

## Press Release

# Serco appointed to manage UK Emergency Planning College

22 February 2010

Serco has been appointed by the Cabinet Office to manage and operate the UK's Emergency Planning College (EPC), under a contract valued at around £55m over 15 years.

In managing the EPC, Serco will bring to bear its strong track record in defence and emergency training support, and in managing critical national services including air traffic control, transport networks, hospitals, airports, and defence and national security infrastructure. In delivering these essential services, Serco makes an active contribution to the development of resilience for governments around the world through its focus on reducing vulnerability to emergencies. Serco's training experience includes the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom at Shrivenham, which trains senior military leaders from UK and international armed services, and operation of the world renowned International Fire Training College (IFTC).

The College will be directed by a joint partnership board. Serco will have responsibility for all services at the EPC, including training delivery and support, sales and marketing, finance, estate management, information and communications technology, and security. Serco will focus on both growing the business and enhancing the EPC's reputation as the UK's leading provider of emergency planning training across the public and private sectors, and will also take a lead role in maintaining professional standards for emergency planning. The Cabinet Office Civil Contingencies Secretariat (CCS) will deliver policy direction and guidance; resilience doctrine and guidance; overall quality assurance of training; and contract monitoring.

Commenting on the contract award, Andrew White, CEO for Serco's defence, science and nuclear business, said: "A key part of Serco's mission is to help strengthen the UK's national security and resilience, we are excited by the opportunity to further our contribution through this new relationship with the EPC. I am looking forward to working with our new partners to sustain and enhance the role of the EPC in protecting the public."

Speaking on behalf of the Emergency Planning College, Michael Charlton-Weedy, Chief Executive of EPC, said: "This is an innovative arrangement that offers benefits to both partners. It offers the opportunity to build an even better and more successful business at EPC, building on the extensive improvement and modernisation that has been recently undertaken. In addition it will also increase the College's contribution to the UK's resilience to emergencies through the delivery of world-class training, whilst also achieving substantial savings."

The EPC, based at Easingwold in North Yorkshire, has been the Government's centre of excellence in crisis management and emergency planning training since 1989. The importance of the EPC to the UK's resilience in the face of national emergencies has grown in recent years, given the increasing security challenges facing the UK. With this new contract, Serco will support the Cabinet Office in enhancing that position in the future.

This 15 year contract is set to commence on 1st April 2010.

**Ends**

**For further information, please contact Serco:**

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**About Serco**

Serco is a FTSE 100 international service company, which combines commercial know-how with a deep public service ethos.

We improve essential services by managing people, processes, technology and assets more effectively. We advise policy makers, design innovative solutions, integrate systems and - most of all - deliver to the public.

Serco supports governments, agencies and companies who seek a trusted partner with a solid track record of providing assured service excellence. Our people offer operational, management and consulting expertise in the aviation, BPO, defence, education, environmental services, facilities management, health, home affairs, information and communications technology, knowledge services, local government, science and nuclear, transport, welfare to work and the commercial sectors.

More information can be found at [www.serco.com](http://www.serco.com)