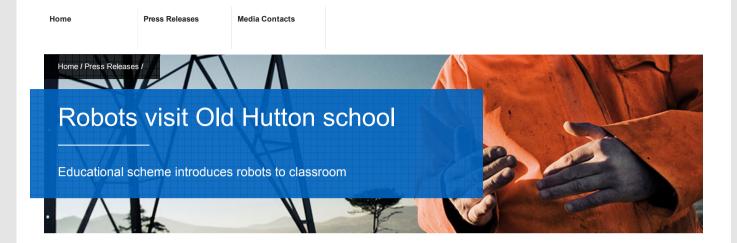
nationalgrid





29 Jan 2015

- Pupils from Old Hutton Primary School have been introduced to VEX Robotics, an educational scheme giving them the opportunity to build and programme their own robots
- · VEX Robotics is part of National Grid's successful community investment work in Old Hutton
- · National Grid's work to upgrade the substation in Old Hutton will be complete by the end of March this year

Pupils at Old Hutton Primary School have been given an important mission: to build their very own robot army!

National Grid, which is working to upgrade its substation in the area, set the children the exciting task, which will help to promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects and nurture their knowledge of engineering in a fun way.

Each year group was given its own robotics design kit containing motors, wheels, gears and cogs by an engineer from Vex Robotics. Working as a team, they then built and programmed their own robot, learning the basics of robotics design and programming as they went along.

Ms Andrea Walker, Old Hutton Primary School's Headteacher, said:

"The children have had a fantastic day and it was great to see them getting stuck into the tasks. Seeing their accomplishment in building the robots was very rewarding and I would like to congratulate them on their tremendous efforts.

"We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to participate in the VEX Robotics programme and I would like to thank National Grid and VEX for working with us on this; we are extremely grateful."

Old Hutton Primary School will keep the robotics kits, meaning the school can provide future generations of pupils with the opportunity to built their own fleet of droids.

Peter Beverley, National Grid's Project Manager, said:

"We're always looking for new and exciting ways to give something back to the local communities we work in and have thoroughly enjoyed working with Old Hutton Primary School to bring them this special experience.

"VEX Robotics has not only provided pupils with a fun and interactive day of learning but a lasting legacy, as the school will hold onto the design kits and use them again over the coming years."

National Grid is set to complete its work to upgrade its substation in Old Hutton by the end of March this year. The upgrade will enable the substation to operate more efficiently, ensuring more people across the UK have power at the flick of a switch.

Contact for media information only

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

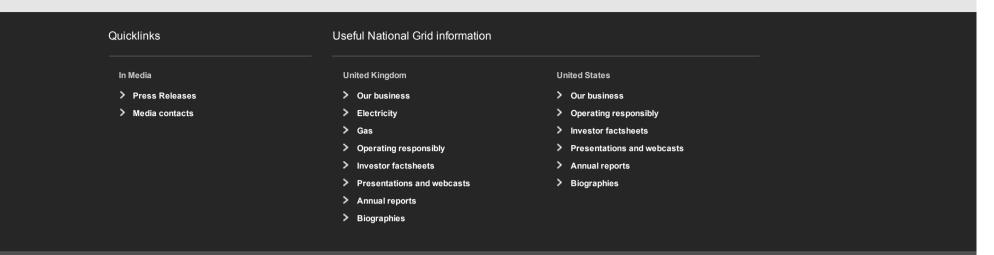
National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news

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