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### **Britain's Ministry of Defence chooses Sodexho to provide childcare voucher service for Armed Forces personnel**

Sodexho has been selected to provide a childcare voucher scheme to the UK's Ministry of Defence following a competitive tender process. The scheme will cover all Service personnel working for the Ministry of Defence, including reservists, whether they are working in the UK or posted overseas.

Approximately 200,000 regular personnel and 40,000 Reservists are eligible for the program. The Ministry of Defence estimates that eventually as many as 20,000 people might apply for the scheme which will be launched on December 10, 2007.

Childcare vouchers help working parents pay for childcare. The scheme being introduced for Armed Forces personnel will give participants the opportunity to change their salary so that they are paid in a combination of cash and childcare vouchers. Participants pay taxes and insurance contributions only on the cash portion of their salary. The vouchers can be used to pay for all or part of the costs of any registered childcare provider that the parents decide to use. If both parents claim, they can save up to £2,390 (approximately €3,340) a year.

Sodexho CEO, Michel Landel, said: "We are very proud to have won this contract. It is a great accomplishment that recognizes the creativity and dynamism of our Service Vouchers and Cards team in the UK."