

INDUSTRIAL

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SOLUTIONS UK

THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL IN COURT

10 PRINCIPLES FOR PRACTICE

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Curtiss Wright

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Assentech

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OnRobot

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Harlequin Floors

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Unisig

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The UK's leading multimodel forwarders and logistics organisations since 1870

See them on page XIV in BUILDING UPDATE

Davies Turner

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Including BUILDING UPDATE

Featuring a wide variety of companies from across the UK and Europe, from Builders to Landscaping.

Editors Comments

Hello & welcome to Issue 659 of Industrial Solutions UK!

The team at Industrial Solutions UK has been working extremely hard to bring you an issue that is full of innovative and exhilarating companies and we are very excited to share their success and achievements with you.

We have searched the length and breadth of the UK to bring you some of the most ground-breaking innovations and this month we are overjoyed to be highlighting the activities of Peyton Medico and Assentech.

Firstly, we would like to focus on the accomplishments Peyton Medico who this month features on our front cover!

Secondly, we are featuring Assentech with the 'Biogas & Ventilation' profile following their impressive performance over the years. For more information, turn to page 6.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of Industrial Solutions as much as we have enjoyed bringing it to you. Happy reading and we hope to see you for the next edition!

Ian Hayward
Editor
INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS UK

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Enimac unveils its plans for the future

Enimac is part of the tape-converting group Biemme Adesivi. A few years ago, as a result of a need for more space, the company moved into a new building. Now, needing to expand again, the group has purchased the building next door with Enimac foreseen to move over in 2022 with expanded office and manufacturing space

along with a showroom area where they can show and test their standard as well as industrial tape application solutions, expanding their ability to do proof-of-concept testing for clients.

Enimac began implementing a new distribution strategy in 2020 shifting attention towards tape converters. This was to align their network with what they

were already doing in Italy, offering a complete solution, tape + automation. Over the next 12 months, they will continue to develop this creating new relationships around the globe. Specifically for the UK, they have 2 new distributors of their standard tape application equipment: Viking Industrial Products Ltd. (www.vikingtapes.co.uk) and Industrial Business Solutions (www.tapes.co.uk), part of Coastline Adhesive Tapes Ltd.

Among new entries in their standard machine line-up, they

Pneumatic Presses

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Below are typical examples of how Tog-L-Loc® can also save on the cost of consumables such as rivets, nuts & bolts, weld tips and adhesives.



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have a 100mm applicator for their small-medium format X-treme Light product line since wide tape strips are not only applied to wide format substrates. They've also introduced a new X-treme PRO E-commerce version outfitted with spool unwinder and a 60mm applicator with a double-spindle tape drum able to apply 2 strips of double-sided tape and 1 strip of tear tape simultaneously, greatly reducing the footprint necessary for this type of application. It accepts formats up to 1.6m wide and 15mm thick.

In addition to their standard machines, which are often used in the printing, packaging, signage and wall-protection systems industry (they apply tape basically to anything flat), Enimac also offers applicators to integrate (on robots/cobots, folder-glueers, slitter-rewinders, in production lines, and other machinery) and complete custom equipment (including 2 and 3 axis cartesian and pick & place systems). For these more complex solutions contact Enimac directly.

You can't just say 'abracadabra' and, bingo, have a solution: it takes real people listening to clients, analyzing processes, designing and building reliable solutions. Enimac work together with converters to choose the right tape for your automated application and with top-rated technology companies to offer complete, state-of-the-art solutions. Enimac is exactly what they say they: "We're not just another special purpose machine design company. We have tape in our DNA."

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Working in the Resin Flooring Industry since the early nineties has allowed myself to view the possibilities and see the many changes.

I have spent time with major manufactures and contractors, which is where I have gained invaluable experience. I have been the Industry Ambassador for Sustainability and Recycling since 2005, a role I enjoy as I have always believed we all have a role to play in looking after the world we live in.

I started Abacus Flooring Solutions to allow myself the flexibility in decisions, beliefs, and my future. I suppose whilst Abacus Flooring Solutions is a new business, I have simply continued as I have for the last 34 years. Although now I can support many charities each month, giving back thousands per annum to local cases.

It has also allowed me to focus on Recycling, Sustainability and Life Cycle Costs. I really do enjoy planning a specification, which can provide Life Cycle costs for a customer. Whilst making flooring systems, I could see we were using a lot of mined aggregates, possibly around 75-100 tonnes per annum.

This is where I could see we could change the way we worked and implement the most environmental change that the industry has seen.

Abacus Flooring Solutions can be contacted either via phone on: 01530 432790/ 07904 396962 or via email: admin@abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk/ nick@abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk Our informative website is: www.abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk

Hydraulic & Pneumatic Presses

Global leaders in sheet metal clinching technology

BTM (UK) Automation Products Ltd is a specialist provider of sheet metal clinching machines, hydraulic press machines and pneumatic press machines. BTM has encompassed over 40 years of experience within the industry and offers unrivalled complex designs and high-quality standards within a global market.

From initial enquiry though to commissioning, BTM offers a full and complete package. Its expert specialist engineers are trained in the automotive, lighting, heating, white goods and many other industries. With the enhanced capabilities delivered by Tog-Loc® process, BTM can find a solution for any problem whether its be a simple hand-held unit, robot cells or special purpose machines.

Tog-Loc® sheet metal clinching system is a fast, low-cost assembly alternative to spot welding, rivets, and screws etc. The Tog-Loc® is a process known as clinching which cold-forms the part metal using a special punch and die to form a strong interlocking clinch joint. The result of the process is a round, button shaped extrusion on the die side of the assembly, and a small cylindrical cavity on the punch side. The clinch joint requires only the sheet metals that require joining. No external fasteners or heat is utilised in the process and comes with manual or automated assembly solutions.

The Tog-Loc® is BTM's unique flagship technology that is simple, economical and an efficient solution to all metal joining needs. Potential capabilities to perform 300,000 joints or more created by a single press stroke, the outcome leaves a strong, leak-proof joint that is highly fatigue resistant. It has the ability to create joints in plain, coated and dissimilar metals



without destroying the coating. As it uses a clinching process, rivets, screws or other fasteners are not needed. Eliminating spot welding operations, it boasts an environmentally friendly process that creates zero sparks, fumes or soot.

Other innovative products from BTM include VLOC™, The OvalLoc™, and the LanceN-Loc™, all of which offer slightly differing benefits and additions to the trusted Tog-Loc® and can be used in different ways for different materials.

BTM's Universal Hydraulic Presses are designed for optimum flexibility in sheet metal clinching applications. Ideal for short run production or prototyping, it comes with two standard configurations, with tooling that can be reversed to suit part configuration. It's ideal for sheet metal joining, hole piercing, setting clinch nuts or rivets, bending forming and other applications.

BTM offer a plethora of products, equipment and in-house services that deliver customers the best solutions

on the market. With production and design applications that far outweigh any competitor in the industry, BTM has gained a reputation for its high-quality workmanship and problem-solving abilities that have laid the foundations for its continued success.

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Davison Forklift was established by John Davison back in the mid-sixties, and was sold to Malcolm Harrison in 2018. Based in Shifnal, Shropshire the company maintains a rich history and has grown significantly since its inception, seeing impressive growth year on year.



"We are a machinery hire company specialising in the hire of forklifts, tractors and telehandlers. We sell, repair and hire the aforementioned machines. We are also dealers for Clark, who invented the forklift in the early 20th century. We take pride in providing a very personal service, which is second to none," said Adrian. Throughout the years, Davison Forklift has explored new sectors and moved its focus into the hire and sales of new product ranges. By consistently expanding upon its product range, has enabled Davison Forklift to be able to discover and move into new sectors and enter higher markets, developing a broader customer base. Davison Forklift has positioned itself firmly at the forefront of the material handling sector, offering a broad range of products, complemented by a highly skilled team of trained forklift engineers that carry out on-site repairs, servicing and health checks. The company specialises in the hire and sales of forklift trucks and is the authorised UK dealers for Clark, Haulotte and Ausa.

In terms of recent developments, Davison Forklift has seen a recent relocation, moving to a new rural location in Yew Tree Lane in Shifnal, Shropshire. This move has helped the company explore new markets and helped to facilitate an investment into new equipment. As such, Davison Forklift has turned its attention to the hire and sale of tractors and telehandlers.

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Curtiss-Wright have a commendable history behind them, having been founded by three of the world's most celebrated aviation pioneers, Orville and Wilbur Wright and Mr. Glenn Curtiss, one of the forerunners of naval aviation. Their companies, the 'Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company' and 'Wright Aeronautical Corporation' merged in 1929 in order to create Curtiss-Wright. Today Curtiss-Wright is one of the world's leading advanced engineering companies, having diversified and branched out into numerous different technologies across multiple sectors, including commercial and industrial, defence, power, metals, aerospace and much more.

\$2 billion and having acquired almost 60 businesses.

Many of these companies still operate under their original name, such as Metal Improvement Company, Bolt's Metallizing, IMR Test Labs, Component Coating and Repair Services and more who now are part of Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies. These various divisions offer a wide variety of different specialised surface treatments such as thermal spray coatings, solid film lubricants, shot peening technology and much more.



most well-known and international subsidiaries, specialises in providing material surface treatment solutions, focuses on enhancing the performance of critical materials and components. As many of their clients are in heavy engineering based industries, critical components are often of vital importance. Not only do they need to be specially designed to precision specifications, but they need

to be long lasting and properly maintained too.

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Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies, one of their

At the turn of the 21st Century, Curtiss-Wright had grown into a multi-national company, with global sales of over

Now with new accessories – Slimline AZM150 solenoid interlock

The DHS-150 door handle system is especially suited to heavy swing doors



With the new practical DHS-150 door handle system, the slimline AZM150 solenoid interlock from Schmersal is now even easier to use. The ergonomic DHS-150 avoids the need for a separate door handle and is suitable for machine enclosures or fencing and for all standard aluminium profiles with a width of 40mm. The robust door bolt is particularly useful on heavy swing doors and in for use in harsh environments.

One benefit of the new accessory is that the actuator is pre-positioned by the bolt in the DHS system, thus ensuring its optimal insertion into the device. This gives the system stability against lateral forces. In the event of lateral forces on interlocks that cannot be overcome, the safety door will not be opened – thus causing delays in the production process. In this regard, the DHS-150 door handle system, in conjunction with the AZM150 solenoid interlock, contributes to improved system availability.

In addition, the DHS-150 door handle system is also equipped with an integrated locking device (LOTO). This locking tag function protects operating staff from mistakenly being locked inside larger, walk-in systems and machines while they are performing servicing and repair work. The locking device ensures that the door of the protective device cannot be closed and unintentional machine start-up is prevented.

The AZM150 solenoid interlock has an interlocking force of 1500 Newtons and is characterised by a slimline, space-saving design. In addition, it can be combined with three different actuators for different attachment situations. A positive of the interlock is the rotating actuator head which can be locked with ease by simple placement on the cover, rather than being bolted into place. The rotating actuator head with its two insertion slots enables various installation positions and actuating options and makes the interlock particularly versatile in use.

The AZM150 solenoid interlock is electromechanical in design and can be combined with a high safety standard: the interlock is supplied with a low coding level as standard, or optionally with a high coding level in accordance with ISO 14119. The DHS-150 door handle system can be used with the B1 straight actuator for the standard version as well as for the individually coded version. The B1 actuator is supplied with the high coding level version of the device, but must be ordered separately for use with the standard version.

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Biogas & Ventilation

Game changing technology revolutionising valve testing in the tank storage and biogas industries. Benefits both the operator and the environment. Like all true inventions one wonders why this hasn't been done before

Soaring energy costs and concerns over the environment is driving significant growth in the waste to energy market, which is the best low carbon energy source available.

The technology for generating methane from waste has evolved significantly in recent years and is strongly supported by the UK government as a means to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

The impact of methane gas leaking into the atmosphere is defined by as much as 80 times more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide, which is the baseline for measurement of global warming potential. Taking into account the shorter life span of methane its effect is still 24-36 times more damaging than CO₂ over 100 years according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

So, a sustainable energy source must also be environmentally friendly. Unfortunately, this is not always the case and the Regulators are now becoming more concerned with the detection and prevention of methane emissions.

Safety – Social Responsibility

Preventing leaks from tank storage breather vents is a true win/win benefit for operators in that they reduce emissions and improve profitability at the same time. Medical research is increasingly identifying health implications associated with methane exposure. Operators who demonstrate a duty of care by careful procurement and management of aging plant will follow best practice to protect their workforce and neighbouring communities from methane exposure. These steps provide vital evidence to defend litigation claims, enforcement notices and environmental breaches as part of their corporate social responsibility.

Safety – Explosion Protection

Methane is invisible and odourless which makes detection of this highly flammable gas very difficult without some form of detection technology and up until recently was limited to:

- Gas sensor
- Gas imaging (OGI)
- Laser Spectrometer
- Satellite

Calculating the volume of leaks remains highly challenging and is affected by environmental conditions, however all of the technologies above are invaluable methods for detecting leaks.

The concept of leak detection has been the main focus of Assentech, which led to the development of the Vent-Less Test Bench. Designed to measure the functional efficiency of tank breather vents, which are commonplace in all biogas digester systems as the final pressure relief device after the flare.

There is a significant misconception that breather vents 'pop' open at the required set point. So digesters are run at 90% of the vent set point. In reality, vents are already partially open at 75%.

Managing Director, Ewart Cox was motivated to develop the worlds first automatic mobile test bench that is programmed to test vent functional efficiency to all international standards after he discovered that most valve manufacturers skip this requirement in order to save manufacturing costs.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of breather vent manufacturers do not leak test breather vents when new despite this being a requirement since the mid 1960's.

A consequence of this shortcut by so many manufacturers is that the true cost of lost gas, harm to staff and the environment, increased fire risk and accelerated corrosion costs the operator so much more than the marginal saving made by buying cheap vents.

Is there any other industry that allows untested vents to be fitted into critical service without any certified form of functional accuracy? This is definitely a matter of caveat emptor 'buyer beware' because unless the buyer specifically asks for an individual leak report on both vacuum and pressure ports, calibration certificate and pressure profile, all individually unit traceable, this information will not be available from 90% of suppliers.

Assentech recently resolved a persistent emissions issue on a waste to energy renewables site where 4 large vents were emitting significant leaks at operational pressures. These were 10" and 12" connection size fitted to digesters that were running at 90% of valve set point. The client had been issued with a Regulation 61 notice by the Environment Agency, which is an instruction to elevate operations to follow best available techniques (BAT). In this case, the nearest industrial standard for the leaking vents was to comply with either API2000 or ISO28300. These standards are co-branded and set out the same requirements.

We tested the faulty valves on our Vent-Less calibrated test bench. These valves had been serviced bi-annually by the manufacturer but they had never leak tested them. We found them to leak 90 cubic feet per hour (CFH) at 90% of set point. The valves we replaced them with leaked 0.08 CFH. At today's gas prices this brought the value of lost gas down from £10,000 per annum to £70 per annum. A reduction that is hard to believe but true. According to IPCC estimates this lowers the global

warming potential (GWP) down from the equivalent volume from 198 double decker busses to 20% of one.

The replacement valves cost approximately twice the price of the cheap originals but had a pay back of less than 12 months. Life expectancy of these devices is 20 years plus so the saving to both operator, staff safety and the environment is huge. These figures apply to only one valve and with an estimated 6,000 valves installed on waste to energy plants in the UK alone getting on the road to net-zero is relatively straight forward.

The Vent-Less test bench is now being purchased by customers worldwide from India to Iraq, the USA to Germany by customers seeking to reduce emissions from bulk liquid storage facilities and biogas plants.

This is definitely a case where information is power. Assentech is helping customers choose the right equipment by providing a free valve selection form and on-line methane emissions calculator: <http://www.assentech.co.uk/anaerobic-digestion-biogas-pressure-and>



vacuum-relief-valves-with-flame-arresters/#breatherventleakagebiogas

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Reusable thermal packaging

Polar Thermal Packaging Ltd, was established in 2012, however the original Polar brand has been around



for over 30 years. Polar's entry into the thermal control market, came following a request by the Ministry of Defence, to solve the problem of frozen food melting at the dockside.

CEO, Paul Harrison and the team, have designed various thermal systems for the National Blood Service, DHL, Excel Global Logistics, Marks and Spencer, Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Astra Zeneca, Pfizer along with many other clients.

Polar Thermal Packaging Ltd, manufacture a range of temperature control insulated systems. These include transport packaging for blood products, food, vaccines, pharmaceuticals, fine chemicals, plus many other specialist applications.

Polar is the best performing British product in its field, all Polar Thermal products, are manufactured at its Wiltshire based factory and are used throughout the world.

What makes Polar Thermal Packaging Ltd products so special? In recent testing by NHS England, the company's products scored 100/100 while its closest competitor scored 72. This is because of the materials used and the quality of Polar Thermal's British workmanship.

All products have been deployed in the harshest and most testing environments and have proved themselves, whether it is in constant daily use in UK hospitals or in conflict-zones like Afghanistan, showcasing Polar Thermal's service is effective and durable.

Polar Thermal, has a vast range of transport solutions, for airfreight and road transport, supporting the cold chain for perishables, and pharmaceuticals markets.

"Our customer feedback is excellent! All Polar Thermal products are reusable, with every square meter of insulation, produced from over 600 plastic bottles, with multiple uses, which makes for a cost-effective solution, alongside being extremely environmentally friendly," stated Paul Harrison, Managing Director & Head of Design.

Polar Thermal Packaging Ltd has developed its Polar-Pod™ system, in conjunction with Gist International, to safely ship perishable, chilled and frozen produce by road and air, providing a controlled environment in varying ambient temperatures.

The range was developed, to reflect customer demand for a single use modular system, that provides excellent performance.

Combining a plethora of technologies in three categories; Deep Frozen: -18°C to -14°C, Chilled: +2°C to +8°C and Ambient: +15°C to +25°C.

Available in three sizes, 1,500 x 1,200 x 1,000 (1.5 m³ internal capacity), 800 x 1,200 x 1,000 (1m³ internal capacity) and 400 x 1,200 x 1,000 (1/2 m³ internal capacity). The Polar Pod, complete with the appropriate coolant packs, will deliver fantastic results over 30, 48 and 72 hours.

The Polar Dot-Box™ is a lightweight thermal liner, that fits snugly into a standard Euro 44 Litre tote, reducing or eliminating the need for refrigeration in vehicles. It's space saving when stowed flat, allowing the plastic crates to be nested, The Polar Dot-Box™ delivery system, is perfect for chilled, fresh or frozen goods.

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Monitoring & Gas Manufacturing Control

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AL, AL², EL S, EL, EL²

Measurement of NO • NO₂ • NO_x

The one- and two-channel chemiluminescence based NO_x analyzers of the nCLD "Facelift" box-solution analyzers detect NO, NO₂ and NO_x at concentrations ranging from 5ppm to 5,000ppm with minimal detection limits averaging from 0.4ppb to 0.5ppm. They hereby focus on two main application areas, Ambient Air (AL, <50ppm) and Emission/Process (EL, <500ppm; EL S <5,000ppm) monitoring. The one-channel nCLD AL, EL and EL S feature an external pump, while the two-channel nCLD AL² and EL² include an internal pump. The nCLD "Facelift" boxed solutions consist of five, fixed and pre-configured analyzers. The nCLD AL (Ambient Level) and EL S/EL include a standard NO/NO_x measurement, with an optional NO₂ add-on, while AL² and EL² include, due to the two-channel set-up, a standard NO₂ detection. The slightly modified front panel has been equipped with an additional Power-button and a new internal PC. Additionally, are all nCLD-models capable of a remote power down/up including a failsafe feature.

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Ventilation & Humidity Control

Humidity Control: Creating the ideal environment

Humidity Solutions a leading independent specialist in humidity control, offering a range of humidifiers and dehumidifiers from the world's leading manufacturers. They have a highly experienced and knowledgeable team of sales and aftersales engineers who can design a bespoke solution for each unique application and supply, install and maintain the equipment throughout its life.

Established in 2008, in response to the markets need for a dedicated specialist in humidity control, Humidity

Solutions vast became an independent leader in its field, providing innovative solutions for a wide range of industrial and commercial applications. Headquartered in Leatherhead, Surrey, Humidity Solutions has engineers based all over the country in the North, Midlands and the

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South, enabling a UK wide coverage for all maintenance, installation and service requests. The considerable technical knowledge, expertise and experience within the team, allows Humidity Solutions to provide a full turnkey service, from design and installation, through to commissioning and ongoing maintenance.

products from the world's leading brands including Nepronic in Canada, Vapac in the UK Cotes in Denmark and HiDew in Italy. Correct humidity levels also have a direct impact on health and wellbeing and is crucial to many industrial and commercial processes such as medical research, data management, and packaging. Furthermore, it plays a vital role in the safe storage, display & protection of many consumer goods. Humidity Solutions is the leading independent specialist in humidity control.

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Labelling Systems

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Weber Packaging Solutions provides high-quality labelling and coding solutions for all industry sectors of the UK market, for any surface and shape imaginable. The company also supplies Barcode software and operating supplies such as labels, colour ribbons or ink that enhance the product range, and also provides exceptional customer support services with suitable financing and customer training.

Weber Packaging Solutions is a leading innovator in the design, engineering, manufacture and supply of high-performance pressure-sensitive labels, labelling systems and continuous ink jet systems. For over eighty years, it has been bringing innovative products to customers and helping them to solve their labelling and coding problems.

At its 5,000-square-metre manufacturing and customer service facility, its knowledgeable staff are capable of addressing all labelling and coding requirements. The countrywide network of sales, customer service and technical support specialists, in addition to its constant commitment to quality, has maintained the company's position as a reputable leader in the industry.

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Automation

Increased productivity with collaborative application

Okura Kogyo is a Japanese manufacturer of logistic equipment and systems. Their offering includes design, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of conveyors and conveying systems.



The Challenge

At Okura Kogyo, the staff would manually load and unload workpieces (rollers) from the processors to trolley. The manual process needs to be done carefully to avoid damaging the workpiece. Like other manufacturers globally, the company is also facing labor shortages. As such, the company was looking for a way to optimize their current resources and to increase productivity and efficiency.

The Solution

Collaborative application is a clear choice for Okura Kogyo.

Combining OnRobot VGC10 gripper and Omron robot, the manual processes of loading and unloading workpieces are fully automated.

The VGC10 gripper has a customized fixture with 4 suction cups and is programmed to handle 2 rollers at a time to match the production cycle. With unlimited customization to fit various needs, the compact, lightweight VGC10 gripper is perfect for tight space and is able to lift small, odd-shaped, and heavy objects even with a smaller robot arm.

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OnRobot Palletizer

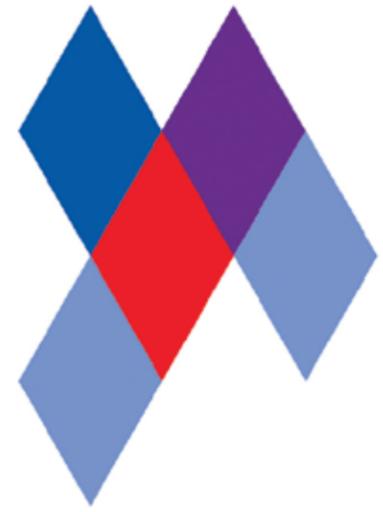
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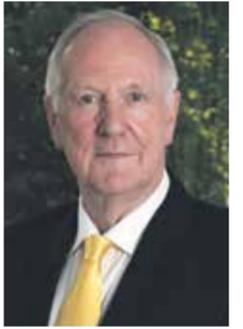
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'The Health Professional in Court': 10 principles for practice



For this month's feature article, we interviewed someone who is acknowledged as one of the world's top surgical coaches and an international authority in medico legal issues.

Mr Rodney Peyton, OBE MD is a Trauma Surgeon who has the unique distinction of holding Fellowships in all four Royal Colleges of Surgeons in the UK and Ireland as well as being a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London. He holds a master's degree in medical education from Cardiff University and graduated in law from the College of Law in London.

In his career spanning 40 years, he has been engaged in over 70,000 personal injury cases as well as being asked to advise on more than 3,000 cases involving medical malpractice.

He therefore has a wealth of experience in preparing cases for and giving expert testimony in Court and has been involved in the training of doctors and lawyers in dealing with medico legal cases, individually on a face-to-face basis, and also as a trainer and keynote speaker.

In this article, he will cover his 10 top strategies to help health professional's deal with the Court process.

He is also a well-known author and international keynote speaker. For his availability to speak at your corporate events, contact him at: rpeyton@rpeyton.com.

Increasingly, senior professionals from all branches of the healthcare industry are finding themselves involved in the Court system, either on an involuntary basis, as a witness to fact or defendant, or on a voluntary basis as an expert witness.



Gone is the paternalism of 'the professional knows best' and there has been more and more scrutiny by the public of professional actions and attitudes.

Leaving aside the criminal law, which is an entirely different situation, civil legal cases are predicated on the fact that within every profession, or branch of profession, there exists a range of opinions as to what constitutes good practice. Defendants and expert witnesses are expected to provide opinions, witnesses to fact are not.

It is important to understand that, while judges are highly trained and experienced in the interpretation of the law, they and the barristers or trial lawyers who argue cases are nevertheless lay people when it comes to the healthcare professions. They are not medical experts and therefore require help in understanding the medical evidence before them. For the health professional, whether as defendant or expert witness, the duty is to assist the Court in their decision-making whilst at the same time maintaining and promoting their own professional integrity and reputation.

Most healthcare professionals rarely appear in Court. From personal experience as a teacher and trainer to those who do become involved, there are recurrent themes, which arise and so the following 10 principles have been developed to help guide professionals through the Court process.

Record keeping
Keep detailed contemporaneous records.

Any major findings or decisions, whether it be from working with a patient, a client or undertaking a project, should be on record, as one never knows when such events may become the object of scrutiny. There is an old saying, 'if it is not written down, it did not happen' and oral evidence is likely to be regarded as weak and suspect unless there is written evidence to back it up. A little extra time spent in ensuring accurate, contemporaneous recording may save considerable time, effort and indeed stress at a later stage when trying to convince a Court that decision making

was sound. Remember, all written communications are discoverable and may be used in Court proceedings. Therefore, it is important not to make any gratuitous comments within the written record.

When acting as an expert witness, always look for original, contemporaneous documentation to back up later oral recall of events. Stick to the facts as presented and derive opinions from them.

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Industrial Processing

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Industrial Processing

Industrial Processing includes a vast range of potential applications for perforated products. RMIG has extensive experience in the chemical, pharmaceutical, paper, and offshore industries, to name a few. From small, high precision perforation in thin materials to large holes in thick sheets used in the mining industry, RMIG has the knowledge, versatility, and tooling to deliver products according to customers' requirements.

One particular area of Industrial Processing is dealing with waste water. The water industry presents a number of unique challenges in the use of perforated products.

A key consideration here is the aggressive nature of the water towards the materials being used. RMIG has vast experience in servicing the waste water industry, and produces high flow, burr-free perforated waste water screens, offering accurate screen tolerances and effective separation.

Another area of Industrial Processing is medical and pharmaceutical, where RMIG's perforated materials are able to give firm tolerances during their manufacture, and are well suited for use in sterile environments.

RMIG's perforated products also have numerous uses in the petrochemical sector, from industry specific applications such as filtration, to oil and gas exploration, as well as more general applications such as walkways in processing plants.

Additionally, RMIG works with biomass drying applications. The demand for alternative sources of sustainable and renewable energy is always growing.

RMIG's Bridge Slot sheets are the most effective way of drying woodchip to an optimum moisture content, ensuring boilers operate efficiently to benefit farming and agriculture.

Bridge Slot

The RMIG Bridge Slot sheets play an essential role when it comes to the design and manufacture of biomass drying floors. The combination of sheet thickness and opening size allows RMIG's sheets to be used either as a suspended floor in wood chip drying containers and trailers, or as drive-on drying floors in outdoor buildings.

The bridge slot opening size determines the products that can be dried, which range from fine oilseed rape through to larger grains and cereals, as well as logs and wood chip drying.

Food Processing

RMIG's Food Processing market sector meets the high levels of hygiene demanded by the food processing industry. Perforated screens are also strong with important thermal capabilities, making them useful for a wide range of food processing applications. RMIG's tailor made perforated solutions are ideal for cleaning, heating and steaming in food production environments. Whether it's baking trays, cereal cleaning or ingredient conveyors, all of RMIG's perforated materials can be customised for each application.

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Direct Hoist's vast expertise is equalled only by the firm's impeccable reputation for safety. Direct Hoist's long association with up-to-date German GEDA machinery has now been boosted

by becoming the UK distributor of Electroelsa construction hoists and platforms – an Italian brand with market-leading features for worker protection.

Electroelsa's impressive range of mast-climbing work platforms (MCWPs), transport platforms, material hoists and construction hoists adds to Direct Hoist's ever-expanding fleet of modern machines, which includes scaffold hoists, mast-climbers, gantry hoists and tile hoists. From 150kg hoists to 3,700kg transport platforms, Direct Hoist's

fastidiously-maintained fleet is available for sale or hire throughout the UK.

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BITO Storage Systems is a market leading provider of storage and picking solutions on both a national and international platform with subsidiaries based throughout Europe as well as Dubai, the USA and South Africa. Marked as a global player with a local presence here in the UK, BITO Storage Systems stands for innovative storage technology and is one of the few single service providers in its field that supplies shelving, containers, picking and handling systems for all industries.

In 1999, BITO Storage Systems Ltd became the UK subsidiary of BITO. The main role of BITO Storage Systems Ltd is to solidify and imprint the BITO name here in the UK through its experienced and well-established team who provide such services as design and project management alongside a supportive after sales service. "As part of our service we have regionally based Design Solutions Managers and Key Account Managers that enable customer site visits to be made easily and quickly to understand every customer's requirement and ensure the most appropriate solution is proposed," said Duncan Grime, Marketing Manager at Bito Storage Systems Ltd.

Based in Nuneaton, Warwickshire, the company has a professional facility that provides the functions of project management, inbound sales, marketing and finance, as well as a warehouse that holds stock of the most popular products, replenished each week from the factories in Germany.

BITO Storage Systems Ltd are able to design and project manage large installations as well as enabling customers to order products from its online transactional web shop. Just some of BITO's top sellers include stacking containers with open pick fronts, mobile shelving trolleys, boltless shelving complete with pick bins and compartment shelving. "The variety of products manufactured by BITO means that most customer requirements can be satisfied. Static shelving, widespan racking and pallet racking are all manufactured by BITO. Carton flow and pallet live storage are also important product lines that enable customers to improve the efficiency of their storage and picking operations. BITO's factory dedicated to manufacturing plastic bins and containers produces a wide range of products from small parts shelf bins through to stacking euro containers and distribution bins to half euro pallet storage boxes," stated Duncan.

The company has vast experience in manufacturing both steel and plastic which means its products are best suited to serve a wide range of industry sectors including pharmaceutical, automotive, retail and e-commerce. Furthermore, due to the increasing demand and cost for warehouse space for UK businesses, BITO's multi-tier shelving solution is proving popular as well as other products that combine shelving and bins to maximise capacity and minimise wasted space.

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Corporate Bookings Available for 2022

Founded in 2010 Patricia Creighton MBE started offering Toastmaster services after realising there was a gap in the market for actively operational female Toastmasters. With her organisational strength and problem-solving ability, Patricia turned her hand to the planning of weddings, balls and parties, and has since become an extensively appreciated event organiser.

Having worked in previous roles as a wedding organiser and registrar, Patricia is well practiced at participating in important

ceremonies and has subsequently obtained a decorated background in wedding arranging, civil partnership procedures, banquets, bat mitzvahs, cocktail parties, award ceremonies, product launches and official openings.

The reputable Toastmaster is also experienced with corporate events and has assisted many companies with the development of a smooth-running and memorable gathering. Her work extends to more specialist celebratory services such as vow renewals and baby naming

ceremonies, and she has also attended various balls and parties.

Having been granted the coveted MBE in 2003 for her notable contributions to the voluntary youth sector, Patricia is a sought after figure who always offers a sleek and professional service, taking all your stresses away. In fact, all of Lady Toastmaster's testimonials praise how efficient and professional the service is, and her satisfaction at a successful event coming together after months of preparation is evident in the passion she puts into her work.

What's more, you'll benefit from two Toastmasters at your event for the price of one, as Patricia always brings along an Assistant Toastmaster. Please contact Patricia using the details provided to find out why two Toastmasters are better than one, and how she can help make sure your day goes exactly how you dreamt it would.

T 07885 780149
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www.ladytoastmastermbe.co.uk



Unique Woodland for any corporate event in an AONB

Nestled in the idyllic East Devonian countryside is Boveys Down Farm, a quiet and rural retreat offering Woodland Weddings, glamping (March – September) and year-round camping.



Boasting stunning views of the Farway Valley in an AONB, Boveys Down Farm is situated a few miles from the Jurassic coast, and no more than 15 minutes away from beaches, pubs, shops and restaurants, making it secluded yet conveniently close to everything you could need for a camping break.

Five years ago, the farm became a fully licensed venue for weddings and civil ceremonies. We had the pleasure of speaking to Pam about what makes Boveys Down Farm the perfect venue for your special day.

Indeed, the Woodland Pavilion used for the ceremonies is situated in a small area of woodland, close by to the indoor barn and commercial kitchen. Beautifully presented with careful attention to detail, the pavilion blends perfectly into its surroundings and boasts plenty of room for the ceremony.

What's more, there is the option of booking part of or the entire site for the exclusive use of your wedding party, and Boveys even offers a bridal suit consisting of two luxury glamping tents joined together.

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The childhood farm you always imagined

Rutland Farm Park is a small family owned, 18-acre working farm based in the quiet and peaceful market town of Oakham, the county town of Rutland which is renowned as England's smallest county.



Offering visitors a glimpse into its rich history, with original Victorian farm yard and buildings.

The park is home to various farm animals including, animals like Lady Bridie, the working Clydesdale and Highland and Hereford Cows. In fact, the park is home to many varieties of animals, these include: sheep, guinea pigs, goats, pygmy goats, pigs, rabbits, cows, ponies, chickens, geese, alpacas and many more.

Fun for everyone, the Park offers full year round access, with ample amounts of fun, family activities to enjoy. Whether it's a tea and cake at its onsite tearoom, meeting its farm animals or exploring the parks' tracks; Rutland Farm Park is your friendly host for a wonderful day out.

Another development for the park, is the launch of its deli fridge, offering a broad selection of local produce and environmentally sustainable produce to purchase. Rutland Farm Park has a selection of delicious products on offer.

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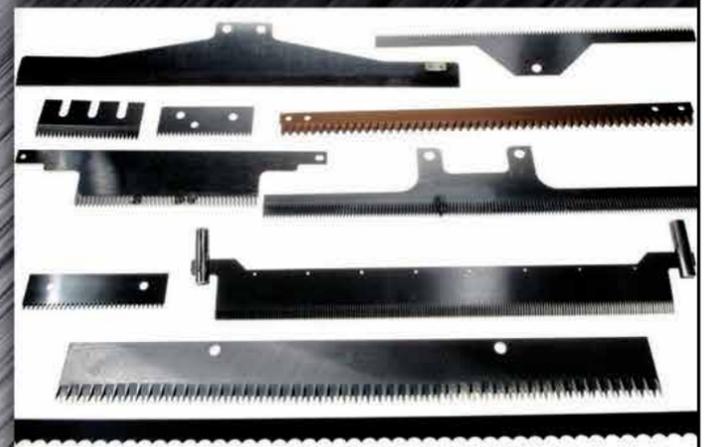
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In 2004, Cupio was established with the intention of bringing test and production systems, sourced in the USA and Far East to the UK market. By drawing on over 40 years of experience in the test and inspection area, Cupio was able to attract some of the world's best inspection systems to its marketing strategy and Cupio began selling production inspection systems into the rest of the EMEA area through a chain of local representatives.

Specialising in the inspection and quality control aspects of electronics manufacturing Cupio took on the representation

of more tools with X-Ray and acoustic inspection capabilities. These were mostly for representation in the UK, particularly as Brexit restricted the ability to support customers in the EU.

Cupio's inspection, measurement and test solutions have been specifically designed to meet one single objective; to give electronics manufacturers fast access to significantly improved productivity, quality and profitability.

Originally based in Alton, Hampshire, Cupio has seen

significant growth and moved to a larger premises located in Chineham Business Park, Basingstoke in 2019. Its purpose-built demonstration facility is much bigger and is the base for its highly knowledgeable and experienced workforce, who work with some of the world's best X-Ray, test and AOI systems. The facility is fitted with the necessary antistatic flooring and facilities and houses the company's CSAM system. This facility gives the company the capability to offer a full inspection and failure analysis service to customers who have insufficient throughput to warrant system investment.

Cupio Services is a branch of Cupio and is the place for failure analysis and non-destructive inspection. Its innovative, specialist equipment is of the highest quality and is used to provide specialist equipment for failure analysis, counterfeit detection and other types of testing and analysis work. Its cutting-edge inspection and test equipment includes high resolution X-Ray with multiple CT imaging options, scanning acoustic microscopes for delamination detection within boards or complex devices, high magnification automated optical inspection and testers for counterfeit part detection.

Industrial Application



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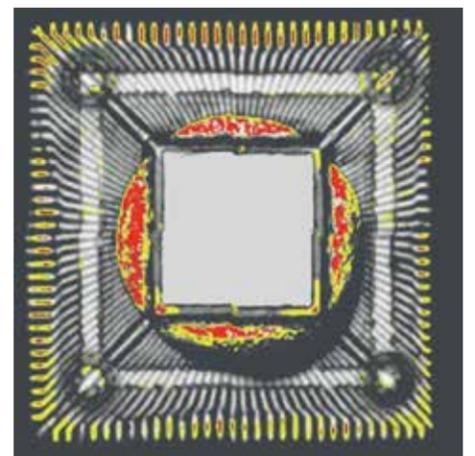
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Its capabilities can find the smallest defects within an assembly and image them with sub-micron resolution. Full failure analysis reports can be provided to help understand where and how issues are occurring or to simply assure the customers their equipment will stand the test of time. Its Non-Destructive Testing uses a multitude of advanced diagnostics on materials such as plastics, metals, ceramics, or electronics. Whether the need to diagnose production or in field failures,



validate complex manufacturing procedures or perfect new product introductions, Cupio Services can help. Furthermore, demonstrations on its X-Ray, AOI and test systems are offered to all customers who are interested in how the systems operate or wish to acquire one of their own.

Through initiating a new style of approach, and various marketing activities, Cupio has been able to target new markets, while introducing three extra personnel to its team. Recently, the company has been actively promoting its services into the wider inspection market place where high resolution X-Ray and CSAM imagery is needed for both production and quality control. "We have modified our marketing slightly to account for the lack of shows and have done more print and online advertising. This seems to be a successful strategy and we will be reviewing that as the exhibitions return during next year," stated Andrew.

As the company looks ahead, in the future Cupio will continue to monitor market trends and developments within its industry as it plans to bring more inspection equipment into its lab enabling them to offer additional services.

If you would like to find out any further information, please see the details below:
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BUILDING UPDATE

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Demon Designs: Experts in glass

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.

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." 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!"

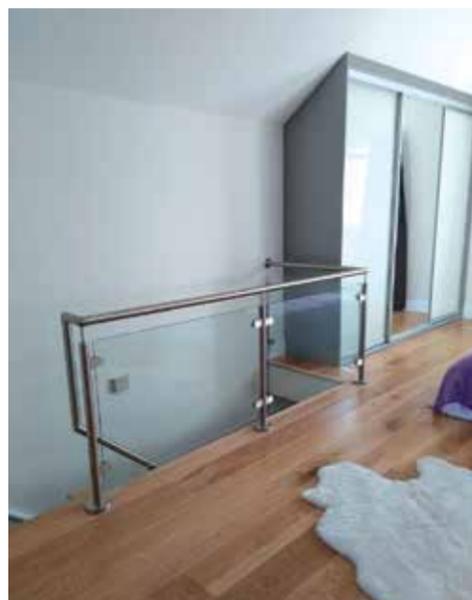
Indeed, as well as a loyal customer base, this commitment to customer satisfaction has resulted in impressive successes for Demon Designs over the past eight years, and this year has been no different. "It's been an interesting year for us," Dominic told us. "We have seen a shift in the type



of projects we win, moving away from large commercial fit-out projects towards domestic 'Grand Designs' type projects and installations.

In the 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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One particular product worth noting is the ARBOFLEX® PU, a single component liquid

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Founded by Dave O'Brien in August 2017, Castle Steel Buildings has evolved from a basic start-up, operating on what was essentially a franchise model, to a rapidly growing construction company with a permanent install team and a developing back-office operation. Previous to the company, Dave O'Brien had worked in the steel construction industry as an installer for over 20 years. After many years, Dave was keen to build his own business that offers bespoke steel buildings with a guaranteed installation option. On the search for a business partner who could run the administration and logistics side, Dave approached John Rosling, who had a number of years' experience in public and private sector management. Since joining, the business has grown in strength at a fast pace.

Today, Castle Steel Buildings is well-known as an industry leader in its field. Offering a number of services to suit every budget including steel buildings for agriculture and rural, commercial and industrial, garages and sheds, as well as cladding installation. Understanding that customers prefer a personalised service, Castle Steel Buildings is committed to ensuring 100% satisfaction from start to finish and prides itself on its; affordability, to offer cost effective light weight composition of the buildings designed to reduce production and installation costs; versatility, with a range of buildings to suit every application; and top British quality, endeavouring to always support British economy. All Castle Steel Buildings materials comply with British Standards BS 6399(pt 2) and exceed ISO9001-200.

"These are among the many qualities that set us apart from our competitors," mentioned John Rosling, Director. COVID-19 has left a dramatic impact on steel production over the last 12 months, with many steel mills across the world shutting down. As such, steel suppliers are running low on stock, the price of steel has risen and there are incremental delays to customer orders. Castle Steel Buildings has worked hard to ensure this implication has not affected its production and most of all, its service to its customers.

"One of the major things we've noticed over the last year is that many people are put off having their steel building because of the cost of raw materials, something that has increased enormously with the pandemic and global shutdown. We've met this challenge by partnering with Peregrine Finance in York to offer a bespoke finance solution. This is a great option for companies looking to get their projects off the ground quickly while spreading the cost over time," said John. With more to offer in its arsenal, we asked John what the company's future plans were, he answered, "Alongside a determined go for growth mindset, we're focussed on developing our range by introducing hot rolled steel designs. Cold rolled steel is inexpensive and effective but there are some limitations in the scale of building that can be done in cold rolled steel."

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ModCon Cabin Trader, the Modular, Portable Building & Plant Industry related, **Resale/Auction** website!



ModCon Cabin Trader was formed in 2017 by Alan Willets of whom has 25 years experience of working for some major manufacturers in the Modular & Portable Building Industry.

ModCon Cabins as it is also known manufactures and supplies Steel Anti Vandal Portable Cabins, Containers, Modular Buildings and all site ancillary items associated with the Portable Building Industry. Please visit: www.modconcabins.co.uk

Items such as Portable Offices, Canteens, Toilet units, Drying units, Storage Containers, Chemstores, Smoking Shelters, Effluent Tanks, Staircases are regular and repeat produced items that we manufacture for our clients.

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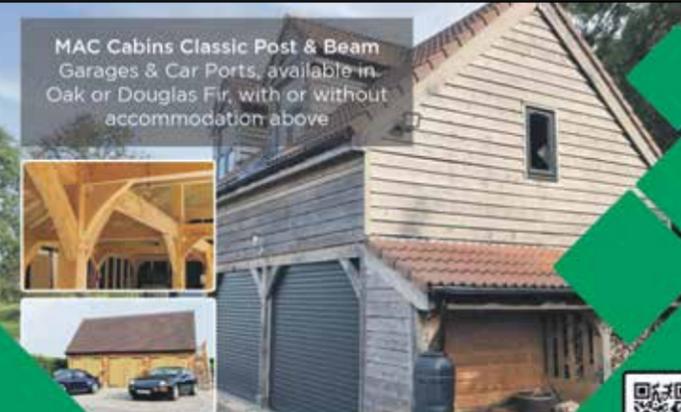
Why not also take a look at ModCon Cabin Traders other side of the business which is an Auction/Resale website that allows all and sundry to utilise the site to sell new & used Portable Building products which operates very similar to a well-known auction/resale site we are all familiar with, however only for products relating to our industry.

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The beauty of the Suffolk company's bricks lies in their traditional production method. The bricks are made from clay dug from the same clay seam used since Tudor times. The wealth of experience amassed by the company coupled with their respect for the process is what separates The Bulmer Brick and Tile Company from the competition.

Having produced bricks for reputable clients

such as the National Trust, English Heritage and Historic Royal Palaces, the company is able to lend its services to both private and commercial developments. Its facings and specials can be made with almost any texture; with 150 different sizes of facings and a range of over 5,000 special shapes, including all standard plinths, squints and copings and extends to purpose made chimney bricks, terracotta, mullions, jambs, floor bricks, pampments,

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Pre-COVID-19 restrictions Marlon would travel to Italy and Spain in the early months of the year, ensuring only the best quality of stock is acquired. This stock would include specimen trees, plants and sundries to the trade. Nowadays, as with most things, this is done via the

internet, quality is not compromised as the stock is now 'visually picked.'

Four oaks is a specialist supplier of Mediterranean plants, our stock includes Olives and Palms in pots from 1 litre up to 1,000 litres and these are available all year round.

We have an extensive product line of over 1,500 lines of trees and shrubs on display from starter plants to specimen sizes, as well as young bedding and basket plants for which we are historically known.

Catching site of the recent demand for outdoor

seating, specifically from the leisure industry. Four Oaks made the recent decision to begin to stock high quality garden furniture, and this decision has been a resounding success through its sales. Furthermore, we have extended our range of pots, which include terracotta, glazed and authentic wooden half whiskey barrels, just a few of the exciting addition to our ever-growing product line.

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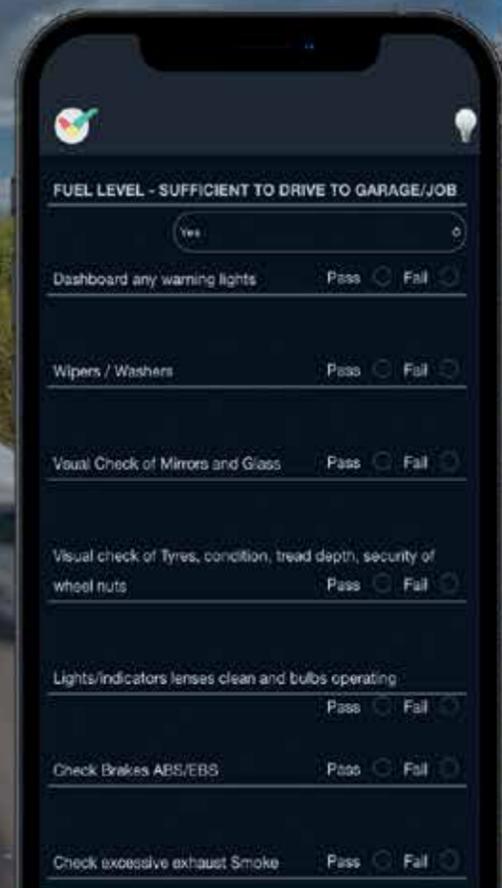
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The seriously multi-purpose GRP Roofing System

Here at Building Update, we are pleased to announce that Tuff Waterproofing Ltd are the recipients of our Product Innovation Award.



Established in 2012, Tuff Waterproofing Ltd is the UK's premier designer, manufacturer and supplier of heavy-duty GRP waterproof flat roofing systems. TuffStuff® has a dedicated product development team that work closely with customers and its own UK based manufacturing facility to produce an evolving product range that is suitable for multiple flat roof applications.

From its base in Sherburn in Elmet, North Yorkshire, TuffStuff® is the UK's premier GRP flat roofing system and supplies its products through a dedicated stockist network throughout the country.

The advanced TuffStuff® formula uses the latest liquid polyester resins, glass fibre mat reinforcement and flexible trims, to create a fully integrated waterproof, seamless attractive finish with a 25-year guarantee on materials.

Tuff Waterproofing has further expanded its TuffStuff® product range and is now offering its latest GRP roofing innovation; TuffStuff® flexible GRP. This is a single resin solution that provides an exceptional combination of versatility and durability. It is extremely quick to lay and does not require stripping or re-decking of the roof, saving customers both time and money. It can be applied to a variety of surface types and structures including vertical sections.

New innovation to the TuffStuff® range; TuffStuff® flexible GRP



Tuff Waterproofing is a provider of waterproofing liquid solutions for flat roofs, which are comprised of GRP, flexible GRP and polyurethane. Using its advanced TuffStuff® formula range, which uses the latest liquid polyester resins, glass fibre mat reinforcement and flexible edge trims, it creates a fully integrated 100% waterproof seamless finish. The TuffStuff® product range is used for various applications and across multiple domestic and commercial environments.

With an impressive history which spans across 30 years' experience, Tuff Waterproofing has invested heavily in research and development, company processes and its team to ensure that its TuffStuff® range of products, continue to exceed expectations and set new standards in flat roof waterproofing solutions. From the company's bespoke premises based in North Yorkshire, Tuff Waterproofing maintains its operations on a national scale, supplying its products through a dedicated Stockist network located throughout the UK.

Regarding its progression over the last year, Tuff Waterproofing is pleased to have continued to progress significantly since 2020. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting many industries, Tuff Waterproofing was able to remain open throughout and further developed on its product range during the last 12 months.

The company has continuously accumulated growth year-on-year and established an enviable reputation, becoming a key figure in the GRP flat roof market and resulting in TuffStuff® becoming the UK's premier designer and supplier of heavy-duty GRP waterproof flat roofing systems.

Regarding its team, TuffStuff® maintains a dedicated product development team that work closely with its customers to produce a consistently, evolving product range that is suitable for multiple flat roof applications. This commitment to continuous development is echoed throughout the company and its dedicated team of UK based product developers work with UK manufacturing facilities, with the ambition of pushing and setting new standards of GRP roofing systems, to new levels.

Managing Director, Greg Gimenez commented, "Standard GRP is rigid when it is cured, and it is specifically designed for flat roofs. However it can only be applied to OSB3 (Timber), and while this has been very successful, contractors have been looking for overlay systems which can go over other substrates." TuffStuff Flexible GRP can go onto many substrates including felt, asphalt, single-ply, GRP, concrete, timber and metal.

While other companies have standard GRP, TuffStuff® knows that this flexible GRP provides an exceptional combination of versatility and durability. TuffStuff® flexible GRP has become a very important product already, for a number of reasons. It is a one-pot system, whereas standard GRP comes with a base coat as well as a top coat, and this saves a contractor plenty of time and, comes with a 20 year product guarantee on the full system.

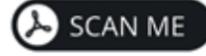
However, the major advantage is that while it is curing, it is actually showerproof, and Greg commented, "If contractors experience a rogue shower while installing, they may have to go off-site, but upon returning they can carry on knowing that their work is not ruined (showerproof whilst curing), as it would be with standard GRP. This aspect of our product will really excite contractors that work with GRP regularly." This plus the fact that it is crack resistant, with no weak points has meant that facility companies

have also begun using the flexible GRP for patch repairs too.

TuffStuff® Flexible GRP will form a highly flexible, extra tough and seamless waterproof membrane – an ideal solution for areas of heavy-duty foot traffic.

Tuff Waterproofing Ltd will be exhibiting at the UK Construction Week in October in Birmingham, during which clients can find out more about this amazing new product.

For more information, please see below:
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The UK's number one sealing solutions provider

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Service Sealing Solutions Ltd specialises in high-quality service duct sealing systems for utility services and watertight seals. The company's ever growing market range can benefit from its broad scope of innovative sealing solutions alongside receiving the highest level of expertise.

In 2018, DOYMA granted Service Sealing Solutions Ltd the exclusive rights to distribute their products in the UK. DOYMA stands on the front line when it comes to the development of innovative, practical solutions for sealing



and fire systems. Providing the very best in German engineering, DOYMA is used to seal penetration points in walls and floors to permanently prevent any infiltration of gases and water into the building. All DOYMA products are designed to solve all watertight duct sealing requirements, prevent against structural damage and incorporate rubber mouldings that ensure all gas and watertight features.

Demanding building types, such as power plants, large industrial plants, reservoirs or airports, often require highly specialised custom-made constructions. They place high demands on the fact that building penetrations such as cables and pipe work need to be permanently sealed. In the case of extraordinary pipe dimensions or special thermal, chemical or physical requirements, sealing systems in the form of a special construction are the required solution.

DOYMA have the expertise and an experience of over 50 years to develop and produce the best solution for any building or project, using state-of-the-art design and manufacturing methods as well as professional simulation methods to ensure safety when using DOYMA special constructions.

Suitable mostly for builders of commercial properties, Service Sealing Solutions Ltd has a large range of DOYMA products that come with a 25-year warranty. DOYMA product brochures are available on the website and include products that have been supplied to some of the UK's largest projects such as HS2

and Kings Cross in London. DOYMA has recently released its new generation Curaflex Nova® gaskets which are the perfect solution for any professional tradesman instantly looking to solve sealing problems and can be adapted to multiple applications.

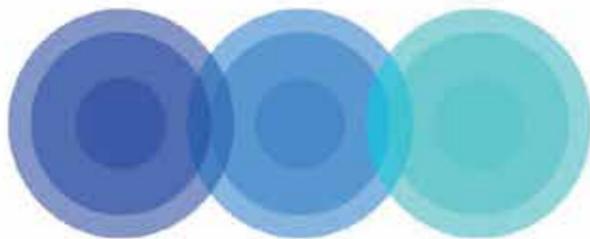
As a UK distributor for FRANK puddle flanges, Service Sealing Solutions Ltd provide assured watertight sealing of pipes through concrete walls, foundation plates and manholes. The FRANK puddle flange is an extremely flexible product and comes in a range of versions. Made from EPDM, the puddle flanges act as a barrier which are also chemically resistant to a wide range of acids and bases. Depending on the diameter, they are proven to be tight and to hold pressures between 8 to 10 bars. FRANK puddles flanges also offer exceptional



resistance to ozone and weathering conditions, and can be installed during construction resulting in a perfect cost-effective alternative to conventional sealing systems.

Lastly, Service Sealing Solutions also supplies HKD products, which are now owned by DOYMA. HKD manufacture a large range of pipe sealing systems and service conduits that are guaranteed to withstand up to four bars pressure. HKD systems have a sealing solution for service conduits cast into concrete without the sleeves. They are supplied and ready to use, requiring no site preparation work prior to installation. With options such as KE Socketless service conduits, KG Wall Ducts and Floor Ducts, together with KG Twin Sockets for installation in pump sumps, HKD products are ideal for situations where suitability for thin-walled concrete structures is vital.

Contact
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www.servicesealingsolutions.co.uk



Service Sealing Solutions Ltd

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Service Sealing Solutions are the sole UK distributor for pioneering the sealing industry's top manufacturers; DOYMA, FRANK and HKD.

Service Sealing Solutions are the sole UK distributor. Wherever services are installed through walls, ceilings or floors, penetrating water may cause damage to buildings. Lack of attention to the points of entry of pipes and cables into the building can have serious results: damp cellars, equipment damaged by water ingress and high repair costs.

Service sealing systems ensure professional and perfect pipe sealing, thus presenting excellent preventative measures against structural damage.

The very best in German engineering is used to seal penetration points at the wall to permanently prevent any infiltration of gases and water into the building, and the duct sealing systems are guaranteed for 25 years.



Quality, bespoke joinery since 1991

Joinery experts, Bluerun Ltd, was originally established by the current Managing Director, John Jones, and Peter Clayden back in 1991. Peter Clayden resigned a few years later and the company is now owned by John's family – his wife Doreen, son Jeremy, and daughter Dee Newman, and Dee took over the reins in December 2019, when John semi-retired.

Based in Wimbish, near Saffron Walden in Essex, Bluerun manufactures quality, bespoke joinery items, and everything is made to order, nothing is 'off the shelf.' Dee commented, "We manufacture items for the commercial market from door and window packers, to shopfronts, reception desks, mainframes, pub doors, and years ago we even made a trebuchet for Stansted Mountfitchet castle!"

In the 7,000 sq. ft. factory, Bluerun can produce work using both hard or softwoods, and veneered and painted panels. It has a modern spray paint and lacquer facility, enabling products to leave the factory in a fully finished state.

For domestic clients, Bluerun manufactures everything from windowboards to windows, thresholds to doors, shelving, wardrobes, bi-fold doors, French doors, staircases, indeed most things in a property that are made of timber. It has even made a child's Wendy house and a mansion for cats!

Bluerun will take on projects of almost any size, Dee continued, "The only size limit is whether a finished item can be removed through our workshop doors! Staircases for example, would be made in a kit format, for ease of delivery and installation. We use couriers for deliveries, and they have access to all sizes of vans and lorries." The only thing that is sometimes out of range are installations due to a small workforce, but Dee keeps a list of recommended installers for anything, which is manufactured.



In a crowded marketplace, Bluerun works very hard to be at the forefront of the industry. It is a supplier to Dovista for items such as packers and mainframes, and the company corporate branding is on its vans, emails, and social media presence, along with promotional items, and this has helped recognition and growth of the company in recent years.

Dee remarked, "We are still working old school, and everything is designed using pencil and paper with a dash of imagination. We don't use CAD or CNC, and most items are completed using hand tools for the finishing touches. A lot of love and care is included

within our work, and this has really helped our customer base to grow."

So whether you are looking for a one-off custom made gate, a staircase, or a production run of doors and windows for a new housing development, or a new interior for your pub, restaurant or office, Bluerun can deliver exactly what you are looking for.

For more information, please see below:
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dee@bluerunltd.co.uk
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Environmentally friendly plastic lumber

At Building Update, we are proud to announce that we have selected Kedel as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence Award for its ongoing efforts in producing eco-friendly plastic products for a more sustainable future.

Kedel is a family business founded on ethical and ecologically sound principles. Dedicated to making sustainable living attractive, Kedel believe that by incorporating sustainable recycled plastic products into personal and working environments, it can create a happier, healthier and infinitely more sustainable future for generations to come.

Established by three brothers, Kieran, Dermot and Lewis Walch, Kedel is based in Burnley and supplies nationwide. We spoke to Dermot who explained what commitment to excellence means to them and how they feel they achieve it. "Commitment to excellence is an attitude towards work. You're only as good as your weakest link, so we try to give our staff an autonomous responsibility around servicing our customers and through this we are achieving service excellence."



Because of this, people can make quicker decisions and our customers end up 100% satisfied much quicker. Eco-Friendly Plastic is what we do. Not many people believe plastic can be green but it can. We manufacture plastic wood made from waste polystyrene, and are also suppliers of many other types of recycled plastic profiles from other manufacturers, which allows our customers to keep their carbon footprint down. We maintain excellence throughout our business through our sustainable products, sustainable supply chain and sustainable manufacturing policy."

Winners of the Feefo Trusted Service Award, Kedel's range of recycled plastic lumber reflects the future of the construction industry. From plastic fencing pales and edging board pegs to round posts, boards and



planks, tongue & groove planks, decking, and so much more, Kedel's extensive product range comes with a number of benefits. Of course, the largest advantage of plastic lumber in general is that it does not rot, absorb water and is highly resistant to damage. This much more versatile material means it has a life longevity to be placed in all weathers and climates making it a perfect material for use in construction, leisure, education, gardens and any water applications.

Some could claim that plastic wood is bad for the environment, however, Kedel would argue that yes, initially the cost of plastic wood may be higher but the outcome is that you have a product that will last a lifetime due to its extended longevity and zero maintenance properties. To add to this, Kedel only uses recycled plastic that would otherwise go to landfill, therefore, its contribution towards a circular economy is something to be highly commended.

Moving forward, Dermot explained what the future holds for the company. "We are about to increase the working hours of our extrusion plant to be operating 24 hours



a day 5 days a week which will double our production time, and to support this we are recruiting more extruder operators. In the future, we plan to build a

network of resellers around the UK, as the current cost of transport is at an all-time high so we are looking at ways around this for better business practice and to allow for an eco-friendlier way of working."

In closing, we asked Dermot how he felt receiving our award, he responded, "We are thrilled. It shows we are doing all the right things and going in the right direction and we will endeavour to live up to it."

For more information, please see below:
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Eco Clipper FM4 Sport for sporting grounds



Eco Clipper offers large area mowers that help Field Managers minimise mowing costs while producing a clean cut result. The Eco Clipper mowing system was originally developed to replace the cylinder mower in turfgrass production. The goal was to maintain the cutting performance of a properly tuned cylinder mower, but not the high maintenance requirement and sensitivity to mowing conditions, like wet grass and weeds.

The system

The smooth cutting decks with fast rotating small blades ensure a high quality of cut and a good distribution of the clippings. The clippings are also well spread in wet grass. This makes it possible to schedule this mower almost independently of the weather.

Due to the electrically driven blades, the mower is very economical and quiet. The large wheels and clever deck linking system ensure good contour following and enable high mowing speeds.

Municipalities and sports field and park managers have also discovered the advantages of the Eco Clipper mowing system. For them, Eco Clipper offers the EC-FM4 Sport. This 4.11m wide mower has four independent



cutting decks. The forward position provides excellent visibility and comfort for the tractor operator.

The benefits

Users report high productivity gains, a factor two compared to 5-gang self-propelled cylinder mowers, and appreciate the low maintenance and the ability to schedule the mowing even under less favourable mowing conditions, such as early morning dew and wet autumn.

For more information, please contact:
info@vanmac.co.uk or visit:
www.ecoclipper.com



'Dedicated to offer the best mowing system for maintaining large area turfgrass'



Eco Clipper FM4 Sport
for sporting grounds
www.ecoclipper.com



Make your project possible

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



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.



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



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.



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;

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.

Contact
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info@dconsafety.com
www.dconsafety.com

How has global conflict affected freight?

Davies Turner

2022 has seen the world sadly troubled by global conflict. The war in Ukraine has had shocking scenes with lives lost and buildings destroyed. It has had a massive impact on the world, and has also had a detrimental impact on the movement of freight.

It hasn't been the best year for freight regardless. Although recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic with restrictions all over the globe, whether it be warehouses with



staff isolated to entire port closures in which vessels could not call it has all made it more challenging to be able to import and export goods. The cost of living crisis is massively affecting the supply chain, consumers not being able to afford to buy goods, which means suppliers then cannot afford to import & export as many goods as they usually would. Port strikes in the UK in Seaford and Felixstowe has led to port congestion at various ports around the country, making it that little bit more difficult to move goods efficiently. Finally, with the full effect of Brexit now kicking in, it is now a more time-consuming process to import & export with the European Union.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has had various impacts on various different industries, freight & logistics being one of them. The port of Odesa was shut down for almost 6 months after the city was hit with Russian missiles. Ukraine is a big part of the global food industry, exporting grain



via sea out of Odesa. With this coming to a temporary halt, global food prices shot up with the limitation of grain available to make food. Other methods of transport have been used, but the difficulty of travelling through a war torn country, as well as then having to take a longer route to the final destination, is coming at a cost to the consumer.

A major development in the war was the battle of Antonov Airport, which led to the sheer destruction of the world's largest cargo plane – the Antonov AN-225 Mirya. This was a significant event in the war and which has caused major consequences in shipping out-of-gauge and heavy cargo. The aircraft's last mission was shipping 90 tons of COVID-19 testing kits from Tianjin, China, delivering in Billund Denmark. It shows the big humanitarian impact the plane had on the world. The plane was set to be evacuated on the day that Russia invaded the airport; it was seen as a key target



by Russia. Several other aircraft that were part of the Antonov family were destroyed by Russia in what seems like was a purposeful attack. Russia are clearly trying to hurt Ukraine's air cargo sector, which in turn will hurt consumers all over the world. Humanitarian relief is also going to struggle to be distributed, it really does make you question the morals of the attack. A rebuild has been planned however, which is set to cost 3 billion US dollars, and take place over 5 years. However, the biggest cost will be to Ukraine's air cargo sector, which



William Sweeney, Davies Turner Rotherham

will lose many million more due to the loss of the aircraft.

The lack of gas and oil in the industry is solely responsible for by this war. Russia is one of the main suppliers of gas and oil to the rest of the world, most of the other countries of the world are mercifully standing with Ukraine and looking to aid Ukraine in some way to help limit the damage the country is taking, physically and economically. This has led to Russia not supplying gas and oil to Europe and instead sending it to India and China. European haulage is effected by this hugely. Rising fuel costs due to of the lack of gas and oil have been passed onto importers, as this is



impossible for hauliers to absorb the charges themselves. With some hauliers charging up to 35% extra in fuel surcharges, the cost-efficiency of transport isn't what it used to be. A solution needs to be found and it needs to be found sooner rather than later if transportation costs have any chance of reducing to a more reasonable cost for manufacturers to be able to confidently move freight worldwide.

Europe, along with many parts of the world, are cracking down on Russia, to the benefit of Ukraine, and morally it is more than the right thing to do. The industry is trying once again to flourish after it has survived several hurdles the past few years, many other industries haven't been able to survive the COVID-19 pandemic, but with freight struggling through it and now slowly picking back up, the question we really have to ask is – will the world ever be normal again?

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Your solution for Stainless Steel fasteners and precision turned parts

Precision Technology Supplies Ltd is one of Europe's leading importers and distributors of Stainless Steel fasteners and precision turned parts. The company is a stockist and distributor of Metric and Unified Stainless Steel fasteners and is a specialist stockist of Stainless Steel Micro screws and fasteners.

Precision Technology Supplies Ltd was established in 1988 and has expanded significantly over the years since its inception, offering its customers the widest range of industrial Stainless Steel fasteners and precision turned parts. Now regarded as one of the leading suppliers in both the UK and Europe, the company delivers on a global scale, offering same day shipping from stock.

"We supply to customers in a wide variety of different industry sectors and in over 90 countries all over the world. We offer the widest range of products in our field. Our quality is renowned along with our services and customer support," stated Andy Knight, Sales Director.

With a vast range of stock on offer, Precision Technology Supplies Ltd is a one-stop-shop for Stainless Steel fastenings, and delivers a fast, reliable and efficient service. In 2015, PTS were announced as a distributor for the Bumax range of High Strength Stainless Fasteners and is now more equipped than ever to fulfil its customer's needs. With further additions such as Nordlock washers, Shoulder Screws from AMPG and the Evolution range of construction fasteners. PTS, are able to offer high quality products to a wide variety of industries.



One of the main focuses for the company, and one that Precision Technology Supplies Ltd places the utmost importance on, is its reputation for quality. Precision Technology Supplies Ltd understands the importance of ensuring that quality runs throughout its entire business and not just its products. Through this ethos, the company has continually invested in its people, to ensure it employs the right people, to provide superior market knowledge and outstanding customer service. This ethos is echoed throughout the company's operations, from its supply chain partners and manufacturers to logistics and information technology; everything is carefully and meticulously chosen to uphold the company's stance on quality.

Precision Technology Supplies Ltd is dedicated to customer satisfaction, and invests in people and technology, to create a superior level of customer service. In addition, to ensure that its customers' needs are constantly met, Precision Technology Supplies Ltd is always self-evaluating and evolving through adding new products to its product range and expanding its offering for customers.

Another area of note is Precision Technology Supplies Ltd's services which includes inventory management, plating, path locking and screw modification.

Precision Technology Supplies Ltd holds 30 years of



experience in managing customer production lines on-site to ensure 'just-in-time' delivery. The company offers a selection of variations for Direct Line Feed management, which can be tailored to suit individual needs.

In terms of its plating service, Precision Technology Supplies Ltd has the abilities to plate standard and special screws in most materials. The most popular of these is the company's 'Touch-Dry' Chemi-Black process, which is frequently used by an increasing number of customers in high-tech industries. This is also known as 'Black Oxide,' which features a thin finish, that does not affect any dimensional tolerances, the company also provides a variety of other finishes such as Gold, Nickel, Silver and Zinc (Rohs Compliant).

Regarding its screw modification services, Precision Technology Supplies Ltd is able to offer a modification service for its customers, from 1.6mm diameter to customer drawings and precise specifications. This can often provide a far more cost-effective and efficient solution than manufacturing, especially where smaller quantities are required.

As for the company's future plans, Precision Technology Supplies Ltd's main aim is to continue building upon its solid foundation of quality and its reputation of providing

excellent services, at competitive prices. The company will also be looking to expand both its premises and increase its staffing level to accommodate its rapid, and growing demand.

In closing, we spoke once more to Andy, he stated, "The best way to see how good we are, is to try us!"

If you would like to find out any more information on the company, or to speak to them directly, please see the details below.

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Quality hinges since 1790



whose hinges are UK made and all of Gold & Wassall Hinges' stock is available for immediate dispatch.

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.

The company has demonstrated its wealth of expertise and consistency in exceeding expectations. Its sheer magnitude of industry leading expertise echoes throughout Gold & Wassall Hinges' services, which has enabled the company to continue its operations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and beyond.

For more information, please see the details below:
T 01827 63391
www.goldwassallhinges.co.uk



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.

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



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Gold & Wassall have been manufacturing hinges for over two centuries, so it's safe to say we know what we're doing. Our team of experts can design and manufacture almost any hinge, for any application. We have made upwards of 250,000 unique hinge designs, with more designs being drawn up each day.

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Door scheduling made easy, fast and error free



Established in 2002 by Derek Brown, RapidSpec is the first software developed for automatically creating door schedules, drawings, project estimates and bills of materials. Designed to eliminate errors in door set specification and the production of door schedules, RapidSpec is an industry leading software product proven to find any doorset's details from any customer and any project within 15 seconds.

"As software specialists for manufacturing processes, we have produced a software system for fire door manufacturing that not only improves productivity, ensures a faster turnaround and is proven to eliminate a greater number of errors, but also results in lower admin

costs whilst producing a higher return on investment than other software systems on the market," stated Carol Cole, Business Consultant.

With RapidSpec everything is instant. Long gone are the days of spreadsheets, RapidSpec offers instant quotations that include all of the auto generated doorset drawings required. Simple to navigate, the operator uses multiple choice, yes and no questions together with the required dimensions and RapidSpec does the rest. The process is time efficient, cost effective and simple to use.

Manual data entry falls victim to human input error,

which is both time consuming and frustrating for the employer and the employee. It not only impairs performance and efficiency but can result in higher operating costs and fluctuating levels of performance and continuity. With this in mind, RapidSpec offers two services: Fire Door Scheduling and Door Manufacturing Software.

Door Manufacturing Software allows manufacturers to produce detailed door schedules much more efficiently than traditional spreadsheets, calculators and catalogues. RapidSpec uses the existing skills of your estimator who will be able to create professional quotations immediately with just one hour of training. The orderly input of data ensures that nothing is left out and everything is checked. From the data input RapidSpec then automatically creates a scaled, detailed, and dimensioned doorset drawing.

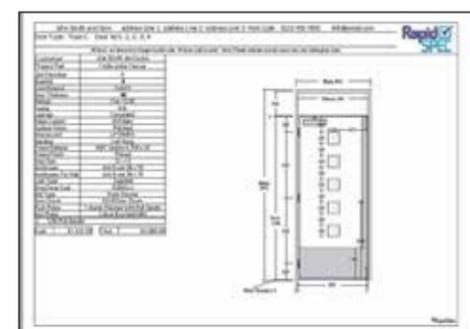
Ideal for manufacturers and fabricators of custom, standard interior and exterior doorsets, as well as architects, contractors and fire door manufacturers. "We have now introduced a barcode functionality and we are constantly updating and improving the software to create greater efficiencies for our clients," said Carol.



Free phone: 03337 00 00 17
www.rapidspec.co.uk



Robin Bell, Sales Manager
at Rapid Spec



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The savings from RapidSpec's error free automatic bill of materials alone is normally enough to pay for the software.



Take the worry and stress out of scheduling. In the background, as you select items, RapidSpec is making hundreds of checks for you. Less double checking = higher output!

It is vital fire doors are designed and manufactured to the right specifications to ensure they have the correct level of fire resistance. Fire Door Schedule is a door specifying and scheduling software from RapidSpec that allows door manufacturers and designers to quickly and simply create accurate fire door schedules from standard specification sheets. The simple process is designed so that the operator only needs to answer a few questions and input the dimensions of the door for the software to then produce an accurate fire door schedule complete with diagrams, dimensions, project estimates and bill of materials.

Over the years, RapidSpec been continuously developing its software to offer the best solutions to its customers. Despite the pandemic, the company has achieved further growth and has big plans for the future. Robin Bell, Sales Manager at Rapid Spec commented, "We are expanding internationally, with a focus on the Commonwealth in the first instance. We have also just recorded a video highlighting the enormous benefits of using RapidSpec on our customers' productivity. This should be available on the website very soon."

Contact
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www.rapidspec.co.uk



Our goal is 100% certified timber from 2025

The Belgian fifth-generation family company, founded in 1883 Vandecasteele Houtimport still has to deal with old prejudices on the use of hardwood. "Everyone knows that timber is a sustainable material," says Isabelle Polfliet, Compliance Manager at Vandecasteele, "A lot of users still associate tropical timber with the disappearance of the forests." Nevertheless, Vandecasteele Houtimport is fully committed to certified timber.

Sustainability and reliability are an essential part of Vandecasteele Houtimport's DNA. The company is determined to achieve the goal of trading only certified timber by 2025. Isabelle Polfliet, "As far as softwood is concerned, we are at 99%. The challenge, however, lies with the tropical hardwood and today we are at 66%!" Vandecasteele Houtimport has a clear vision: only certified timber has a future.

Substantial investments have been made over the years to be able to realize this future perspective. "You cannot achieve this goal overnight. This is a long-term job, in which all partners must be included. If we want to assure our customers that we keep our promise to only trade timber that comes from well-managed, certified forests, we need to be sure that all our trading partners share the same strictest certification and sustainability processes as we do."

This has resulted in several actions within the company. "First of all, we were assisted by external experts to get the procedures and protocols in order within our company. For example, we apply a responsible purchasing policy that must be signed by every supplier." Secondly, the team at Vandecasteele was reinforced with a forest engineer in Brazil. "That way we can keep a finger on the pulse of every shipment and we are able to accurately apply the ever-changing legislation in Brazil with great precision."

This sends an important signal to our suppliers. They know that doing business with Vandecasteele Houtimport means: complying with a procedure that is continuously refined and adapted. Every timber transport requires approval. When in doubt the timber is not accepted by us."



Digitalize

Last year another important step was taken in the partnership with 11 Foundry and their product Fibertrace. "This is in line with our intention to digitize all processes within our company. Fibertrace allows us to register all processes related to compliance in a structural and transparent way," says Isabelle Polfliet.

"The choice for certified timber does not mean that we push all non-certified suppliers aside. We have a preference for certified wood. By working together with external auditors, we can carry out field audits and share the results and the expenses with colleague importers. This enables suppliers to gain insight into their processes and where there are areas for improvement. In this way, we will gain certified suppliers in due course."

Vandecasteele has a long-term commitment to preserving the forests. The family business imports more than 125 different types of wood from 40 countries and has 105,000 cubic meters in stock, mainly certified hard and soft woods.

"This wide range of wood species is also due to our support for the LKTS program of FSC Denmark. With this we want to help promote the use of lesser known species. We keep these lesser-known types of wood in stock and offer them as an alternative. Too often, regulations refer to the known types of wood. From the point of view of good forest management, one must dare to choose the right durability class for an application instead of a specific type of wood."

Preservation of the forest

In a well-managed forest, only mature trees



are harvested, which amounts to one to three trees per hectare. After that, felling will not take place for at least 25 years. In this way the forest is preserved for the future. Mother trees, trees with bee nests and the like are of course not harvested.

Positive evolution

Isabelle Polfliet notes that a positive evolution is noticeable in consumer purchasing behaviour. Customers are increasingly asking questions about certification and the origin of the timber. Buyers are becoming increasingly aware of the need to use certified timber.

"Importing tropical wood goes further than just asking for certified wood. Internally, the processes and procedures must also be in order. Say what you do and do what you say. This means a continuous evolution within our company, because there are always

new insights and legislation does not stand still ('the new Deforestation Law'). Due to our collaboration with external experts, we are broadening our internal knowledge and continuing to make progress."

Considerable steps have already been taken with the arrival of the EU Timber Regulation, but we can and should do even better. "We want to see and monitor a stronger application and support for certified timber. Vandecasteele communicates continuously with the users via the website and campaigns in order to get that message out. This is necessary, because the purchase of FSC® certified wood contributes to 14 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (or SDG's) of the United Nations'. Since the year 2000 Vandecasteele Houtimport has committed itself through the Corporate Durability Charter by signing up to environmental objectives exceeding the applicable legislation. In 2018, the charter started a partnership with CIFAL Flanders, the local HUB of UNITAR, the Training and Education centre of the UN. In 2021, Vandecasteele Houtimport was the first timber company in the world to have obtained the international recognized 'SDG Pioneer certificate' from UNITAR CIFAL.

Contact
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Your partner in fire safety



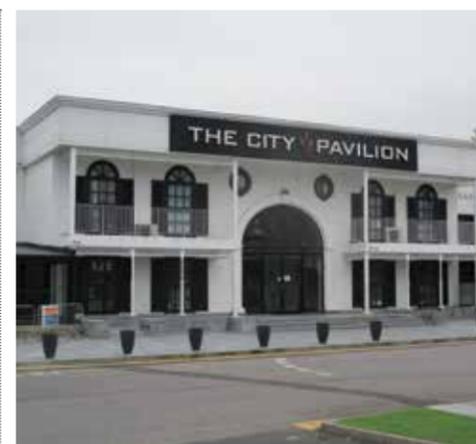
DB Fire Safety Limited is situated in Peterborough and was set up in 2013 by its Managing Director, David Black. David is a qualified fire risk assessor with over 30 years' experience working in the fire safety industry, with accreditation including from the Institute of Fire Safety Managers, 'Register of Competent Fire Risk Assessors.'

David first launched DB Fire Safety Limited after gaining experience working for two years as an independent fire safety consultant. Recognising the need for his services, David launched DB Fire Safety Limited to provide independent fire safety consultancy, serving clients throughout the UK.

"We are an independent fire safety consultancy specialising in carrying out fire risk assessments. Our main operations consist of carrying out fire risk assessments and providing fire strategy documents for new buildings under construction", said David.

"In addition to offices and factories, we specialise in carrying out fire risk assessments of schools, residential care premises, hotels, and blocks of flats. We also assist building contractors and architects in developing fire & evacuation strategies for buildings under construction or renovation," added David.

Through the company's industry leading



expertise, DB Fire Safety Limited understands the difficulties in navigating fire safety legislation, and as such, the company prides itself on being 'your partner for fire safety'.

Under David's leadership and industry leading expertise in the fire safety industry, the company is well equipped to assist its clients and help to provide their client's businesses with a comprehensive document to identify potential sources of ignition, the likelihood of a fire occurring and the potential impact that a fire would have on its occupants. An assessment is then made of the documented procedures that outline actions that need to be followed in the event of any fire incident, and the required level of training and practice needed.

One of the main advantages of using DB Fire Safety Limited's services is its honest and efficient service, as an independent business without any conflicting interests.

David explained, "The benefit of employing ourselves is that we have no potential conflicts of interest in supplying or maintaining fire extinguishers, fire alarm systems, or installing fire doors etc."

The company also provides in-house training for Fire Wardens and Fire Marshals, as well as online courses, to keep staff and businesses compliant and safe. In addition, DB Fire Safety Limited also provides training courses for general fire safety awareness, which can be carried at the client's premises or via its online E-Learning modular courses. The online courses are a great resource for refresher training.

As the company looks to its future, DB Fire Safety Limited maintains its overall goal of continuing to provide its clients with the best support possible. David added, "We want to ensure their premises are safe, and that business owners and managers meet their responsibilities under fire safety legislation."

If you would like to find out any further information on the company, please see the details featured below:
T 0800 7720559
enquiries@dbfiresafety.co.uk
www.dbfiresafety.co.uk



DB FIRE SAFETY LTD

TEL: 0800 772 0559

enquiries@dbfiresafety.co.uk

THE FIRE SAFETY ORDER

The Fire Safety Order 2005 requires that all businesses, including schools and all other educational establishments, have an up-to-date fire risk assessment and that staff receive instruction in fire safety procedures. Legislation also requires that fire risk assessments are reviewed on a regular basis (recommended to be at least annually).

It is critical that there is a suitable and sufficient set of procedures for staff to follow in the event of a fire emergency. Therefore, all staff must receive appropriate training in those procedures must be tested by carrying out regular fire evacuation drills.

It is also strongly recommended that all staff should receive instruction in general fire safety awareness. Such training would enable staff to fully understand the fire hazards and risks in their respective areas and, therefore, hopefully help prevent a fire from occurring in the first place.

In many schools, there may also be a requirement for senior staff to be designated as Fire Marshals; to have particular responsibilities in the event of fire.

DB Fire Safety has vast experience in dealing with all kinds of educational establishments; specialising in carrying out fire risk assessments and providing training to staff. Our training courses can be provided on site or can be accessed via our variety of e-learning courses. These are modular and can be accessed remotely as time allows.

From our offices in Peterborough, we cater for clients throughout England and Wales and offer a FREE 24hour consultancy service.

For more information regarding fire risk assessments or staff training, call 0800 772 0559 OR Email enquiries@dbfiresafety.co.uk



DB FIRE SAFETY

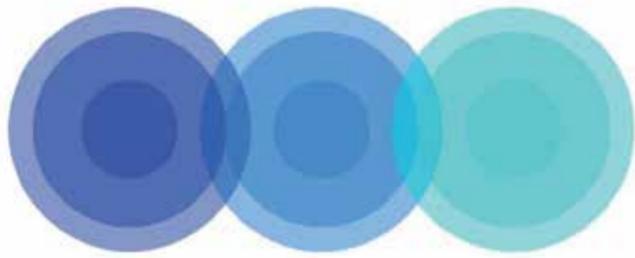
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Leading the way in deep hole drilling

At Industrial Solutions, we take pride in showcasing the very best services provided by companies that provide a wealth of benefits for their industry. As such, in this issue we are proud to announce that we have selected UNISIG as our Deep Hole Drilling Specialists of 2022 and the recipient of our Industry Specialist Award.

Originally founded to provide deep hole drilling machines, accessories and related services to the US market, UNISIG is one of the largest producers of deep hole drilling machines, and

applications, to accommodate any specific requirement.

Since its establishment, UNISIG has built up a trusted reputation amongst its broad range of customers. As the leading producer of gun drilling and deep hole drilling machines, customers of UNISIG rely on its deep hole drilling technologies for the powerful, intuitive capabilities they offer.

Serving industries such as aerospace, energy, firearms, hydraulic cylinders, medical, military and defense, molds, oil and gas, and automotive, UNISIG



an industry leader in technology, innovation, support, and service. From small job shops looking to expand their capabilities, to large OEM's that need to drill millions of holes, UNISIG has the capabilities and the strong understanding of the deep hole drilling process, drilling tools and their

has a strong presence all over the world with installations in the Americas, Europe and Asia.

By offering a complete deep hole drilling solution that includes machines, tools and automation, customers will receive the upmost, highest quality service from engineers that hold extensive experience and expertise on deep hole drilling machines. Throughout the years, UNISIG's impressive drilling capabilities have propelled the company to the forefront of the industry offering a service that goes completely unrivalled amongst competitors. Setting the standards of the industry high when it comes its technological

advancements, UNISIG doesn't just manufacture deep hole drilling machines, it can also develop machines for other deep hole processes such as BTA, gun drilling, counterboring/reaming, pull boring, trepanning, skiving and roller burnishing, bottle boring, bottom forming and many more.



Pushing the limits of BTA drilling, with on and off-centre capabilities that offer intuitive operation, UNISIG manufactures high power BTA drilling machines and trepanning that enable BTA drilling of 25mm to 500mm up to 20m deep.

The B-Series machines handle an impressive range of on-centre BTA drilling and are the ideal solution for a majority of BTA range diameter deep hole drilling applications. This series uses BTA and related tools to produce centreline holes on parts up to 20m deep and are supported with training from UNISIG throughout the process.

The larger swing B-Series machines have virtually limitless capabilities, giving manufacturers the most in power

and dimension requirements. As part of the deep hole drilling system, this range combines rigid deep hole drilling with durable components and powerful drives with smart controls, allowing manufacturers to get the most out of their deep hole drilling investment.

It is evident that UNISIG is at the top of its game, manufacturing some of the highest-quality machines in the deep hole drilling industry. With its team of dedicated experts all pulling together, the company is really showing how anything is possible when you work together to solve problems, not create them.

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For several generations, Plus Pack has been at the head of the pack among producers of food packaging. The company has continually developed new products that are more or less environmentally friendly, having received several international awards for this work. And not only the green revolution, but also the working environment for their more than 200 employees is given high priority by the company. The working environment in particular is one of the reasons for



focusing on automation. "It is used particularly where heavy and monotone tasks can be taken from the employees to be done by collaborative robots," says strategic Project Manager, Bastian Fietj, "The work station where we use the gripping arm from OnRobot replaces a packaging process where the operator used to work manually on stacking products on top of each other, pressing out the air between them. The manual process required a lot of repeated heavy lifting and a lot of stress on the shoulders. We have removed this physical strain from the employees." he says.

Unproblematic solution

And certainly, there is no reason to wait before automating the production. At Plus Pack, the implementation of the End-of-Arm tool from OnRobot has been fast and unproblematic, says Project Manager Simon Laigaard, "In our opinion, the

OnRobot gripping arm is easy to work with. By adjusting four screws, we can change the fingertips on the gripping arm, making it precisely suited for the individual product. If we had opted for building separate tools for each product, the cost would have been significantly higher than with this solution, where the gripping arm is easily adjustable."

"We ran some tests with the gripping arm in the lab, and the programming was done in a few days. After that, it took just 30 minutes to implement the gripping arm at full speed in the packaging line." he says.

A definite recommendation of OnRobot

As stated, one of the reasons to use collaborative robots is the working environment. Another reason is productivity, which becomes very flexible by using gripping arms from OnRobot, says Bastian Fietje, "We manufacture a lot of different products, and we have a lot of different customers, for whom we manufacture customised packaging solutions. For this reason, we are always trying to optimise the products and the packaging process for each customer, which is something OnRobot's End-of-Arm tools help us do."

If you are planning to automate your production, I would definitely recommend gripping arms from OnRobot, as they offer the flexibility to create customised solutions suitable for specific needs. This is something we have never seen from other suppliers of End-of-Arm tools, he said.

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DIRECT HOIST GOES GREEN

Direct Hoist specialises in hire and sales of construction hoists, and is leading the field in environmental awareness

Environmental awareness isn't something you'd normally associate with the construction sector. Indeed, it's reckoned that a third of the UK's entire carbon emissions comes from the built environment.

Regardless of your views on climate change, it's impossible to ignore the impact of construction on the natural world. From plants and wildlife to noise and pollution, there's not an element on the planet that isn't affected by development projects.

So it's vital that the industry creates and maintains a sustainable outline for the future. And it's essential for our own survival - on an environmental and a financial scale - that we play our part in the battle to cut emissions.

Direct Hoist, an ever-expanding construction hoist hire and sales specialist, is rising to the top as a market leader in going green. Company founder Rob Wilson says, "Due to the Government's intention to drastically reduce the UK's emissions - especially from motor vehicles and businesses - Direct Hoist is moving forward with demands for companies to decrease their carbon footprint down to zero emissions."

Rob's approach is to take a fresh look at Direct Hoist's operations with an environmental eye. The basics were covered easily: long-life, low-energy LED lighting was fitted to the firm's premises

to replace inefficient equipment; recycling is rigorously monitored and separated to minimise general waste; scrap materials are saved up and weighed in.

Direct Hoist has slashed stationery usage, implementing paper-free hand-overs via phone apps, and is rapidly moving towards paperless offices. Sustainability passes down the chain, so Direct Hoist favours suppliers that are either local (to cut transportation) or offer green credentials.

Direct Hoist already runs its fleet of diesel-powered vans on HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel, which is 100 per cent renewable (BS EN 15940 standard), offers a 90 per cent reduction in CO2, and can be stored for extensive periods in a tank on-site - meaning Direct Hoist's drivers don't need to divert to fuel stations, making each trip more economical.

Rob says, "Electric vans don't yet offer the range we need, so HVO is a good alternative. Compared with white or red diesel, HVO fuels have benefits to health and the environment. Air pollution is drastically reduced, and

it's much safer if there's an accidental spillage - HVO biodegrades quickly, whereas regular diesel will remain slippery and harmful to the ecosystem for years."

Direct Hoist's switch away from fossil fuels includes a hire fleet of generators that will run on HVO when powering hoists on sites without connection to mains electricity.

Of course, Direct Hoist has for years supplied electrically-powered construction hoists instead of old-fashioned engine-driven devices. Rob says, "They use a 110-, 240- or 415-volt supply, depending on the lifting capacity and size of the hoist platform required, so there are no carbon (CO2), nitrogen oxide (NOx) or carbon monoxide (CO) emissions here."

Direct Hoist is also investing in lithium-ion battery-powered lifts, which can carry 120kg up to heights of 10m, controlled wirelessly by a smart-phone app. They're ideal for transportation and installation of solar panels.

Most importantly, the inclusion of a hoist on any construction site has an added environmental benefit due to its manpower-saving efficiency. Construction hoists dramatically reduce project timescales - the speed and ability of a lifting platform to take tools and materials up multiple storeys can knock weeks off a large scheme - thereby minimising workers' journeys to and from site.

"We're on target to reach net zero greenhouse has emissions long before the Government's policy," says Rob. "Direct Hoist is committed to going green, and we're taking a direct route towards sustainability." ■

■ For more information, visit: www.directhoist.co.uk

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MR. J.W. RODNEY PEYTON OBE MD

An Epitome for Experts in the Medico-legal Industry

Medicine is regarded as one of the most dignified professions around the world. The relationship between the doctor and the patient stands on pillars such as trust, confidence, and hope. However, like several other industries, commercialization has largely impacted the medical profession and services as well. Today, there is increasing anxiety both within the medical profession and in society regarding the constantly increasing trends of complaints and lawsuits against physicians.

It is imperative for doctors to be aware of the legal aspects linked to their profession and take precautionary measures to protect themselves and their patients from legal traps. The knowledge of medico-legal issues has become as fundamental to the practice of medicine as clinical skills.

Thus, experts in the field of medico-legal services are in demand presently. While several new leaders have been emerging in recent years, veterans like Mr. J.W. Rodney Peyton OBE MD are still regarded as one of the prominent leaders in the medico-legal sector.

A Distinguished Career spanning Over Three Decades

A Consultant Trauma Surgeon by profession, Mr. Peyton has been driven by a desire to improve surgical practice and ensure better outcomes for patients—throughout his eminent career spanning four decades. He has served as the Head of Faculty Development and Examiner Training for the Royal College of Surgeons of London and has been at the forefront of innovation in the delivery of teaching and healthcare.

Widely regarded as the World's #1 surgical coach, Mr. Peyton has received numerous recognitions. He has received the Werner Korte Gold Medal for services to German Surgical Education in 2002. Moreover, he was bestowed with the Medal of the Swedish Surgical Society for his services to medical education in 2005.

He is also a law graduate and has been involved in medico-legal reporting and court appearances as an expert witness since 1983. He is also a founding member of the Expert Witness Institute and has played an important role in providing an independent expert opinion in cases of potential medical negligence. He has been reported over 70,000 personal injury cases as well as being asked to advise in more than 3000 cases of potential medical malpractice.

Mr. Peyton's prowess in the medico-legal domain, blended with his avid experience in both military and civilian trauma has been instrumental in him being regarded as an authority on medico-legal



issues. He has been actively involved in training doctors and lawyers in dealing with medico-legal cases—both individually and in professional groups, also as a trainer and keynote speaker. In a conversation with Mirror Review, Mr. Peyton shed light upon what it is like to be a medico-legal expert in today's world and shared some invaluable insights that would help those aspiring to step into the industry.

A Satisfying Intellectual Exercise

Preparing medico-legal reports—according to Mr. Peyton—is a very satisfying intellectual exercise, particularly regarding malpractice, and is one of the best ways of keeping up to date in his field of expertise. "Each case is unique with many twists and turns. Having to think out the pros and cons in any given range of opinions allows the expert to become even more secure in their own practice which can only be for the benefit of patients," affirms Mr. Peyton.

According to him, the best way to learn anything is to teach it. In this case, barristers/ trial lawyers will ask detailed, probing questions to gain a full understanding—requiring the teacher/expert to more clearly understand their own practice and personal biases as they consider legitimate differences of opinion.

Stay Relevant, Neutral, and Clear

As Head of Peyton Medico-legal Services, Mr. Peyton's philosophy is that the objective is to assist those in litigation including the clients, their legal advisers, and the court to clearly understand the nature of medical evidence in individual cases so they can make informed decisions. It is the court's jurisdiction to determine facts under dispute in a case, and the expert opinion guides the court in its deliberations.

While the judges are highly trained and experienced in the interpretation of the law, they—alongside the barristers and trial lawyers—are not the experts when it comes to healthcare professions. They need help in understanding the medical evidence before them. Thus, the expert must assist the court in decision-making. According to Mr. Peyton, any expert must stay relevant in their profession, remain neutral throughout no matter who is responsible for their fees, and must clearly understand their paramount duty is to the court.

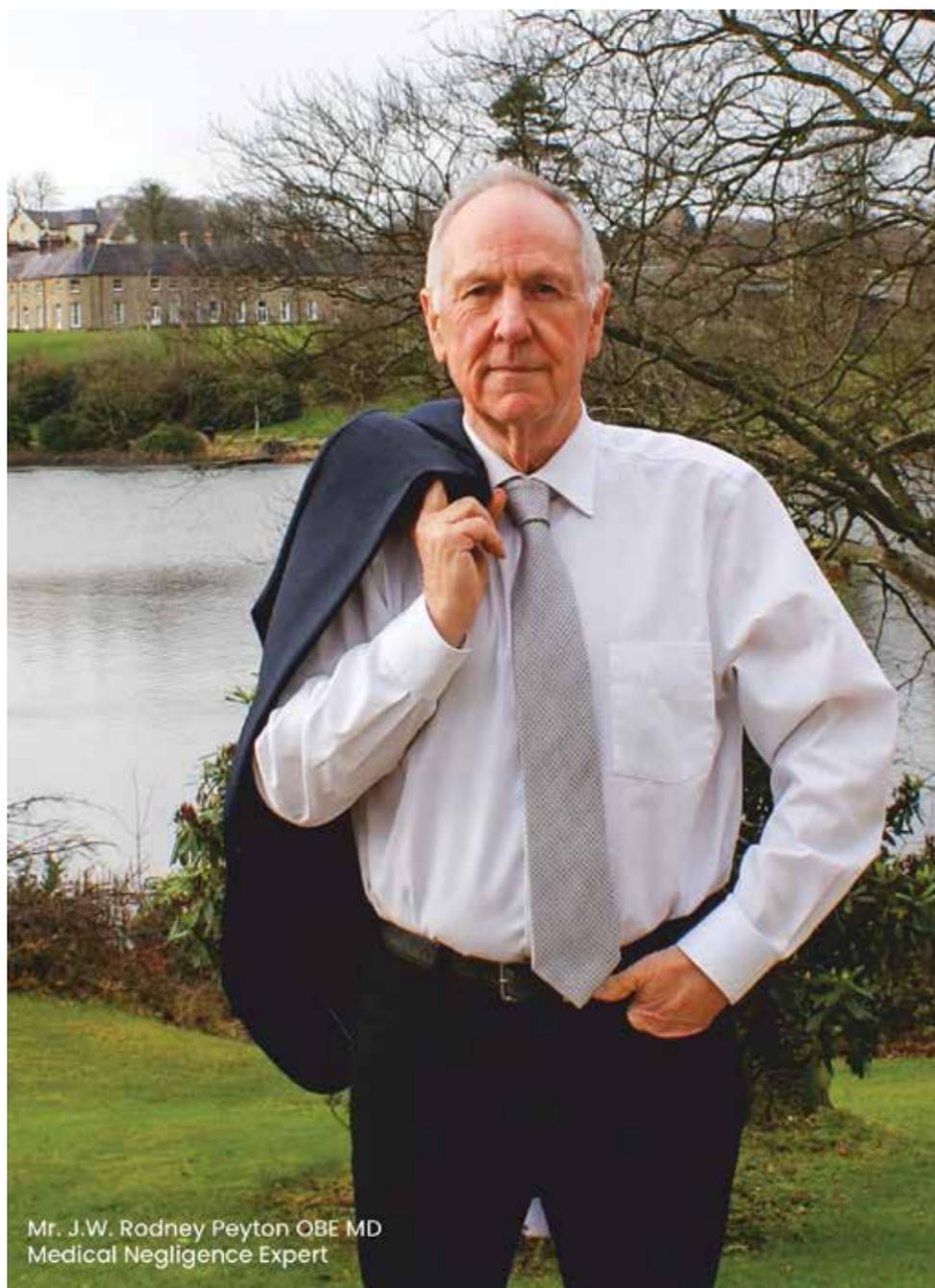
Mr. Peyton further mentions it is important to remember innovation in the legal profession is slow and steady. When in the witness box, an expert must not display innovative behaviors in terms of thoughts about managing cases. As the courts are looking for a fair degree of certainty, all the arguments have to be clear, logical, and well-thought-out. "In this case, experts must acknowledge there always exists a range of opinion and clearly announce with an evidential base as to why their opinion should be preferred," he advises.

Furthermore, an expert having personal prejudices or inclinations can sometimes cause confusion and trust issues. Mr. Peyton, however, believes having a personal bias towards a particular method of treatment is not an issue if the preference is transparent and the expert can demonstrate they are prepared to consider and discuss the viability of other options. According to him, experts require the flexibility of mind to review their opinion if compelling evidence to the contrary becomes available.

Determining the Probability of Success

In recent years, medical negligence/malpractice has become one of the major growth areas in medico-legal practice. However, figures from defense organizations suggest that only a few actions actually succeed with a vast majority failing based on causation. As subsequence is not the same as consequence, Mr. Peyton believes that it is important to determine at an early stage the probability of a case to succeed.

To help offset the escalating costs of litigation, Peyton Medico-legal has introduced a provision



Mr. J.W. Rodney Peyton OBE MD
Medical Negligence Expert

of preliminary screening reports to ensure that the elements of duty, breach, and consequential damage are likely to be in place before commissioning other more costly specialist reports. This keeps down the costs for clients and their legal advisors as well as enables lawyers to manage clients' expectations at an early stage at a minimal cost.

"Lack of Professionalism will not be tolerated..."

Mr. Peyton believes that being an expert witness has become more professionalized now than it was when he started. He mentions that courts have tightened up concerning their expectation of witnesses and, of particular importance, has been the loss of immunity from liability for those giving evidence. "Overall, I think this has been for the better. There still tends to be a lot of exaggeration, if not outright fraud, inflicted within the claims industry," he asserts.

The business environment in personal injury cases—with an added emphasis on financial compensation—can induce a tendency to discard facts for portraying the claimant's case in the best way possible. Unfortunately, this has been enabled by some medical practitioners who fail to understand their duty is towards the court and not to those instructing them. This can lead to the defamation of professional medico-legal experts and can have a severe impact on their personal, professional, and financial well-being. Mr. Peyton adds, "The message is clear. Such a lack of professionalism will no longer be tolerated."

Why do Medical Mistakes Occur?

Alongside a lack of professionalism, there are several other mistakes medico-legal experts make. Expressing his views on those mistakes, Mr.

Peyton says, "It is in the way in which decisions are made." According to him, there are three primary types of logical reasoning—deductive, inductive, and abductive. Deductive argues from the general to the specific and if the generality is correct, then the specific is correct. "For instance, if I have a jar of white marbles and I take the marbles from the jar, then those marbles are liable to be white. In court terms, this is the doctrine of res ipsa loquitur," he adds.

Inductive logic, on the other hand, starts from the specific and works back to the general. Mr. Peyton illustrates, "If I have five white marbles in my hand and they came from a specific jar, then all marbles in the jar are liable to be white." This, however, may not be true and is the basis of the null hypothesis in statistical research. Thus, papers that states results "nearly reached significance" have to be handled diligently. They either reached significance or they didn't and the problem in the law is arguing with a specific bias and producing only evidence that equates to one side of the argument.

At last comes the abductive reasoning. "For instance, if I have white marbles in my hand and there are white marbles in the jar, then the marbles in my hand came from the jar," states Mr. Peyton. This is a big step and is one of the major causes of medical mistakes where a set of symptoms are assumed to indicate a particular disease process. "This is a cognitive bias where alternatives are not even considered in spite of evidence to the contrary," he adds.

For more information or any queries on Medico-Legal issues, please visit: www.rpeyton.com to schedule a complimentary consultation

'The Health Professional in Court': 10 principles for practice

For this month's feature article, we interviewed someone who is acknowledged as one of the world's top surgical coaches and an international authority in medico legal issues.

Mr Rodney Peyton, OBE MD is a Trauma Surgeon who has the unique distinction of holding Fellowships in all four Royal Colleges of Surgeons in the UK and Ireland as well as being a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London. He holds a master's degree in medical education from Cardiff University and graduated in law from the College of Law in London.

In his career spanning 40 years, he has been engaged in over 70,000 personal injury cases as well as being asked to advise on more than 3,000 cases involving medical malpractice.

He therefore has a wealth of experience in preparing cases for and giving expert testimony in Court and has been involved in the training of doctors and lawyers in dealing with medico legal cases, individually on a face-to-face basis, and also as a trainer and keynote speaker.

In this article, he will cover his 10 top strategies to help health professional's deal with the Court process.

He is also a well-known author and international keynote speaker. For his availability to speak at your corporate events, contact him at: rpeyton@rpeyton.com.

Increasingly, senior professionals from all branches of the healthcare industry are finding themselves involved in the Court system, either on an involuntary basis, as a witness to fact or defendant, or on a voluntary basis as an expert witness.

Gone is the paternalism of 'the professional knows best' and there has been more and more scrutiny by the public of professional actions and attitudes.

Leaving aside the criminal law, which is an entirely different situation, civil legal cases are predicated on the fact that within every profession, or branch of profession, there exists a range of opinions as to what constitutes good practice. Defendants and expert witnesses are expected to provide opinions, witnesses to fact are not.

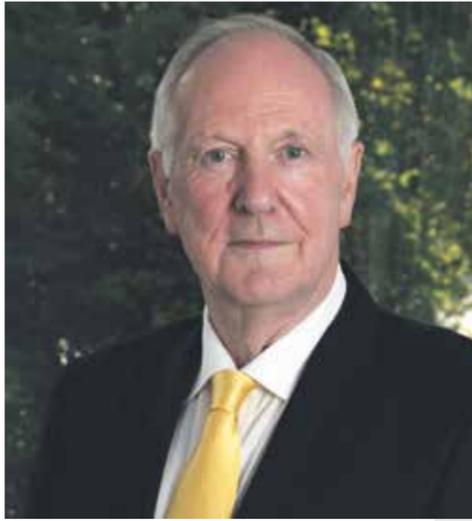
It is important to understand that, while judges are highly trained and experienced in the interpretation of the law, they and the barristers or trial lawyers who argue cases are nevertheless lay people when it comes to the healthcare professions. They are not medical experts and therefore require help in understanding the medical evidence before them. For the health professional, whether as defendant or expert witness, the duty is to assist the Court in their decision-making whilst at the same time maintaining and promoting their own professional integrity and reputation.

Most healthcare professionals rarely appear in Court. From personal experience as a teacher and trainer to those who do become involved, there are recurrent themes, which arise and so the following 10 principles have been developed to help guide professionals through the Court process.

Record keeping

Keep detailed contemporaneous records.

Any major findings or decisions, whether it be from working with a patient, a client or undertaking a project, should be on record, as one never knows when such



events may become the object of scrutiny. There is an old saying, 'if it is not written down, it did not happen' and oral evidence is likely to be regarded as weak and suspect unless there is written evidence to back it up. A little extra time spent in ensuring accurate, contemporaneous recording may save considerable time, effort and indeed stress at a later stage when trying to convince a Court that decision making was sound. Remember, all written communications are discoverable and may be used in Court proceedings. Therefore, it is important not to make any gratuitous comments within the written record.

When acting as an expert witness, always look for original, contemporaneous documentation to back up later oral recall of events. Stick to the facts as presented and derive opinions from them.

Producing a report

Reports should be timely, factually based and the opinions well-reasoned, taking full account of appropriate legal tests.

When producing a report, clarify whether you are acting as a professional or as an expert and keep the distinction between the two. As a defendant, you will be required to explain your position. It is important you outline any reasonable range of opinion, which informed your decision-making and actions, stating why your own should be preferred, 'defence being the best form of attack.'

Being a witness to fact is a requirement rather than a choice. If you have been directly involved, provide evidence under clinical findings, observations and actions. Limit evidence to that which has been recorded and remember not to venture opinions or speculate on events.

An expert witness's function is to help the Court by virtue of their knowledge, training and experience within their professional field of expertise. Reports must not intentionally mislead and any omission of relevant information reveals prejudice, whether acting as a professional or an expert witness. All opinions proffered must be logical, based on recognised clinical evidence and guidelines to include the appropriate standard of care, being clear what was relevant at the time of the incident. Always anticipate counter arguments, addressing them within the body of the report wherever possible and be alert to the potential for your own professional bias. Expert witness reports must be and must be seen to be independent.

Do not revise your report unless you have been subsequently provided with new facts, which need to be taken into account, at which time you must explain why these have made a material difference to the previous conclusions.

Attendance at Court

Always present as professional and credible.

First impressions count. This includes dressing appropriately for the Court and ensuring you have all your papers with you, particularly when actually giving evidence.

Make sure you take time to prepare thoroughly, highlighting any relevant areas in your report and those of others for ease of reference. Make sure you have taken time to think out potential questions or possible arguments which may be raised and

know your reasoning behind everything you are going to present.

Court procedure

Be aware of the Court procedure in whichever jurisdiction you attend, while you may be senior in your branch of the health care profession, unless you are highly experienced in Court practice, you are relatively junior in relation to the Court process. This is particularly pertinent for witnesses to fact who may be unfamiliar with legal proceedings.

An expert is engaged because of expertise in a particular subject and must, not only keep up to date in their own field, but also be cognisant of the requirements of the Court process. They are there to represent their point of view and assist the legal process.

It is important they do not come across as overbearing, as they are, in fact, servant/leaders, tasked with educating the Court and therefore must understand what is required from the Court's point of view.

Constantly strive to improve your presentation skills, for example by giving talks on medico legal issues, so that you are used to standing up and delivering legal points in relation to medical cases.

Duty to the Court

Your professional duty as an expert or a witness to fact is always to the Court, no matter who engages you or why you have been called to attend.

This responsibility must be taken seriously. The role is to help litigants, their lawyers and the Court better understand the nature of medical evidence in individual cases so they can come to reasonable decisions. In this context, it is important they are helped to understand what acceptable practice was at the relevant time.

Health professionals do not have immunity when giving evidence. Not having this protection has unfortunately meant that some have been at the receiving end of severe public criticism, up to and including the award of costs against them and even a custodial sentence when the Judge considered that, by acts of omission or commission, the Court had been misled. This can have severe implications on personal, professional and financial standing.

Range of opinion

Always acknowledge there may be a range of reasonably held opinions.

In this context also consider possibility vs probability 'more likely than not.' If a matter comes to Court, there is going to be an opposing view from another professional expert who does not fully, if at all, agree with your opinion. Therefore, it is important to cover counter arguments in your considered opinion, which adds to the credibility of the report. The report must contain logical reasoning for accepting or rejecting other opinions and include any references, which are to be relied upon.

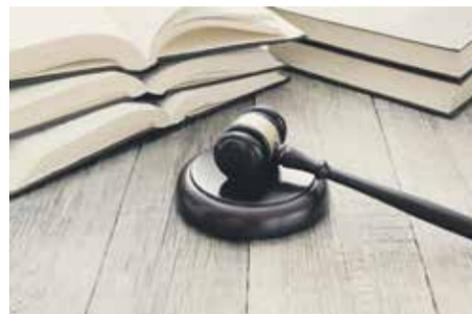
Guard against emotional statements and hyperbole and never denigrate others. Very rarely is 'in my experience' relevant in Court unless it is thoroughly backed up by objective evidence.

Credibility

Experts must stay within their field of expertise when giving opinions. They should have a bespoke CV for each case, indicating why they are a reliable expert for the matters at hand. It is in the nature of the Court process that opposing lawyers will try to diminish your credibility and it is wise to have answers for the three questions, which almost every barrister/trial lawyer will utilise at the beginning of an examination.

These are:

Do you know your duty to the Court, including your knowledge of relevant legal tests?
Are you an expert on all points on which you are giving an opinion?
Is there a range of opinion, which reasonable and respectable doctors may hold?



Ensure you are clear on your answers before getting into the witness box. This is all about credibility and as far as possible stay away from arguing about legal, technical and ethical issues.

Giving evidence

There are three types of oral examination for all types of witnesses, the evidence-in-chief, cross-examination and re-examination.

For Evidence-in-chief, your barrister or trial lawyer will lead you through your report and highlight any specific points relevant to the case. Cross-examination by opposing counsel looks at those points in detail, helping the Court assess credibility and ascertain whether there are in fact other opinions, which are equally valid. Do not get into an argument with the barrister or trial lawyer who is questioning you. Expect to be put under pressure during cross-examination but resist being provoked. Keep calm and answer to the bench. If you feel that your answers are being cut short unreasonably, ask the Judge if you may expand and follow their direction, always coming across as reasonable and professional. After answering the Judge or presiding officer then look back to the barrister or trial lawyer for the next question.

If you are given new information, which you did not have before then say so and, unless the answer is obvious, do not give a knee jerk reaction but ask for time to think it out. If it is not in your field say so and be careful of your own personal bias, again clearly separating fact and opinion. All your reasoning must stand up to logical scrutiny.

Re-examination is led by the instructing party to clarify issues, which have been raised during cross-examination. This phase is usually fairly short and rarely are any new matters raised.

Keep it simple

Keep all your evidence as simple as possible.

Remember, although the Court consists of lay people, they have considerable expertise and experience in handling different kinds of evidence. Take time to explain the issues at hand in jargon free, transparent terms, the more so if it happens to be a jury trial. Speak slowly, follow the Judge and his/her speed of writing or typing as they will be keeping a record of the proceedings.

Reflection

Reflect on the outcome.

After the verdict, as an expert do not take anything personally and learn what you need to learn. Similarly, as a witness to fact.

Think over what transpired and take time to reflect on what went well and what could you have possibly done better, or at least differently. As Stuart Emery states, 'The path to mastery in any subject is to correct, not protect.'

Be open and honest with yourself and always seek to improve your practice as well as in the reporting and delivery of your evidence.

Once you have done so, move on. Civil Courts are not saying you are right or wrong in general terms, they are saying they prefer one set of evidence over another and it is only in the balance of probabilities.

Conclusion

Whether as defendant, witness to fact or expert witness, the process in civil litigation is the same.

By gaining an understanding and some familiarity with the process, practitioners can develop both confidence and competence in their role of presenting evidence. As an expert, the more often you appear in Court the more competence you gain and therefore the more confident you become.

Healthcare professionals are required ethically and by their professional bodies to continually update their practice, knowing why they do what they do in the way they do it, ensuring practice is evidence-based. However expert you are, you must not become complacent in either your practice or in Court.

Finally, all witnesses must remain neutral, explain the range of opinions, and be aware of their own potential for selective bias in any evidence presented. Courts are reliant on credible, impartial and articulate healthcare professionals and presenting as such impacts greatly on personal, professional and financial standing.

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Aiming to augment your in-house expertise to achieve successful results every time

Biopharma Group has several dedicated divisions covering the UK, France, Ireland and USA, each striving to meet the precise needs of customers' projects appropriate to the size and stage by augmenting their in-house expertise. This may include whether to buy equipment, training, a single cycle run analysis or a full formulation development programme and work together to make each project a success. These divisions accommodate the provision of capital equipment, technical R&D services and lyo training courses internationally, to support and enhance the production and development of projects for the pharmaceutical, biotech and associated industries.



Biopharma Group prides itself on its dedication, and the team is wholly committed to offering the best product or service that fits the customers' requirements, with the support to scale-up or scale-down accordingly. The company is also a leading authority in the industry, having its own product specialists, in-house scientists, technical service engineers and renowned experts in the field of lyophilisation, who form not only part of the science teams, but also lead the lyo training courses.

While there are other specialists in this industry, Biopharma Group offers a tailored, bespoke service, which is never 'one size fits all' to its customers. Another feature that sets the company apart, is that it provides multidisciplinary products and services solutions that include a wide range of capital equipment options. These range from freeze dryers to cryostorage vessels to analytical



lyo instruments, in addition to the in-house analytical contract R&D lab and production team of scientists, lyo training courses and access to partner divisional brands and preferred servicing providers.

Head of Marketing, Charis Hickey, commented, "By offering this end-to-end solution, Biopharma Group is proud to provide customers with high



standard support, products, and technical analysis services across the biotechnology and pharma industries. Biopharma Group has held a mission of meeting the precise needs of its customers' projects since day one, always striving to provide the most appropriate solutions for the task at hand, and with the experience to do so effectively."

Recently, Biopharma Group's R&D consultancy division – www.intelligentfreeze-drying.com – has evolved into a full-service Contract Development & Manufacturing Organisation (CDMO). Services offered have grown from freeze drying and associated services, including formulation and cycle development through to finished product, to now also offering spray-drying services, proof of concept studies, a low bio-burden suite for dedicated products/projects to contract manufacturing/production for pharma



and vaccines in particular. Charis continued, "Following the success of the investment in this area, we are now in the process of building our first clinical phase GMP production facility, which is due to complete in 2023, and investing in the extension of our cytotoxic handling capabilities for sample processing."

As it looks to the future, Biopharma Group will continue to work with its peers to develop product formulations suitable for both liquid and freeze-dried applications, to reduce the need for cold chain in climate sensitive places. Charis concluded, "We continue to draw on our expertise and commitment to a customer-orientated focus in expanding not only our Contract R&D, manufacturing and GMP production services, but



also to ensure that we offer the best products and equipment."

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Homely, friendly and relaxing feel – The George

Situated in the picturesque village of Orton, The George is a traditional Country Inn and Pub nestled on the border of the Howgills and the Eden Valley. As a family run business, visitors to The George can expect nothing less than a warm, friendly and comforting welcome.

The George maintains eight rooms on its premises, providing Bed and Breakfast at extremely reasonable prices. The rooms include single, double/twin and a family room. All rooms contain a TV and have tea and coffee making facilities. Specifically designed to provide a 'home away from home' feel, all of The George's rooms feature comfy beds and a warm, homely feel making them perfect for a snooze after a long day of exploring the nearby attractions.

If you would prefer a night under the stars, The George also has camping facilities for up to 4-5 tents from £5.00 per pitch. Campers will have full use of a bathroom/bath for an additional £6.00 per person and meals are available in the bar and restaurant.

The George is a well-known stop off point that is used for short stays by ramblers, cyclists and keen travellers throughout the country. Guests have recommended The George giving five-star reviews of their stay. Its services have remained of the highest quality for many years which is why customers keep coming back. One reviewer quoted, "We have stayed here several times over the last few years. Bronagh and Andy couldn't be more helpful, the food is great, and the rooms are comfy. It's a great pub in a beautiful

**THE GEORGE
HOTEL**
HOTEL, RESTAURANT & B&B

part of the world." Another guest commented, "We have been doing the Coast to Coast walk and had a great stay at The George. Everything from drying our soaked clothes, to good beer and food, nothing was too much trouble for these amazing hosts." As mentioned here in this review, The George also offers a laundry and drying service just in case its guests are lucky enough to get caught in the Lakeland rain. Furthermore, there is also a secure overnight bike storage for cyclists.

After a long day of either exploring the beautiful surroundings of Orton, or battling the diverse weather conditions the Lakeland has to offer, nothing beats a traditional, hot, home cooked meal in a friendly, cosy country pub.

Producing an enviable selection of traditional real ales and home cooked food using locally sourced produce, The George's menu is an unmissable experience. The George prides itself on using local produce, sourced from within a 20-mile radius of the George Hotel. Offering an abundance of traditional pub grub dishes, alongside its selection of drinks, The George has some delicious menu options to tantalise your tastebuds. For starters, guests can enjoy options such as a bowl of Home-Made Soup of the Day with crusty bread, or a loaded plate of



Cheesy Nachos with sour cream and salsa.

For mains there is an array of dishes that cater to all dietary requirements and tastes including Cumberland Sausage Curl topped with Fried Egg, Mixed Bean Chilli served with rice and nachos, Vegetable Burger topped with cheese in a brioche bun served with chips and coleslaw, the Classic Lakeland Beef Burger topped with cheese and bacon in a brioche bun served with chips and coleslaw, or if you fancy something to really get your teeth into the 12 oz Sirloin Steak topped with creamy mushroom sauce served with chips or mash and salad or veg will more than leave you satisfied.

The George also offers a range of homemade pizzas with a gluten free base option and a selection of toppings. There is also a selection of light snacks for brunch or for those who want a quick meal such as Baguettes & Melts, Jacket Potatoes, and Bacon & Egg Baps. Furthermore there is also a children's menu as well as a takeaway menu to which all meals are under £7.00.

Being perfectly positioned, Orton is just three minutes from the M6 Motorway (Junction 38) and is four scenic miles from the M6 Motorway (Junction 39). There is plenty to see in terms of its surroundings and The George is also on various Coast to Coast and cycle routes including Alfred Wainwright's 'Coast to Coast' walk and Walney to Wear & Whitby Cycle Route (W2W).

The W2W route passes through a

variety of wonderful countryside to the South. It stretches between Walney Island, just outside Barrow-in-Furness on Cumbria's Irish Sea coast, and both Wearmouth in Sunderland (153 miles) and Whitby (172 miles) on the North Sea coast.

Additionally, The George is also now on the new re-routed Lakes & Dales Loop which is a 196-cycle loop which covers the Lake District, West Cumbria, Eden Valley, Morecambe Bay & the Yorkshire Dales.

There is a number of local delicacies and businesses to visit and try such as Kennedys Chocolate, a fine chocolate coffee house and factory shop, Orton Farmers Market, where local farmers, producers and artisan craftsmen all offer a tremendous variety of high quality, local and speciality produce on the second Saturday of each month, and Bessy Beck Trout Fishery, a local and well respected Trout fishery that includes three well stocked lakes catering for experienced anglers, with tuition and advice available on request for the less experienced, as well as a tea room, gift shop and farm shop on site.

Whether you're visiting for a pint in the sun, enjoyed in The George's outside terraced beer garden or of an evening to delight in some well-deserved respite and delicious food cosied up in front of the roaring log fire, The George welcomes you to join them for a relaxed stay delivered by a friendly personal service all year long.

For more information please see the details below.

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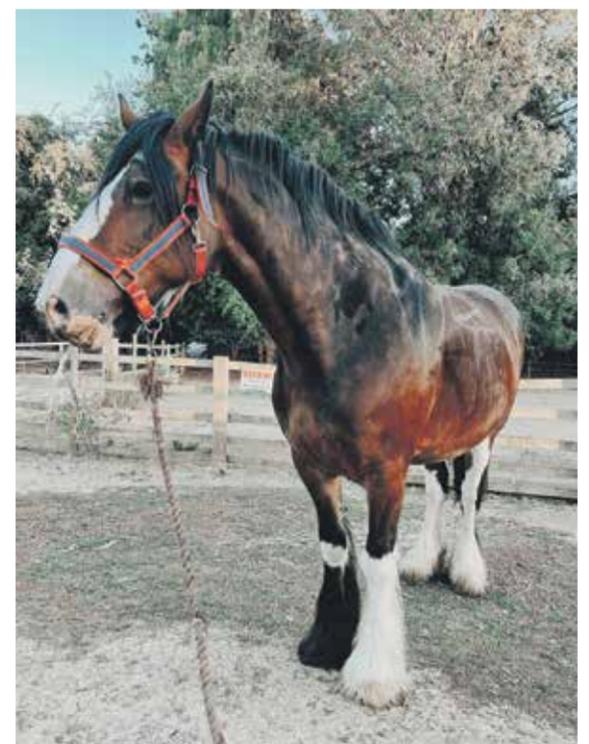
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Summer

Tuesday – Sunday 10am–5pm

(Last entry at 4:30pm)

(Summer opening times start when the clocks go forward in March and Winter opening times start when the clocks go back in October)

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Please visit www.rutlandfarmpark.co.uk, contact **01572 722122** or email info@rutlandfarmpark.co.uk