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Press release

SPIE Acquires Manchester-Based Alard, a Leading Electrical Engineering Contractor

Cergy, 2nd May 2013 - SPIE, the independent European leader in electrical and mechanical engineering and HVAC services, energy and communication systems, has today announced the acquisition of Alard to further grow its UK business SPIE UK, develop its UK experience in electrical engineering and expand its presence in the North of England.

Headquartered in Stockport, Manchester and established in 1984, Alard is a fully accredited Electrical Engineering Contractor operating in key industrial, commercial, educational and retail sectors for Blue Chip companies. With over 26 years' experience Alard has enjoyed continuous growth through delivering high quality work, safely and competitively. With prestigious clients including the Manchester United Football Club, ALDI Stores, United Biscuits and Mersey Docks, Alard specialises in TEGG testing, which allows the company to test live equipment using harmonics, sound and thermal imaging. The organisation employs 43 people and achieved turnover of £3.1m in 2012.

This acquisition will enable SPIE to balance its portfolio of clients, whilst building up its regional operations base in the North. Founder and Managing Director of Alard, Graham Cooper is retiring from the company and following the acquisition, Alard will become part of the SPIE UK building services business. David Shiel, Operations Manager at SPIE, will head up the business.

James Thoden van Velzen, CEO of SPIE UK, explains: "The acquisition of Alard fits perfectly into our strategic plan to expand our regional coverage and acquire specialist technologies and services. As a successful electrical services provider, Alard shares our pursuit of exemplary performance, local presence and sustainability. We are excited about the future of SPIE UK following the acquisition and believe it will be a very valuable addition for SPIE's customers. Graham has been instrumental in building up his business over 26 years and we wish him all the very best in his retirement."

contacts

SPIE SA

Pascal Omnès

Communications Director

Tel.: +33 (0)1 34 22 58 21

e-mail: pascal.omnes@spie.com [1]

Agence Droit Devant

Philippe Hériard

Tel.: +33 (0)1 39 53 53 33

e-mail: heriard@droitdevant.fr [2]

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[1] <mailto:pascal.omnes@spie.com>

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