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SERCO GROUP PLC Prison contract award for Serco in Germany

Serco Group has been awarded a five year contract, by the Hessen Ministry of Justice to manage the Hessen prison services.

The contract awarded to Serco is the first major prison services contract to be awarded in Germany.

The prison is being built by the State of Hessen Ministry of Justice and is scheduled to be completed at the end of 2005 and will house some 502 male inmates. Serco will be responsible for psychological, medical and educational care of the prisoners as well as buildings maintenance, video surveillance, kitchens, workshops and other FM services. Serco, in conjunction with manufacturing companies throughout Germany, will provide industrial work for 300 prisoners.

Under German law the state is required to retain control of custodial services.

The contract follows the recent announcement by the UK Government Home Office to retain Serco's wholly owned subsidiary – Premier Custodial Group to provide electronic monitoring to offenders.

Grant Rumbles, Chief Executive – Serco Continental Europe and Middle East (CEME), said: “ We are delighted to be appointed to manage this prestigious contract. It is further evidence that Serco can transfer the extensive level of experience gained from one geographical market into another to the benefit of our customers.”

- Ends -

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Note to Editors

- Serco is the only organisation providing services to all five market segments across the Home Office in the UK through its wholly owned subsidiary, Premier Custodial Group, including electronic monitoring, prisons, immigration, secure training centres and prison escort and custody services.
- Serco is one of the world's largest service companies operating on a global basis in a diverse range of sectors, including defence, aerospace, and science, public transport and traffic management, health and education, justice and local government. For more information on Serco Group plc, visit www.serco.com