

Press Release 21st June 2010

Cumbrian coach company Reays is creating 16 jobs by opening a depot in Egremont to service its new Sellafield transport contract.

The family-run firm, whose headquarters are at Wigton, has also bought 10 new vehicles to operate from the new West Cumbrian base at Ennerdale Mill Business Estate.

The investment in vehicles, staff and depot come after Reays won a four-year contract to provide transport for all 10,000 staff at the vast Sellafield nuclear site from the start of this month.

Managing director Chris Reay said: "The Sellafield contract is a major step forward for us and we are investing substantially to ensure we establish a dedicated base in West Cumbria, so we are constantly close at hand."

Reays beat off competition from coach firms throughout Cumbria and beyond to land the deal with Sellafield Ltd. The contract involves getting Sellafield staff to and from work from the park and ride areas on weekdays and also operating a constant shuttle service around the site from 6am to 6pm, using a fleet of new vehicles.

Reays have already taken on 12 new drivers but are still looking for four more with PCV licenses to work on a part-time or full-time basis. Anyone interested should call the depot on 01946 313131.

David Miller, 33, is manager at the new Egremont depot. He said: "It is a big deal for us and quite a challenge. Everything has got to be done right at Sellafield, where health and safety is paramount. But that is our philosophy for every job we do."

The new vehicles being used for Sellafield are four 16-seat mini coaches, four 33-seat mini coaches and two 53-seat large coaches. The Egremont depot has office facilities and two large garages.

Malcolm Butler, transport manager for Sellafield Ltd, said: "What impressed us when we visited Reays headquarters at Wigton was the level of professionalism we saw. We have an attitude of being very much a 'can do' company and Reays fit in line with that ethos very well."

Reays has won national awards for the quality of its coaches. It also operates a fleet of luxury limousines from its Strawberry Field headquarters at Syke Park near Wigton. The company, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, also operates day trips and foreign holidays along with public routes, schools services and sports clubs.

Besides the Sellafield work, Reays' vehicles at its new Egremont depot are also be available for private hire and contract work.