|  |
| --- |
|  |
| ONR site report  BAE Systems Marine Limited – Devonshire Dock Complex |

ONR site report

BAE Systems Marine Limited - Devonshire Dock Complex

**Report for period**: 1 July – 31 December 2024

**Authored by**: Nominated Site Inspector

**Approved by**: Superintending Inspector

**Issue:** 0

**Published**: March 2025

**Record reference**: 2025/5335

Foreword

This report is issued as part of our commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to the above site available to the public. Reports are distributed to members for the BAE Systems Marine Limited (BAESML) Local Liaison Committee (LLC) and are also available on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/llcssg-reports).

Our site inspectors usually attend BAE Systems Marine Limited (BAESML) Local Liaison Committee (LLC) meetings where these reports are presented and will respond to any questions raised there. Any person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact us via email at [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

Contents

[1. Inspections 4](#_Toc180135448)

[2. Routine matters 5](#_Toc180135449)

[3. Non-routine matters 7](#_Toc180135450)

[4. Regulatory activity 8](#_Toc180135451)

[5. News from ONR 9](#_Toc180135452)

[6. Contacts 9](#_Toc180135453)

[References 10](#_Toc180135454)

# Inspections

## Date(s) of inspection

Our site inspector undertook site-based interventions on the following dates during the report period. Regulation is undertaken jointly with the Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator (DNSR), where appropriate:

* 20, 21 August
* 3, 4 September
* 29 October

Various additional site-based enquiries related to the Devonshire Dock Hall (DDH) fire from 30 October onwards were carried out.

# Routine matters

## Inspections

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

* The conditions attached by ONR to the nuclear site licence granted under the Nuclear Installations Act 1965 (NIA65) (as amended);
* The Energy Act 2013;
* The Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 (HSWA74); and
* Regulations made under HSWA74, for example, the Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (MHSWR99).

The inspections entail monitoring the licensee’s actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters that may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation.

In this period, routine inspections of the Devonshire Dock Complex covered the following:

* readiness to undertake activities defined by hold points

Members of the public who would like further information on our inspection activities during the reporting period can view site inspection records on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/inspection-records).

Should you have any queries regarding our inspection activities, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

## Other work

Our site inspector holds periodic meetings with safety representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety and welfare at work.

BAESML schedules regular regulatory interface forums (RIF) covering an overview of the build programmes, and improvements to the site safety cases and their implementation. The RIFs also cover regulatory issues progress and oversight of the site redevelopment project (SRP) work. This includes regulatory oversight of the construction of the new facilities on the licensed site. Our ONR site inspectors attended these RIFs during the period.

ONR agreed with the release of three boat build hold points following readiness inspections, during the period.

# Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. Our inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee’s response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

Matters and events of particular note during the period were:

## Dropped load event

We previously reported about an event in August 2023 where lifting operations controlled by Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Limited were being undertaken to offload crane rails from a flat-bed trailer. Whilst lifting the final crane rail, the rail became unbalanced and fell, landing on the flat-bed trailer from which it was being lifted. Whilst there were no injuries from the event, we identified a risk of serious personal injury, which required regulatory action.

The improvement notice that we issued to Morgan Sindall Construction & Infrastructure Limited was complied with by the required date.

We have concluded our investigation into the incident and judged that further action was not warranted.

## 415V Busbar strike event

In December 2023, a team of electrical contractors were working within the Devonshire Dock Hall to install a fixed electrical circuit to power a new 240V socket. During the course of the activity, whilst creating a penetration for the cable to run through a wall, the contractors accidentally struck a 415V electrical circuit.

We issued an enforcement letter to BAESML with expected regulatory actions, which it has addressed. The other two contractor organisations involved in delivering the work quickly made improvements to reduce future risks so far as is reasonably practicable and no formal enforcement was issued.

No injuries were sustained to the workers, and there was no risk to nuclear safety, the public or the environment as a result of the incident. We have concluded our investigation into the incident and judged that further action was not warranted.

## Fire in the Devonshire Dock Hall

On 30 October 2024, a fire broke out in the DDH, which was prominent in the public media at the time. Due to ongoing enquiries by ONR and investigations by the emergency services authorities, we cannot report further details at this time.

# Regulatory activity

We may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, we issue regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken. These are usually collectively termed licence instruments but can take other forms. In addition, inspectors may take a range of enforcement actions, to include issuing an enforcement notice.

* No licence instruments, enforcement notices or enforcement letters were issued during this period.

Reports detailing regulatory decisions can be found on our website: [www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports](http://www.onr.org.uk/publications/regulatory-reports/site-specific-reports/project-assessment-reports).

# News from ONR

For the latest updates and information on our work, please subscribe to our regular email newsletter, ONR News, at [www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter](https://www.onr.org.uk/news/newsletter/).

# Contacts

Office for Nuclear Regulation

Redgrave Court

Merton Road

Bootle

Merseyside

L20 7HS

Website: [www.onr.org.uk](http://www.onr.org.uk)

Email: [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk)

This document is issued by ONR. For further information about us, or to report inconsistencies or inaccuracies in this publication, please email [contact@onr.gov.uk](mailto:contact@onr.gov.uk).

If you wish to reuse this information, please visit [www.onr.org.uk/access-to-information/copyright](http://www.onr.org.uk/access-to-information/copyright) for details.

For published documents, the electronic copy on our website remains the most current publicly available version and copying or printing renders this document uncontrolled.