**Press Release**

***Top Safety Accreditation for Riverside Industrial Equipment Ltd.***

Local business Riverside Industrial Equipment has been awarded accreditation from Safecontractor for its commitment to achieving excellence in health and safety.

Safecontractor is a leading third party accreditation scheme which recognises very high standards in health and safety management amongst UK contractors.

Employing 65 people, Riverside is principally involved in the building services sector, specialising in the construction and manufacturing industries and with a £5 million turnover. Riversides most recent clients have included major players such as Andrew Scotts, Dawnus, South Wales Police and TATA Steel.

The company’s application for Safecontractor accreditation was driven by the need for a uniform standard across the business.

“Safety is our number one priority. We must continue to challenge the unsafe behaviours of not only ourselves, but that of other contractors.”

Safecontractor accreditation will enhance the company’s ability to attract new contracts and its commitment to safety will be viewed positively by its insurers when the company liability policy is up for renewal.

Safecontractor is applicable to most sectors although it is particularly relevant to food manufacture, property, facilities management, retail and leisure sectors, all of which are big users of contracted services.

John Kinge, technical director of Safecontractor said “Major organisations simply can not afford to run the risk of employing contractors who are not able to prove that they have sound health and safety policies in place.”

“More companies need to understand the importance of adopting good risk management in the way that Riverside has done. The firms high standard has set an example which hopefully will be followed by other companies within the sector.

Safecontractor plays a vital role in supporting our clients in meeting their compliance needs, whilst working with their contractors as they progress through the accreditation process.”

Under the Safecontractor scheme, businesses undergo a vetting process which examines health and safety procedures and their track record for safe practice. Those companies meeting the high standard are included are included on the database, which is accessible to registered users only via a website.

Client – organisations who sign up to the scheme can access the database, enabling them to vet potential contractors before they even step foot on site, these clients agree that, as users of the scheme, they will engage only those who have received accreditation.

Over 210 major, nationwide businesses, from several key sectors, have signed up to use the scheme when selecting contractors for services such as building, cleaning, maintenance, refurbishment or electrical and mechanical work.