Commissioning of the Evaporator D Project, Sellafield

Project Overview

Working together with a major project construction organisation, DBD is providing the differentiating expertise in the area of nuclear plant commissioning and pre-operational management for a key nuclear waste treatment plant design, build and commissioning project. DBD has been charged with leading and delivering all commissioning and pre-operational aspects of this multi million pound project.

Scope of Work

DBD is providing the commissioning and pre-operational packages, visibly integrated into the overall project, demonstrating a full understanding of the project requirements (including costing, programme, regulator, client and stakeholder needs). DBD are also responsible for the recruitment, assessment and training of the commissioning personnel.

DBD is leading and managing the delivery of all aspects of the project commissioning and pre-operational requirements, ensuring that the benefits identified in the original proposal are fully integrated into the delivery process.

DBD Deliverables

- Development of detailed commissioning strategies
- Commissioning documentation for offsite and site commissioning tests
- Delivery of role specifications for the commissioning team
- Recruitment of commissioning personnel
- Assessment of personnel to ensure they are suitably qualified and experienced (SQEP)
- Delivery of commissioning training packages to ensure the SQEP requirements of the role specification are met
- Mentoring of commissioning personnel on the job, ensuring that all key deliverables are recorded and monitored
- Review of vendor works test documentation and witnessing vendor test activities
- Implementation of commissioning managerial and control processes
- Provision of a detailed commissioning plan and cost estimate
- Liaison with the design team to ensure commissioning requirements and learning from experience (LFE) are included within the design deliverables
- Liaison with Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation and Control installation teams to ensure completion of plant and equipment in the requisite sequence to match the commissioning strategy
- Provision of training for operations and maintenance personnel
- Management and coordination for production of Operations and Maintenance manuals and documentation

The Results

Our team initially provided input into the plant design and ensured that the commissioning requirement and LFE have been incorporated into the design process, as well as into the

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installation and testing planning. This provides the basis for optimised delivery of the plant commissioning process.

As part of the commissioning package, DBD is providing the senior commissioning management, commissioning team leaders and key lead commissioning engineers who are in the process of preparing the necessary testing and support documentation. All current personnel recruited to the commissioning team have been assessed for SQEPness. Training and development packages put in place for the less experienced engineers, including on the job experience and mentoring, and training packages as required. DBD will also be responsible for the recruitment of future engineering and technical members of a team that will peak at around eighty members.

DBD is supporting pre-operations by developing the structure and production of the O&M manuals and by developing the operator training packages based on these documents. In addition, a customised plant simulator package developed by a DBD partner will be integrated into the operator training programme.

Client Benefits

- Recruitment and provision of an experienced Commissioning Team with detailed knowledge of commissioning large scale nuclear installations
- Development of next generation of Commissioning engineers to support nuclear projects, with on the job experience and mentoring from SQEP commissioning team members
- Early involvement of the Commissioning Team in design and offsite testing has led to risks being identified early and resolution in the design phase
- Alignment of the design to the systems format required by commissioning has removed the requirement for realignment and associated rework at a later stage
- Identification of testing that can be carried out at the suppliers, reducing the extent of testing and potential equipment remedial work when on site
- Integration of commissioning and pre-operations reducing the potential of delays during handover

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