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## **Serco Group plc announces that AWE Management Limited is awarded the Contract for the Management and Operation of the Atomic Weapons Establishment**

AWE Management Limited ("AWEML") has been awarded a contract, by the Ministry of Defence ("MoD"), for the management and operation of the Atomic Weapons Establishment ("AWE"). AWE is the United Kingdom Government's nuclear weapons research and development centre, and has responsibility for the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. The contract will begin on 1 April 2000, with a transition period commencing in December 1999.

The management and operation contract will be for the provision of all services related to facilities management, waste and environmental management, manufacture and stewardship, and associated site support. The continuing development of science and research programmes will also form part of the contract requirements.

AWEML is an equal joint venture between Serco Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Serco Group plc ("Serco"), Lockheed Martin UK Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation ("Lockheed"), and British Nuclear Fuels plc ("BNFL").

The initial contract period will be for 10 years at a value of approximately £2.2 billion, incorporating an enabling agreement to move subsequently to a 25 year term. The contract employs over 4,000 staff.

Richard White, Executive Chairman, Serco Group plc, stated:-

"We are delighted to have been awarded this prestigious contract, with our partners, Lockheed Martin and BNFL. The three companies have unrivalled expertise and resources from which to draw in managing the contract and have a common view that safety is paramount. The award builds on our existing contracts with UK science based organisations, such as the National Physical Laboratory. We look forward to welcoming and working with the staff at AWE."

- Ends -

## Notes to Editors

**Serco** is an international task management contractor to government and industry, providing comprehensive engineering and support services across a wide range of applications. **Lockheed Martin** is a leading provider of research, design, development, manufacture and integration of advanced technology systems and production services for government and commercial customers world wide. **BNFL's** expertise includes, uranium procurement, manufacture of new fuel, reactor design technology and services, electricity generation, recycling of used fuel, transport of radioactive materials, engineering, waste management and decommissioning.

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