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## Press Release

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### **ST ATHAN DEFENCE ESTATES TEAM WINS NATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD**

The St Athan Defence Estates (DE) team has won the WALES 2008: Business and Sustainability Award for Waste Management in the Public Sector.

The award was presented by Jane Davidson, Welsh Assembly Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing during an awards ceremony at the National Assembly for Wales in Cardiff Bay on Monday 3 November.

Jane Davidson, Assembly Member said: "It was a critical period for the Sustainability agenda and for such a diverse site to deliver such an exceptional performance in just 12 months was an example to all in the public and private sector."

Peter Davies, Head of the judging panel and Chair of the Wales Sustainability Commission, added: "The Defence Estates team impressed the judges with their waste management systems, waste reduction, recycling and communications campaign delivering a swift and evident culture change and perhaps the highest recovery and recycling performance in the region. The discipline in the segregation of waste and their retention, until enough can be accumulated to allow for efficient collection, also reduces the environmental impact of the transportation of goods to be recycled."

DE Site Director Wing Commander Richard Read commented that 2008 has been an outstanding year for the team and has focused on a very successful recycling initiative and supporting communications campaign that has seen a site wide culture change and been benchmarked against seasoned industry participants. "We continue to take a number of enquiries from MOD and public sector sites who are keen to learn from the site's performance showing that the scheme's strategic value has been its initiation of wider interest," he added.

Ends

**Notes to Editors:**

1. Defence Estates is a Ministry of Defence organisation. On 1 April 2005 it was re-launched with responsibilities for managing the Defence estate as a corporate asset on behalf of the MOD, and for the delivery of estate maintenance, works and services. Defence Estates assumed responsibility for the management and maintenance of the Service Families Accommodation estate in the mainland UK on 1 April 2004, following its merger with the Defence Housing Executive.
2. Attached photo shows Wing Commander Richard Read and the St Athan Estates Team receives the Wales 2008: Business and sustainability Award for 'Waste management in the Public sector' from Jane Davidson AM.

**Further Information:**

Press enquiries to Defence Estates on: 0121 311 3678

Ministry of Defence website address: <http://www.mod.uk>

Defence Estates website: <http://www.defence-estates.mod.uk>