

## **BRITAIN'S BIGGEST ENERGY COMPANY SIGNS UP WITH LEADING RECRUITMENT FIRM FORCESELECT**

**London, May 27 2010** – Leading recruitment agency ForceSelect has signed a partnership agreement with British Gas – Britain's biggest energy company.

Under the terms of the 12-month agreement, British Gas will work with ForceSelect to recruit to a number of positions, including engineers, as part of British Gas's ambitious national recruitment plans.

ForceSelect, which was set up in 2009, has recently agreed partnership deals with UPS and Sainsbury's, and works with Unite and TSI, as well as a wide range of smaller UK businesses.

Over the next 12 months, almost 2,000 new staff will be recruited and trained by British Gas including: more than 1,000 loft and cavity insulation technicians; 250 trainee smart energy experts; 100 new smart energy experts; 500 Service and Repair engineers; 50 central heating installation engineers; and 50 electrical engineers.

As a result of the new agreement, ForceSelect will work with British Gas to identify suitable experts who are leaving the armed forces and looking for a new career where they can transfer or learn new skills.

ForceSelect CEO Hugh Andrée said: "We are delighted to be working with British Gas to provide new careers for military service leavers. There is such a huge opportunity for British businesses to tap into the wealth of talent that the armed forces have developed.

British Gas Managing Director, Phil Bentley, said: "We have already recruited a number of ex-servicemen and women, and they have brought fantastic skills to our business. They are great team players, with excellent communication and problem-solving skills, and keen attention to detail – exactly the qualities we look for in a British Gas employee.

"We are looking forward to working with ForceSelect to add more great candidates to our growing workforce, who look after our customers' homes throughout Britain."

**Ends**



## NOTES TO EDITORS

**ForceSelect** was set up in 2009 by former Army officer Hugh Andrée to provide military service leavers – currently estimated to be around 20,000 each year – with the best and most appropriate career opportunities within UK businesses.

ForceSelect is implementing a mentoring and support programme to provide advice and guidance to individuals having left the Armed Forces, enabling a seamless transition from service life into civilian employment. These mentors will advise on areas such as accommodation, financial matters, medical matters and the different culture of civilian life.

As part of a wider corporate responsibility, the ForceSelect Foundation has been established in order to contribute towards service charities each year. ForceSelect will contribute a proportion of its profits to the Foundation as well as organising a range of fundraising activities.

All ForceSelect staff have served in the military including Managing Director and former artillery officer Lucy Wood; Director, best-selling author and SAS hero Andy McNab DCM MM; and Non-Executive Director and former Chief of General Staff General Sir Michael Jackson.

**British Gas** is Britain's energy company, supplying gas, electricity and energy services to almost half the nation's homes. As the biggest energy supplier in the country, British Gas employs almost 28,000 people. For the second year running the company has appeared in the top 25 companies in the prestigious Sunday Times "Best Big Companies to Work For" list.

Each year British Gas spends around £30million recruiting and training people who are passionate about delivering excellent customer service. The company believes that energy companies have a key role to play in helping the country reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which is why it is creating a great number of 'green jobs', helping customers become more energy efficient and cut their fuel bills.

British Gas is seeking to employ individuals, both male and female, for a variety of exciting career opportunities. For all current vacancies please log on to [www.britishgasacademy.co.uk](http://www.britishgasacademy.co.uk)

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