



Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme Press Release

For Immediate dissemination

CISRS Approves First Overseas Scaffolder Training Scheme (OSTS) Training Centre In Africa

CISRS has just granted training provider accreditation to the first CISRS Overseas Scaffolder Training Scheme (OSTS) training centre in Africa – set up by Simian Skills and Falck Prime Atlantic in Nigeria.

Falck Safety Services (trading under the Falck Group of Companies), is the world's largest provider of safety training for the offshore industry. Each year, they provide safety training to more than 320,000 employees from shipping companies, military defence units, the aviation industry and the oil industry – and now CISRS OSTS scaffolding in Nigeria.

CISRS Scheme Manager, Dave Mosley has just returned from auditing the newly accredited centre in Ipara Ogun State, Nigeria – the culmination of nearly three years of discussions between CISRS and the training providers.

The creation of the first CISRS OSTS training centre in Africa began in 2013, when Simian Risk first spotted the demand for a recognised qualification via international oil companies and the Department of Petroleum regulators in Nigeria. Simian had received many enquiries from African-based companies and individuals wanting to come to the UK and Dubai to undertake CISRS courses.

Simian contacted CISRS Scheme Manager, Dave Mosley who worked closely with them, advising Falck of what would be required in order to comply with CISRS scheme rules.

Simian Directors Simon Hughes and Ian Fyall visited Nigeria and made several presentations to petrochemical leaders, Exxon, Total, Shell and The Lagos state safety commission, in order to gauge industry support of CISRS should a local centre gain accreditation.

Based upon the positive response received, two containers of scaffold training material left the UK for Lagos in order to stock the training centre, which is situated between Lagos on the coast and Ibadan inland, in Southern Nigeria.

The three parties then met at Simian's training centre in Warrington to discuss moving this project forward and to consider centre design, dimensions, instructors, facility security etc. Construction of the facility began in the autumn of 2015 and was completed in time for a successful accreditation audit visit in February 2016.

CISRS Scheme Manager Dave Mosley said: "CISRS are very pleased to be working with Simian Skills and Falck Prime Atlantic on this historic project and proud to have granted accreditation to the first training centre of its kind in Africa. It's an excellent facility, and we wish them the greatest success and hope that it will

improve the safety and standards of scaffolding within the region, whilst also offering a potential career opportunity to many Nigerians for years to come."

The first CISRS OSTS Level 1 course has since been completed at the centre with all delegates passing the courses and now in the process of obtaining their CISRS OSTS cards. CISRS currently has around 4000 OSTS cardholders globally.

Whilst in Nigeria Mr Mosley and the centre staff gave presentations to several major client representatives including Shell, Total, Exxon, Agina, LSSC and DPR, many of whom are set to train their scaffolders at the centre in the coming months.

Simian Risk Operations Director, Ian Fyall; said: "We are thrilled to be involved in the creation of the first OSTS training provider in Africa – which is absolutely superb and a real feather in the cap of Simian Risk, Falck Prime Atlantic and CISRS. It's been a long process to get to this point, but we are immensely proud to have done this and are confident the centre will be a roaring success in the region – helping to drive up scaffolding standards."

For more details on the Falck Prime Atlantic Nigerian centre, a full list of approved training providers, further details about CISRS OSTS courses, training changes following the introduction of SG4:15 and TG20:13, information and dates on courses available or to find out more about CISRS, please visit www.cisrs.org.uk or email enquiries@cisrs.org.uk.