

Press Release – 21st September 2012

Arlington Fleet Group Purchases Knights Rail Services

Arlington Fleet Group Limited has completed the purchase of Knights Rail Services Limited creating greater homology at Eastleigh Railway Works.

On 11th September 2012, Arlington Fleet Group completed the purchase of Knights Rail Services Limited (KRS). Both companies have been operating at the resurgent Eastleigh Works since 2006, working jointly on several rolling stock projects in recent years. The two companies have offered complimentary services for the storage, maintenance and repair of railway traction and rolling stock, as well as train stabling, servicing and warm storage. The provision of managed workshop facilities has created a large scale open access railway engineering centre at the works; something unique in the UK rail industry.

By acquiring KRS, Arlington is able to apply its engineering and operations expertise to the workshops and the rail storage facilities at Eastleigh. Arlington's short, medium and long-term plans encompass growing the activities of KRS and using the newly acquired space to expand the range of services on offer.

Bruce Knights will continue to have a presence on site with his company Knights Rail Environmental Services Limited adding train decontamination and component recovery/storage facilities in the former Van Shop building.

KRS's former Managing Director, Bruce Knights said, *“I'm pleased to have found somebody to take the business forward who is as committed to Eastleigh as I have been. Arlington is the right company to build on the good work that has been done over the past 6 years.”*. Arlington's Managing Director, Barry Stephens, added *“These are exciting times for Eastleigh Works and I am looking forward to building on the success of both companies. I feel sure that this heralds a new era for the functionality and work profile of the complex.”*.

Notes to editors:

Arlington Fleet Group provides a wide range of traction and rolling stock maintenance and repair services including consultancy and design. More can be found at www.arlington-fleet.co.uk.

Arlington Fleet Group Limited owns Arlington Fleet Services Limited, Arlington Fleet Workshops Limited and Knights Rail Services. The group holds long-term leases on the functional rail areas of Eastleigh Rail Works in conjunction with the site owner's, St Modwen.

Knights Rail Services Limited was formed in 2001 and is best known for its revival of the closed Eastleigh Works site formerly operated by Alstom. Under its auspices the works has grown to be one of the largest railway engineering centres in the UK. In 2009 the works celebrated its centenary with 19,000 visitors attending a 3-day celebration that achieved national media coverage.