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Honouring Award-winning staff at Dstl

Recognising staff for their significant contributions to science and technology is considered a huge thank you from the public and Dstl is proud to announce two members of staff- Cliff Todd and Mark Elson, have been awarded an OBE and MBE respectively, for their immeasurable contributions to Defence science.

Cliff:

Based at the Forensics Explosives Laboratory (FEL) at Dstl, Sevenoaks, Cliff has lead high profile forensic explosives investigations including the 2005 London bombings, 2007 attempted London bombings, 2006 airlines terror plot and associated trials. An acknowledged international expert in his field, Cliff's contribution to the prosecutions has played a vital role in providing crucial forensic evidence.

Mark:

Developing the level of UK aircraft protection, Mark has worked tirelessly to ensure that the UK Armed Forces deployed on operations have the best countermeasures in place to defeat hostile weapon systems. A leading world expert on the performance of aircraft Infra-Red Countermeasure Systems (IRCM), Mark also chairs the NATO group responsible for testing and trialling the aircraft fitted with IRCMs. After 21 years working for Dstl, Farnborough, Mark has made an outstanding contribution to saving UK lives and continues to do so.

Julian Starkey, Dstl Farnborough, has also received a civilian honour from the Afghanistan President for his efforts in training and education of military personnel. The Minister of National Defense of Afghanistan has "expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Julian Starkey for his excellent work as a political adviser during 2007".

Based across the South of England, Dstl's 3,500 strong workforce works tirelessly to ensure that the UK Armed Forces and Government are supported by the very best science and technology. For further information, please visit www.dstl.gov.uk

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Notes to editors,

Dstl

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is a centre of scientific excellence for the Ministry of Defence (MOD). Its 3,500 strong workforce includes some of the nation's most talented and creative scientists with the brief to ensure that the UK Armed Forces and Government are supported in-house by the very best impartial scientific and technological advice. Dstl's position at the heart of the MOD means that its advice is trusted by governments, academia, industry and international partners. It offers timely and accurate advice at all levels of military planning and operations, both overseas and on the home front. For more information please visit www.dstl.gov.uk