

# G4S TO SECURE 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

**After securing the Olympic Park since 2008, G4S is now Official Security Service Provider for the London Games**

**With a little over a year to go before the opening ceremony of the world's biggest sporting event, G4S Secure Solutions (UK) has become the Official Security Services Provider and a sponsor of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The announcement was made in March by the organising committee of the London 2012 Games, LOCOG**





**SINCE 2008, G4S** has been responsible for securing the development of the Olympic Park site in Stratford, East London, as it transforms majestically into a premier venue in the run-up to the 30th Olympiad, the world's largest sporting event. For these services, G4S's contract is with the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), which is building the Olympic Park.

"We now have over 600 full-time G4S employees working on the ODA contract," says John Whitwam, a managing director in the G4S Secure Solutions (UK) business, who has been responsible for that contract from the outset.

"This is a unique project in the UK," he adds, "and it includes almost all of G4S's capabilities, so my team undertake cash collections, we provide risk management consultancy, we patrol using vehicles and boats, we control access to the pass office, and we conduct searching and screening, having received special training from our Aviation & Ports businesses.

"It's hard to imagine a contract with more stakeholders. I believe our success with the LOCOG bid is in no small part due to the experience and expertise we have built up in the G4S ODA team, most of whom have been recruited from the host boroughs and include 15 nationalities."

Once the Olympic Park has been built, the ODA will hand it over to LOCOG, the body responsible for running the Olympic and Paralympic Games. "We will continue to provide all the security support services

for the Olympic Park throughout the Games," John Whitwam explains, "and be a part of what LOCOG does. At the end of the Games, when the Olympic Park is handed back to the ODA, we will continue to provide security during the period when the perimeter is dismantled and the site is converted into a sports park for the benefit of the community."

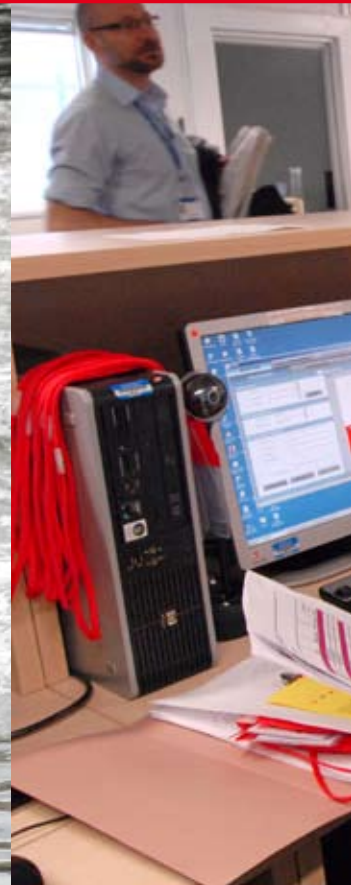
Under the nationwide LOCOG contract, G4S UK has now been given responsibility for recruiting, training and managing a huge security workforce that will be tasked with securing the Games, alongside colleagues from the police and local authorities across more than 130 London 2012 competition and non-competition venues.

To achieve that goal, G4S, which currently employs 50,000 people in the UK, and LOCOG are collaborating with the Bridging the Gap scheme established by the British Security Industry Association, the Security Industry Authority, Skills for Security and North Hertfordshire College to identify talented people from over 90 further education colleges across the UK.

The initiative is set to bring thousands of new recruits into the security industry as well as providing a formal qualification for students from across the UK. This will lead to a guaranteed job interview with G4S to help supplement their security provision at Games time. The students will make up a significant proportion of G4S's London 2012 security workforce. →

LEFT: G4S teams conduct searches on all vehicles entering the Olympic Park. Here, a Welsh Springer named Buster assists his G4S handler, Craig Kemp.

ABOVE: John Whitwam, G4S's managing director responsible for the ODA contract.



The programme has received the London 2012 "Inspire Mark" award and it is hoped it will prove to be a gateway for long-term careers in the security industry, providing a lasting legacy.

"The students' primary roles will be search and screening, perimeter security and some degree of asset protection," explains Mark Hamilton, managing director of G4S Secure Solutions (UK)'s LOCOG operations.

"Anybody on foot or in a vehicle coming into the Games will be subject to a fairly stringent process of searching and screening. There will also be an element of accreditation checking. Obviously, for an event like the London 2012 Games, there's also a considerable amount of fixed and temporary infrastructure that has to be protected by LOCOG, and we will have responsibility for the entire private sector contribution to that protection work."

G4S's deal with LOCOG will cover security at all Olympic and Paralympic venues across the UK.

"There are 34 competition venues, but contractually we've got a large number of other locations at which wide-ranging security services are required," explains Ian Horseman Sewell, G4S UK's director of Major Events. "We need to remember that this is both the Olympic and the Paralympic Games. So it's like running the Summer Olympic Games for a couple of weeks, having a couple of weeks off, then running the

second biggest sporting event in the world."

As well as a host of new venues that are under development, well known stadiums and arenas in London and other major cities will host events. They include Wembley, Hampden Park, Lord's Cricket Ground, Wimbledon and Hampton Court Palace.

When the Opening Ceremony takes place on 27 July next year, London will become the first city ever to host the Olympics on three occasions. The success of London 2012, say the organisers, will rest very much on the contribution made by the 70,000 volunteers who will support the Games..

The 2012 Games are not just about London or the United Kingdom, of course. Over 200 countries will be sending their top athletes to compete at the Olympic Games, and over 170 countries for the Paralympic Games. They in turn will be accompanied by their supporters, National Olympic Committees (NOCs), National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) and other interested parties. Thousands of media representatives will also descend on the UK capital, and major sponsors will want to take advantage of every opportunity to promote their products or services.

NOCs, sponsors and other visiting organisations will all require different levels of protection and the G4S UK team is ready and able to provide them with a range of security solutions, including close protection

**LEFT:** With Olympic venues on either side of the River Thames, G4S is using boats as part of its innovative marine solution on the ODA contract.

**ABOVE:** Charangeet Singh Sanger, G4S supervisor, at work in the Olympic Park Entry Pass Office. **RIGHT:** Steve Gould with his canine assistant, Springer cross Bubby.



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**Mark Hamilton, MD of G4S’s LOCOG operations**

for high profile individuals, whether they are business people, celebrities or royalty.

“Because the London 2012 Games will make special demands on the country’s security services,” Ian Horseman Sewell observes, “very few VIPs will find they qualify for government protection during the Games. We have asked our colleagues around the world to reassure them that G4S UK stands ready to help ensure they receive precisely the level of security they require during the Games.”

David Taylor-Smith, regional CEO of G4S UK & Africa, commented, “We have worked extremely hard with LOCOG, the police, central government and the host venues and boroughs to develop a security proposal which will provide excellent security for the Games, whilst ensuring that spectators, competitors and providers of services to the Games can enjoy the spectacle of one of the greatest sporting events in the world.”

LOCOG CEO Paul Deighton added, “G4S will help us ensure that the security provisions in place are robust and of the highest professionalism and we welcome them to the London 2012 family. Our commercial programme has been a great success and we’re now approaching our targets, which will contribute to the staging of a spectacular Games in 2012.” ■

