

Media Release

Release date : Immediate, 5 March 2008

Media contacts:

Lt Andrew McAllister, Royal Navy, Tel: 023 9254 2915; sultan-tsgtro@nrta.mod.uk

Malcolm McLaren-Clark, Young Engineers, Tel: 01798 865799; mclark@youngeng.org



YOUNG ENGINEERS NAME FINALISTS FOR 2008 ROYAL NAVY CHALLENGE

Thirty Teams From Across the UK to compete in 'Operation Wave Rider'

Young Engineers have named the thirty teams from schools across the UK, who will compete in the 2008 final of the Royal Navy Challenge at HMS SULTAN in Gosport, Hampshire on 13th March.

'Operation Wave Rider' will challenge teams of young engineers in two age groups, 12-15 (pre GCSE or equivalent) and 15-18 (post GCSE or equivalent) to mastermind the salvage of vital cargo after a merchant vessel capsizes and sinks in the South Atlantic. In the imaginary event, a new Royal Navy Type 45 destroyer, HMS DEFENDER receives a Mayday message whilst patrolling in the area. SS Meridian, a medium sized container ship had been delivering supplies to the Pelorous islands when she was hit by a huge wave. She capsized in the shallow bay just off Flinders, the island capital.

more...

All crew are safe but the ship has sunk and the partially submerged hull of the vessel is a hazard to shipping. Some cargo containers have broken loose and are either floating in the shallows, sitting on the seabed or, have been washed up on land. Essential supplies are packed into a number of these containers and their recovery is vital for the survival of the island's population. The Royal Navy calls in Young Engineers to assist the crew in recovering these important containers to a safe area.

An Exciting and Educational Day

The event at HMS SULTAN on 13th March promises to be an exciting and educational day for everyone taking part. Finalists will have the opportunity of a flight over Portsmouth harbour and the Solent in a Royal Navy helicopter between judging sessions, whilst many local school children will be able to see the challenge unfold and try their hands on some of the Royal Navy exhibits.

City of Portsmouth Boys' School will be the focus of local interest, although rumours that they will have a head start because of the City's naval traditions are unfounded. Lt Andrew McAllister of HMS SULTAN, one of the organizing committee said, "Every year it is amazing to see the solutions that these young engineers come up with. The judging committee is eagerly awaiting Operation Wave Rider, which should prove to be a very tough challenge and we look forward to welcoming schools from all over the UK."

Teams will each comprise of up to four members and the finalists are: Ardingly College, Young Ardinians; Bancrofts School, Aquaholics; Bancrofts School, Team Entropy; Bancrofts School, The Retriever; Bearsden Academy, Operation Angels; Bridgemyary School, Bridgemyary Bottlenose; Cardinal Newman Catholic School, Going-under; Chatham

more...

Girl's Grammar School, Sypher; City of Portsmouth Boys School, Team Skraps; Dyffryn Taf School, Team Dragon; Farr High School, HMS FHS; Farr High School, HMS STT; Farr High School, HMS Tornado II; John Hampden Grammar School, The Hampden Hammers; Keswick School, Atlantic Rescue; Keswick School, Dark Depth; Keswick School, High Ridge Jeopardy; Kingston Grammar School, HMS Salvage; Knowsley Hey School, Eyeii; Little Ilford, team name to be advised; Lochaber High School, New-clear; Lochaber High School, R2-A2; Lomond School, Team "Oh Dear"; Lomond School, Team "Oh Drat"; Loreto Grammar School, Loreto Lobsters; St Swithuns School, Deep Sea Divas; St Swithuns School, Seagals; Swanmore College of Technology, Team Brain; Thurso High School, Schottel Sharks; Thurso High School, Team Bravo.

The Royal Naval Challenge, generously supported by Seavision UK, is organised every year by Young Engineers (www.youngeng.org), a registered charity, which operates a nationwide network of over 1500 active Young Engineers Clubs with more than 20,000 members. The organisation forms a core constituent of the Royal Academy of Engineering's BEST programme.

For further information, please contact

Lt Andrew McAllister, Daedalus Block, HMS Sultan, Military Road, Gosport, Hants, PO12 3BY; Tel: 023 9254 2915; E-mail: sultan-tsgtro@nrta.mod.uk

Joanne Phillips, Young Engineers, Chiltlee Manor, Liphook, Hants, GU30 7AZ
Tel: 01428 727825; E-mail: projects@youngeng.org

-ENDS-

Notes to editors...

About Young Engineers

Participation in Young Engineers stimulates interest, appreciation and engagement in the practical application of engineering and technology by young people in primary and secondary education. It enables volunteer teachers and their supporters to provide exciting, challenging and creative activities that enrich the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) curriculum.

Central to Young Engineers' operations is its growing nationwide network of after school engineering clubs, which form a core constituent of the Royal Academy of Engineering's Best Programme. The network is funded and supported entirely by industry and professional institutions and is endorsed by Government. Patron is HRH The Duke of York, KG, KCVO, ADC.

National sponsors are Lloyd's Register Educational Trust, BAA, the Royal Navy and Airbus; other key sponsors include ARM, Arup, Cobham plc, EBV Elektronik, STMicroelectronics, National Grid, the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), Rolls-Royce, the Royal Airforce, Hasbro, BNFL, Thales, the Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation, Sea Vision UK and Rapid.

The Young Engineers website: www.youngeng.org provides a virtual community for teachers engaged in STEM education and offers them an invaluable resource, loaded with information and hands-on engineering activities designed both to inspire students' minds and develop their know-how.

An exciting programme of challenges and competitions is organized each year to create excitement and to help develop communications, literacy and numeracy skills both individually and as part of a team. This programme includes Young Engineer for Britain, the Royal Navy Challenge, the BAA Challenge, the Airbus Challenge and the K'Nex Challenge. Success in each brings rich rewards in prizes and prestige for both the school and the student, which often creates a life changing experience.