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news release

**Serco selected as preferred bidder for a £400m Dstl strategic partnership
11 August 2005**

Serco Group plc ("Serco") announces today that it has been selected as preferred bidder by the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory ("Dstl") contract for a 15 year strategic partnership, called 'Project INSPIRE'.

The contract, valued at approximately £400 million, will provide and support new and refurbished laboratory and office accommodation.

As a strategic partner and prime contractor, Serco will be responsible for providing comprehensive facilities management services across Dstl's estate for 15 years from August 2006. In the first 2 years Serco will manage the design and build of new facilities and migrate 1600 scientists to them. The innovative new facilities and supporting services, which range from laboratory set-up to travel management services, will allow Dstl staff to focus on their core science and technology work within a safe and secure environment.

Serco has selected Sir Robert McAlpine Limited as its construction partner and the Building Design Partnership as its design leaders.

Serco already provides communication and information services ("CIS") to Dstl through a successful partnering contract, and a range of property and estate management services to the MoD through contracts at the Defence Procurement Agency, Abbeywood, and the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham.

Chris Hyman, Serco's Chief Executive, said, "We are delighted to have the opportunity to build on our relationship with Dstl. We look forward to using our expertise as an integrator, our innovative solutions and our assured service delivery within the defence and scientific sectors to enable Dstl to achieve its ambitions."

Nick Helbren, Deputy Chief Executive and Director responsible for the programme said "We have chosen Serco to work with us in order to implement a major change programme, providing facilities fit for the 21st Century and valuable support services over the next 15 years. Serco has substantial relevant experience in dealing with us, the MOD and scientific sectors"

- Ends -

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Notes to editors:

- Dstl is the centre of scientific excellence for the Ministry of Defence, housing one of the largest groups of scientists and engineers in the United Kingdom.
- Serco is a leading international service company, operating in a diverse range of sectors, including defence and aerospace, IT services, education, local government, transport, science, health, and justice. More information can be found at www.serco.com.
- Serco is one of the leading defence service contractors in the UK, with over 40 years experience of providing integrated services to complex defence and scientific installations.
- Serco is a trusted key supplier working in long-term partnership with the MoD to deliver value for money solutions and innovation with assured delivery.
- Serco, with partners Lockheed Martin and BNFL, runs the Atomic Weapons Establishment on behalf of the MoD.