



ACQUISITION EXPANDS SSE CONTRACTING PRESENCE THROUGHOUT UK

SSE Contracting has completed the acquisition of Hills Electrical and Mechanical plc (Hills E&M).

Hills E&M is one of the UK's largest family-owned building services businesses. It has been in existence for four decades and operates in all parts of the UK, with a high-quality workforce serving an excellent client base. The business being acquired has an annual turnover of £45m and employs over 200 people.

The business operates from bases in Gatwick, Cardiff, Nottingham, Walsall, Glasgow, Edinburgh and London and has achieved particular success in providing services to the UK's retail sector.

SSE Contracting's Group Managing Director Adrian Pike said: "This acquisition will complement our existing businesses whilst strengthening our position as the M&E contractor of choice. It expands our number of branch offices from 57 to 64, and now provides us with a national business supporting the retail sector."

David Hill, Chairman of Hills E&M commented: "We are pleased to pass the business to a company of the stature of SSE Contracting, which we feel offers a strong future for our staff, customers and sub-contractor base".

SSE Contracting is one of the UK's leading Mechanical and Electrical Contractors. It employs over 4000 staff and operates from a network of 57 local offices nationwide. Built upon a common set of core values the business is renowned for delivering high quality projects across a diverse range of services including; M&E Contracting, Street Lighting, Data and Telecommunications and Renewables.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

1. SSE Contracting, part of the Scottish and Southern Energy Group, has a turnover exceeding £350 million. One of the UK's leading mechanical and electrical (M&E) contractors, employs more than 4000 staff, and currently operates from 57 local offices nationwide located as far a field as Inverness and Cornwall.
2. Scottish and Southern Energy, a FTSE Top 50 Company, is one of the largest energy companies in the UK. It is involved in the generation, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity; energy trading; the storage, distribution and supply of gas; electrical and utility contracting; and telecoms.