

BUILDING UPDATE

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Quality hinges since 1790

In this issue of Building Update, we are proud to announce that we have chosen to select Gold & Wassall Hinges as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence Award, for its ongoing industry leading services spanning across the centuries.

Gold & Wassall Hinges has established itself at the forefront of the industry since its inception over 200 years ago. With its manufacturing facilities situated in Tamworth in Staffordshire, Gold & Wassall Hinges provides an impressive range of services for design, production and manufacture of hinges, all produced in house and distributed throughout the whole of the UK. Boasting an enviable reputation within

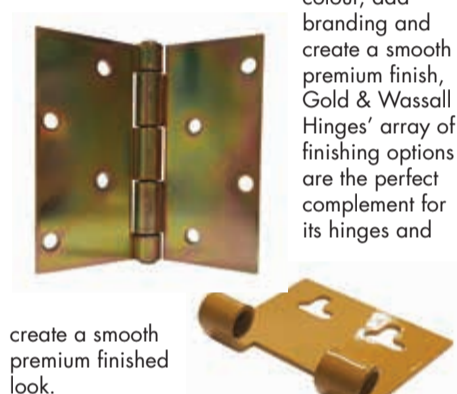
the industry, Gold & Wassall Hinges has positioned itself firmly as the UK's number one manufacturer of hinges.

Gold & Wassall Hinges has provided its services to various customers throughout its years in operation and serviced customers from construction to engineering companies. With a proven track record of quality, reliability and durability, Gold & Wassall Hinges ensures it maintains complete control over the design and high quality of its goods.

Customer service is an integral focus for Gold & Wassall Hinges and the company ensures it provides a first class turnkey service, from initial enquiry to delivery and aftersales

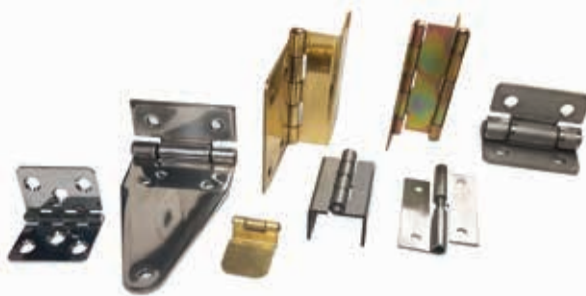
care. With a team of expert sales reps, Gold & Wassall Hinges is well equipped in providing a personal service to fulfil the needs of each and every customer. Its sales reps engage on a personal basis and get to the customer's requirements upon placing an order, advising on and handling everything from measurements, style to fitting; the company is dedicated to finding the right door hinge solution for its customer.

In keeping with the company's goal of providing unrivalled customer service, Gold and Wassall Hinges also provides an abundance of finishing options for its customers. The company is dedicated to providing not only durable, high quality hinges, Gold & Wassall Hinges understands the importance of an aesthetically pleasing, customised design. Able to customise colour, add branding and create a smooth premium finish, Gold & Wassall Hinges' array of finishing options are the perfect complement for its hinges and



create a smooth premium finished look.

One of the most advantageous aspects of the company's services is its wealth of expertise and diversity of its range. Providing a full service comprised of a comprehensive design and manufacturing service, the company offers a wide range of hinges from continuous/piano hinges, butt and backflap hinges and standard, to heavy duty and bespoke made to order hinges. Using the company's automatic



section which contains eight lines of automated machines, Gold & Wassall Hinges is able to make hinges quicker and to almost any length. The company also maintains the specialist tooling for these machines which can complete multiple operations in each press.

Gold & Wassall Hinges is the only hinge company whose hinges are UK made, making them the only company in the UK which can offer this. Moreover, all of Gold & Wassall Hinges' stock is available for immediate dispatch.

In terms of its bespoke services, Gold & Wassall Hinges understands that some projects will require a custom built solution. To aid its customers with custom built requirements, Gold & Wassall Hinges provides a bespoke design and manufacturing service. This service enables the company to be able to create virtually any hinge requirement, facilitating the company to be able to develop both complex designs and simple designs, requiring small alterations.

To date, Gold & Wassall Hinges has created over 250,000 unique hinges and strives to continuously develop new patterns, on a daily basis. The company has demonstrated its wealth of expertise and consistency in exceeding expectations. Its sheer magnitude of industry leading expertise echos throughout Gold & Wassall Hinges' services, which has enabled the company to continue its operations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and beyond.

For any further information on the company, please see the details below.
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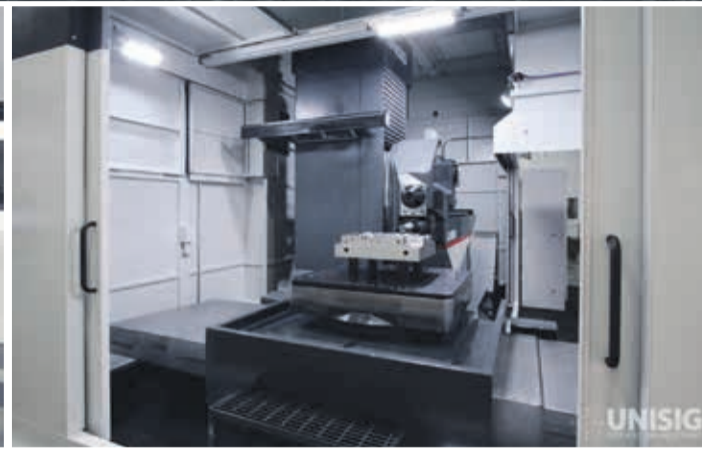
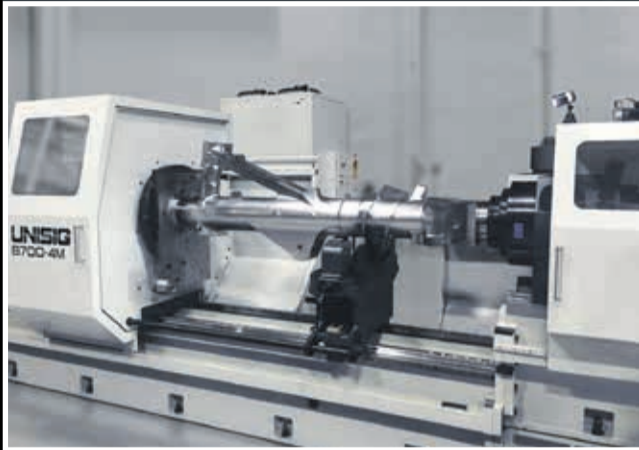
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Peter Minter: The Brickmaker's Tale

Peter Minter and his son Tony are well-known for their father and son business, Bulmer Brick and Tile. The family-run business has successfully been running for over 80 years and is extremely proud to say they have excellent expertise and knowledge in this industry.

Peter Minter wrote his own book, *The Brickmaker's Tale*, which entails a unique history of the Bulmer Brickyard and the craft of brick-making. Bulmer Brick and Tile pride themselves in saying that they are the most traditional in the UK that still uses methods to make bricks which dates all the way back to 1450. The first section of *The Brickmaker's Tale* focuses on the early history of the site, the second part of the book explores from 1936 onwards when the Minter Family acquired to the company.

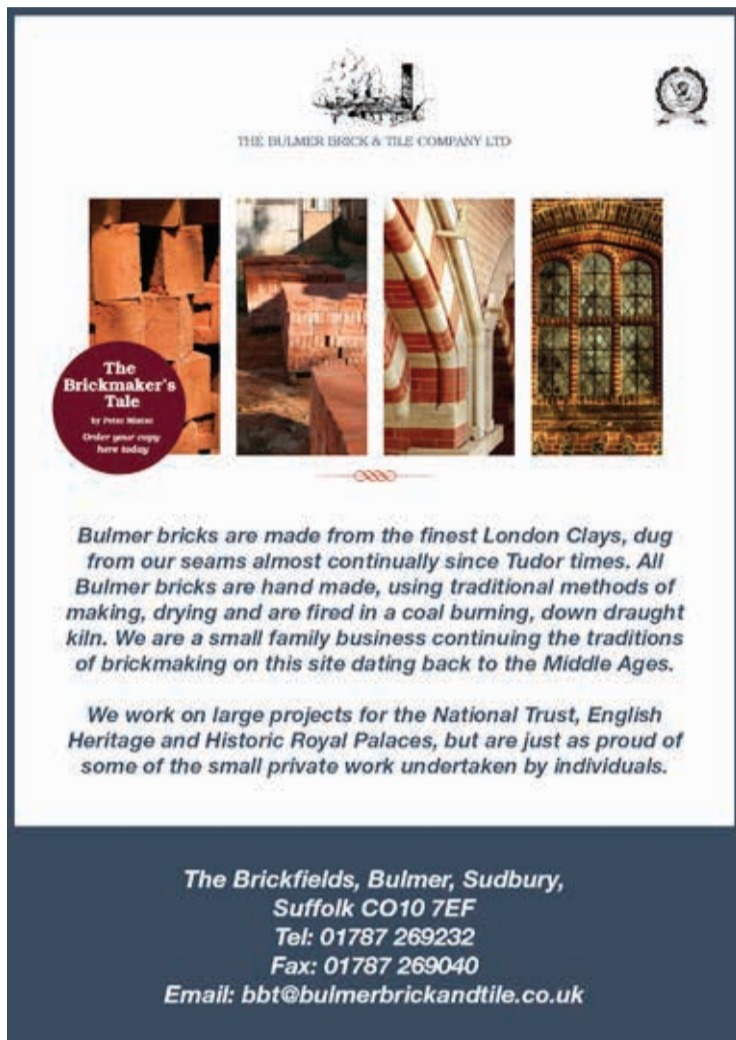
Finally persuaded by family and friends, Peter Minter wrote a book that recorded some of his unique knowledge and memories in a book. The book highlights the story of the Brickyard and the people that have worked there throughout the years. *The Brickmaker's Tale* touches on the recreation of historic bricks for National Trust properties which include Hampton Court Palace and Blickling Hall in Norfolk, not to mention the bricks for the extension of St Pancras Station in London.

The *Brickmaker's Tale* is available from local bookshop Kestrel in Sudbury Suffolk or direct from Bulmer Brick & Tile Co Ltd.

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bbt@bulmerbrickandtile.co.uk
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The Bulmer Brick & Tile Co Ltd

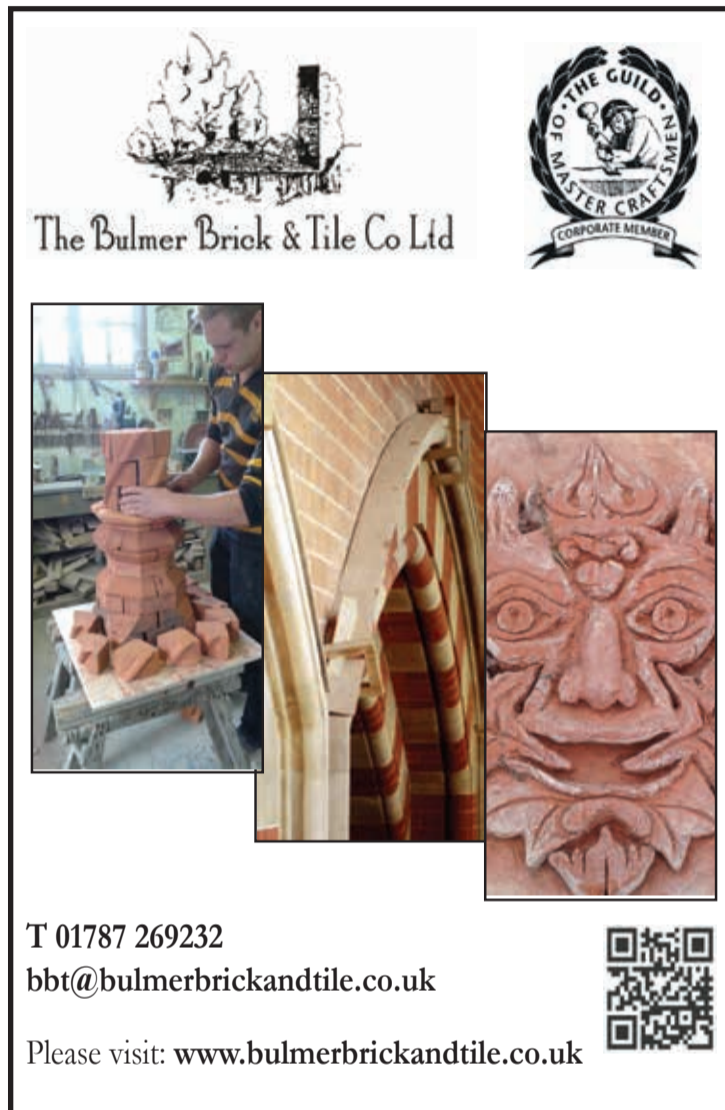


The Brickmaker's Tale
 by Peter Minter
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Bulmer bricks are made from the finest London Clays, dug from our seams almost continually since Tudor times. All Bulmer bricks are hand made, using traditional methods of making, drying and are fired in a coal burning, down draught kiln. We are a small family business continuing the traditions of brickmaking on this site dating back to the Middle Ages.

We work on large projects for the National Trust, English Heritage and Historic Royal Palaces, but are just as proud of some of the small private work undertaken by individuals.


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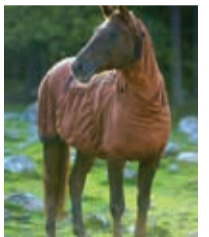
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Equestrian News

Quit foaling around, eliminate Sweet-Itch now!

Leisure Solutions is proud to feature Itchy Horse Company Ltd, an experienced no obligation advice service based in Mold, Flintshire. Itchy Horse Company Ltd uses its experience to offer extensive expert advice to owners of horses who suffer with Sweet-Itch.



Does your horse suffer with flies in their eyes? Or midges around their face and body? Having previously owned three horses coupled together with many years of hands-on managerial experience of The National Sweet-Itch Centre, Itchy Horse Company Ltd uses its expert no obligation approach to tackle the problem. Using all its necessary skills and equipment, Itchy Horse Company Ltd fully understand the distress caused by this condition to the carer and the horse.

Itchy Horse Company Ltd is the UK sole supplier of the renowned Swedish Boett Blanket and Hood which has been at the forefront of the treatment of Sweet Itch for 30 years.

"The Boett Blanket has survived the test of time, still the best product for Sweet-Itch, recommended by Vets and some insurance companies will cover the cost of too. It is such a good product that many have attempted to copy the design, but it's the breathable fabric that makes the difference and the excellent customer service that comes with it." Alison, Manager.

With an abundance of information available on how best to care for your horse it can be difficult to know who to trust. This can lead to confusion and frustration, ultimately leaving the problem unsolved. Itchy Horse Company Ltd offer products that are tried and tested with great success. It believes in the products offered and will always go the extra mile for the customers to ensure 100% satisfaction.

In aid to eliminate Sweet-Itch, Itchy Horse Company Ltd offers BioPlus capsules, these have resulted in a breakthrough in the treatment of Sweet-Itch. "We trialled them for 10 years. It started as a vaccine and was later developed into capsule form. We fed one capsule a week throughout the year and 90% of horses showed an improvement in their symptoms. Out of those horses 70% showed an above average improvement greater than 50%." Alison stated.

BioPlus capsules is not only an effective product, but it is simple and safe, designed to modulate the immune system. Itchy Horse Company Ltd has seen great results from this product not only to help treat Sweet-Itch but also treat other immune conditions such as COPD and Sarcoids.

Other fantastic products the company supply is a non-allergenic shampoo alongside numerous ointments including Mothers Bee products and Itchy Horse Barrier ointment. These products help soothe and protect, repairing damaged skin by providing a protective barrier allowing the skin to breathe and regenerate. Made from Beeswax, the Mother Bee sweet relief ointment is a blend of selected oils to help treat all skin conditions.

Everything Itchy Horse Company Ltd offers is geared towards the welfare of the horse as that is of vital importance. It has absorbed all increases in costs and has maintained set prices for the past seven years. Alison explained, "To us the welfare of the horse is more important than profit."

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Farming & Agriculture News



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Lightning Protection News

Stay safe with lightning protection

Here at Industrial Solutions, we are proud to announce South West Lightning Protection as our Lightning Protection Installation and Testing Services Company of the Month.

South West Lightning Protection provides a number of services throughout the UK including lightning protection, early streamer emission systems, upgrades of older systems, earthing services and design, safety line testing and inspection of horizontal safety line systems and PPE.



Established in 2014, South West Lightning Protection was created by Gary Libby who has over 40 years' experience in the industry. Located in Plymouth, the company also has an office in Scotland. "Our core service is lightning protection installations and testing; we also design new systems. As we are a small company in comparison to our competition, we strive to provide a personal service to our clients." Stated Gary.

In recent news, South West Lightning Protection has commenced testing of roof mounted horizontal cable based mansafe systems, permanent ladders, guard rails, and safety anchors. These services are provided individually from the company's lightning protection services, and to save the client money, can be combined.

South West Lightning Protection work throughout the UK to assist its clients with their project requirements regardless of their location. Within its lightning protection service, South West Lightning Protection is able to offer a full installation and testing service, including BSEN62305 systems, BS6651 upgrades, NFC 17 102 early streamer emission systems and BS7430 earthing systems. Some recent projects have included chimney upgrade works in Cumbria, new air termination networks in London and a new roof tape system in Plymouth. South West Lightning Protection record all test conditions and results, and a reminder is sent out before the next test is due.

The system South West Lightning Protection use provides an alternative solution to protecting structures where the installation of a British system is not a feasible or a viable option. Some benefits of its early streamer emission device include a more aesthetically pleasing device as the system only requires two down conductors and earth terminations to provide a path to earth. It is cheap to install and maintain, and as the number of roof conductors, down conductors and earth terminations are reduced, the system has a lower carbon footprint.

Its clients include electrical contractors, ministry of defence, NHS, companies in the sectors of water, commercial, telecoms and facilities management, as well as individuals. The company holds a health and safety accreditation by SafeContractor which audits the company training and safe systems of work. All company engineers are CITB card holders for the work they undertake, and DBS checked.

Inevitably, South West Lightning Protection experienced a disruption in the industry from COVID-19, however, as the company provides a safety critical work to the ministry of defence, it was classed as an essential business, so work was able to carry on at a reasonable level. "We have produced a company COVID-19 policy which protects both SWLP operators and clients. We work with clients to ensure we are in compliance to any restrictions on work which may be stipulated by customers." Stated Gary.

As South West Lightning Protection continue to grow within the lightning protection sector, the plan is to provide long term employment to its existing work force whilst adding new members of staff. "Whatever your requirements, we're here to help." Mentioned Gary.

For more information, see below.

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Waterproofing News

Your Flat Roofing Systems Specialist



Tuff Waterproofing attended the Build Show where they showcased their range of roofing materials, equipment and services. Tuff Waterproofing specialise in manufacturing and supplying heavy-duty GRP waterproof flat roof systems, as well as assistive products. The company was first set up in 2011 and grew out of an installation company that already had 30 years of experience. Heading Tuff Waterproofing is a considerably experienced and knowledgeable team, all of whom have over decades of experience in the industry. Not only does this allow them to supply their unrivalled flat roof systems, but it also means that they can provide top notch training, support and technical advice too.

Compared to those who specialise in solely manufacturing or installation, Tuff Waterproofing are able to supply a comprehensive service that works closely with customers and contractors.

We spoke to Gregory Gimenez, Managing Director at Tuff Waterproofing, who explained, "The life blood of Tuff Waterproofing is in our ability to provide exceptional training and professional support system for all of our clients. Our current dedicated team has between 15 and 20 years of experience in development and installation of our products thereby offering the very best in technical



advice in the business."

Based in North Yorkshire, Tuff Waterproofing supply to Builders Merchants and Roofing Centres throughout the UK. In addition to being one of the UK's leading providers of waterproof flat roofing systems, they are also incredibly proud to work in collaboration with Velux with regard to their highly sought after flat roof windows. As one of a select few to be chosen by Velux, a globally recognised multi-national group, they were held in extremely high recognition by those at the Build Show.

As for Tuff Waterproofing's products, they have a wide and varied product range to choose from which were also on display at the trade event. One notable and popular product is the TuffStuff® Grey Slate Top Coat that comes ready mixed for faster application and comes in a 15kg tin that can cover an impressive 30 square meters. Other TuffStuff coats include Basecoat (15 Kg) and application tools. Tuff Waterproofing also supply catalysts, reinforcing mat, roof trims and much more. Visitors of the UK Construction Week were particularly impressed by their newly launched TuffStuff® 10M² Roof Pack, an extensive one stop solution kit containing everything needed for installing a 10M² flat roof (OSB 3 Board and Trims to be sourced separately).

It contains a base coat resin, grey slate top coat, catalyst, reinforcement mat, finishing tissue, a wide bandage, GRP trim adhesive, latex gloves and finally a warranty certificate and installation manual.

When it comes to their training and technical support, Tuff Waterproofing have a committed and robust support team that prides

itself on helping customers achieve the most of their products, resolving any problems and minimising future issues.

If you would like to find out more on Tuff Waterproofing or how they can help you can the roof you require, then don't hesitate to get into contact today.

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Lightning Protection News

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Formed in 2014, and having over 40 years of expertise in the lightning protection industry, South West Lightning Protection, provides a full range of services from our office locations in the UK. With our trained operatives we are able to provide a full range of services, from conception to completion, and with our Safecontractor accreditation you can be assured works will be carried out adhering to all relevant health and safety requirements.

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- Test & Inspection (BSEN62305, BS6651, NFC 17 102)
- Safety Line systems testing

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Family run business in fifth generation

Vandecasteele Houtimport is a fifth-generation family run business that imports timber and timber products from over 45 countries worldwide. Its facilities are located in Kortrijk, Aalbeke, Belgium, where the company specialises in the import, trading and export of tropical hardwood from Africa, Southeast Asia and South America. The company also provide Scandinavian and Russian Softwood, Siberian Larch, North American Soft and Hardwood and European Hardwood.

Established in 1883 by Louis Vandecasteele, the company has been passed down through the generations to its current owner Stefaan Vandecasteele. Stefaan took over the running

of the company in 2000 and together with his son Louis and daughter Margaux, keep the company's family spirit alive. Constantly seeking to promote cordial relations with customers and suppliers alike, the heart of the company runs off mutual trust from all parties involved. Having the ability to adapt and react to the ever changing, fast-paced industry, Vandecasteele Houtimport always puts the customer's demands at the forefront of its service.

Working alongside timber importers, timber merchants and wholesalers, the company is able to deliver stock that is difficult to source within days using its own fleet of 18 vehicles. Its impressive set up allows its storage facility

which is situated on 39.5 acres of land to accommodate more than 120,000m³ of sawn timber products. In a matter of days, Vandecasteele Houtimport has the resources and ability to adapt and bridge the gap between sources of supply in Africa, Far East, South America and North America to Europe. This makes the company the first choice with many importers and merchants.

Utilising its vast and impressive stockholding of hardwoods and softwoods coupled with its strong environmental credentials. Vandecasteele Houtimport not only cares about nature and certified wood, but it guarantees to its customer, the commitment to only trade timber that comes

from well-managed certified forests. With trust and reliability being an integral part of Vandecasteele Houtimport's DNA, it also holds the validation of many certificates from well-known organisations.

Aligns with the 17 sustainable development goals

Vandecasteele Houtimport has set a challenging goal to stock 100% certified timbers from 2025. Currently, 100% of the softwoods the company stock is already certified and over 50% of the tropical hardwood. This number is continuously growing and makes Vandecasteele Houtimport the biggest stockholder of certified tropical timbers in Europe. Currently stocking over 140 timber species, Vandecasteele Houtimport now provides its newest addition of stock that is certified European Beech and Oak in Joinery, Prime, Super Prime grades and flooring. The variety of stock from the company embellishes the company's taglines of 'Choose Life, Choose Wood' and 'Using timber is good, using certified timber is wonderful!' Vandecasteele Houtimport really do love what they do and have a strong passion to grow within the industry. One way in which the company is making growth take place is its reaction to how BREXIT has and will change the industry. To combat new rules and importation structures, Vandecasteele Houtimport has set up a company in the UK – Vandecasteele Timber Ltd – which will facilitate the trade to all UK partners. A further challenge Vandecasteele Houtimport has had to overcome is the barriers created by COVID-19. The business model of Vandecasteele Houtimport is to hold and keep all stock of over 140 different timber species. 18 months later, gaps have started to appear. Due to its extensive range of timber species that the company has invested in for a long time, now allows for lesser-known certified timber species to be promoted to its customers. The company take great pride in its work, with a mission to continuously invest in the best performing traceability and certification procedures, the highest quality organisational process and the permanent training of its employees. Vandecasteele Houtimport endeavour to show that timber is the world's most ecological and sustainable material. And its future plans only echo the company's approach to sustainability within the industry. Vandecasteele Houtimport has a dedicated team to ensure all due diligence is up to date and in addition to the strict process, the company has invested in a forest engineer in Brazil to ensure full control on the CoC of the Brazilian timbers purchased.

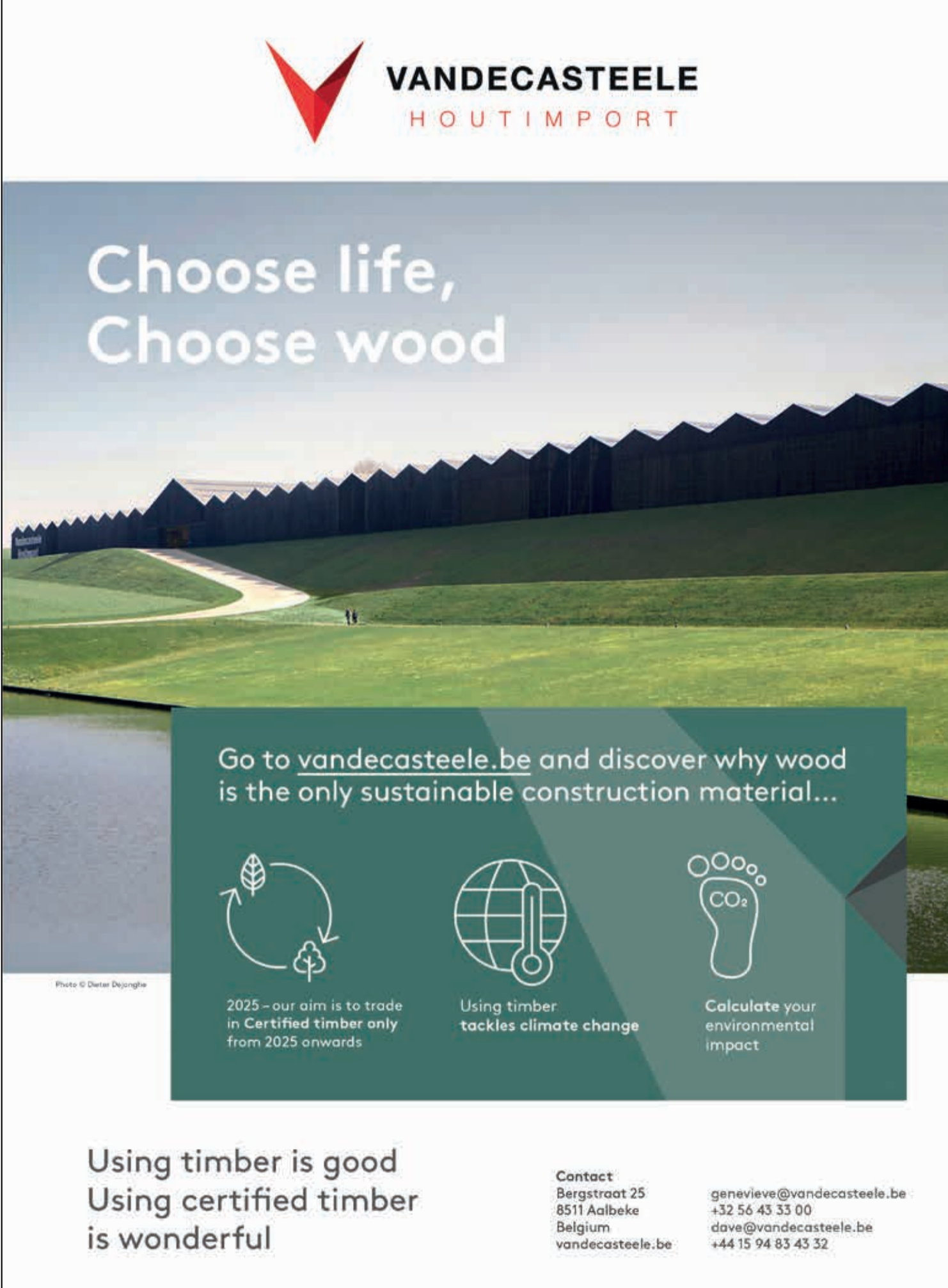
Circularity

Vandecasteele Houtimport are passionate about timber being used for sustainable building and construction material. Every step the company make boasts several ecological advantages showcasing the use of timber compared to traditional materials. With a low embodied energy and minimal carbon impact, timber really is the most sustainable material. It has an ecological, recyclable and biodegradable nature which is why Vandecasteele Houtimport is implementing a strict sustainability policy in all of its future actions and activities.

Long-term vision

Every step Vandecasteele Houtimport take, succinctly reveals the dedication and passion of the company and its future goals. As the company strive to be the European market leader in the trading of the richest assortment of certified timber, exclusively sourced from well-managed certified forests it is not going to be an easy journey, but it will most certainly be rewarding. With the goal of maximising the social, economic and environmental value of timber, now and for future generations, Vandecasteele Houtimport is creating economical sustainable change in a world that needs it most. For more information on Vandecasteele Houtimport and the products or services it provides, please see below.

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Photo © Dieter Dejonghe

Together we can create forests for the future

Established in 2014 by Nick Hollingworth and Liz Boivin, Tomorrow's Forests are specialists in high volume commercial reforestation, supporting industry, resource management, government, private landowners, and public institutions. "A lot of building work now requires tree planting, so we work with railway projects, housing developments, infrastructure and many others to help do this with cutting-edge technology," explains Liz.

After winning its first contract in 2014 to plant 90,000 trees, Tomorrow's Forests has grown significantly and now plants around 2 million trees each year across its numerous contracts. "After our first contract, we started gaining more, doing subcontracting in Yorkshire as well as some work in Scotland. Since then, we have established ourselves as a main contractor for the work we do and cover the whole of England, Wales, and Scotland," Liz adds.

replace the UK's lost forests, using Tomorrow's Forests' large-scale forestry experience. Instead of just planting trees for carbon sequestration, Creating Tomorrow's Forests is passionate about developing diverse woodland habitats for the long-term. The project uses the Tomorrow's Forests planting expertise with scientific research to make sure the right species of trees are planted in the right areas, and additional habitat such as ponds and meadows are created alongside to maximise the biodiversity at each site.

"We started acquiring land, offering businesses and individuals the chance to give back to nature and create biodiversity in places where it has been lost. We are very excited about this new project, and it is going well because businesses are prioritising sustainability and examining their environmental impact. We have started tree planting on a new wet woodland site in North Somerset.



This success is in no doubt down to Tomorrow's Forests' efficient, fast, and proactive nature. "When we start working with new clients, we often get positive feedback on how fast our team works. Our professional tree planters can plant around 3,000 trees a day each, so no project is too big or too small for us.

All of our team is trained and works hard during all daylight hours. For forestry work, we use a shift pattern of four days on, one day off. This helps to promote productivity, as they get a consistent day off that comes quicker than doing a five-day week as well as reducing the risk of injury. If we are working on construction sites, it is a five-day week, but the nature of the work is different from standard forestry."

In September 2020, a sister company was established called Creating Tomorrow's Forests, with the mission to fight climate change by creating forests across the UK, providing new habitats for wildlife, and removing CO₂ from the air. Creating Tomorrow's Forests was launched to make it easy for individuals and businesses to make a positive impact on the planet and



A lot of people are getting more interested in tree planting and the benefits it has, sequestering carbon and creating biodiversity and habitats for animals. I think COVID-19 has brought things into perspective for a lot of people in this sense."

Indeed, although the pandemic halted many of Tomorrow's Forests' operations in line with the construction industry, it meant they had more time



to focus on developing their new venture. "We want to work on expanding Creating Tomorrow's Forests, acquiring more sites and diversifying what we offer. Once we've completed the site in Somerset we'll be moving onto somewhere else."

And it is certainly true what Liz says – during the lockdowns across the world due to COVID-19, nature reclaimed many areas.

"Oceans were cleaner, animals were wandering the streets where they hadn't been before – it really put things into perspective for people. It's



important we take care of what we have. Scientists have been saying for years that we need to protect our climate, but it's easy to forget about this in day-to-day life. Putting a break on everything we were used to during the lockdown switched many people's focus to nature, with more of us taking walks in nature and in woodland.

For this reason and because of the push for carbon capture schemes, Creating Tomorrow's Forests has been getting more and more interest from businesses and individuals.

We are looking forward to developing the company further next year. We currently plant 2 million trees each year with Tomorrow's Forests,

and we want to reach the same point with our sister company."

If you would like to find out more information on either Tomorrow's Forests or Creating Tomorrow's Forests, head to the websites or get in touch directly using the contact details below.

T 01258 818003 Head Office
M 07824 673239 Nick Hollingworth
(Managing Director)
M 07760 263548 Elisabeth Boivin
(Managing Director)
office@tomorrowsforests.com
www.tomorrowsforests.co.uk
www.creatingtomorrowsforests.co.uk



www.tomorrowsforests.co.uk

Tomorrow's Forests can assist with the supply and planting of high quality local trees as well as sundry products required for your woodland creation project.

Our professional and dedicated team will carry out all the necessary surveys of your property, produce detailed designs and, with our skilled planters, will implement the new woodland creation to the highest standard and to meet your exact requirements.

We will provide help and advice throughout the process and ensure that specific government funding requirements are met. Following the completion of your woodland creation project, we can offer ongoing maintenance, upkeep and professional advice.

There are many advantages to the planting of trees on less productive or unused land areas and farmers and landowners can now obtain a number of government grant and funding options to help with establishing new woodland areas.

Woodland creation projects can be undertaken on suitable land from 3 hectares up larger areas of over 10 hectares and can provide substantial environmental and financial benefits.

Woodland Creation Benefits Include:	crops and livestock
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timber production• Increasing land value• Providing shelter for	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing new wildlife habitats• Stabilising river banks• Game cover• Improving the amenity value

To find out how Tomorrow's Forests can help with your woodland creation project or to discuss the available grant options, please get in touch:

☎ 01258 818003 | ✉ office@tomorrowsforests.com



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Finding the right funding for you

Finding the right funding can be not only frustrating and tedious, but a long and often challenging task. Having a hands on approach, SME funding UK has over 20 years' of experience, specialising in commercial funding and invoice finance, and is well equipped with the resources, expertise and knowledge to assist you throughout the process of business funding. The company understands that as a business owner, you need quick results that provide you with the best funding solution. Utilising its expertise and access to over 150 lenders, SME funding UK has built a solid reputation on finding the right funding for its clients, echoed by its multitude of happy clients and testimonies.

SME funding UK Ltd is a business finance broker which was established by current Owner Henry Audley-Charles, to source almost any form of business finance for UK and Channel Island businesses, using traditional, alternative, peer to peer and fin-tech solutions. Henry maintains an impressive amount of experience and has been working in the banking industry for a multitude of years. Working with all the major players in the industry, Henry has worked with Lloyds, RBS and HSBC in Commercial and Senior Business Development roles as well as being the Regional Sales Director for an Invoice Finance Company.

Henry stated, "We are an Independent, ethical, FCA authorised and regulated finance broker. We help businesses borrow money from the right lender, at the right price."

Placing the utmost importance on customer care, SME funding UK Ltd is dedicated to providing the highest level of customer service, ensuring that it handles each application on an individual basis, creating and managing the initial relationship with the funder.

Working both ethically and transparently, the company truly takes on the importance of finding not just funding, but the RIGHT funding solution for its client, saving them time and presenting its clients with the straight facts. Expert customer service is at the forefront of the company's operations,

utilising its finance background of nearly 30 years' experience of banks, invoice financiers and independent funders; SME funding UK Ltd boasts the skills, expertise and connections to provide the best individual funding solution.

"We maintain a holistic approach to solving business finance problems. We working ethically to provide the right solution for the client, not the one that pays us the most commission." Added Henry.

SME funding UK Ltd assists its clients to find the right funding for a variety of needs including helping with new and used: equipment, tankers, tools, trucks, vans and yellow plant. This is in addition to business finance requirements, including: Asset Finance, Bridging, Construction Finance, Personal Guarantee Insurance, Buy to Let, Cashflow, Commercial Mortgages, Invoice Finance, Loans, Property Development and Working Capital.

SME funding UK Ltd maintains a varied and vast amount of accreditations, positioning the company firmly at the forefront of the industry for its expertise. Some of its most notable accreditations include being authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, a member of the National Association of Finance Brokers and Financial Intermediary & Broker Association, and is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. As the company is FCA authorised, this provides SME funding UK with access to better quality lenders ensuring that they can offer their clients the best deals.

SME funding UK Ltd's sheer commitment to assisting its clients is evidenced throughout its operations by various personal client testimonials.

Committed to assisting any UK business needing business finance and with constant expansion in terms of its services, SME funding UK Ltd



also provides consultancy services to SMEs to help improve business systems and processes, specialising in the sales ledger and sales order process. In addition, the company is consistently searching for new financing and services to offer its clients and has recently launched aviation and marine financing.

With its reputation being built on continuously exceeding expectations for its clients, SME funding UK Ltd is looking ahead to its future, set on continuing its hands on approach and dedication to clients.

For further information, please see the details below or get in touch if you would like to discuss what options may be open to you via a free of charge, no obligation chat.

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Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or other loan secured on it. SME funding UK Ltd is a broker, not a lender and can introduce you to a number of finance providers based on your requirements and credit rating, we may receive a commission for such introductions. All finance is subject to application and formal credit approval.



Make your project possible

Building Update is proud to announce that DCON Safety Consultants Limited has received our Commitment to Excellence Award for 2020.

DCON Safety Consultants Limited offers leading health and safety consultancy and construction statute advice services. The company prioritises and specialises in the highest levels of informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocation



and compliance assurance. Informed by industry expertise, DCON Safety Consultants Limited knows that every project has potential risks, no matter what its potential benefits, so its team of highly experienced construction professionals helps to ensure clients' statutory conformity.

Upon gaining understanding of the specific needs, goals and desires of each client and their project, DCON Safety Consultants Limited is dedicated to implementing a design and construction management plan that will meet or exceed these requirements.



And, DCON Safety Consultants Limited ensures that there is honesty, integrity, trust and professionalism underpinning every project.

Moreover, the company's services are centred on three delivery principles:

- **Maximising Quality:** the company implements proven health, safety and wellbeing strategies to help clients achieve high quality and cost-effective work commensurate with the design of their projects.
- **Minimising Risk:** the company effectively manages design and delivery risk on projects to match each client's desired risk level profile.
- **Managing Compliance:** the company relies on its extensive background working on a wide variety of projects to assist clients in developing, monitoring and maintaining compliance performance.

This excellent service would not be possible without the leadership of Diarmuid Condon, a construction industry leader who brings unique perspectives to encourage, support and mentor the abilities of his colleagues. As a construction professional with a surveying background and experience spanning two decades, Diarmuid is emblematic of DCON Safety Consultants Limited's commitment to providing outstanding services to clients.

Diarmuid has contributed his invaluable expertise to over 400 projects over 20 years, with a client list including public sector departments, corporate owners, real estate developers, main contractors, design professionals and infrastructural bodies. With this incredible portfolio, Diarmuid is helping DCON Safety Consultants Limited to become a leader in health and safety consultancy across the construction industry.

Key to DCON Safety Consultants Limited's services is working as a Project Supervisor

for the Design Process (PSDP) in various sectors across the Irish construction market. No project is too simple or too complex for the company's PSDP consultants, all of whom are construction professionals with an average of 20 years' experience in the built environment. The ability to maximise this knowledge and skillset means DCON Safety Consultants Limited can generate distinctive and innovative ideas from traditional PSDP service inputs and outputs.

Additionally, DCON Safety Consultants Limited offers planning compliance assurance services. The ability to strategically support a positive planning decision is exclusive to the company. Its Draft Construction Management Plans (DCMP) inform the overall planning, coordination and control of a project from the beginning of construction to completion. The DCMP also safeguards the obligation placed upon a client to produce a safe, functional and financially viable project.

DCON Safety Consultants Limited also provides its main contractor clients with intelligent, practical, and reasonable physical site safety advice to support compliance and good practice adherence. Behavioural safety outcomes inform how the company approaches each solution with the contractor and their supply chain, identifying opportunities for improvement.



To complement this, DCON Safety Consultants Limited can also help with clients' health and safety strategy. Its holistic and integrated approach can help unlock substantial benefits for clients by providing a structured, objective and SMART framework for full optimisation through the creation of an environment that embraces health, safety and wellbeing.

This means DCON Safety Consultants Limited helps clients to improve their health, safety and environmental performance; enhance staff satisfaction thanks to improved performance; improve risk management and corporate governance with a clear audit trail; gain confidence from long-term planning, better sustainability and

performance; and improve overall corporate reputation, including greater staff satisfaction and a more efficient procurement and supply chain.



Finally, DCON Safety Consultants Limited can offer a safety expert witness service, which is headed by Diarmuid himself. He has extensively supported safety-related matters, and is a certified and competent safety professional who will work with clients to identify exactly what kind of safety expert is needed. Then, he will use an extensive network of contacts to recruit the right person to protect clients' interests.

DCON Safety Consultants Limited's fantastic service offering and proven track record

of offering leading health and safety consultancy services makes the company a worthy winner of our Commitment to Excellence award. Such achievements are proof that DCON Safety Consultants Limited is well-placed to help ensure your safety, health and wellbeing and make your project possible.

If you are interested in finding out more information on DCON Safety Consultants Limited's full range of excellent services, head to the website or get in touch directly using the contact details below.

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Varnish News

Unbeatable Varnish for a Range of Uses

Le Tonkinois Varnish is a specially designed varnish that was first formulated back in China almost three centuries ago. The natural oil based yacht varnish comes with a range of excellent benefits, including being permanent, removing brush marks, not cracking or flaking off.

On top of that, the varnish boasts exceptional corrosion protection for metals and has a durable coat too, meaning it can withstand impact without peeling or cracking.

The highly raved about varnish can be seen on yachts and boats, whether in fresh water, sea water, or sludge up and down the country. Not only that, but you can also use Le Tonkinois Varnish in kitchens, outdoor and interior woodwork.

As a result of being fully waterproof and non-microporous, the varnish is resistant to boiling water, alcohol and has even been classified as safe to use in food areas.

Le Tonkinois Varnish can also be used to stain wood, and pigments can be mixed in with the varnish if a particular colour is desired, whilst still allowing the wood to breathe, a feature not typically found among other varnishes.

The varnish is also naturally glossy and can be made matt or satin with an additional coating of Gelomat.

If you would like to find out how you can get your hands on some of the remarkable Le Tonkinois Varnish, or would like to find out how you can use it for your own needs, then be sure to get in contact using the number below.

Alternatively, more information can be found by checking out the website.

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Demon Designs: Experts in glass

Building Update is always looking to showcase companies who are offering only the highest quality services, delivering an exceptional customer experience throughout the entire working relationship. For this reason, we are proud to announce that Demon Designs has been chosen to receive our Design Company of the Year award. "The staff and I are very excited to have been selected for this award," said Dominic Meakins, Managing Director. "It's a really great way to start the year on a high!"

Established in 2011 by Dominic Meakins, Demon Designs specialises in bespoke solutions for glass structures, offering consultancy, design and build services to exceed its clients' requirements every time. Fuelled by a commitment to excellence, the team at Demon Designs always goes the extra mile to ensure complete customer satisfaction, no matter what the project size.

"We pretty much provide everything glass related," Dominic explained. "A big seller last year was the switchable glass panels that turn from opaque to clear using a remote control or light switch. We can put this in almost any glass installation, from wall panels to windows – we have used it on glass floors and even to create a two-way mirror."

One of Demon Designs' key advantages is its comprehensive service, offering everything the customer might need for their project. "Many of our customers want the hassle removed. For example, if they want a walk-on glass floor installed, they don't want to get a builder in to cut the hole, a plasterer to make good and a decorator to finish it off. We can do the lot, including engineers' calculations." Indeed, with the ability to provide a one-stop-shop for all project requirements, Demon Designs is the number one choice, no matter how complex the design.

Recently, Demon Designs joined Check-a-trade, with a view to obtaining more domestic customers in preparation for the uncertainty of the current commercial market. "This has had some success, but we still find that the vast majority of our customers are either returning customers or new customers by recommendation, and you can't really get a better endorsement than that!"

Indeed, as well as a loyal customer base, this commitment to customer satisfaction has resulted in impressive successes for Demon Designs over the past eight years, and this year has been no different. "It's been an interesting year for us," Dominic told us. "We have seen a shift in the type of projects we win, moving away from large commercial fit-out projects towards domestic 'Grand Designs' type projects and installations."

"In the past year we have designed and installed two glass stages, which were very interesting projects and highly pressured with regard to time and expectation. We were also very lucky to have been awarded the contract to install all the glass for the hospitality areas at Tottenham Hotspur football club, as well as fit out several of the NFL areas."

In the coming years, Demon Designs is looking to complete more complex projects, to help the

company grow even further and build upon its achievements since its inception eight years ago.

"We want to take on more bespoke projects, big or small. I personally believe that you can only improve by pushing your boundaries, and this is true for business also. We are constantly taking on more challenging projects, often from other companies who don't want the risk. The great thing about this is that we often work for companies that would be considered competitors in other fields."

Indeed, Demon Designs' future ventures are highly anticipated as it continually develops and improves upon its capabilities. The company is always interested in taking on new customers, either commercial or domestic, so get in touch using the details below or head to the website if you wish to discuss your ideas.

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Please contact us on:
01903 733206

Email: info@demon-designs.co.uk
www.demon-designs.co.uk



Your material handling partner

In this issue of Building Update, we are proud to announce that we have selected Davison Forklift as our Forklift Solutions Company of the Month.

Davison Forklift became a limited company in 1977 and grew as supplier of forklifts to the manufacturing, logistics and supply chain of the West Midlands and surrounding areas. In the summer of 2017 the company was purchased by the Malcolm Harrison Group of Companies with the intention to grow organically and extend our hire portfolio. As part of this ambitious growth projection in early 2021 we moved into our current premises located outside Telford in Shropshire.

We are now dealers for Clark forklifts, Ausa Equipment and Machinery, Haulotte access platforms and Hako cleaning equipment.

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Davison Forklift Ltd are members of the Forklift Truck Association/BITA and CFTS accredited to perform Thorough Examinations to the Quality assurance Procedural Code



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Complete compliance solutions



We are pleased to announce that CheckedSafe has been selected as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence Award.

Since 2014, CheckedSafe has provided simple and inexpensive tailored compliance solutions. Established by Gary Hawthorne and Darran Harris, CheckedSafe is a SaaS platform compliance provider providing several apps and a web-based reporting system that is multi-functional and secure.

The CheckedSafe system offers organisations a complete solution, enabling them to manage and protect their workforce and comply with legal compliance requirements whilst reducing cost and liability. "We can provide you with a fully integrated solution - you can be completely paperless - also by using our system properly you will have a legally defensible product. We bespoke templates on the app to suit individual requirements, our latest release now means that the client can also do this themselves," said Gary.

Located in Burnley, its system is global and can be accessed from anywhere as long as you have an internet connection for the management portal, the app itself works off line and on-line so there is no restriction on using the app.

Both Darran and Gary's individual expertise has resulted in CheckedSafe being a nationally recognised company. "I am a transport professional with 30+ years in commercial

transport, and Darran has 25+ years as a solicitor, so our individual skills set us apart from other "IT" providers in the industry," said Gary.

CheckedSafe has a range of services from vehicle compliance solutions, compliance and regulations, risk assessment and incident reporting tools via the App that enables them to offer the client a complete solution. Gary explained, "We constantly develop our product from user feedback. We release new features at least every quarter and a new app probably every four months depending on what features we have developed. Customer feedback is critical to us, we know a lot about transport, but the end users have great ideas that we take on board and use to develop free of charge and push out to the CheckedSafe community."

CheckedSafe's web-based reporting system is accredited by DVSA and the FLTA and utilised across all fleet types of HGV, PCV, VAN, plant or utilities. If it needs a checklist, CheckedSafe can digitise and catalogue it, providing you with a cost-effective compliance solution.

With much of the industry yet to explore, over five



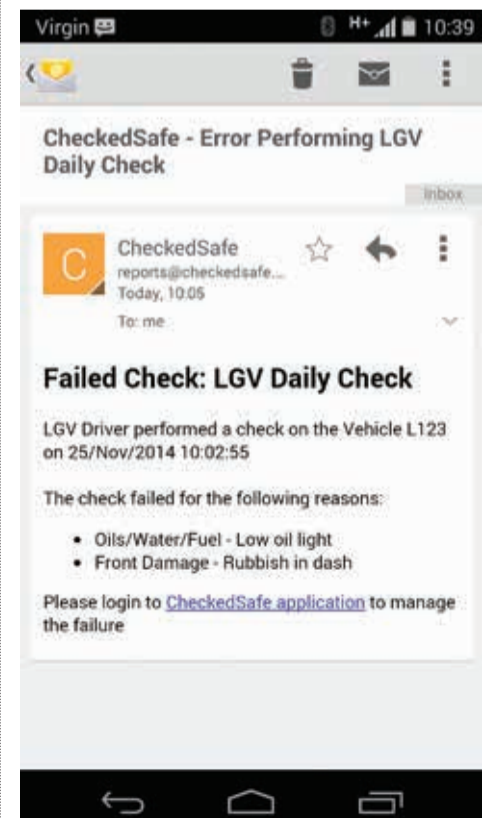
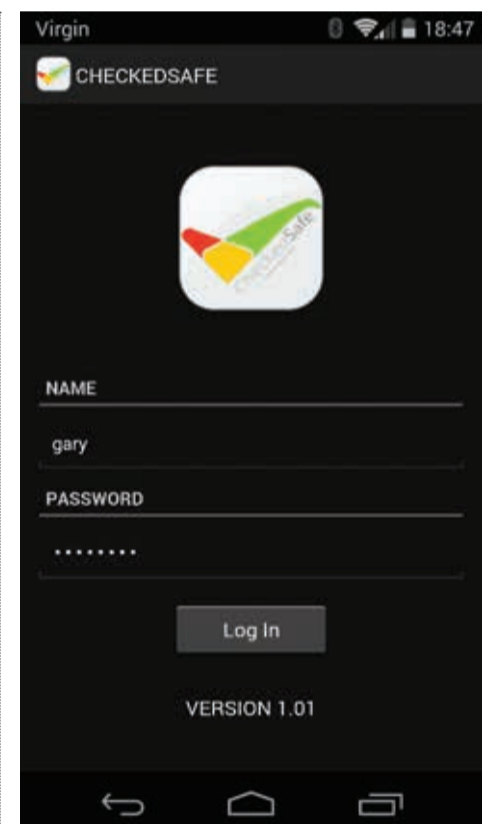
million commercial vehicles in the UK and over 20 million pieces of plant, there is a huge market for CheckedSafe to expand into. "Our plan is to furrow into the fleet industry and develop new features, and if from this market we get new ideas then we will look to develop them further. We have recently developed our API to link with Dynamic 365 for a large crane operator which will come into development later this year/early 2022," stated Gary.

Despite COVID-19, CheckedSafe has managed to outsource all marketing resulting in an increase in in-bound enquiries. Utilising platforms such as Zoom and Teams, less time has been spent travelling and more focus has been on growing the business from home.

Eight years ago, CheckedSafe was an idea, that today, has flourished into a fully successful business. Gary and Darran are passionate about what they do and provide a skill set that boasts professionalism and expertise. "We know our industry and our clients have an immediate infinity with us and put faith in us," said Gary.

For more information, see below.

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Gordon Rigg to recognise 76 years in business



providing new tanks for its fish in 2018, and in 2019 Gordon's Garden Tea Room was opened. "This year we have revamped our Mill Shop and intend to extend our farm shop as we see more room for growth in that area," noted Fiona.

With Christmas fast approaching, Gordon Riggs is preparing its displays which customers boast about for miles around. In

the coming months it will begin stocking festive favourites from decorations, cards, wrapping papers, to Christmas pottery, ribbons and Christmas silk flowers. "We do a vast selection of Christmas lights, real, artificial and fibre optic trees," mentioned Fiona.

Following Gordon's passing; the company is now owned and managed by Gordon's son, Peter Rigg, his wife Pauline and their children. To commemorate its anniversary, the Rigg family celebrate and comment, "we are definitely looking forward to many more years in business."

Gordon Rigg
GARDEN, HOME & LEISURE

For more information, see below.
T 01706 813374
sales@gordonrigg.com
www.gordonrigg.com

Gordon Rigg recognises its 76 years in business this year and has been voted the North of England's best garden centre by Which? Magazine. The milestone is lauded by the exceptional long standing pillars Gordon Rigg has implemented into the local community. Over the years it has employed hundreds of local individuals, connecting community with business, showing others how the values within Gordon Rigg have fostered a community culture of care, compassion and hard work.

"After 76 years it's fantastic that Gordon Rigg continues to thrive as a business, and we are still very much a family run firm that is built on the same values that formed the company's foundations back in 1945, providing quality, choice and value. We have a huge selection of garden, home and leisure products with one of the largest house plant departments in the North of England," explained Peter Rigg, Owner.

Since its founding in 1945 by Gordon Rigg, the company has grown into one of the districts most well-known garden centres and attracts gardeners from all over the country. Its flagship centre is based in Todmorden, which is located opposite the Bottoms Mill Shop and its one other centre is in Rochdale. "We pride ourselves on providing a huge choice of products from reputable suppliers that we have dealt with for years. We offer excellent value as well as excellent customer service," said Fiona, Marketing Manager.

'Inspiring gardeners since 1945' - Gordon Rigg nurtures a passion within the younger generation for gardening. It believes by educating them, the future of the horticultural industry will be in safe hands. Over the years customers of Gordon Rigg have typically been of the older generation, but recently, the garden centre has received an influx of interest from families with young children and young adults. "Parents have told us our garden centre has been a god send throughout COVID-19, as at times it was the only place to bring young children to keep them engaged and entertained as they visited our aquatics department and looked around the centre. Our collection of resin animals from Vivid Arts is particularly popular with young children," said Fiona.

Armed with an entrepreneurial spirit and a keen eye for the latest developments in the horticultural industry, Gordon Rigg is constantly looking for ways to improve. Over the years it has opened a farm shop at its Todmorden branch which now offers the best quality local and regional produce, redevelopment the aquatic department



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- Graffiti resistant
- UV protected
- Eco-friendly and low carbon
- 100% maintenance-free
- Lasts a lifetime

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How can you improve your driver and fleet risk management?

Improve your risk and compliance processes with the future of driver & fleet risk management solutions.

Licence Bureau, via its parent company TTC Group, is offering the world-leading driver and employee risk management platform solution TTC Continuum.

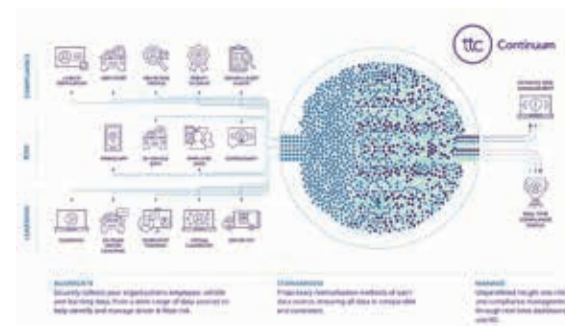
Integrating data from numerous sources, including telematics, driver behaviour

and in-vehicle technology, TTC Continuum delivers comprehensive insights into driver risk and compliance management through real-time dashboards and management information.

By using TTC Continuum, you can easily and quickly manage your entire driving community from a single online platform, ensuring real-time compliance with HSE legislation and that your organisation is

best placed to manage 'Duty of Care' Compliance under current UK legislation.

Thanks to its 24/7/365 delivery of driver and fleet risk data, TTC Continuum makes managing your organisation's fleet far simpler, driving decision making and focusing fleet management resources to where they're needed most.



The platform recognises that each driver is a unique individual, ensuring that any training meets drivers' exact needs and adapts as their needs change, lowering collision risk exposure and the related costs you might incur. Furthermore, you can tailor training to match your business needs by starting with compliance and then building a programme to deliver real business benefits, such as collision cost reductions, improved employee retention and stabilised insurance premiums.

The effectiveness of this training can decline over time unless it is reinforced on a regular basis, so TTC Continuum also offers a suite of post-training interventions, such as micro-videos, that keep driver risk at the forefront of every drivers' mind.

What's more, by combining driver-declared driving history with real-time telematics data, TTC Continuum offers customers the opportunity to use multiple data sources to drive fleet and driver risk decision making.

Of course, the risk exposure for drivers changes day by day – it can be increased in poor driving decisions or reduced by targeted and personalised training. TTC Continuum helps to identify changes in risk profile and discovers opportunities for additional remedial action.

Other solutions included within the TTC Continuum include Driving Licence Checks, which feature a digital e-declaration and results within seconds. Results are stored by TTC Continuum and help to identify the highest risk drivers, being a key element of the driver Risk Profile Score. This is in addition to a Driver Risk Profile, with a 40-question Driver Risk Assessment. Scores are produced by market-leading risk score algorithms created by industry experts and validated by data scientists, with an easy dashboard view of Driver Risk Profiles.

This is just a snapshot of TTC Continuum's comprehensive features, and readers are urged to get in touch with Licence Bureau for a demo to discover first-hand how TTC Continuum can improve your driver and fleet risk management.

Interested? Get in touch using the details below.

T 01442 430 980
www.licencebureau.co.uk
www.thettcgroup.com/driver-risk-management/ttc-continuum

TTC Continuum

TTC Continuum platform manages driver Risk & Compliance

TTC Continuum is the future of driver & fleet risk management solutions, integrating data from many sources including telematics, driver behaviour and in-vehicle technology, to deliver unparalleled insight into driver risk and compliance management through real-time dashboards and Management Information.

- **Driving Licence Verification**
- **Grey Fleet Management**
- **Driver Risk Profile**
- **Permit to Drive**
- **Driver & Fleet Risk Audits**



www.thettcgroup.com

