# Amentum’s UK expansion fuels nuclear and defence sector growth in the Humber



A major engineering and technology firm is poised to significantly boost employment in the Humber region as part of an ambitious UK-wide expansion. Amentum, a US-based company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, announced plans to create 3,000 new jobs over the next four years across its UK operations, including a manufacturing facility in Barton, Lincolnshire.

Currently, Amentum employs around 100 people at its Barton site, with additional staff at locations in Newcastle and Stockton, where it has 300 employees. The firm is also expanding its workforce in the North West, with recruitment targeted in Cumbria, Warrington, Knutsford, and Manchester. While precise hiring figures for Barton remain unconfirmed, the company aims for substantial growth driven by its work in the nuclear power and defence sectors.

This expansion follows Amentum securing roles on a key government framework related to nuclear waste management, underscoring its deepening involvement in critical infrastructure projects. The company is a lead delivery partner for the UK's new nuclear power stations at Hinkley Point C and Sizewell C and is providing technical and project expertise for small modular reactors and fusion research. Across the UK, Amentum employs about 6,000 people and recently enhanced its capabilities through a merger with Jacobs’ Critical Mission Solutions and Cyber and Intelligence businesses.

John Heller, Amentum’s CEO, highlighted the significance of international collaboration, particularly between the UK and US. Speaking ahead of a meeting with US President Donald Trump and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer at Chequers, Heller emphasised the vital role of the UK-US partnership in driving economic growth, energy resilience, and national security. Mark Whitney, president of Amentum Energy & Environment, underlined the company’s commitment to innovation by investing in digital engineering, artificial intelligence, and automation to improve delivery of government programmes on both sides of the Atlantic. Based on current projections, Amentum expects to increase its UK headcount by 50% over the next few years.

Amentum's expansion is part of a broader wave of growth in the UK's nuclear and defence sectors, which are serving as engines for employment and technological advancement. For example, the Ministry of Defence has recently announced the creation of 1,500 skilled roles at the Atomic Weapons Establishment in Berkshire, where salaries are reported to be 20% above the national average. Industry data highlights a workforce that includes thousands of engineers and scientists, all contributing to both national security and economic prosperity.

In the naval nuclear sector, Rolls-Royce has secured a landmark £9 billion contract to design, manufacture, and support reactors for the Royal Navy’s submarine fleet, promising over 1,000 new UK jobs and safeguarding thousands more. Meanwhile, Babcock has been awarded over £100 million in contracts to support the development and maintenance of the Dreadnought Class submarines, supporting an additional 250 jobs.

These developments align with government initiatives designed to underpin the UK's nuclear capabilities and skills development. A newly formed Nuclear Skills Taskforce, chaired by Sir Simon Bollom, brings together government, industry, and academia to ensure a sustainable pipeline of talent for the sector’s growth. At Sellafield, a long-term partnership involving Amentum and other Programme and Project Partners is progressing major infrastructure projects to safely manage nuclear waste, with a focus on diversity and inclusion recognised by an Investors in Diversity Award.

Parallel investments in defence manufacturing, including plans to build new munitions factories and procure long-range weapons, further underscore the government's commitment to bolstering the UK’s strategic capabilities and job creation. This £1.5 billion initiative aims to create more than 1,000 new jobs and support hundreds of existing roles, reinforcing the message that defence and nuclear industries are key pillars of the UK’s economic and security future.

In sum, Amentum’s UK expansion mirrors a wider national trend of industrial growth underpinned by strategic government support and international partnerships. These positive developments signal a promising horizon for the Humber region and the country’s broader ambition to be a leader in responsible innovation and advanced manufacturing in nuclear and defence sectors.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk/news/local-news/new-jobs-set-created-major-10516751> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/1500-jobs-created-at-uk-nuclear-weapons-headquarters-as-sector-boasts-above-average-wages> - The UK Ministry of Defence announced the creation of 1,500 skilled roles at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in Aldermaston, Berkshire, over the past year. This expansion supports the UK's nuclear deterrent and highlights the economic benefits of the defence nuclear industry, with average salaries 20% above the national average. The workforce now includes 9,500 staff, comprising 3,000 engineers and 1,500 scientists, contributing to the nation's security and economic growth.
3. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/landmark-9-billion-contract-for-british-business-to-boost-jobs-growth-and-nuclear-deterrent> - The UK government awarded a £9 billion contract to Rolls-Royce to design, manufacture, and support nuclear reactors for the Royal Navy's submarine fleet. This eight-year deal aims to enhance national security and economic growth, creating over 1,000 new UK jobs and safeguarding 4,000 existing roles. The contract streamlines previous agreements, promotes cost efficiency, and supports the Dreadnought class nuclear submarines, bolstering the UK's continuous at-sea deterrent.
4. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/121-million-investment-into-future-submarines-supports-250-jobs> - The UK Ministry of Defence awarded two contracts, collectively worth over £100 million, to Babcock to support the development of the UK's future nuclear deterrent. The £66 million contract provides in-service submarine support expertise for the Dreadnought Class submarines, while the £55 million contract focuses on weapon handling. These investments support 250 jobs across the UK, contributing to the advancement of the nation's nuclear capabilities.
5. <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/sellafield-ltd/about/recruitment> - Sellafield Ltd collaborates with the Programme and Project Partners (PPP), including Amentum, to deliver a 20-year pipeline of major infrastructure projects at the Sellafield site. The partnership aims to create new facilities for the safe treatment, management, and storage of waste, ensuring a clean and safe environment for future generations. The PPP has been recognised with the Investors in Diversity Award for its commitment to fairness, respect, equality, diversity, inclusion, and engagement.
6. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-taskforce-to-build-uk-nuclear-skills> - The UK government established a Nuclear Skills Taskforce to ensure the defence and civil nuclear sectors have the necessary workforce to seize growth opportunities. Chaired by Sir Simon Bollom, the taskforce brings together government, employers, and academia to develop a skills strategy supporting the anticipated growth in the nuclear sector. This initiative aims to build a sustainable pipeline of skills to meet the UK's nuclear ambitions.
7. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-munitions-factories-and-long-range-weapons-to-back-nearly-2000-jobs-under-strategic-defence-review> - The UK government announced plans to build at least six new munitions and energetics factories and procure up to 7,000 UK-built long-range weapons. This £1.5 billion investment is expected to create more than 1,000 new jobs and support around 800 existing roles across the UK. The initiative aims to strengthen the Armed Forces and drive economic growth, aligning with the Strategic Defence Review's focus on warfighting readiness and deterrence.