

Case Study

Royal Navy

VT Flagship delivers complex relocation and construction project for the Royal Navy



The Client

The Royal Naval Recruiting and Training Agency (NRTA) is responsible for developing training policy and recruitment of naval personnel.

It delivers training at six major Naval Training Establishments of which two, HMS Collingwood and HMS Excellent, make up the Maritime Warfare School (MWS).

The Challenge

- In a move to extend the capabilities of the Maritime Warfare School, NRTA prepared to relocate some training elements from HMS Dryad to HMS Collingwood, in a bid to provide improved facilities, aligned training and extended access to facilities on one site, instead of two
- This 'streamlining' of the training facility, named 'Project Warspite', was planned to develop HMS Collingwood and the MWS as the largest naval training organisation in Western Europe
- As prime contractor for the project, VT Flagship's challenge was to construct a world-class training facility and refurbish existing buildings, paramount to the customer was minimising the impact of the relocation and new building programme on live training during the process
- This project brief not only included the moving of over 40 equipment systems, but also the re-location of 320 people across the sites, all of which had to be undertaken within a challenging 15-month period which required detailed planning

“It was a very tall order; I didn't know if we would achieve it to time and cost but it was completed four days early. It's been internally audited and we're to cost and quality.”

**Commander Steve Sayles - Project Team Leader
Royal Navy Estates**



How VT Flagship Helped

As a leading provider of training and facilities management services to the Royal Navy, VT Flagship was uniquely placed to manage this project. VT Flagship developed a business case which minimised the impact of the programme on existing training schedules, integrating a wide range of training equipment into existing and new buildings.

The extensive scope of this project allowed VT Flagship to execute a complex change management project, enabled by the company's unique training, facilities management and construction experience. Through this combination, VT Flagship then:

- Project managed the design and build of a 2,600 sq. m. purpose built state-of-the-art training facility - Warspite building (pictured). This new facility contains the majority of the computer based training systems, a purpose built theatre with a bespoke tactical floor and the Royal Navy's new Action Speed Tactical Trainer
- Managed the relocation of over 40 highly specialised training equipment systems, ranging from computer based trainers to full ship-fitted weapon and command system simulators
- Refurbished three existing HMS Collingwood buildings to accommodate offices, class rooms and specialised training systems and equipment
- Successfully relocated over 320 people, and associated fixtures and fittings, with minimal impact upon the Navy's live training programme, which continued unabated throughout the project
- Refurbished 140 training rooms which will accommodate over 6,000 students each year
- Project managed the design and build of 400 en-suite single living accommodation cabins

The End Result

- As a result of the ongoing relationship between VT Flagship and the Royal Navy, the client was confident that all the contractors involved would deliver
- The project was completed on budget and four days ahead of schedule
- The training facilities were internally audited and were found to meet the Royal Navy specifications
- VT Flagship now provides through life maintenance and operation of the new facilities and continues to project manage major construction projects for the Royal Navy