



20 October 2009

UKHO Donors Give Blood Generously

Over 100 staff at the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) donated 96 units of blood for the National Blood Service last Monday, 12 October 2009.



Pictured: UKHO employee Catherine Porter with her Silver Award given for donating 25 times.

The National Blood Service visits the UKHO twice a year and free slots are quickly snapped up by staff eager to donate.

The UKHO donor session is the 2nd most productive out of all businesses in Devon and Somerset who hold dedicated staff donation sessions and over the last three years staff have given a total of 548 donations. As each donation

More...

can save or improve three lives, the staff of UKHO will have played a major part in helping over 1500 people to have a better life.

Stephen Williams, the Donor Relations Manager for The National Blood Service, said: “We would like to say a huge thank you to UKHO staff for all of their tremendous efforts and fantastic support. The donations they have given will have helped and saved many lives and we, on behalf of the patients of the South West, are eternally grateful for this.”

Amy Tucker, Marketing Executive at the UKHO, said: “I donate blood to give something back. Knowing I can give others the gift of life through a simple procedure is very rewarding. It was very convenient being able to give blood at work”.

ENDS

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Notes for Editors

1. The UKHO, which is part of the Ministry of Defence, has been charting the world's oceans for more than 200 years with the primary aim of providing navigational services for the Royal Navy and merchant mariners to save and protect lives at sea. In addition it also serves the small craft and leisure mariners and provides a range of consultancy services.
2. The UKHO produces a worldwide series of some 3,300 paper nautical charts and 160 publications under the Admiralty brand and has a growing portfolio of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs). These charts are sold globally and used by nearly 70 per cent of international shipping.
3. The UKHO is a Trading Fund which means it is a government agency owned by the MoD with the freedom to trade commercially to generate revenue and cover running costs.
4. The UKHO also plays a central role, in support of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, in discharging the navigation element of the UK's Safety of Life at Sea Treaty obligations for waters of UK national responsibility.
5. NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is a Special Health Authority in the NHS. It is the organ donor organisation for the UK and is responsible for matching and allocating donated organs. Its remit also includes the provision of a reliable, efficient supply of blood and associated services to the NHS.
6. The NHS needs 7,000 units of blood daily to supply hospitals across England and North Wales. Currently, only 4% of the eligible population are active blood donors.