

Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme Press Release For Immediate dissemination

New £1M Scottish CISRS Scaffolding Training Centre Opens

CISRS has granted accreditation to a brand new scaffold training centre in the North East of Scotland – designed to meet the extensive needs of both the construction and oil and gas industries within the region.

The £1 million, purpose built training facility based at Clinterty in Aberdeen is the result of a matched funding partnership between The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and ASET International Oil & Gas Training Academy (ASET).

The business is the first scaffolding training centre in a region notable for the offshore scaffolding sector and will deliver a wide range of CISRS training ranging from apprenticeships to scaffold inspection.

Courses offered will include: CISRS Operative Training Scheme (COTS), Part 1, Part 2 and Basic Scaffolding Inspection Training Scheme (SITS), the centre will look to further enhance accreditation in the future to include the full range of CISRS courses, Advanced Scaffolding and Inspection, Supervisory training, Systems courses etc.

CISRS accreditation auditor, Trevor Donoghue said: "ASET and CITB have built an excellent centre here in Aberdeen, based upon the practical facilities I would envisage them increasing their CISRS course portfolio before next year's annual audit visit."

The centre aims to provide training for up to 50 scaffolding apprentices a year – with nine apprentices starting their apprenticeship in the first few weeks of the centre gaining accreditation.

Atholl Menzies, Chief Executive at ASET, commented: "This is an exciting time for ASET and CITB as we begin to realise our vision of creating a centre of excellence for scaffolding training in the North of Scotland. This purpose-built facility is perfectly positioned to meet the demand for accredited training at introductory and advanced levels – from Dundee to Shetland. The facility will train and upskill the Scottish workforce and benefit both the construction and oil and gas industries.

"The apprenticeship provision will help to attract new entrants into the industry, making an important contribution to the local economy. And the extensive range of commercial courses available will open up new opportunities for employers and individuals alike.

"Organisations now have a greater choice in selecting the right training options to develop the skills of their workforce, and individuals can choose to develop existing or acquire new skills in readiness for market opportunities in the decommissioning arena."

Dundee-based employer Kevin Malone from Skyline Scaffolding Ltd's apprentice, Darren Holt, who has just commenced his training at the new facility said: "I was extremely happy when I heard the new centre was opening. It is long overdue, and will certainly be a great boost for scaffolding training in the area."

David Mosley, CISRS Scheme Manager echoed these sentiments when he stated: "There has been talk of opening a second CISRS training centre in Scotland for over a decade, NCC Scotland in Inchinnan is full to bursting at the moment, I'm sure the additional capacity in the North of Scotland will be very warmly received within the scaffolding fraternity, we wish them every success."

A full listing of CISRS training courses at the new facility can be found at <u>www.aset.co.uk</u>. And for further information on the CISRS scheme, to obtain free copies of the CISRS General Information Booklet, 'Have You Got The Right Card?' CISRS poster, or any other relevant CISRS information please visit <u>www.cisrs.org.uk</u> or email <u>enquiries@cisrs.org.uk</u>.