Submarine skills for the future

BAE Systems’ new £25m Academy for Skills and Knowledge will support decades of skills in submarine design and building in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.

**Facility overview**

- **150m x 53m x 12m**
- **8,300m² footprint** (89,340sq ft)
- More than 2,500 employees will use the facility each month, including many of the 700 apprentices
- **Virtual reality training suite**
- **Replica submarine units and training rooms**
- **30 classrooms**
- **10 bespoke workshops**

**Facility layout**

- The areas of the facility are routinely referred to as forward, aft, port and starboard – to reflect the orientation of a submarine.
- 20 huge steel rings along the side of the building resemble the frames used to construct a submarine.
- The 150m-long building is split by its central learning street, from reception at the forward end to the canteen at the aft.
- Along the central learning street are marked ‘frame’ numbers, just as there would be if you walked the length of a submarine.

**BAE Systems investment**

- **£25m capital investment programme in the facility**
- An investment of c. £100k is made for each 42-month apprenticeship.