

Welcome to the Vectra Group Newsletter – a précis of key events and news items that have occurred within the company over recent weeks.

RIVM: Within the last month our office in The Hague has received two invitations to tender from RIVM, the Dutch equivalent of the Health and Safety Executive. We are pleased to report that the first of these two tenders has now been awarded to Vectra. The work comprises of a study into failure rates for pumps and compressors for Dutch onshore QRA's. In our tender we highlighted our world wide experience in conducting QRA's with various rule sets as well as our good working relation with the (oil & gas) industries. We also brought-in experience of SGS Belgium who has conducted, in cooperation with Vectra, a similar study for the Belgium authorities. The work will include a literature search for available data as well as getting input from the industry. The project will be managed by Marc van der Aart from our Office in The Hague in cooperation with SGS from Belgium. It is our first assignment for RIVM and thus is of strategic importance in raising Vectra's profile as a leading safety consultant.

Shell/NAM: You may be aware that for many years Shell in the UK and NAM (a 50/50 joint venture between Shell and Exxon in The Netherlands, but managed by Shell) has been one of Vectra's major clients. For the last five years Vectra has held a framework agreement for both Shell UK and NAM to address QRA, safety engineering and safety management consultancy services for all of Shell's offshore assets and related onshore assets for the UK and Dutch sectors of the North Sea. These contracts were recently rebid under EU procedures. Although the bids were submitted at the end of January there has only just been a decision on award of contract following a number of internal reviews within Shell instigated by the recent crises in the world economies. We are pleased to announce that Vectra has been awarded the NAM contract, which will run for a minimum of three years extendable to five years.

ROC Oil Australia: Vectra has been awarded a contract for an explosion study for the Crystal Ocean FPSO by ROC Oil who are part of the Anzon Australia business. The study will be done using the specialist CFD software FLACS and is essentially an update of work done by Vectra 5-6 years ago. This goes to demonstrate the truly international nature of Vectra's oil and gas business and also the value maintaining contacts with clients, even if they are not necessarily major customers. The work will be managed by Clive Robinson and performed by staff in our Den Haag Office.

Offshore Business Director and Aberdeen Office Manager: We are pleased to welcome back Hugh Miller to the UK following his successful four years developing our Middle East oil & gas business out of Abu Dhabi. Going forward Hugh will manage our Aberdeen Office together with managing a more focused operational safety support service to both our traditional and new oil and gas clients. Hugh originally joined Vectra from Aberdeen and has excellent knowledge of the Aberdeen and North Sea offshore markets. In this role he will also help Arcadis in developing their offshore environmental capability. We would like to wish Hugh all the best in this new role.

ISO 9001: We are pleased to let you know that the Cumbria (Westlakes) Office successfully 'completed' the BSI audit. As usual there were a few learning points regarding maintenance of records and availability of information but nothing of significant concern. Well done to all involved.

PepsiCo: Vectra have been asked by PepsiCo to perform ergonomics workstation assessments at the Walkers plant in Skelmersdale.

Agip KCO: We are pleased to announce the award to Vectra of a framework agreement for the provision of Safety Engineering Technical Services by Agip KCO. This covers support to the Kazagan

project in Kazakhstan and will potentially provide work to Vectra's Process and Transportation businesses.

Buncefield East Storage Terminal: Steve Forster with Kelvin Hughes of Arcadis has won the work to provide the third party risk assessment sections of the Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) and Planning Applications (PA) for the rebuild of the terminal, which was destroyed by a major fire and explosion in 2005.

Investors in People (IIP): The UK Vectra business is recognised for compliance with the Investors in People standard. To maintain recognition we are assessed against the standard approximately every three years. We have previously mentioned that this re-assessment was taking place and the site visit and interviews took place on 25th, 26th and 27th February.

The assessor reviews the organisation at all levels through review of the relevant systems, but mainly through talking to staff about their understanding of the business and particularly how they feel that the organisation treats staff and their development. The assessor interviewed (face to face or by telephone) a representative cross-section of 21 staff in the business.

The outcome statement read as follows:

"Having carried out the assessment process in accordance with the guidelines provided for assessors by Investors in People UK, the Assessor was satisfied beyond any doubt that Vectra Group Limited continues to meet the requirements of the Investors in People Standard. On behalf of Centre for Assessment & Recognition (NW) Ltd the Assessor would like to congratulate Vectra Group Limited on this achievement."

Governor of Roe Green School: Johnny Joannou of the Design Solutions Group has been invited by the Board of Governors and the Head teachers to become a Governor of Roe Green Infants & Junior School in the London Borough of Brent. This is in recognition of the works and improvements he has been involved in with at the Brent schools over the last 8 years. The Design Solutions DDA team have worked closely with all the schools in the Borough (Over 50) including, Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Special Schools to improve accessibility and provide an accessible curriculum and inclusive education for all children regardless of disability or learning difficulties. This is a very challenging environment to produce high quality work over such a long period and it is a great compliment for Johnny to receive such an invitation.