

## Press Call - Sculpture Unveiled at Solstice Park site

Join us on Tuesday 21 September for the unveiling of 'The White Horse' sculpture, produced by the award winning partnership between Salisbury International Arts Festival, QinetiQ and Solstice Park. It will be officially unveiled by Phil Harding of the BBC's *TimeTeam* programme.

Salisbury International Arts Festival commissioned local artist, Charlotte Moreton, to create a sculpture with the 3rd year QinetiQ apprentices from MOD Boscombe Down based on the theme of the region's White Horses and responding to the Horse theme in this year's International Arts Festival.

This installation is the partnership's fourth sculpture and was first revealed to audiences on the opening night of the Festival 2010 in Salisbury's Market Square.

The simplicity of the life sized sculpture of a thoroughbred mare is based on the Uffington White Horse which is formed from stylized curving lines rather than a solid and more or less naturalistic figure. These lines have been suggested by floating plates on the sculpture.

Using bent steel tubing and powder coated steel plates, and following the project development procedures used by QinetiQ engineers, Charlotte and the apprentices designed, tested and built the sculpture; along the way they learned skills that will inform their future careers as aircraft and aeronautical engineers.

In addition a number of local businesses gave their time, and expertise.

Paul Whitelegg, Managing Director Flight Engineering Services (and Head of Site Boscombe Down) says, "*this fourth sculpture ....*

### ENDS

**Join us at Solstice Park Head office xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx at 2.30 on 21 September and afterwards for a short reception.**

**Please let us know if you would like to come along.**

For further information please contact

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Notes to Editors:

- The Salisbury International Arts Festival is 37 years old, with a distinguished history of presenting international arts events both traditional and contemporary across 16 days of celebrations each summer. The Festival has developed into a major annual UK multi-arts event, presenting every major artform, in the stunning setting of Salisbury, Wiltshire. The Salisbury International Arts Festival is supported by Friends Provident, Wiltshire Council and Arts Council England – South West.

- QinetiQ (pronounced "kinetic") is a leading international defence and security technology company with over 8,000 employees in EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Australasia) and more than 6,000 in North America.

QinetiQ's vision is to be the world's leading provider of defence and security based technology solutions and services.

In February 2006, QinetiQ Group plc was listed on the London Stock Exchange and joined the FTSE250 in June 2006. In the year to 31 March 2008, QinetiQ delivered a 19 per cent increase in revenue to £1,366m, including organic growth of 8.6 per cent, and a 20 per cent increase in underlying operating profit to £127m. Underlying earnings per share increased by 19% to 13.4p per share.

- Solstice Park is set to become the largest (160 acre) mixed-use business park in Southern England, located in the growth town of Amesbury. Holiday Inn, further strengthens the national brand portfolio on the Roadside and Leisure offering (known locally as 'Solstice Services'), which includes a Somerfield PFS with Essentials convenience store, Harvester, Pizza Hut and Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant.