

News story: VMD's Accredited Internet Retailer Scheme (AIRS) 5th Anniversary

The VMD's Accredited Internet Retailer Scheme (AIRS) has now been running for 5 years since its launch on 25 May 2012.

AIRS was developed in response to the general public's concerns about buying veterinary medicines over the internet. The aim of the scheme is to provide assurance to the public and professional keepers of animals, that by purchasing their veterinary medicines from an accredited internet retailer they are:

- buying the medicines from a reputable, UK-based retailer
- at less risk of buying unauthorised, inappropriate or ineffective medicines for their animals
- confident that the retailer meets the requirements of the Scheme and the law

There are now 41 accredited websites operated by 32 businesses and further applications are in the pipeline. Companies whose websites have been accredited are diverse and include some well-known organisations.

An [up to date list of accredited retailers](#) is available.

We have worked closely with retailers to explain the assessment criteria and what changes they need to make to their websites for compliance with both AIRS and the Veterinary Medicines Regulations. Whilst doing this, the VMD has built some very good working relationships with retailers and has gained a better understanding about how internet businesses operate. We have used this information to develop our guidance and to help applicants understand how to meet the accreditation standards.

With the aims of the scheme in mind, we reviewed its requirements in 2016 and made a number of changes, in particular:

- Accreditation is now focussed on the retail supply of authorised veterinary medicines (classes POM-V, POM-VPS and NFA-VPS) only
- Non-medicinal products are no longer included in the assessment. Instead, applicants have to declare that they do not make medicinal claims for non-medicinal products on their websites
- Applicants have to acknowledge that continued accreditation is contingent on a commitment to promptly correct all non-compliances brought to their attention

We believe that these changes have simplified the accreditation process whilst maintaining the appropriate controls on the sale of medicines by internet retailers.

AIRS is open to all UK-based registered veterinary practice premises, registered pharmacies and approved SQP retailers that supply POM-V, POM-VPS

and NFA-VPS veterinary medicines online. Membership is voluntary and its free.

Retailers who meet the accreditation criteria display the special 'VMD Accredited Retailer' logo with their unique accreditation number [image of logo]

If you wish to apply to become an AIRS member, [application forms and other guidance is available](#)

Detailed guide: Gosport Oil Fuel Depot redevelopment

Updated: Updated the body text on request from the Oil and Pipelines Agency to reflect the latest changes.

Oil Fuel Depots

The [Oil & Pipelines Agency \(OPA\)](#) is responsible for [6 Naval Oil Fuel Depots](#) in the UK. It works on behalf of the Secretary of State for Defence. It is a statutory public corporation sponsored by the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

Gosport Oil Fuel Depot

The site comprises 2 site offices, the main site area that holds 17 storage tanks and the jetty area, which allows delivery to and from ships.

The site is on Forton Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4TH.

The types of fuel stored at Gosport are kerosene (also known as aviation fuel, jet fuel or AVCAT) and diesel.

Site redevelopment

A multi-million pound redevelopment project to replace the tanks and upgrade other buildings which, subject to planning consent will commence in 2018.

The fuel tanks are over 100 years old and are approaching their end of service life. The project will ensure that the depot will be fully equipped to meet the future requirements of the Royal Navy's new Queen Elizabeth Class carriers.

Work to be carried out

The redevelopment of the site will be phased in order for business to continue.

The existing tanks will be replaced with tanks of a similar size or smaller in some instances, although there will be fewer of them. The tanks will be cut down individually and replaced and phased in rows of 2.

The existing offices will also be replaced and there will be an improved site entrance and improved security provision around the site. A new gate house will be built with upgraded security provision around the site and the site offices will be relocated.

Project timescales

Work began in 2018.

The project is expected to finish by spring 2021.

Noise and disruption management

We will work with Gosport Borough Council to make every effort to keep potential disruption to a minimum. A construction traffic management plan is in place and is aimed to minimise any potential impact to residents.

When the tanks are removed there will be some construction noise and dust. We will be using contractors who are members of the Considerate Constructors Scheme, full and appropriate mitigation measures will be put in place to limit any impact on our neighbours and local community. In addition, noise and dust levels will be monitored on site to ensure that they fall within acceptable limits set by the local planning authority as part of the planning application.

Working hours

Access to the site is permitted between 07:30 and 18:30 Monday to Friday but actual working hours are restricted to 8am to 6pm.

Site access is permitted on Saturday between 07:30 and 13:30 but actual working hours are restricted to 8 am to 1pm.

Traffic management

There will be movement of materials and staff to and from the site throughout the construction period and a construction traffic management plan is in place to cover facilitate this. We are also working with the council, local communities and individuals to minimise road congestion where possible particularly during peak times.

The contractors' offsite car parking is located within the vicinity of the

Gosport OFD.

Site security

As an operational COMAH site, naval asset and construction site, we have a legal and moral obligation to ensure safety and security is maintained at all times.

Community Relations Team

We have a dedicated project team who are happy to answer any questions you might have. We will also be issuing project updates to our neighbours and any other interested parties.

You can contact the OPA Community Relations Team by:

By telephone: 08000 499 734

By email: GosportOFD@communitycomms.co.uk

Related information

- [OPA Oil Fuel Depots](#)
- [Oil fuel depot public information notice](#)

[News story: Digital Outcomes and Specialists 1 expires on 2 September 2017](#)

If you're a buyer and you published requirements on the framework before 24 February 2017, you need to award the contract to the successful supplier before 2 September.

You'll need to [use the Digital Outcomes and Specialists 1 call-off contract](#).

You're not affected by the expiry of Digital Outcomes and Specialists 1 if you published requirements on the Digital Marketplace before 24 February and have signed the contract with the successful supplier.

If you published your requirements on the Digital Marketplace on or after 24 February, you will continue to award your contracts using the [Digital Outcomes and Specialists 2 call-off contract](#).

Email enquiries@digitalmarketplace.service.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Press release: Ciarán Maxwell sentencing

Speaking after the sentence was delivered, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP said:

I pay tribute to the police and other agencies in successfully bringing this case before the courts. This has undoubtedly saved lives.

A large volume of dangerous material was seized and this significant jail sentence is an indication of the harm that this individual posed.

Notice: Y008 8AN, Sedalcol UK Limited: environmental permit application advertisement

The Environment Agency consults the public on certain applications for Radioactive Substances Activity. The arrangements are explained in its [Public Participation Statement](#)

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
- which Environment Agency office you can visit to see the application documents on the public register
- when you need to comment by

The Environment Agency will decide:

- whether to grant or refuse the application
- what conditions to include in the permit (if granted)