

**6<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**NATIONAL GRID AWARDS £1.2 BILLION CONTRACTS TO UPGRADE AND  
MAINTAIN GAS DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS**

National Grid has awarded contracts worth up to £1.2 billion over the next ten years to support both planned and reactive work on its four gas distribution networks. The contracts with two partner companies will include the replacement and maintenance of existing assets to ensure the continued efficient, safe and reliable operation of the networks.

National Grid Executive Director, Mark Fairbairn, said: "National Grid is committed to providing the most efficient and effective service to all of its customers, and these new partnerships in Gas Distribution will ensure we continue to work to those high standards."

Following the announcement of National Grid's preferred partners last year, work groups were set up to finalise procurement and work programming processes, develop designs and clarify targets for 2009/10.

National Grid Operations Director, Jon Butterworth said: "National Grid has adopted this collaborative way of working for Gas Operations following the success of the Gas Construction Alliances introduced in 2005."

The Gas Operations contracts will be split geographically. The East consisting of the East Midlands, East Anglia and North London gas distribution networks, and the West covering West Midlands and North West networks. The successful partners are:

East - Morrison Utility Services

West - Enterprise Managed Services Limited

The contracts were signed on 1 April.

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