

Case Study

Disposal of Radioactive items for Northern Irish University

The Client

Founded in 1845 as Queen's College, one of three established in Ireland by Queen Victoria, Queen's became a University in its own right in 1908 and is celebrating its centenary throughout 2008.

Today, Queen's is a member of the Russell Group of the UK's 20 leading research-intensive universities and an international centre of academic excellence rooted at the heart of Northern Ireland.

The Need

Queen's University had both solid and liquid waste and sealed sources that needed to be removed from the campus. The inventory at Queen's formed part of a wider project undertaken by Safeguard International for the whole of Northern Ireland in collaboration with the local authorities and the Environment & Heritage Service.

The Solution

This project was undertaken with support from the Environment Agency's Surplus Source Disposal Programme.

Safeguard International's experienced technicians were able to characterise and package this large inventory ready for transport by sea to the mainland for disposal at a waste facility in the UK. Queen's inventory was part of a bigger inventory of 160 items from across Northern Ireland, of which approximately one-third were sent for recycling.



The Benefits

Removing this radioactive inventory from Queen's significantly reduced both the University's potential liability and its regulatory burden.

Detailed pre-collection planning and the active involvement of a dedicated Project Manager enabled us to take account of safety and security matters and to coordinate the wider Northern Ireland collection. Our operational flexibility provided the client with the peace of mind that the job would be done properly.

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