

# Case Study

# Fuel Facility Refurbishment & Ongoing Maintenance

## RAF Base, Brize Norton



Originally opened in 1937 as an RAF training base, Brize Norton in Oxfordshire is now the RAF's largest station with approximately 5,800 Service Personnel, 300 civilian staff and some 1,200 contractors. The RAF's Strategic and Tactical Air Transport and Air-to-Air Re-fuelling forces are based there, with a mixed fleet of aircraft that allows the station to supply rapid global mobility, supporting overseas operations and exercises.

Adler & Allan has developed a close working relationship with the Incumbent FMs currently Amey & the RAF Stake Holders over the years and is a key provider of petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL) services as well as specialist maintenance on a number of the Force's bases; Brize Norton being one of them.

A&A took on the maintenance contract at Brize Norton at the end of 2014, bringing in new technologies and a dedicated on-site team to ensure operational efficiency and enhance maintenance practices to insure the bases fuel system is safe, functional, compliant, resilient and sustainable.



### Flexible Support

Following an initial comprehensive refurbishment of the fuelling facilities, Adler & Allan won the ongoing maintenance contract, as well as a range of additional works thanks to its innovative solutions and competitive bids.

On bases such as Brize Norton, where re-fuelling systems are under constant high-demand it is important that any work undertaken to maintain and repair assets doesn't impact on the station's overall performance.

By evolving a schedule of works, where only small sections of a system are out of play at any one time, Adler & Allan has been able to complete an extensive restoration of the three under-hydrant fuelling system at the base over a period of 18 months, with minimum impact to the station's day-to-day function. Improvements to the system, such as upgrading vales so sections of the pipe can be easily isolated for pressure testing and repair, have made it easier to accommodate and streamline maintenance.

### Example Works:

- Changing all of the main fuel pumps
- Upgrading two of the three bulk fuel tanks & the Product Receipt Enclosure (PRE)
- Full re-wire of the above installations
- Repair of pipes and replacement of valves within fuelling system
- Coating ground water filled pits beneath hydrants with polyurea compound to provide a waterproof and chemical barrier

## Outcome

By working closely with staff on the base at Brize Norton, Adler & Allan has developed a long-term, trusted relationship, introducing innovative solutions to improve the care and efficiency of vital MoD equipment.

- Development of effective maintenance procedures
- Compliance with safety inspection legislation
- Improved facility to test the functionality of major assets
- Systems evolved to give minimal disruption to operations during essential maintenance
- Full-time team of four, with extra expertise pulled from elsewhere in the company, as required.

## The Future

On-going improvement works include an upgrade of the primary filtering systems that clean the fuel on its arrival at the station. The original Gemini filters are being replaced with brand new micro-filters to ensure fuel entering the storage system is cleaner than ever.