, along with the rest of the Royal Navy and RFA Fleet.

RFA Tidespring docked at A&P Falmouth in April and is currently undergoing sea

trials after a four month programme of military customisation, armament and upgrades to UK MOD standards. Tidespring's sister vessel, RFA Tiderace, docked in Falmouth in September and will now undergo the same scope of works.

Working with the ship's designer BMT Defence, multiple UK industry contractors and the MOD's Commercially Supported Shipping team, A&P Group made several visits to see both vessels during their construction in order to prepare 37 design specifications for military equipment upgrades including fabrication, pipework and system modifications.

A&P Group is also providing Fleet Time Support for the new tankers, which involves the provision of global engineering and maintenance expertise from the moment of build completion throughout the vessel's journey to the UK. A&P has worked closely with the MOD to

deliver engineering modifications as needed.

Jonathan Green, project manager said: *"We undertook a tremendous amount of preparatory work ahead of both RFA Tidespring and RFA Tiderace's arrival including design, scheduling, procurement, security and safety plans. This is a hugely significant contract for A&P Group and one which recognises the calibre of the infrastructure and workforce at A&P in Falmouth and across the group as a whole."*

Vice Admiral Simon Lister, who led procurement of the Tide Class at Defence Equipment and Support, said: *"The continued successful delivery of the Tide Class programme, meeting all requirements and under budget, stands as a testament to the excellent working relationships which DE&S has built with suppliers in the UK and around the world."*

RFA Tidespring and her sister ships, Tiderace, Tidesurge and Tideforce, are part of the MOD's Military Afloat Reach and Sustainability (MARS) Tanker project. RFA Tidesurge and Tideforce are expected to arrive in UK waters in 2018.

A&P Group also has a contract to support and maintain RFA ships at home and abroad until 2018. Under the Cluster Support Programme, A&P Group provides maintenance support to the RFA Argus and the RFA Bay Class vessels Mounts Bay, Cardigan Bay and Lyme Bay.

PLANNING OFFICER JOINS A&P FALMOUTH

A&P Falmouth has appointed Andy Edwards as RFA MARS Tanker Trials Planning & Liaison Officer.

Andy is responsible for planning and co-ordinating the delivery of the military Capability Assessment Trials required for all four of the RFA's new fleet of tankers before they enter service. Working closely with project stakeholders, Andy supports the conduct of the trials and ensures evidence is gathered to provide proof of capability to the Ministry of Defence. Andy is based in A&P's project office and has already worked on RFA Tidespring, which sailed from Falmouth in late August.

Gerald Pitts, managing director of A&P Falmouth said: *"Andy is a very strong addition to the team in Falmouth and brings with him many years of valuable insight and expertise."*

Andy joins A&P after ten years with Maersk Oil where he worked in a variety of project and offshore roles including Operations Engineer and Installation Manager. Previous employment includes twenty years with the Royal Navy as an engineer officer.



Newly appointed Andy Edwards with colleagues Jonathan Green & Paul Murray

FERRY SEASON OFF TO A FLYING START WITH CONDOR

A&P Falmouth has started a bumper ferry season by securing four bookings with Condor.

Commodore Clipper, Commodore Goodwill, Condor Liberation and Condor Rapide will all visit A&P Falmouth over the coming months for major refits. Repairs include painting the hulls, accommodation and deck areas, carrying out structural steel repairs to the car decks, electrical repairs and upgrades, propulsion and steering overhauls, main engine overhauls, ramp works and accommodation works. Commodore Clipper and Commodore Goodwill will also be retrofit with ballast water treatment systems, the installation of which has been designed by A&P.



SIX PONTOONS FOR DONG ENERGY IN BARROW

Our marine design business has secured a design and build contract for six new crew transfer pontoons with DONG Energy.

The six pontoons, each 22 metres long and 5 metres wide, are currently being installed at DONG Energy's extended Walney Offshore Wind Farm, off the coast of Barrow in Furness.

Due for completion later this month, the contract spans the design, build and installation of the six pontoons and includes a full services package including electrical and water systems

and a fast fuelling system. The heavy duty concrete pontoons weigh 140 tonnes each and are particularly suited to supporting crew transfer vessels and the offshore wind sector as they offer an in-water design life of more than 25 years.

Drystan Jones from Falmouth-based Marine Design said: *"Over the last ten years Marine Designs has been the contractor of choice for crew transfer pontoons and operations and maintenance facilities for offshore wind farms. This latest project and our third with DONG Energy, builds on that success further and reflects*



Drystan Jones - Managing Director, Marine Design

our tried and tested design and build methods. We're now entering the final stages of the project at Walney and our team is currently on site to ensure we stick to the tight programme and meet the client's requirements."

Marine Design is currently delivering two other pontoon projects in Immingham and Heysham.

A&P TYNE COMPLETES ULISSE



Commercial Manager Bob Taylor welcomes Ulisse at A&P Tyne

A&P's Tyne facility has carried out mobilisation works on Prysmian's cable installation barge Ulisse.

The vessel, which can carry up to 7,000 tonnes of cable in a carousel, has a nine-point spread mooring system to support operations in difficult conditions.

A&P LAUNCHES DEFENCE DIVISION

Global ship repair, conversion and marine specialist A&P Group has announced the launch of a Group defence division to further strengthen its ongoing relationship with the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

Headquartered at A&P Falmouth, the new division will be led by Gerald Pitts, who now takes the role of Managing Director of A&P Group Defence. Gerald will take responsibility for the current CST and MARS UKCATS contracts and the pursuit of contracts for the Type 31e frigates and Type 45 destroyers, amongst others.

Steve Jones has now been appointed Managing Director of Operations and Site Director at A&P Falmouth. Steve will be responsible for all operational projects and site-specific issues in Falmouth.

David McGinley, Group Managing Director of A&P Group said:

"Both appointments and the creation of a group-wide defence division demonstrate a significant step change in the way we will deliver both future MoD opportunities and our commercial activities within the ship repair, refit and energy markets."

"Given the number of future MoD programmes we hope to be involved in, it seemed a very natural decision to have one specialist division dedicated to

this part of the business. This will be a considerable task and we're pleased that we can call upon Gerald's depth of experience and strong client relationships to lead this team."

"Steve takes on a critical role heading up our Falmouth business and he will be instrumental in continuing our efforts to develop A&P Falmouth as a centre of excellence for both commercial and Ministry of Defence work."

A&P Group has the MoD contract to customise and fit out all four of the

RFA's new fleet Tide class tankers and co-ordinate full military Capability Assessment Trials to prepare the ships for operational service, as well as a contract to support and maintain RFA ships at home and abroad until 2018. Under the MoD's RFA Through Life Support Contracts, A&P Group provides maintenance support to groups of MoD vessels including RFA Argus and the RFA Bay Class vessels Mounts Bay, Cardigan Bay and Lyme Bay.



I Gerald Pitts and Steve Jones look forward to their new roles

SPICER JOINS A&P AS FINANCE DIRECTOR FOR FALMOUTH

Global ship repair, conversion and marine specialist A&P Group has announced the appointment of a new finance director at its Falmouth facility.

Mike Spicer joins A&P Falmouth from Bovis Homes Group Plc, where he held the position of finance director for the Thames Valley Region. He has also previously worked for Serco Group Plc as commerce manager and more recently as senior finance and commerce manager. Mike is a qualified chartered accountant and holds a BSc in management from the University of Warwick.

Tasked with providing financial leadership to A&P Group's Falmouth business, Mike will focus on optimising the company's financial performance and strategic position. In particular, Mike will support

the creation of A&P Group's new defence division, which is headquartered in Falmouth.

Steve Jones, A&P Falmouth's newly appointed managing director of operations and site director said:

"Mike joins us at a pivotal time for A&P as we look to modernise and transform the business and his arrival follows a series of other senior-level appointments in recent months."

"Mike's expertise and insights will be instrumental in helping us to achieve profitable growth and continuing to build our core business in support of the global shipping and maritime, oil and gas industries, and to further diversify into the emerging civil nuclear and renewable energy market sectors. We look forward to welcoming him to the team."



I Mike Spicer has joined A&P Falmouth

NEW GENERAL MANAGER FOR A&P TEES

Global ship repair, conversion and marine specialist A&P Group has appointed a new General Manager at its Tees yard.

Mike Wappett will be responsible for building on the Tees yard's already exemplary reputation for first class engineering and marine expertise, growing the order book and maintaining the business's focus on safety and quality workmanship.



Mike Wappett - A&P Tees
General Manager

Mike first joined A&P Tees in 2007 as a project manager before going on to work in production manager and general manager roles. More recently Mike was the business manager for QinetiQ IMCS, delivering marine consultancy in the areas of naval architecture, marine propulsion and ship safety and efficiency. Mike is a chartered naval architect.

QUALITY MANAGER JOINS A&P FALMOUTH

A&P Falmouth has appointed a new quality manager to boost its commitment to and focus on high quality engineering.

Tasked with reviewing processes and supporting the growth of A&P Falmouth, Steve Taylor will focus on improving quality processes in the areas of fabrication, machining, hull treatment and pipework.



Steve Taylor - newly appointed
Quality Manager at A&P Falmouth

Steve joins A&P Falmouth from Canada where he worked at the Victoria Shipyard on the west coast. He has also previously worked for the Grand Bahama Shipyard Limited as a senior welding inspector before being promoted to Quality Manager, where he put the quality processes in place to achieve ISO 9001 certification.

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A&PTMexcel

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