Foreword

For over half a century, Caithness has been home to Dounreay, one of the world’s most technologically advanced nuclear energy projects. In that time, companies have been founded, grown, and matured in a range of specialties to service the needs of the site. These companies now offer their high quality, diverse skills and services to a wide range of industries all over the world.

Innovation, knowledge, and the highest levels of quality control are the distinguishing characteristics of these businesses. This directory, an Invest Caithness publication produced in collaboration with Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), showcases companies that deliver quality solutions that are both cost effective and safety conscious. I am sure you will find it a useful resource.

John Thurso MP
Business Prospects

Oil and Gas – Heritage and Potential

Caithness lies at the north east end of the British mainland – a region defined by its diverse energy resources and its long relationship with the oil and gas industries. As new frontiers in oil and gas exploration open up in the Atlantic, the modern deepwater harbours of Scrabster and Wick are vital gateways to the network of onshore and inland services essential to oil and gas. Businesses in the area are now gearing up to capitalise on opportunities presented by the supporting infrastructure for offshore development.

A Legacy of Expertise

Since the foundation of the ground-breaking nuclear power facility at Dounreay over half a century ago, and the discovery of North Sea oil, businesses in Caithness have been at the vanguard of the energy industry, gaining invaluable knowledge and technical expertise in a diverse range of activities. Decades of experience in oil and gas and nuclear power are combining to create an unparalleled skills bank with the capability to meet the demands of the new oil and gas era. Businesses basing themselves in Caithness can draw on a comprehensive skills bank, including:

- Design and development.
- Engineering research.
- Electrical, mechanical and civil engineering.
- Steel fabrication.
- Maritime logistics and port services.
- Project management and consultancy.

Communications

Decades of experience in meeting the communications and transport needs of the energy industry has made Caithness a fine example of an efficient, productive, informed and well-connected region. This is achieved by the integration of several key infrastructural strands designed to support industry, commerce and the working community.

Telecommunications

The region has the advantage of an excellent telecommunications network, facilitated by latest generation broadband and upgraded phone lines. This is augmented by reliable electrical power streams for businesses with energy-intensive needs.

Road and Rail

Good local transport services and uncongested trunk roads mean fast, stress-free travelling throughout Caithness. The trunk roads lead direct to major cities in the south – Inverness, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and beyond – and there are mainline railway stations in each key town creating fast routes to the road, rail and air links of the southern cities. A number of services offer overnight delivery to Aberdeen and the Central Belt.

Air and Sea

There are also direct daily flights to Aberdeen and Edinburgh from Wick’s modern, uncrowded airport. A network of modern harbours, car, passenger and freight ferries completes the fully comprehensive transport network for all business travel and shipping requirements.
Caithness – The Cutting Edge
Commercial Location

With a thriving industry and business culture, excellent telecommunications, IT capability and transport links, a skilled, committed workforce and superb quality of life, Caithness is the essence of a successful commercial location. Combined with its wealth of experience and new developments on the oil and gas front, it’s also an exciting place to be, with a great future in store.

Engineering Strengths
The presence of an internationally significant nuclear power plant and the reserves of North Sea oil have led to the development of a broad range of engineering and technical skills, knowledge and expertise, built up over decades.

The region offers a healthy engineering environment, mixing established companies with new enterprises at the forefront of new knowledge and techniques in oil and gas. Allied to a strong network of supporting businesses and impressive supply chain capability, the diversity of engineering skills is a lynchpin of the region’s commercial success.

A Rich Vein of Resources
Caithness offers a culture of growth and development – and in the fields of oil and gas, engineering and related commerce and industries, the knowledge acquired over several decades is being handed on to the next generation of engineers and entrepreneurs. This means that highly trained, skilled and experienced people are being joined by motivated, well-educated young people bringing fresh opportunities to the table.

Scotland is rightfully proud of its education system, and Caithness has a long history of educational and technical excellence. Here, there is a combination of embedded skills in Dounreay and modern, innovative training schemes exemplified by the multi-million pound engineering technology and energy centre at the North Highland College. This means that Caithness companies have access to some of the best training and educational facilities anywhere, and the skill and dedication of the workforce is one of the region’s greatest strengths.

A climate of learning and growth is exemplified by a raft of initiatives designed to foster progression, state of the art knowledge, output and services, and standards of excellence, such as:
- Research and development.
- Training and education.
- Workplace compliance.
- Environmental research.
- Health and safety.
- HR and employment.
- Business continuity planning.
- Project management.

This strong foundation of learning, development and the steady acquisition of knowledge and expertise is rooted in a committed and flexible workforce that underpins the flourishing commercial and industrial environment nurtured over decades in Caithness.

The result of all these factors is an area with a sharp competitive edge and a loyal, intelligent workforce, delivering tangible advantages:
- High academic standards.
- Low staff turnover.
- Committed employees.
- An environment that attracts key personnel from other areas.
- Attractive location for quality of life.
- Relatively low cost housing.
Case Studies

Two international companies, Subsea 7 and Kongsberg, give their impressions of Caithness – the unique working environment it offers, and the matchless quality of life.

Full company details are included in the listings that follow.

Subsea 7
General Manager – Willie Watt

Subsea 7 delivers the full complement of subsea engineering, construction and associated services. It’s a multinational company with 12,000 employees; 150 of them are based at the Caithness site, fabricating pipe bundles.

General Manager Willie Watt says: “The area covers all our needs for building and fabricating for oil and gas. Dounreay has been an enormous driver for creating a wide range of skills and capabilities and we’ve been able to take advantage of the great welding skills that have been here since the site was established in the 1970s.”

As for the quality of life, Willie says simply, “It’s second to none. Once you make your own life in Caithness, you don’t want or need much else.” Caithness might be in the Northern Highlands, but that’s no barrier to anything. The nearby town of Wick has an airport, IT capability is such that it’s possible to hold video conferencing with colleagues and customers all over the world, and with deepwater harbours, wide open spaces and a strong skills base, everything is on site to meet the demands of the oil and gas industry.

“it’s second to none. Once you make your own life in Caithness, you don’t want or need much else”

Kongsberg Maritime Ltd
Manufacturing Site Manager – Bill Baxter

Kongsberg is a Norwegian-owned knowledge-based international group employing over 5,000 people in 25 countries. It delivers high-technology systems and solutions for a wide range of industries, including oil and gas, and is best-known for its high quality underwater camera equipment. Caithness is a key company site, specialising in the design and manufacture of high quality products for harsh environments.

Kongsberg has been in Caithness for 36 years and Manufacturing Site Manager, Bill Baxter has been there for almost all of them. With 41 employees, it’s important that working and living conditions are right to maintain continuity of service and skills.

“Caithness offers a lot of benefits such as low operating costs and a skilled, dedicated workforce,” says Bill. “I’ve got zero churn of staff and the people are nearly all local.” The company relies on daily shipments of underwater cameras to Aberdeen, and the ability to share ideas and designs with colleagues in other offices. Thanks to the excellent transport and IT infrastructure, everything the company needs to maintain efficiency is readily available.

He also acknowledges the continuing support of Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), enabling the company to create the necessary purpose-built premises, stay abreast of developments and maintain their competitive edge.

Bill’s experience of life in Caithness is extremely positive: “The quality of life is fantastic and there is a strong community bond.”

“Caithness offers a lot of benefits such as low operating costs and a skilled, dedicated workforce”
AMC Engineering Ltd
AMC Engineering is an internationally recognised manufacturer of Torque Solutions for the oil and gas industry. As well as its base in Aberdeen, AMC has workshops in Lybster, east Caithness. In summer 2011, Highlands and Islands Enterprise confirmed a grant to support a new workshop at Lybster to capitalise on the skill and commitment of the local workforce. Expansion of the facilities for manufacture of the high-precision torque equipment will support AMC’s sales and service base in Houston, Texas, and is a fitting illustration of the skill of the local workforce to deal with such specialised engineering.

Services Provided
- **Installation, inspection, overhaul and calibration** – services supplied for both AMC and non-AMC Torque equipment accommodating tubular up to 48” and torques up to 250,000 ft lbs.
- **Torque Control Systems** – started in-house design and manufacture of control systems in 2007, fitting these to every torque unit requiring data acquisition, and also to non-AMC units.
- **System support** – worldwide support from field engineers to deliver all aspects of torque equipment support including servicing, repair, modification and training.
- **Design and build of bespoke products** – product and market specific services to the highest standards of health and safety.

Key Capability Features
- Makes the world’s largest torque units.
- Ten year growth plan with purpose built facilities in Findon and Lybster including fabrication and assembly workshops, and coating and control systems departments.
- 3,000 square metres of workshop and 12,000 square metres of yard.
- Wide range of products including high torque stroking (bucking) units, fully rotational torque units, open top high torque stroking (breakout) units, portable torque units, small OD rig floors, control systems, containensed workshops, jar testers, radiation containers, vices, tubular handling, waste management, and hydraulic supply.

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Caithness Renewables Ltd

Caithness Renewables Ltd, established in 2010 by Louise Smith, provides consultancy services focused on expertise in the built environment and finding solutions to challenging problems. Based in Thurso, Caithness Renewables is a dedicated consultancy business focused on supporting the establishment and continued growth of the energy industry, particularly in Scotland. Already supporting a range of projects from supply chain and skills initiatives to renewable energy project development and community engagement, Caithness Renewables is committed to delivering timely solutions for utilities, agencies, project developers and their supply chain.

Services Provided

- A comprehensive range of specialist consultancy services – project development support including technical, environmental and stakeholder document production.
- Identifying issues and finding solutions – extensive project experience finding answers across the full range of project disciplines.
- Offshore energy interests – seeking to connect developers with the facilities and experienced supply chain of the North Highlands, particularly for renewable energy in the Pentland Firth and Moray Firth regions.
- Helping supply chain companies to target opportunities in the renewables industry – assisting energy businesses to expand their portfolios.
- Stakeholder engagement – adept at communicating technical subjects to stakeholders including via public exhibitions, leaflets and websites.
- Sustainable solutions – experience in energy efficiency and energy advice for businesses, and microrenewables.
- Planning and consenting – familiar with the planning process, licensing and grid connection applications.

Key Capability Features

- Experienced in renewables projects through work in the public, private and third sectors.
- Very knowledgeable in offshore energy, notably offshore wind, wave and tidal, including planning, policy and regulation.
- Able to bring a range of skills to fill gaps in project teams.
- Making full use of the synergies between renewables, oil and gas and mainstream engineering disciplines.
- Experienced in delivering major infrastructure projects.

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Calder Engineering Ltd

Calder Engineering Ltd has a proven track record of experience spanning over 23 years in providing fabrication solutions incorporating machining, welding, on-site installation, commissioning, testing and project management. Company knowledge, flexibility and resolve to adapt to customers’ requirements result in projects being completed on time and within budget.

One business development has been the formation of Calder Offshore Cabins, designing and manufacturing steel and stainless steel cabins to DNV 2.7-1 offshore standard. Cabins are fitted out to each customer’s individual requirement for onshore and offshore industries, and are already sold to the oil and gas, and offshore wind markets.

Services Provided

- Fabrication services – technically intricate, high quality fabrications resulting from a fully managed process of design, machining and coded welding. All carried out to ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 14001 integrated management system.
- Full life cycle considered – Calder Engineering’s skilled team carries drive and motivation to deliver end to end project management including the installation, testing, commissioning and maintenance of process plant equipment including ventilation and HVAC systems.
- Custom built cabins – remote and offshore renewable energy production and oil and gas exploration are particularly relevant markets for the Calder Offshore DNV certified cabins, safely housing precious equipment and staff, and built to each customer’s precise specification. These cabins meet every feasible challenge, both onshore and offshore.
- Adaptable to any environment – with experience onshore, offshore and subsea, Calder is able to take on unique projects with demanding briefs and timescales.

Key Capability Features

- Fabrication in steel, stainless steel and aluminium.
- Well equipped modern workshops supplemented by on-site welding and repair services.
- Various machining capabilities.
- DNV certified cabins designed and manufactured to DNV 2.7-1 and EN 12079 standards.
- Accredited to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001.

Key Facility Specification

- Steel fabrication workshop 500 m² with 6 m x 6 m access door
- Stainless steel workshop 225 m²
- 15 T, 4 T and 3 T overhead cranes
- Guillotine cutting capacity 3 m long x 12 mm thick
- CNC bending 175 T by 3.6 m
- Section, plate and ring rolling
- Large secure yard
- Additional secure yard space as well as industrial buildings for rent/hire and further industrial plot that can be adapted to meet specific customer needs. All within Ormlie Industrial Estate, Thurso.

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Contec Design Services Ltd

Contec Design Services is a vibrant engineering design company. The company is experienced in working within the nuclear, oil and gas, marine energy, biomass energy, public healthcare and agriculture sectors. The company has a track record for delivering comprehensive design solutions to complex electrical, control and instrumentation engineering problems.

Services Provided
- **Electrical Design** – fully supported by AMTECH and AutoCAD.
  - Building Services – including Fire Alarms and Security Systems.
  - Electrical Distribution Systems – LV and HV.
  - Fault Level and Protection Studies.
  - Lighting Protection Systems.
  - Network Analysis.
  - Risk, Analysis and Reliability Engineering.
  - Small Power and Lighting – supported with RELUX lighting software.
  - Standby Generation and UPS Systems.
- **Control & Instrumentation Design** – fully supported by AutoCAD.
  - C & I System Design: Circuit Diagrams; Panel General Arrangements; Detailed Schedules.
  - Data and Voice Systems.
  - Industrial Safety Systems.
  - Plant/Process Control Panels.
  - Site Services Interface Design.
  - Ventilation Control Systems.
- **Control System Manufacture** – capability to build and test control panels to the very latest standards, from purpose built facility.
- **Testing and Commissioning** – E, C & I testing and commissioning on systems either designed and built by Contec Design’s in-house experts, or on other systems on behalf of the client.

Key Capability Features
- Electrical and C & I engineering competencies to Chartership level held in-house.
- Sectorial experience of nuclear; oil and gas; renewable; public and private.
- Purpose built control panel build and test facility.
- Modern, centrally located offices equipped with the latest engineering design IT infrastructure.
- Working to ISO 9001 (accreditation pending).

CT Projects Ltd

Established in 1997, CT Projects offer experienced and professional computer aided design services to help you meet your targets. They offer an extensive range of CAD services including 3D Modelling, 2D design and drafting, scanning, drawing transfer to CAD and AutoCAD customisation.

Services Provided
- **3D Design and Modelling** – Using our “in-house” CAD systems that include ProEngineer, Autodesk Inventor and Alibre for solid modelling or Alias and 3DMax for surface and mesh modelling.
- **2D Design and Detailing** – 2D detail manufacturing drawing is still the prime way of instructing the manufacturer and quality controller of the designer's specifications. CT Projects are familiar with BS, ISO, DIN, ANSI standards to name a few and have also helped clients to develop their own CAD standards.
- **CAD/CAM and Prototyping** – Through our close association with a local machine shop we are able to take the 3D designs and make prototypes and short runs using CAM and CNC machines. We are also able to employ reverse engineering techniques to replicate components that may not be otherwise easily available.
- **Paper to CAD Conversions** – CT Projects offer an accurate and competitive service, the method of transfer used depending on the drawing accuracy required. For best accuracy, we would normally adopt manual vectorising techniques, using a scanned image as a template and entering geometry to actual values of dimensions on the drawing. Alternatively, if dimensional accuracy is not important, we offer an automatic vectorising service.
- **3D Models from 2D Drawings** – CT Projects offer a 2D to 3D conversion service. This can either be from a paper drawing or from an existing 2D CAD file. The service is primarily aimed at AutoCAD, ProEngineer or Inventor users, although STEP or IGES files can be provided for other systems. The models will be fully parametric when constructed in ProEngineer or Inventor. Alternatively, AutoCAD solids or AutoSolids can be provided.
- **3D conversions from AutoCAD drawings** – Similar to the 3D models from 2D drawings service, it differs in that the data is taken from a supplied AutoCAD drawing. Using the tools provided in ProEngineer or Inventor a fully parametric model is constructed from the drawing file and then an associated drawing is produced from the model.
- **Importing 3D from other CAD systems** – 3D part files can be read into ProEngineer or Inventor in the following formats: IGES (surfaces stitched for solids), STEP, IDF, SAT (ACIS), Parasolid.
- **Exporting 3D data from ProEngineer and Inventor** – 3D Data can be exported from ProEngineer or Inventor as IGES, STEP or SAT files. The 2D drawing files can be exported as native Autocad (for those using Autocad or Autocad LT, DXF or IGES files).

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E&M Engineering Services

E&M Engineering Services has a 35 year history of providing its unique marine engineering services in the North of Scotland. This core business has developed into one that can deliver steelwork solutions across sectors. E&M Engineering stocks a comprehensive supply of hydraulic hoses, fittings and components, complementing the large range of spares (including nuts, bolts, fasteners, bearings, filters) kept in stock to service the full range of maintenance, breakdown and repairs, 24/7, machining specific pieces where required. Sister Company E&M Hydraulics Services Ltd is a Hydraulic Power and Filtration Unit rental specialist to the oil and gas sector.

Services Provided

- **Quality Engineering** – precision metalwork in mild steel, stainless steel and aluminium, milled, rolled, turned, drilled and welded by experienced fitters. All types of fabrication to suit light engineering applications across sectors.
- **Dockside facilities** – conveniently located in the port of Scrabster, E&M's well-equipped workshop can deal with every job from working on engines, gearboxes, motors, winches, pumps and compressors, to pressure and injector testing, and servicing.
- **Quick, reliable service and repair** – ideally suited to marine vessels with all types of diesel engine and deck machinery.
- **Working in partnership with Hydrasun** – stocking a wide range of Hydrasun supplied products with easy access to their full range – hydraulic industrial, PVC, metallic hoses and fittings; stainless steel, carbon, copper and nylon tubing.
- **Comprehensive chandlery and stores** – when time matters, E&M stock all types of spares, parts, consumables and useful marine items.

Key Capability Features

- Well-placed facilities at the port of Scrabster, Caithness, incorporating workshop and stores.
- A growing machining capability suited to all marine applications including fishing, oil and gas, and renewables.
- Maintenance, servicing and repair.
- Steelwork and metalwork using experienced welders and fitters.
- 24/7 service to suit marine demands.
- CHAS accreditation.

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EnergyHunt Ltd

Established in 2004, this dynamic business has developed an unrivalled reputation as the one to go to if you require renewable energy support and services. Highly qualified and experienced in various renewable energy technologies, EnergyHunt has a client portfolio that includes ScottishPower Renewables; Scottish & Southern Energy Renewables; RES; Hammerfest Strom; OpenHydro and MeyGen.

Services Provided

- **Client Representation** – provision of skilled and experienced personnel to act for the client’s interest ‘in-the-field’.
- **Engineering**
  - Project Management – professional site management of operations and personnel including CDM roles.
  - Site Audit and Inspection – tailor-made service incorporating due diligence for generation asset evaluation, contract review, technical review and financing.
  - Engineering Design – with their knowledge and experience in the renewables sector, the team at EnergyHunt will support the optioneering of your development plans.
- **Marine**
  - Vessel Supply – available for hire is the MV Sealg Brigh, a MCA Cat3 coded work boat capable of sailing 24 hours and 20 miles from a safe port. Able to carry 6 persons.
  - Logistical Support – provision of skilled personnel, equipment, tools, storage, vessels, and deployment services accessible for the main ports in Caithness.
  - Resource and Survey – we cover: Meteorological Mast Infrastructure and Equipment; Anemometry Equipment; LiDAR Systems; Waverider Buoy; ADCP Deployment; Ultrasound; Tidal Gauges; Bathymetry and OLEX Surveys; Ornithological Studies ROV and Drop Down Camera surveys; and Fishing Surveys.

Key Capability Features

- Suitably qualified and experienced team working to the highest standards in Health and Safety practice.
- Workshop of 162 m² and external secure lay-down storage.
- MCA Cat3 Coded Workboat.
- Specialist Testing, Surveying and GPS equipment.
- Latest Specialised IT Hardware/Software.

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Gow’s Lybster Ltd

With a history in Caithness stemming back to 1987, Gow’s Lybster is a local engineering and fabrication firm supplying niche products and services to the energy and infrastructure sectors. State of the art equipment and a skilled workforce support the company’s growing reputation as a specialist in complex structural steelwork.

Services Provided

• Engineering and fabrication services – the full range of fabrication services incorporating engineering, design and installation as well as the fabrication of complex bespoke items, notably for the energy sector.
• Experienced welders – skilled and fully coded welders working with stainless and carbon steels, and exotic metals.
• Transferable skills – the ability to translate client needs into engineered products, using skills built up in the more traditional Caithness markets such as nuclear/nuclear decommissioning, transferring them into growth segments of the business – oil and gas, and renewables.
• Structural steelwork – quality steelwork fabrication carried out to a comprehensive suite of standards and health and safety procedures for the workshop and onsite installations.

Key Capability Features

• Facilities on the east coast of Caithness incorporating 140 m² of offices, 820 m² of workshop and 2,100 m² of yard space.
• Workshop equipped with modern equipment including brake press, guillotines, stud welders, lathes and welding equipment.
• A workforce with recent experience in supporting renewable energy projects including marine energy work at EMEC, Orkney, and oil and gas projects including the shore based exploration by Caithness Oil, Lybster, and support work at the Subsea 7 pipeline fabrication facility at Wester, north of Wick.
• Accredited to ISO 9001 and ISO14001.

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Hugh Simpson Contractors Ltd

Incorporating Sandisons Shipping, a Lloyd’s sub-agent, Hugh Simpson Contractors Ltd has 50 years experience in customer services. A leading logistics specialist operating in the North Highlands, and a provider of specialist lifting equipment. Trading within various sectors including: Construction; Oil and Gas; Nuclear; Renewables; and Fishery.

Services Provided

• Crane Hire – cranes ranging from 35 ton to 350 ton, plus a 2.8 ton mini crawler crane.
• Contract Lifting – full service including heavy and extra long loads.
• Forklifting – 10 forklifts including industrial and telescopic ranging from 2 ton to 12 ton.
• Access equipment – 20 platforms/cherry-pickers with a height reach ranging from 2 m to 40 m.
• Logistics – for cargo landed at Wick and Scrabster. An agent for vessels of any nationality. Custom clearance services – contact us 24 hours per day.
• Stevedoring Service.
• Specialist Haulage.
• Storage – long and short term, including 3 acres of hardstanding.
• Rail Head Depot/Storage – located at Georgemas.

Products Provided

• Ice Production and Supply.

Key Capability Features

• Multi-disciplined team of staff experienced at delivering a comprehensive customer service.
• Quick response.
• Extended hours of operation.
• Multimodal operator.
• ISO 9001 and 14001 (accreditation pending).

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JGC Engineering and Technical Services Ltd

Established in 1972, JGC is one of the UK’s leading engineering companies, with the proven technical expertise to respond to the complex challenges of planning, designing, manufacturing and implementing major engineering project solutions.

Services Provided

- **Design** – mechanical and electrical services, from concept to scheme and detailed processes.
- **Fabrication** – extensive portfolio of weld procedures, covering a wide range of steels and alloys. Bespoke procedures developed on request.
- **Machining** – simple and complex components, plus assemblies for prototypes.
- **Painting, Blasting, Coating and Surface Protection** – meets the specifications of the Nuclear, Oil and Gas, Sub-sea and industrial sectors, plus bead blasting for stainless steel and high alloy materials.
- **Rigging and lifting** – bespoke services; specialist in LOLER requirements for assessment, planning and supervision.
- **Scaffolding** – from design and fabrication to erection and dismantling.

Key Capability Features

- Complete engineering service from inception to completion.
- Extensive experience in nuclear, oil and gas, sub-sea, utilities, renewable energy and general industrial sectors.
- Skilled coded welders working to stringent NDT criteria.
- Fabrication facilities across two sites.
- Industry leading trials, testing and training facility.
- Accredited to ISO 9001-FM32450 OHSAS 18001 OHS523224 ISO 14001-EMS534320.

Key Facility Specification

- **Harpendale – Main Production/Machining Site**
  - Machine shop 330 m².
  - Dedicated stainless steel workshop 380 m².
  - Sandblasting and painting shop 600 m².
  - Secure yard area 1,800 m².
  - Bonded stores 350 m².
  - Off-site storage facilities 380 m².
  - General fabrication shop 2,350 m² (segregated into 1,450 m² and 790 m² workshops).
- **Janetstown – Specialist Manufacturing/Assembly Facility**
  - Manufacturing and assembly area 450 m².
  - Facility secure storage area 240 m².
  - Facility secure compound and hard standing 350 m².
- **Janetstown – Trials, Test and Training Facility**
  - Fabrication, manufacture, assembly and test facility 1,320 m².
  - Height to underside of crane hook 18 m.
  - Crane capacities 1 x 40 T e and 1 x 2 T e.
  - Off-site storage and hard standing 2,000 m².
  - Services pit dimensions 10 m deep x 8 m x 7 m.
  - Multi-media lecture theatre.
  - Classrooms/meeting rooms.
  - Industrial training classrooms.

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Kongsberg Maritime Ltd

This organisation has been trading in Caithness since 1975. The Wick design and manufacturing facility specialises in video and sonar products. Their high specification products are used in the renewable energy, offshore oil and gas, military and scientific sectors to support activities like offshore pipeline inspection and drilling, environmental monitoring, marine research, nuclear decommissioning and Naval CCTV monitoring.

Products

- **Analogue and Digital Cameras**.
- **Lamps** – to suit camera applications.
- **Acoustic Transponders**.
- **Surface Control Units**.
- **Telemetry Control Systems** – for use with ROVs, etc.
- **Custom made set-ups**.

Services Provided

- **Design and Development**
  - Electronic, Mechanical and Optical design.
  - AutoCAD Inventor 3D solid modelling with Finite Element Analysis.
  - Pressure housing calculations.
  - Printed circuit board design using CADSTAR software.
- **Engineering Support**
  - Service and repair.

Key Capability Features

- Precision machining using the latest technology in CNC machinery linked directly to design capability via CADCAM software.
- Custom lens build capacity.
- Testing facilities – acoustic; vibration; engineering; and pressure.
- On-site anodising, alchromating and bead blasting.
- Lens/optical polishing.
- Purpose built 20,000 ft² modern plant with room for expansion.
- Modern office space and mainframe IT systems.
- Fully equipped in-house design office and team.
- Accredited to ISO 9001, and working towards accreditation to ISO 14001.

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Mackay Underwater Technology Ltd

Established in 2007, Mackay Underwater Technology is a good example of a business established to fill a gap in the market. Knowledgeable in underwater and diving technologies, Hugh Mackay can offer guidance and support to a variety of businesses, particularly keen to support offshore energy companies working across the region.

Services Provided
- Marine training services – RYA short range VHF certificate, RYA sea survival.
- Specialist underwater technology training – underwater instrumentation, introduction to ROV operations, search technology, diving with ROVs, underwater equipment skills.
- Industrial short training courses – a range of industrial, and health and safety training linked to a specialist offshore energy programme.
- Supplier of underwater equipment products – compasses, regulator hoses and mouthpieces, Kevlar gloves, drysuit valves, weight retainers, octopus holders, shackles, spring clips, scuba tools, pressure gauges, waterproof enclosures for car keys, GPS, phones, radios, waterproof boxes.
- Marine electronics sales, servicing and installation – good prices for top brands, VHF radio, GPS, echosounders, fishfinders, chartplotters. Regulator servicing.
- Underwater investigations – shallow water survey (debris and structural), ROV video inspection, search and recovery, hydrographic survey engineering services.

Key Capability Features
- Combining industrial training with water sports and underwater investigations.
- Supported by workshop facilities.

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Mowat Technical & Design Services Ltd

Established in Caithness in 1997, Mowat Technical & Design Services (MTDS) responds to the market need for professional design services for unique problems. The original service was subsequently expanded to include surveying, fabrication/manufacturing, installation and commissioning. End-to-end services focus on electrical and mechanical projects as well as other niche areas of the market.

Services Provided
- Surveying and setting out – precision electronic dimensional and topographic surveys in the onshore and offshore environments.
- 2D and 3D design services – capturing clients’ design concepts and turning them into fully supported design details. Utilising fully qualified engineers working to the latest standards, producing fully detailed fabrication drawings, calculations, stress analysis, 3D parametric modelling and virtual prototyping, supported by project management design verification/justification, consultancy and technical writing.
- All sizes of fabrication and manufacture
  - Modern workshop facilities with designated areas for ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Latest fabrication equipment and coded welders.
  - Control panel manufacture installation commissioning.
  - Industrial electrical installation and commissioning.
- Comprehensive installation services – always working to safe systems of work with the relevant supporting documentation such as risk assessments, method statements and lifting plans. Work carried across sectors.
- Dedicated commissioning and testing team – working to rigorous procedures and standards to service a wide range of client needs.
- A unique, patented vertical axis run of river/tidal device – as well as having this unique device which capitalises upon previously unviable estuaries and rivers, MTDS is involved in a variety of ways in the renewables sector.

Key Capability Features
- Modern workshop facilities in Caithness, equipped with up to date equipment.
- An experienced workforce with recent commissions supporting renewable energy projects, nuclear sites, oil and gas, industrial applications, process engineering and the power sector.
- Accredited to ISO 9001.
- Personnel with off shore experience.
- Existing oil and gas clients.
- FPAL member
- Select member.

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Nuclear Decommissioning Services Ltd (NDSL)

Established in 2001, Nuclear Decommissioning Services Ltd (NDSL) now has over 80 staff specialising in the planning, design and implementation of decommissioning projects, originally focussed at Dounreay but now active across Europe.

Services Provided

- Decommissioning Design, Planning and Implementation – comprehensive provision of services for the decommissioning process, including consultancy as well as hands-on work.
- Alkali Metal Disposal – re-packaging waste for transport/disposal, crafting suitable methodologies and preparing relevant safety and environmental documentation.
- Trained Staff – the supply of skilled experienced operatives to support decommissioning projects. Teams have experience of working in all levels of radioactive environments.
- Ventilation Design – scheme and detailed design of ventilation systems for nuclear and other applications. Added value from the installation and commissioning, and hence the full life cycle, being carried out by our experienced teams.
- Remote Operations – the design and supply of suitable survey ROVs.
- Consultancy Services – electrical, mechanical, civil, structural, control and instrumentation design services using experienced engineers and technical authors.

Key Capability Features

- Experienced in fields demanding high standards of safety and environmental systems within the nuclear and nuclear decommissioning sectors.
- Seeking to diversify into sectors requiring similar skills and standards – e.g. oil and gas, and renewable energy.
- Versatile and skilled workers, covering the full range of technical specialisms.
- Accredited to ISO 9001.

Key Facility Specification

Dunbeath House, Forss – Head Office and workshops

- Modern offices with space for ten hot desks.
- Workshop facility.
- Glovebox.
- This leased facility is complemented by other leased offices in Dornoch and at Sellafield.

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Numax Energy Services

Numax Energy Services, part of the Numax Group, has extensive experience in oil and gas, petrochemicals, refinery, renewable energy and LNG markets. The manufacturing and engineering base at Bower in Caithness has serviced the nuclear facility at Dounreay for over 25 years. The company delivers front end engineering; mechanical and electrical engineering; project management; installation; site engineering; resource management; sub-contract management and commissioning plant engineering and maintenance.

Services Provided

- Fabrication – From structural steel buildings to complex subsea structures. Separate workshops accommodate stainless and carbon steel fabrication, using welders skilled in several processes including: GTAW; SAW; GSFCW; GMAW; PGMAW and SST/GMAW, working with materials including: carbon steel; stainless steel/duplex; titanium; aluminium; copper/brass/bronze and plastics.
- Specialist Machining – From small bespoke components to large multiple orders, we manufacture precision parts in ferrous, non-ferrous, exotic materials and plastic. Cutting edge equipment provides extensive services including milling; turning; grinding; boring and screw, gear and tool cutting.
- Marine Facilities – On-shore and off-shore Inspection, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) supporting international clients in oil and gas fields.
- Oil and Gas – Active in the North Sea off-shore oil and gas industry for many years, the company is experienced in conceptual design; front-end engineering; detailed fabrication and final construction.
- Engineering – Design, fabrication and maintenance support, heat exchangers, instrumentation, pumps and valves, repairing and testing. Project documentation; compliance with hazardous area classification requirements; QC, QA and HSE standards.

Independent Accreditations

- Quality management systems DNV; UKAS; ISO 9001; FPAL; UDVB; JQS; Achilles; The Pipeline Industries Guild.

Caithness based capability features

- Purpose built engineering facility 30 m x 60 m x 16 m high.
- Full fabrication preparation area (rolling etc).
- Surface preparation.
- Coating and painting.
- Heavy lift capability 2 x 20 T overhead cranes.
- State of the art engineering office accommodation (3 floors spanning 60 m).
- Client containment/storage areas.
- Additional stand alone stainless fabrication facility.
- Additional stand alone exotic fabrication facility.
- Additional stand alone precision machining workshop.
- Located in acres of open access land securely protected with adequate and safe turning for the largest client transport requirements, lay down and storage requirements.

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Nuvia Limited

Nuvia Limited, part of the Nuvia Group, is one of the UK’s leading suppliers of engineering and project management services, predominantly for the nuclear industry. The Nuvia Group is part of Soletanche Freyssinet, a wholly owned subsidiary of VINCI. A nuclear background offers advantages when servicing the current requirements of the oil and gas industry, particularly in the areas of decommissioning and waste management.

Areas of Expertise

- **Decommissioning**
  - Operatives experienced in size-reduction, using a variety of techniques and decontamination processes.
  - Qualified riggers capable of writing lift plans and supervising heavy and complex operations.
  - Skills and experience relevant to oil and gas for decommissioning.
- **Technical Services**
  - These include monitoring for and advising on the NORM contamination associated with certain off-shore drilling operations and decommissioning of redundant fields and rigs.
- **Health Physics**
  - World-class provider of complete radiation safety services, from high level protection advice and training to grass-roots monitoring.
  - Delivers a wide range of safety services to an established client base in private business, large government organisations and North Sea oil and gas operators.
  - Full Radiation Protection Advice (RPA) Supervision (RPS) and health physics monitoring for NORM contamination service both on and offshore; 24 hours, 365 days emergency service.
  - Experienced radiological protection personnel deliver services to strict HSE requirements, license conditions and safe systems of work.
  - Radiation safety training department provides interactive training, meeting all legislative requirements. Nuvia’s health physics and radiation protection training courses meet all industry sector requirements.
- **Engineering & Consulting**
  - Design office in Thurso offers mechanical, electrical, instrumentation and architectural design engineers with the latest CAD software and 3D modelling capabilities.
  - Skilled authors of technical documents (method statements, risk assessments, lift plans etc); physical modification; setting to work and commissioning of plant and equipment.
  - Consultants in engineering, decommissioning, environment, waste management and process chemistry.

Scrabster Harbour Trust

Founded in 1841, Scrabster Harbour Trust (SHT) is building upon a history of servicing the fishing industry, oil and gas, maritime traffic and the lifeline ferry service to Orkney. More recent business has been based upon cruise vessels, cargo services to the Faroe Islands, international ferries and the renewable energy industry, supporting marine energy developers at the European Marine Energy Centre in Orkney.

SHT commenced works in summer of 2011 to deliver a major redevelopment of the port, aimed at servicing the oil and gas opportunities West of Shetland in addition to renewable energy developments such as those in the Pentland Firth. Scrabster’s location as the most northerly mainland port makes it the sensible option for servicing these industries by enabling vessel steaming time to be minimised.

Services Provided

- **Delivering operating cost reduction to the oil industry** – Greatly reduced passage times, compared to east coast ports, for vessels servicing and supplying the West of Shetland oil fields.
- **Quality facilities and local services** – A full range of services is available to support visiting vessels with local companies providing functions such as repair and maintenance, fabrication, highly skilled engineering services, re-fuelling, heavy lifting, stevedoring, plant hire and security all available.
- **Cargo handling** – Unrestricted access to the deep water Queen Elizabeth basin is available with 24/7 support services – craneage, transportation, warehousing and storage facilities.

Key Facility/Capability Features

- **Current:**
  - The most northerly port on the British mainland, reducing vessel steaming time to the North and West of Shetland oil fields.
  - Queen Elizabeth quay with 340 m of berthing, a depth of 8.0 m at chart datum and high speed fresh water delivery (100 t per hour).
  - A wide range of engineering and fabrication services available locally.
  - Good road connections to the Scottish central belt via the A9 trunk road.
  - Regular flight connections from Wick, enabling crew changes to be easily undertaken. Also rail links from Thurso.
- **Under development:**
  - Phase 1 harbour redevelopment scheduled to complete in 2012, including the creation of additional 200 m of berthing space, dredged to 7.5 m at chart datum enabling full tidal access and sheltered berthing, a heavy lift pad capable of accommodating 1,000 t loads.
  - Phase 1 will also create 11,000 sqm of quayside lay-down area.
  - High speed fuel and water deliveries (100 t per hour) shall also be included in Phase 1.
  - SHT has acquired 32 acres of land in close proximity to the harbour and intends to establish an industrial park on this site to support port operations.

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Simpson Oils Ltd

Suppliers of fuels and lubricants to industrial, domestic and marine clients. Delivered from their depots in Wick, Scrabster and Invergordon.

Products Provided
- **Fuels**
  - Marine.
  - Industrial and Agricultural.
  - Domestic.
- **Lubricating Oils**
  - Marine.
  - Industrial and Agricultural.
  - Domestic.

Services Provided
- **Delivery** – fleet of road tankers deliver to commercial, domestic and marine customers throughout the North Highlands of Scotland.
- **Order Size**
  - Bulk orders.
  - Top-up.

Key Capability Features
- Port Bunkers in Wick; Scrabster; Invergordon; Ullapool; and Orkney.
- Experienced team of staff delivering a comprehensive customer service.
- Extended hours of operation.
- ISO 9001 and 14001 (accreditation pending).

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Subsea 7

Established in 1978, Subsea 7’s Pipeline Bundle Fabrication Site is located 6 miles north of the town of Wick, Caithness in the far North of Scotland. This unique site runs 7.8 km inland, covers a total area in excess of 300,000 m² and has a sheltered bay in which to launch the Pipeline Bundles.

Products
- **Pipeline Bundle Fabrication** – The Pipeline Bundle product integrates the required flow lines, water injection, gas lift and control systems necessary for any subsea development and assembles them within a steel carrier pipe. At each end of the pipeline, the structures, manifolds, incorporating equipment and valves, designed specifically to the requirements of the field, are attached. The fully tested system is then launched and transported to the location using the Controlled Depth Tow Method. Once installed no trenching or rock dumping is required.

Key Capability Features
- Geographically situated to service West of Shetland fields, North and Norwegian Seas.
- Site length – 7,800 metres.
- Site area – over 300,000 m².
- Longest pipeline bundle length – 7.7 km.
- Heaviest structure/manifold assembly – approx, 600 Te.
- Site/track bearing capacity – 25 Te/m.
- Three fabrication shops plus modern office/maintenance/storage facilities.
- Four construction tracks.
- Site fully equipped with vehicles/plant/heavy lift pipe layer side booms, limited equipment is hired in as required.
- 240 m launch way – installed to assist completed bundles from land to sea.

Key Facility Specification
- 50,000 m of pipe storage areas. The main line pipe storage area is serviced by two 10 t Goliath Cranes. There are also a number of dedicated areas for the storage of project materials and consumables, including the main store and dedicated satellite stores where smaller items are contained.
- Fabrication Shop No. 1: 133 m x 15 m with dedicated overhead crane.
- Fabrication Shop No. 2: 120 m x 15 m including a dedicated overhead crane serviced with 5 firing lines which can be used simultaneously.
- Fabrication Shop No. 3: 90 m x 10 m.
- 4 separate railway tracks, which total 27,200 metres, on which dedicated bogies run. These are used for the movement of pipes and pipeline bundles.

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**URS Scott Wilson**

Now part of the URS Corporation, and with more than 6,500 employees and 80 offices worldwide, URS Scott Wilson is a global design and engineering consultancy, benefitting from an office in Caithness since 2004. Project development work across the full project lifecycle can be carried out locally, supported by the huge wealth of experience present across the organisation.

**Services Provided**

- **Consultancy services** – a wide range of consultancy services can be provided to support nuclear and nuclear decommissioning, transport and renewable energy projects.

- **Multi-disciplinary skills** – a fully rounded package of project development skills including project management, design and environmental engineering, and scientific services.

- **Caithness design office capability** – Caithness is well-located for many emerging sector opportunities including offshore wind, marine energy, biomass and grid transmission/offshore grids. The Thurso office is a facility which could be used to house a dedicated design team, supporting these new industries, benefiting from secure internet access, IT capacity and fully functional office space.

- **Comprehensive provision of services across the project lifecycle** – designing future proofed sustainable solutions from early investigations and option studies, through construction certification to decommissioning.

**Key Capability Features**

- Tier 1 Project Management and full spectrum project services for engineering projects.

- A global leader in the provision of consultancy services applicable to the built and natural environments.

- Skilled in most tasks directly linked to new renewables such as environmental engineering and due diligence.

- Accredited to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 18001.

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**Wick Harbour Authority**

Wick Harbour is strategically located on the east coast of Caithness, providing a safe haven for fishing, commercial and leisure vessels for the last 150 years. The harbour has seen recent significant investment, establishing a new 70 berth marina. Wick Harbour Authority (WHA) is also looking at the energy sector, particularly offshore wind, being located in close proximity to the Moray Firth sites.

**Services Provided**

- **Good access to local services of all types** – including highly skilled engineering, hydraulics, fabrication, electronics, and boatbuilding personnel and facilities.

- **Quayside facilities** – floodlit quays, large on- and off-quay open storage, bunkering by tanker from on-site tank farm, water on all quays, heavy lift quay and weighbridge facility, HGV transport, craneage, plant and skip hire, waste disposal facilities.

- **Supportive community** – a board made up of local businessmen, backed by the local community and its diverse businesses.

**Key Facility/Capability Features**

- Three basins – Inner, Outer, and River Harbour. Inner and Outer Harbour accessible 24 hours for smaller vessels.

- New 70 berth serviced marina in Inner Harbour.

- Pontoon landing/walkway for cruise ship tenders.

- Total quayside length – 1,366 m.

- Commercial quay – maximum vessel length – 85 m (longer vessels possible with restrictions), 4.5 m draft.

- 15 miles to the planned Beatrice and MORL wind farms.

- 16 miles to Jacky field, 20 miles to Beatrice Bravo.

- Minutes from recent Oil Block Licensing Awards in Inner Moray Firth.

- 15 miles from the Pentland Firth marine energy sites.

- 5 miles from Subsea 7 Pipeline Bundle Facility at Wester with its large fabrication sheds and beach launch area.

- 27 miles from the Dounreay nuclear decommissioning site with its associated skills base.
Business Support

HIE, the Scottish Government’s economic development agency for the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, Scottish Development International (SDI) and Invest Caithness which is part of and delivered by Caithness Chamber of Commerce, all work together to promote Caithness and North Sutherland’s assets and advantages to inward investors from around the globe.

They can support you with almost every aspect of the decision making process, whether it's finance or IT, finding suitable premises or staff recruitment, product development or marketing.

You'll have a dedicated team to work with you every step of the way, both before and after you've made the move – helping to get your business up and running quickly and build strong foundations for growth and development.

This directory only gives a brief introduction to all that Caithness can offer the oil and gas sector. To learn more, contact us for further information and pick up the phone – all the companies in the directory are waiting to hear from you.