



The search and rescue team consider how to remove a 'casualty' from underneath the rubble.

## Demolition site hosts earthquake recovery exercise

The Kier Western DVLA construction site played host to an invaluable search and rescue exercise recently, when the UK Fire Services International Search and Rescue (ISAR) Team carried out an earthquake recovery simulation.

Kier Western is currently working on a £2m demolition project at the DVLA in Morriston for client Trillium and the partially demolished building provided the perfect conditions to carry out this essential training mission.

ISAR is the official search and rescue response of the UK government and responds to international incidents and disasters. Once at the scene, the team's priority is to find and rescue missing people who may be trapped by structural collapse or in confined spaces that are difficult to access.

A team of ten ISAR members conducted a search of the rubble before using acoustic listening devices and snake eye search cameras to locate 'casualties'. They then carried out a number of breaching and breaking operations to enable access to the 'victims', before deciding on suitable shoring-up methods to extricate the casualties from the collapsed building. Morriston Fire Station commander Gwyn Lewis commented:

“ We are very grateful to Kier, the DVLA and Trillium for the opportunity to use the site for this exercise; the partially demolished building provided the perfect environment to test out the team. ”