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WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF PORT NEWS

2018 has been another exceptional year for the Port. Nine rigs have been welcomed into the Port; seven for Inspection, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) which sees a return of these projects and the associated jobs.

We had another record year for cruise visits and renewable energy vessels. As a result, we are on track to improve on last year's record-

breaking results, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our team.

And this pattern looks set to continue. We're delighted to report that Moray East Offshore Windfarm has awarded a ten million pound contract to Port of Cromarty Firth to become the intermediate port for their 95-turbine windfarm. This project will begin in 2020 and run for around 18 months.

The management team has been trying to secure this project for the Firth for the past two years and it will bring jobs, growth and investment for many years. It's the largest single contract in the Port's history and we should all be proud of this great achievement.

BUSINESS SECTOR UPDATE



CRUISE

PoCF welcomed 94 ships and 163,000 passengers in 2018, valued at £16 million in direct spend for the Highlands. 110 ships are currently booked for 2019.

The industry is continuing to expand. There are now over 110 new cruise ships on order and new brands are entering the market.



OIL AND GAS

The oil price has been increasing over the summer which is leading to an increase in drilling and exploration work in the North Sea. Rigs are returning to work and, as a

result, we are seeing more IRM projects in the Firth; both at Invergordon Service Base and Nigg Energy Park. This is further good news for the local economy.

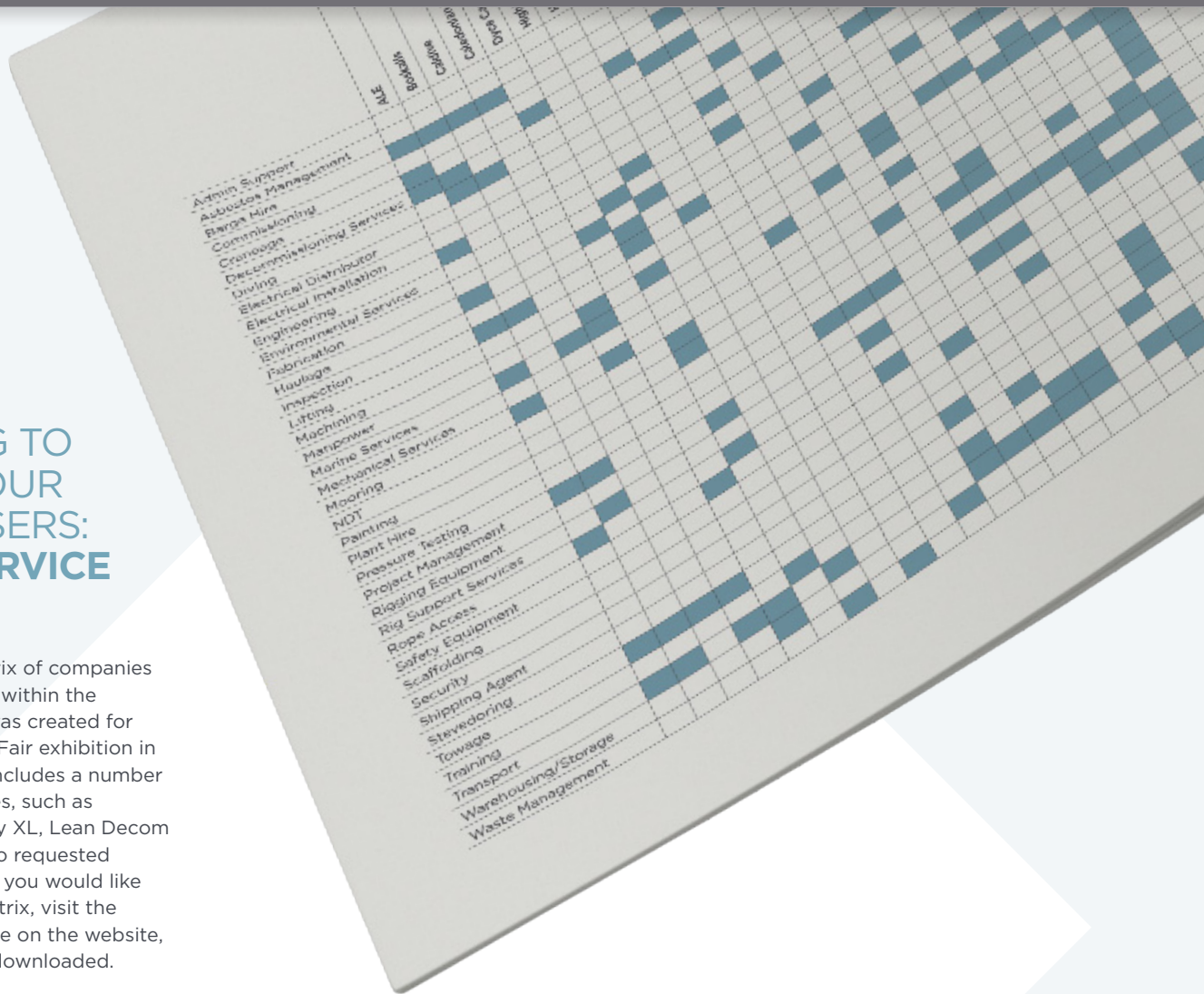
RENEWABLES

Hundreds of people are currently working at Nigg Energy Park on the tower phase of the Beatrice Offshore Windfarm. This involves regular visits of the large vessel which takes the towers out to site.

We are forecasting future work from Moray East.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PORT USERS: NEW SERVICE MATRIX

An updated matrix of companies offering services within the Cromarty Firth was created for October's Share Fair exhibition in Aberdeen. This includes a number of new companies, such as RigQuip, Integrity XL, Lean Decom and Boskalis, who requested to be included. If you would like a copy of the matrix, visit the supply chain page on the website, where it can be downloaded.



PHASE 4 DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



The Moray East Offshore Windfarm announcement means that we will definitely need more space at the Invergordon Service Base. As a result, the Board has sanctioned a £30 million development project to create a new quayside and laydown space to the west of Berth 5. Construction will begin in the New Year and the new berth will be ready for use in spring 2020. It will generate another 9 acres of laydown space and a 218m quayside (372m total when combined with Berth 5). It will be able to accommodate rigs, larger subsea vessels and the largest cruise ships currently being built. This energy and cruise hub is being part-funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise with some of their funding being provided by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Scottish Government.

SHIP TO SHIP UPDATE

Due to higher priority projects the Port will not be pursuing the re-submission of our ship to ship at anchor application.

OTHER NEWS

Thank you to everyone who took part in the annual Beach Clean. Over 200 pupils were involved this year and we were inundated with thank you messages from staff and schools.

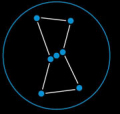
Your staff were just lovely today. They engaged so well with the children and we loved having them with us and they seemed to enjoy themselves too. Many thanks for all the support from yourselves and for the goodies!!

Best, Jane, Resolis Primary

A number of Port employees attended the Armistice Day remembrance parade in Invergordon. Graham received a very nice phone call from Ron Gomez of Invergordon Royal British Legion expressing his gratitude and thanks on behalf of the Branch for our turn out at the service.



OrionGroup



We are currently recruiting in the following fields; Maintenance Engineers, Waste Specialists, Administrative, Accounting Roles.

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Last month saw the arrival of 15 concrete caissons which will form part of the Aberdeen Harbour Expansion Project. Each weighs 7000 tonnes, which is more than an African elephant. The local primary schools have loved the story of a ship that sinks and concrete blocks that float. It's a great example of the fantastic engineering we see every day in our Port.