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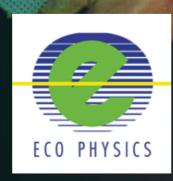
THE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL IN COURT

10 PRINCIPLES FOR PRACTICE

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Leaders in measurement of Nitrogen Oxides, claiming the world leadership in the fastest and most sensitive chemiluminescence analyzers

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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 660 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 groundbreaking innovations and this month, we are overjoyed to be highlighting the activities of Peyton Medico and UNISIG.

month features on our front cover!

Secondly, we are featuring UNISIG with the 'Deep Hole Drilling' profile following their impressive performance over the years. For more information, turn to page 14-15.

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

lan Hayward, Editor INDUSTRIAL **SOLUTIONS** UK

For all advertising & sales enquiries, please contact Ian Hayward 0121 241 8788



Surface Preparation

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the construction industry, numerous health and safety hazards present and challenge us with each job. As leading contractors in surface preparation committed to best practice, the expert teams at The Preparation Group have a keen focus on one specific hazard to ensure every breath you take on-site is a safe one: dust.

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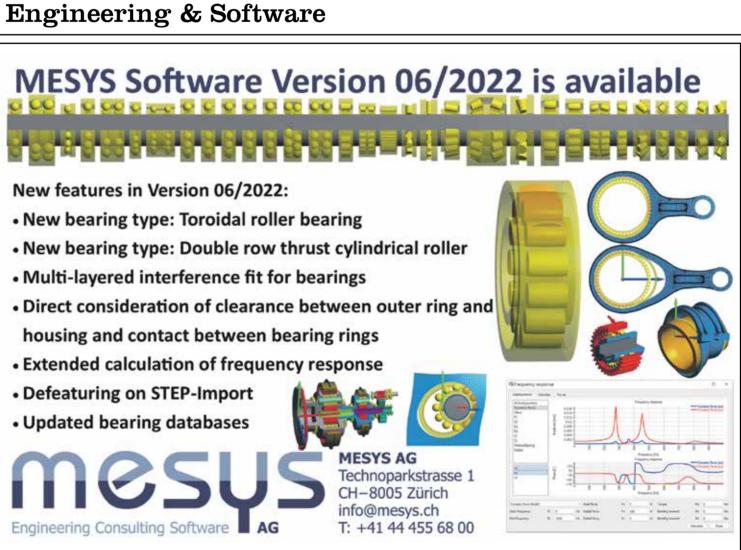
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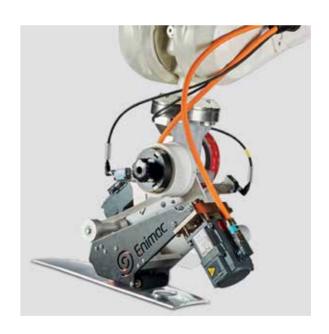


Tape Application Solutions for your Industry

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Bearing calculation methods

Markus Raabe, MESYS AG, Zürich

olling element bearings are important components within transmissions. Usually, they are selected based on geometric restrictions, requirements on load directions and rating life. Rating life is mostly calculated based on ISO 281 using an equivalent load and the dynamic load rating from the catalog. Additional influence factors like lubrication and cleanliness can be considered in a modified life rating. The life rating restricts the maximum load. Regarding minimum load the bearing catalogs provide limitations in the range of 1-2% of the dynamic or static load rating as slippage

can lead to wear or smearing. Using an equivalent load based on ISO 281, misalignment, moment load or bearing clearance are not considered

A more detailed approach to calculate bearing rating life is provided by ISO/TS 16281. This cannot be evaluated manually as it is based on the load distribution within the bearing. By considering the load distribution, additional effects can be included like misalignments, bearing clearance or fitting. Broadening this approach allows housing deformations to be considered, which will also affect the load distribution within the bearing

Following image shows a comparison of reference rating life L10rh according to ISO/TS 16281 and basic rating life L10h according to ISO 281 over bearing clearance for a 6210 deep groove ball bearing under

Further evaluations can be done by using the load distribution based on a quasi-static equilibrium. For ball bearings the risk of truncation for axial loads can be evaluated by comparing the extension of the contact ellipse with the height of the shoulder. The spin-to-roll ratio and circumferential ball advance are kinematic

properties, which are used to evaluate high-speed ball bearings. For high-speed

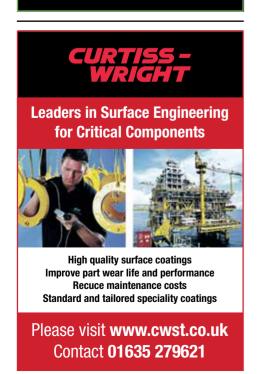
applications, the minimum contact stress should be sufficient to avoid slipping.

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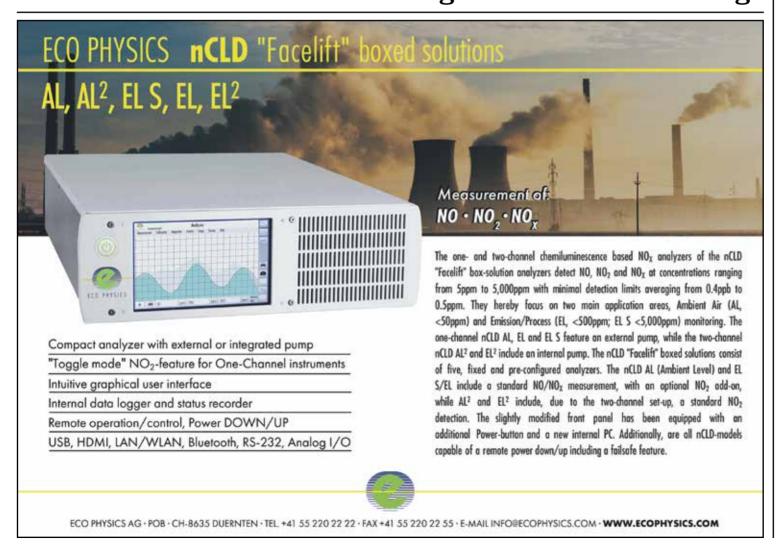


Ben Simons, Head of Europe West: +44 (0)7909 533878 info@zehnder-cleanairsolutions.com www.zehnder-cleanairsolutions.com

🛅 🖪 🎯 D 🎔 #startwithcleanair



Emission Monitoring & Gas Manufacturing



Clean air – The key to healthy employees and a healthy business

It's a no-brainer in these times of COVID-19, a must-have for every company that cares about its workers. Plus, it's great for the balance sheet too. That's why air-quality



experts Zehnder are calling on all businesses to make 2022 their year of clean air.

Clean air in the workplace not only stops workers inhaling harmful substances but can protect them from viruses too. And considering we spend one third of a typical day at work, that's not to be taken lightly.

Typical sources of poor air quality at work

Harmful pollution particles come in all shapes and sizes. Many of the most dangerous are invisible to the naked eye.

hev include:

- Chemical vapours released by paint, glues or cleaning agents
- Substances released when materials are heated or burned, such as in welding
- Mould in damp rooms
- Exhaust fumes from nearby traffic or forklift traffic that's blown into the workplace
- Dust or fumes from grinding and cutting, such as silica and nickel dust.

Clean air – A good return on investment

Various studies have shown that healthy indoor air reduces sick leave and increases productivity. Moreover, healthy employees are more satisfied and motivated.

Zehnder's air purification systems, however, filter dust, viruses and other harmful particles from the air before employees can breathe them in.

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Leaders in measurement of Nitrogen Oxides



ECO PHYSICS AG has a global presence with is main HQ based in Dürnten, Switzerland, and two other offices in Germany and the United States. Since 1989, ECO PHYSICS AG has been at the forefront of the



environmental, health and process control industry. Its ECOlogical leadership combined with its passion for innovation ensures the company remains dedicated to sustaining the environment through all of its business activities.

The company offers sophisticated solutions for a range of applications including Medical, Semiconductor, Automotive, Aviation, Marine and Combustive Engines, Industrial, Environmental, Ambient Air and Research, and NO liquids. ECO PHYSICS AG offers innovative analytical solutions for measurement of nitrogen oxides and related gas components like ammonia, in the fields of environment, health and process control and by using its interdisciplinary research and development team, it can also deliver customer oriented, tailor-made products and services.

ECO PHYSICS AG is highly involved in the Industrial industry and places a large focus on medium NOx, NOx-related and multigas-concentrations up to 5,000 ppm where flexibility is a central requirement. Its range of Modular Gas Analyzers include parameters for NO, NO2, NOx, NH3, NOx-amines, O2 and CO2, and typically support applications for industrial emission monitoring and gas manufacturing control. Marked as the industry's finest, their graphical user interface enables a simple operation and shows the performance of each component, as well as being equipped with their own PCB, corresponding with the mainframe.

For more information, please see below: T +41 55 220 22 22 info@ecophysics.com www.ecophysics.com

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 Howaills and the Eden Valley.

A family run business, visitors at The George can expect nothing less than a warm, friendly and comforting welcome.

Producing an envious 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 is the perfect spot to meet up with friends and family.

Looking to stay? 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.

Being perfectly position, 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).

For more information, please see details below: T 01539 624071 www.thegeorgehotelorton.co.uk

International

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AMB Machine Knives has built an enviable reputation for high quality machine knives. With over 30 years of experience, CAMB Machine Knives supplies to companies across the world, with an established network of agents in Spain, Holland, France, New Zealand, South Africa, Australia and Israel, as well as its UK headquarters.

Currently, CAMB Machine Knives supplies and exports its knives to over 20 countries worldwide. Because the company deals with several carrier and freight companies, it ensures it can always get the most competitive prices and best carriage option to its customers' destination.

The company's range of blades includes circular knives, top dished knives, bottom knives, toothed knives, straight knives, anvils, tray form blades, razor blades, shear blades, granulator blades, carpet knives, tobacco knives and confectionary knives.



The range of circular knives is ideal for a wide range of industries, including packaging and rubber. Furthermore, CAMB Machine Knives' range of poultry processing blades cover all the main machines used in the industry, including Stork, Meyn, Systemate, Foodmate, Linco, and many special sizes made to order.

As well as supplying new blades, CAMB Machine Knives can provide a full regrind/re-sharpening service on many of the knives it supplies. This can be arranged on a weekly basis, or booked as and when it is required. This is ideal for increasing the life of circular, straight, toothed and special blades, as well as increasing the efficiency of the machine.

Regrinding/re-sharpening is the ideal way to bring your knives back to an as new condition, and is considerably cheaper than purchasing a brand new set of knives. CAMB Machine Knives can collect and deliver anywhere in the UK within 24 hours, offering competitive shipping rates and a quick turnaround. What's more, if a job is urgent, in some cases the company can regrind the same day.

With its comprehensive product range and excellent customer service, CAMB Machine Knives really is a cut above the rest

If you would like to find out more information, head to the website or get in touch using the contact details below.

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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.

Weber Packaging Solutions aims to work as partners with each of its customers, to establish an understanding of each application and how it can be best realised to improve your business. The efficient, high-speed label

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event or festival. With previous customers being MSV Donington Park, Leicester City Council, LPH Concerts & Events, Live Nation (Music) UK Ltd, The X Factor, Formula E Operations Ltd and many more, Red Herring is well-known in its field and is trusted as one of the best and most reliable fencing companies in the UK.

The company was established in December 2006 by Charles Herring who whilst working for a scaffold company during the years of 1985-2006, started doing events for Leicester City Council. He put on his first major event in 1989 for the council and because of this, his outstanding work did not go unnoticed.

Following a redundancy from the scaffold company (21 years' service), Charles was offered to buy the fencing and barriers from the scaffold company to start his own venture. Taking them up on the offer, Charles took it upon himself to start his own business and in 2006 Red Herring Event Services Ltd was born.

The company has focused mainly on fencing and barriers, building a portfolio of products tailored to the customers requirements that guaranteed the short term, safe, efficient and cost-effective perimeter solutions they required. The company now stock a number of fencing solutions including Crowd Control Barriers 2.3m, Steel Shield Hoarding 2.1m, Temporary Fencing 3.5m, and Police Met Barriers 1.5m.

Contact T 07860 950894 charles@redherringeventservices.co.uk www.redherringeventservices.co.uk

Increased productivity with collaborative application

kura Kogyo is a Japanese manufacturer of logistic equipment and systems. Their offering includes design, manufacturing, installation and



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 cobot, 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 VCG10 gripper is perfect for tight space and is able to lift small, odd-shaped, and heavy objects even with a smaller robot arm.

T +45 53 53 57 37 vikram.kumar@onrobot.com https://onrobot.com/en

Click the video on the case study page: https://onrobot.com/en/increased-productivitywith-collaborative-application

How has global conflict affected freight?

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 Seaforth 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 lead 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 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 is 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 costefficiency 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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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 $\rm CO_2$ 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 socia 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 Spectromete
- 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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- ALGORITHMS

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- REMOTE TECHNICAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE AS REQUIRED
- TEST FOR FULL DSEAR COMPLIANCE
- DOCUMENTS BEST PRACTICE TO PROVE YOU ARE PROTECTING YOUR STAFF, NEIGHBOURS AND THE ENVIRONMENT
- MEASURES LEAK VOLUMES TO CALCULATE COST OF VAPOUR LOSSES
- REDUCE NOXIOUS ODOURS

"KEEPING THE TANK STORAGE INDUSTRY SAFE, COMPLIANT AND PROFITABLE"



ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd cleans up

The ERG group has over 40 years' experience and operates through three divisions. The powerhouse of the group is the first of these, ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd. This division has highly qualified and experienced teams of chemical, mechanical and electrical engineers who, together with design engineers, project managers and procurement professionals, design and supply bespoke gas scrubbing systems and odour control plants to meet their clients' requirements.

ERG solves the full spectrum of gas cleaning challenges facing its clients; whether it is a requirement to remove foul odours from air under ambient conditions prior to release into the atmosphere, right up to scrubbing streams of process gasses at high temperatures, high pressures, or in explosive environments to remove toxic or aggressive pollutants. The level of technical sophistication and bespoke engineering content is each project is specific to the clients' needs, with industrial applications typically demanding the highest processing technology.

The commercial driver leading clients to invest in ERG's systems might be a pressing requirement to comply with government regulations or with the emission limits set in an operating licence issued by an appropriate agency. For other clients, ERG's expertise is often sought to clean up gas streams that form an integral part of the client's production process. For example, in the green energy sector ERG's systems purify biogas or syngas that they have generated, so that the client's process runs more efficiently with lower pollution levels. In some cases, ERG's gas cleaning systems can even generate by-products, which become value added saleable side-streams.

Based in West Sussex, ERG has grown its business strongly over the years to build up a global sales network and client base.

An office in Jordan services ERG's business throughout the Middle East region, and is fully staffed with design engineers, project managers and local sales managers. A satellite sales office in Dubai completes the Middle East structure.

ERG (Plastic Fabrication) Ltd is the manufacturing division for the group and specialises in the high-quality custom fabrication of tanks, vessels, pipework and ducting from



GRP and composite plastic materials, and which are used in the systems designed by ERG (Air Pollution Control). ERG (Plastic Fabrication) Ltd also welcomes commissions direct from 3rd party customers. It has a vast arsenal of services to offer clients, and has specialist experience in manufacturing using a wide range of plastic materials including PVC, CPVC, Polypropylene, PVDF, and other specialty plastics for harsh environments such as ECTFE.

Finally, the group includes ERG APC Maintenance Ltd. This division's mission is to provide servicing and maintenance support to customers throughout the lifetime of their air pollution control system. Service can be provided under

contract to include a routine preventative maintenance servicing schedule designed to maintain system performance. Alternatively, maintenance can be provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

All three-company divisions are now based in superb new purpose-built office and factory facilities in West Sussex, which were completed in 2021. Having all divisions on the same site significantly enhances working efficiency, design quality, production quality, and production capacity.

Looking to the future, the ERG group will continue to develop its presence both within the UK and internationally in the

renewable energy sector in the field of treating syngas and green hydrogen; and in automotive battery manufacture where its systems treat ammonia, acid gases and particulate pollution arising from the manufacturing process. In addition, ERG will continue to serve clients in the chemicals, pharmaceuticals and other process industries, as well as continue to build on its strong presence across the Middle East.

For more information, please contact ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd at: T 01403 290 000 info@ergapc.co.uk www.ergapc.co.uk

ERG (Plastic Fabrication) Ltd

At ERG (Plastic Fabrication) Ltd, we specialise in the high quality custom fabrication of process industry vessels and associated components from GRP and composite plastic materials.

With almost 40 years experience of supplying tanks, scrubbers, filters, silos, vessels, piping and ducting, we are sure to be able to meet your requirements with high quality products at competitive prices.

Plastic Fabrication - Materials of Construction

Depending on your specific requirements we can fabricate from a wide range of common plastic and composite materials including:

- PVC Poly Vinyl Chloride
- UPVC Unplasticised Poly Vinyl Chloride
- PPVC Plasticised Poly Vinyl Chloride
- PP Poly Propylene
- HDPE High-density polyethylene
- GRP Glass Reinforced Plastic

For more information, call 01403 291 000, email info@ergpf.co.uk or visit www.ergpf.co.uk



RFID Solutions

Manage Your Assets with RFID

ajor operations involve hundreds or thousands of different assets and it's easy for valuable equipment to be misplaced or lost. Taking inventory of your assets is a time-consuming and sometimes inaccurate process. That's where RFID Asset Management comes in. With all of your assets monitored by RFID tags and readers, you can know exactly what equipment you have available in real-time. That information helps prevent losses and helps you make informed business decisions. But the benefits don't stop there

With RFID, you can track not only the location of the asset, but also its condition. RFID tags enable you to instantly see when equipment was last inspected and when it's due another inspection or to be replaced. This reduces downtime because you can repair or replace important equipment at the right time. It also streamlines your maintenance process.

You can also track the movement of assets, so you get alerts when a piece of equipment has left its designated area. People can also be tagged with RFID bracelets, which can be vital when moving heavy equipment, to improve safety by ensuring each worker is out of the way.

RFID Asset Management is a solid investment for any business that has a lot of valuable assets to track. Benefits of RFID Asset Management include:

- Gaining real-time visibility of your assets
- Saving time over manual stocktakes
- The ability to locate assets using RFID
 Tracking the movement of assets
- Improving maintenance
- Improving compliance

Examples of companies who have used RFID to gain a great ROI with asset management include a US government agency, which tracks 250,000 assets with 100% accuracy.



They have reduced their stocktaking time by 80% and achieved a positive ROI in 18 months. Another example is a technology company that stocktaking used to take two weeks and it now takes just four hours and they have increased their inventory accuracy from 46% to 99.8%.

If you have valuable fixed assets and are having trouble keeping track of them, an RFID asset management solution can not only save you time with manual tracking, but also save you money by reducing lost assets and improving maintenance.

RFID Asset Management is suitable for large or small businesses, with flexible monthly plans available.

Ready to get started with RFID asset management? Contact TEC-RFID for a free consultation and online demo.

TEC-RFID T 0844 870 7873 info@tec-rfid.co.uk www.tec-rfid.co.uk

G TEC-RFID



Everything RFID in One Place

We are experts in helping businesses improve efficiency through RFID solutions. RFID, which stands for Radio Frequency Identification, is a technology system that can identify an object using radio waves. At TEC-RFID, we believe RFID will bring big advances to retail, warehousing, manufacturing, construction and more. We make it as simple as possible.

Contact us for more information by emailing info@tec-rfid.co.uk or visit www.tec-rfid.co.uk

The UK's number one sealing solutions provider

Service Sealing Solutions Ltd provide a number of different sealing solutions across the UK to both the public and private sectors. As the sole UK distributor for the sealing industry's top manufacturers; DOYMA, FRANK and HKD, Service Sealing Solutions Ltd offers the UK the most extensive range of products that are German manufactured and far outweigh that of any competitor.

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 thinwalled concrete structures is vital.

Contact T 01952 510050 www.servicesealingsolutions.co.uk



Service Sealing Solutions Ltd

Tel 01952 510050 sales@servicesealingsolutions.co.uk

www.servicesealingsolutions.co.uk



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.





Reliable and durable custom-built hinges

n this issue of Industrial Solutions, we are pleased to announce Gold & Wassall Hinges as our Manufacturer of Hinges Company of the Month.

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.

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

Gold & Wassall Hinges is the only hinge company whose hinges are



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

Gold & Wassall Hinges understands that some projects will require a custombuilt 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 inevitably far into the future.

or more information, please see below: T 01827 63391 www.goldwassallhinges.co.uk



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 aet 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



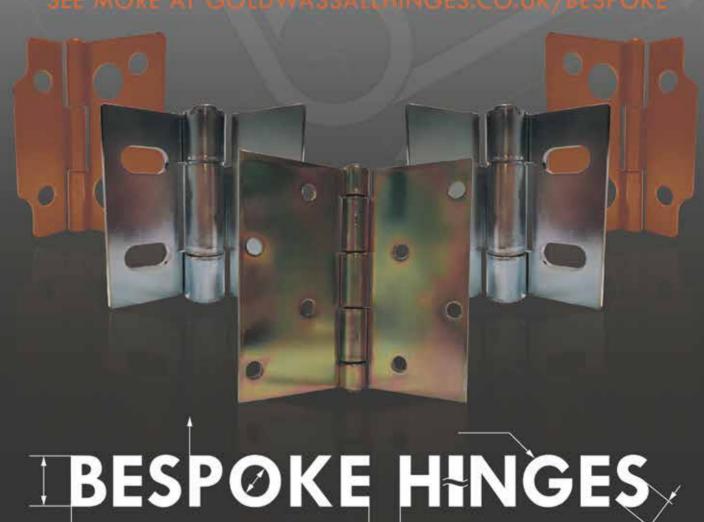
its customers. The company is dedicated to providing not only durable, high-quality hinges, but Gold & Wassall Hinges also understands the importance of an aesthetically pleasing, customised design. In light of this, the company is able to customise colour, add branding and create a smooth premium finish. Gold & Wassall Hinges' array of finishing options are the perfect complement for its hinges to 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











01827 63391 - SALES@GOLDWASSALLHINGES.CO.UK - D @GWHINGES



BUILDING UPDATE

ISSUE: 660 December | www.solutionspublishing.co.uk

TIMBER GARDEN BUILDINGS

'Quality Timber Buildings For All Your Needs'







As the UK's leading providers of garden offices and wooden garages, we construct all of our products with the finest high-quality materials. Our award winning garden rooms are built in the heart of the midlands, whereby we will design, build, deliver and install your perfect garden room or timber garage.

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GARDEN OFFICES TIMBER GARAGES

01926 815757 | www.warwickbuildings.co.uk

Finding the right funding for you

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

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

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

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



Helping you to find the right funding, right now.

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

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

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

IPAF PESMA

You can find SME Funding's advert located on page III.

Contact T 01223 848844 www.smefunding.uk















MAKE THE SMART CHOICE WITH TIMBABUILD STRUCTURES

Timbabuild Structures offer, a full spectrum of timber frame construction from design brief to completion. Whether it be the design of a one-off shelf, or a multiple unit site, Timbabuild Structures can offer the complete package.

- **FULLY TIME SERVED WORKFORCE WITH OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE**
- WE BELIEVE IN QUALITY OF PRODUCT & SERVICE, NOT QUANTITY
- IN-HOUSE DESIGN ENGINEERS & FABRICATION, **EVERYTHING IS MADE BY HAND & PORTABLE**
- ALL OPERATIVES ARE TIME SERVED, INSURED



Why not visit www.timbabuildstructures.co.uk

Please contact 07512 148792 or email info@timbabuildstructures.co.uk @timbabuildstructures



Sewage Treatment Systems

H.D. Services Ltd: Sewage Treatment and Water Boreholes

ounded in 1984, H.D. Services Ltd. aim to provide the highest quality percussion drilled boreholes, sewage treatment systems and Open-Loop ground source heat pump installations in the Southeast. Feasibility of any project can generally be confirmed upon receipt of a site postcode.

We offer a one stop shop for self-builders, developers, contractors, consultants and architects, providing waste and drainage solutions, independent water supplies and renewable heating options - all specifically tailored to

meet individual needs and suited to the geology of the

Sewage Treatment, Boreholes and Soakaways We have been involved in the design, supply and

installation of sewage treatment systems for over 30 years. We can either provide package solutions or we can design bespoke systems to meet individual client needs

Projects undertaken throughout the southeast range from

small solutions for single households to larger scale solutions for estates, business parks, farms, schools, caravan sites, hotels and public houses.

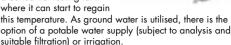
We offer a support service for consent to discharge applications to the Environment Agency – a requirement when installing sewage treatment systems.

Ground Source Heat Pumps

We are award winning installers of Open-Loop GSHP installations. These

systems utilise ground source. Groundwate

is pumped from a water supply borehole directly to the heat pump where temperature is extracted. The water is then returned to the aquifer, normally via a buried harvesting tank



For more information, please visit: www.hdservicesItd.co.uk

Restoration

Traditional brick production specialist



he Bulmer Brick and Tile Company, based in Suffolk, is a family-run business established in 1936. With over 80 years' experience in the industry, the English company truly is a master of its craft.

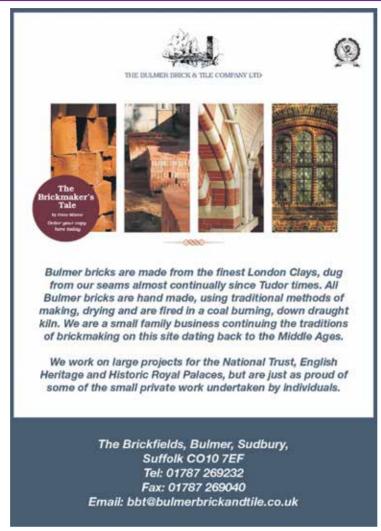
The Bulmer Brick and Tile Company is renowned for its traditional handmade bricks which, fired in a down draught kiln, have a distinctive finish that blends well with the original London clays bricks. The beauty of the Suffolk company's bricks lies in their traditional production method. The bricks are 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, pamments, decorative plaques, garden edgings and a full range of rubbing blocks.

Aside from offering a wide range of clay brick solutions, The Bulmer Brick and Tile Company further offers a select number of additional materials. It is a stockist of Singleton Birch Natural Hydraulic Limes and Lime Putty, available in a range of strengths - NHL2, NHL3.5, and NHL5 – and sold in 25kg bags or 1 tonne bulk bags. Lime has proven to be the material of choice when laying the brick specialist's bricks and especially in the case of conservation work, with its natural strength and tendency to give 'movement' in the construction process favourable.

T 01787 269232 www.bulmerbrickandtile.co.uk











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Waterproofing you can rely on

Carlisle CM Europe (CCM Europe)
manufacture high quality EPDM
waterproofing membranes for flat
roofing, façade systems and building
solutions for the construction industry.
CCM Europe is a dynamic company
with ease of installation and durable
roofing systems including EPDM &
Liquid Waterproofing. As a leading
manufacturer of waterproofing
membranes and sealants, our market

leading products are suited for a wide range of flat roof substrates for both new build and refurb.

One particular product worth noting is the ARBOFLEX® PU, a single component liquid made from pure polyurethane, which, once cured, forms a seamless elastic membrane without any joints. The material

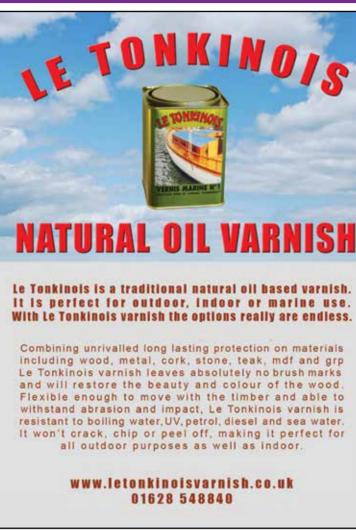
properties of ARBOFLEX® PU enable it to be air tight and waterproof on a range of substrates. Alongside its high performance and wear-resistant membrane, ARBOFLEX® PU can adapt to any surface: uneven, curved or irregular, and with its fast-curing properties can be walked on in 24 hours.

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Varnish





Unbeatable Varnish for a range of uses



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact T 01628 629892 www.letonkinoisvarnish.co.uk

Construction Finance



Forward

he Belgian fifth-generation family company, founded in 1883 Vandecasteele Houtimport specializes in the import, trading and export of Tropical Hardwood from Africa, Southeast Asia and South America, Scandinavian and North-American Softwood, North American and European Hardwood.

"Vandecasteele Houtimport is fully committed to certified timber," says Isabelle Polfliet, Compliance Manager at Vandecasteele, "We're living in challenging times. But, it's for times like these we exist."

With over 140 years of experience, we know there's only one way:

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 100%. The challenge, however, lies with the hardwood and especially the tropical hardwoods. Today we are at 80% certified!"

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

all, we were assisted by external experts to get the procedures and protocols in order. Secondly, the team at Vandecasteele was reinforced with 2 forest engineers in Brazil.

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. All timber transport requires our approval. When in doubt the timber is not



Masters in diversification

Vandecasteele has a long-term commitment to preserving the forests. The family business imports more than 130 different species of timber coming from 40 countries and has over 105,000 cubic meters in stock, mainly certified hard and softwoods.



such as FSC® Certified Niové, Movingui, Mukulungu, Tali, Padouk, Jutai, Angelim Amargosso, Red Louro, Sucupira Preta, Sucupira Vermelho, Jatoba, Mandioquira, Cumaru, Basrolucus, Guariuba, Tatajuba, European Oak, Muiricatiara, Purpleheart and Louro Preto



Timber is too often prescribed from a specific well-known species, but from the point of view of responsible forest management, we must dare to choose the right durability class for an application instead of a specific type of timber, says Geneviève Standaert, export manager at Vandecasteele Houtimport.

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.

Rethink everything

We notice a positive evolution in consumer purchasing behaviour says Geneviève. Customers are increasingly asking questions about certification and the origin of the timber.

Buyers are becoming more and more aware of the need to use certified timber. "Importing tropical wood goes further than just asking for certified timber. There is a continuous evolution, because of new insights, new legislation, etc. We work together with external experts, we are broadening our internal knowledge and we continually make progress.

Making progress is an ongoing process. Considerable steps have already been taken with the arrival of the EU Timber Regulation, but we can and should do 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 spread that Message. 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 2020, Vandecasteele Houtimport was the first timber company in the world that obtained the international recognized 'SDG Pioneer certificate' from UNITAR CIFAL. This year, in 2022, we are the first timber company in the world to have achieved the SDG Champion award.

T+32 56 43 33 00 www.vandecasteele.be





Building Products & Services

Innovative products to enable fixing through external wall insulation

WIFIX was established in 2016 by Paul Brown who designed and developed a solution that allows the future of retrofit new builds and volumetric sectors a longer-term maintenance provision. In his early years, Paul started out as a plasterer who specialised in the restoration of ornamental plasterwork. 29 years ago, after being introduced to the installation of external wall insulation

through working for a small Devonshire company, he built-up extensive experience working across numerous directorships within business delivering external wall insulation and decent homes maintenance, as well as gas, electrical and renewable services.

For decades the standard method of fixing items through

external wall insulation has always relied on the use of timber pattresses. A pattress is a plywood or timber board fixed to the existing substrate to which equipment can be secured. Such usual equipment includes satellite dishes, washing lines, fence and gate posts, external pipe work, hanging baskets, lights and alarms, canopies, utility boxes, and signage.



INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS TO ENABLE FIXING THROUGH EXTERNAL WALL INSULATION

Our products are one of the most cost-effective solutions to enable the fitting of external furniture through external wall insulation and rain screen cladding, with the added benefit of being designed specifically for the job. Fully Pas2035 complaint for the future of retrofitting and the Modular housing sectors and the ideal solution for a longer term maintenance provision.

All fittings meet stringent technical requirements by preventing the compression of insulation and providing a watertight seal. They are also approved by many leading manufacturers and organisations developing modern methods of construction to support the requirement for new homes in the UK.



A new cost-effective way to fit external furniture through walls and cladding



ROBUST Super-strong to prevent insulation compression and provide a watertight seal



EASY TO INSTALL Simple yet effective next generation solutions. See for yourself





The Satellite Fixing Kit includes a new product development for securing cables, and will be available to the market soon. Within the kit is the SWIFIX Satellite Fitting Plate which is manufactured from high-quality plastics and is used for refitting a standard satellite dish through EWI without the need for timber, providing a completely watertight seal to fixings and cables. As well as being aesthetically pleasing, the plate fittings have been tested by the British Research Establishment for their strength, compression, wind and load-bearing capabilities.

After searching online for an alternative to using timber, Paul found that there was nothing cost-effective designed specifically for external wall and cladding application. Therefore, he created the SWIFIX range which is an innovative simple solution that delivers a commercially beneficial alternative to timber that not only compliments the finished installation but provides a solution for retrofitting during the life span of the system.

SWIFIX current product range includes connection point

satellite fitting plates, single fittings and tap fittings. All

before or after the insultation system has been installed

All SWIFIX fixings are designed to eliminate the risk of

furniture through external wall insulation which ensures

that the system continues to function optimally, and the

product is manufactured in a standard material and also

available in a fire-retardant material and suitable for both

lightweight and heavyweight items tested in excess of 50kg.

thermal efficiency of the system is maintained. Each

cold spots and water ingress when installing external

back through external wall insulation systems, either

fittings, extension tubes, pipe connectors, rawplug fixings,

products offer a maintenance-free solution to fixing items

For more information, please see below: T 01884 560477 info@swifix.co.uk www.swifix.co.uk



To find out more, please visit www.swifix.co.uk,

call 01884 560477 or email info@swifix.co.uk



STAINLESS STEEL METRIC FASTENERS

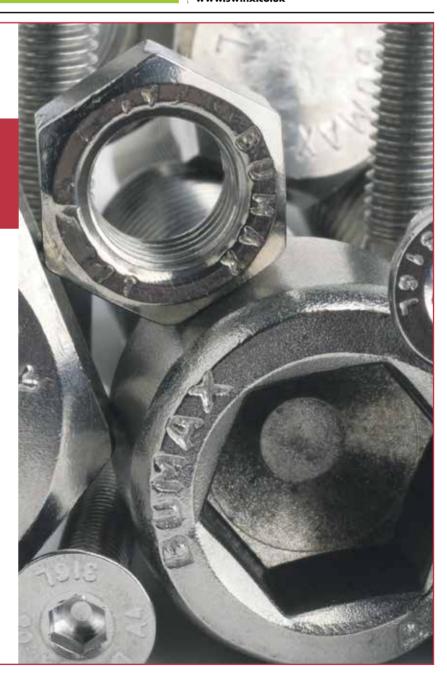
Purchase fasteners, nuts, bolts, screws and more online at PTS – one of the leading global suppliers of industrial stainless steel products.

- Stock range from M1.0 to M36
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For more information, please visit: www.pts-uk.com
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Make your project possible

CON Safety Consultants Limited offers leading health and safety consultancy and construction statute advice services. The company prioritises and specialises in the highest levels of informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocation and compliance assurance. Informed by industry expertise, DCON Safety Consultants Limited knows that every project has potential risks, no matter what its potential benefits, so its team of highly



experienced construction professionals helps to ensure clients' statutory conformity.

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





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

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

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

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

Key to DCON Safety Consultants Limited's services is working as a Project Supervisor for the Design Process (PSDP) in various sectors across the Irish construction market.



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

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

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



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

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

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





extensive network of contacts to recruit the right person to protect clients' interests.

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

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.

project possible.

T +353 (0)1 611 1556 info@dconsafety.com www.dconsafety.com



www.dconsafety.com



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High quality, high capacity mowing systems

In this issue of Building Update, we are pleased to announce that we have selected L S Products BV as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence Award for its dedication and innovative design of the best mowing systems for the maintenance of large area turfgrass.

As a response to the increasing market demand for an upgrade to the 15-year-old electrically driven rotary mowers, the company started working on a newer, more improved version. Combining his years of experience and expertise, Syb Leijenaar – LS Products BV owner and Eco Clipper® inventor developed a new line of electric mowers that graced the market in 2018, and this was when the Eco Clipper® was born.



Built from experience, the Eco Clipper® Mowing System has evolved from the mowing system that was originally developed in the nineties on the turfgrass farm of the Leijenaar family in the Netherlands. Since the first electric mower product launch in 2002 to the latest Eco Clipper® range, L S Products BV has developed an extensive portfolio of machinery and equipment that has grown rapidly and been revolutionary to the turfgrass industry.

"Eco Clipper® is a range of large area mowers with a high productivity that help field managers to minimise their mowing costs, while producing a professional cut. Our mowers are electrically driven and use a special mowing deck design with small mowing blades. The mowing decks have good contour following capabilities and disperse clippings well, even in wet grass. This means we have a few important advantages over other mowers. These include delivering the highest mowing speed possible thus producing a higher productivity, they are quieter and more fuel efficient because of the small blades and electric drive, and they are more versatile to schedule because they can deal with wet grass and any other adverse weather conditions," said Syb.

The Eco Clipper® Mowing System offers many advantages over traditional cylinder and rotary mowers. Because it consists of an independently suspended 106cm wide deck section, it is cleverly linked together in larger, flexible contour following



mowing decks. The entire design and development of the Eco Clipper® Mowing System delivers a clean cut, even clippings dispersion and excellent following of the ground contours with minimal soil compaction.

The system also caters for bespoke requirements so customers can attach the decks to different frames, whether it be Carried or Towed. Offering three options, the Front Mower consists of a single deck with 2-6 sections, a Towed Mower consists of three separate decks of 10-14 sections wide, and a Carried Rear Mower is combined with a Front Mower and consists of 10-14 sections wide.

We asked Syb if he were to describe the company in three words what would he choose and why, and he answered, "Innovative, we believe that it is always possible to improve. Secondly, our serving. What we offer our customers is ultimately a solution to the problems they are facing. Our products are designed to help our customers to do their job better. And thirdly, we are agile. Every member of our team has the ability to act fast and



adapt to the ever-changing industry. We are also quick to react to any problems our customers may be facing and work hard to do what needs to be done to help them."

One particular product to note is the Eco Clipper FM4 Sport for sporting grounds.

Similar to the entire Eco Clipper® Mowing Range, the goal with the Eco Clipper FM4 Sport was to maintain the cutting performance of a properly tuned cylinder mower, but without the high maintenance required for mowing conditions such as wet grass and weeds.



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, which makes it possible to schedule the mower almost independently to all weather conditions.

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, sports field and park managers have taken delight in the advantages that the Eco Clipper FM4 Sport brings. The EC-FM4 Sport is a 4.11m wide mower that has four independent cutting decks. The forward position provides excellent visibility and comfort for the tractor operator.

Previous users have reported high productivity gains, a factor two compared to 5-gang selfpropelled cylinder mowers, and showed a large appreciation to the low maintenance and the



mowers ability to schedule the mowing even under less favourable mowing conditions such as early morning dew and wet autumns.

"We started our focus on increasing mowing productivity in turfgrass production. With a few adjustments, this mowing system has proven to be a major step forward in reducing mowing costs on sports fields and large recreational grass areas. Some users have cut their mowing costs by more than half since using it!" stated Syb.





Going forward, L S Products BV is looking to continue its successful start in the sports field market in the Netherlands and is keen to now debut this line of products here in the UK to British sports field managers so they can also enjoy the benefits of the Eco Clipper® Mowing System.

With the development of a robotic mower for turfgrass production in the pipeline, L S Products BV has a busy yet exciting few years ahead. In closing, we asked Syb what a commitment to excellence means to the company, "We feel we achieve excellence because we are completely committed to offering the best mowing system for maintaining large area turfgrass which is of course, achieved by our Eco Clipper® Mowing System."

For more information, please see below: T +31 6 46 75 35 60 info@ecoclipper.com www.ecoclipper.com





Complete compliance solutions

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

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

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

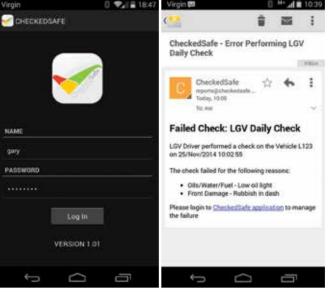
Both Darran and Gary's individual expertise has resulted in CheckedSafe being a nationally recognised company. "I am a transport professional with 30+ years in commercial transport, and Darran has 25+ years as a solicitor, so our individual skills set us apart from other 'IT' providers in the industry," said Gary.

CheckedSafe has a range of services from vehicle compliance solutions, compliance and regulations, risk assessment and incident reporting tools via the



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

CheckedSafe's webbased reporting system is accredited by DVSA and the FLTA and utilised across all fleet types of HGV, PCV, VAN, plant or utilities. If





it needs a checklist, CheckedSafe can digitise and catalogue it, providing you with a cost-effective compliance solution.

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

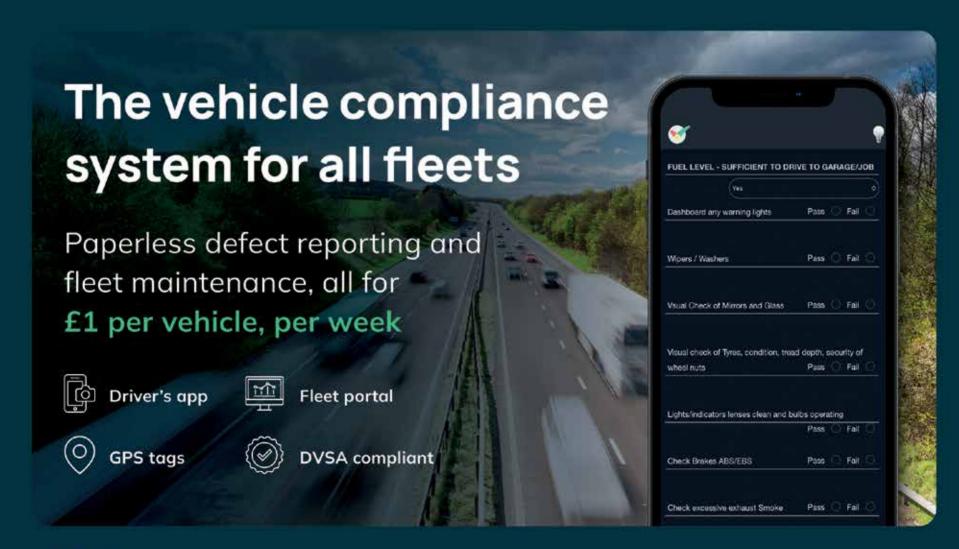
Despite COVID-19, CheckedSafe has managed to outsource all marketing resulting in an increase in in-bound enquiries. Utilising

platforms such as Zoom and Teams, less time has been spent travelling and more focus has been on growing the business from home.

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

T 01282 908429 info@checkedsafe.com www.checkedsafe.com







Try free for 30 days at checkedsafe.com or call us on 01282 908 429

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 congregations 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: T 01282 861325

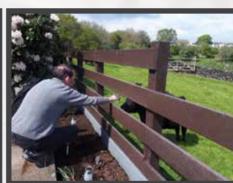


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Delta Tower Cranes Ltd specialise in the Hire & Sales of Luffing & Trolley Jib Tower Cranes



stablished over 20 years ago by Richard Baldwin of Baldwin Crane Hire, Delta Tower Cranes Ltd is a one stop shop for the Hire, and Sales of Luffing Jib, Trolley Jib, & Pedestrian Operated Tower Cranes.

The companies head office is in Langley near Slough and they have depots in Theale, Reading and Newport in South Wales. From these bases Managing Director and Technical Sales Manager Tony Ferris and the ten staff service all companies requiring its products.

Tony Ferris with his long term experience in the Tower Crane Industry has been directly involved in the establishment of Delta Tower Cranes Ltd with Richard Baldwin from day one, and he commented, "While we are a fairly small company in the industry, we do have a fleet of up to 36 Luffing Jib & Trolley Jib Tower Cranes available for hire. We pride ourselves in providing a personal and flexible service, and I work directly with customers from the day that they contact us to ensure that we supply them with a suitable Tower Cranes and other services at very competitive rates. We are there right throughout the project to talk to and guide customers and field any issues that they may have."





Proof of the commitment the company has to its customers is evident in the investment it has made in a comprehensive fleet of the latest Tower Cranes from leading manufacturers including Saez Cranes, as well as the latest state of the art equipment including Electronic Torque Equipment, AMCS Electronic Zoning/Anti Collision Systems and IKAR Rescue Systems.

Delta Tower Cranes Ltd can supply a complete range of Hydraulic Luffing Jib Tower Cranes, including the innovative Saez SLH series of Flat Top Hydraulic Luffing Jib Tower Cranes which are ideal for sites with restricted air space, as they have vastly superior out of service radius capabilities when compared with conventional wire rope Luffing Jib Tower Cranes. These cranes are the perfect solution for compact construction sites where air space is at a premium, or where they are located next to Network Rail Boundaries. In addition Delta Tower Cranes can supply Saez TLS series Flat Top Trolley Jib Tower Cranes, as well as Pedestrian Operated Tower Cranes.

The company hires its cranes out mainly to construction companies and can provide a complete package if required, including Crane Operators, a comprehensive range of Litting Accessories, Generators with Bunded Fuel Tanks, and AMCS Electronic







Zoning and Anti-Collision Systems. Tony continued, "I have been in the Tower Crane industry for over 45 years and myself and our very experienced staff take great pride in delivering an efficient and personal service to all our customers. Most of our work is repeat business in addition to website enquiries. Companies return to us time and again as they know that they are guaranteed personal and excellent service from our staff throughout every step of their project."

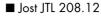
Delta Tower Cranes Ltd insists upon safety, reliability, first class service and efficiency and these are its core values and priorities. The highly skilled and experienced personnel are constantly undergoing training which enables the company to ensure that it provides its customers with a professional and 'safety first' service.

Delta Tower Cranes Ltd can also offer to its customers the benefit of its in house Auto CAD Design facilities, as well as arranging road closures, traffic management, and the hire of skips, brick forks, block grabs and other ancillary lifting equipment.

The following is a list of tower cranes in the Delta fleet, all specifications for each crane are available on the website (www. deltatowercranes.com)

Luffing Jib Tower Cranes include:

- Jost JTL 108.6
- Jost JTL 158.6



- Raimondi LR60
- Terex Peiner SN86/1
- Terex Comedil CTL140-8
- Saez SL 320
- Saez SLH205
- Jost JL256.16
- Potain MR165-G12

Trolley Jib Cranes include:

- TLS 65 4-8 Ton
- TLS 70-10
- Terex Comedil CTT121
- Terex Comedil CTT181
- Terex Comedil CTT231

Tony concluded, "We would welcome the opportunity of sharing with customers the benefit of our many years of experience in the Tower Crane Hire Industry by offering you technical advice and very competitive quotations for all your Tower Crane requirements."

Contact Tony Ferris, Technical Sales & Enquiries, T 01753 542418 M 07799 788150 Technical Sales & Hire Enquiries deltatowercranes@gmail.com **General Enquiries & Administration** admin@deltatowercranes.com www.deltatowercranes.com





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

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 entre 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 manage 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

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

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.

Contact T +44 (0)1342 410758 www.pts-uk.com

Steel Construction Company of Choice

Structural Steel Specialists for complex architectural projects

In this issue of Building Update, we are pleased to announce Clarke Construction Essex Ltd as our Steel Construction Company of Choice.

Based in Essex, CCEL prides itself on delivering an excellent quality of services to all its customers in the Building and Construction industries. CCEL was established in 2009 and then formed into a limited company in 2011 and has since consistently proven to achieve high-end results on any project that it has endeavoured to take on.

"Even though we are based in Essex we have customers all over the UK and also take on projects worldwide. We primarily specialise in structural steel, specialist structures

and all other related construction to which our specialist construction knowledge on how to understand the requirements of our clients on even the most complicated works really underpins our quality and professionalism, stated David Marriott, Company Owner

CCEL's wide range of products and services that are available to clients include bespoke design, creative roof design and complex structural & architectural structures. The company's association with structural engineers, draftsmen and specialist factories enable it to provide such diverse services that range from design and construction of the steel structures through to design and production of bronze railings, stairs and balustrades.

As well as offering a competitive service, its CCEL's specialist construction knowledge and expertise that really makes it an asset to the industry. One of its most rewarding projects was when the company was involved in a venture that gave electricity and water to a village in Kenya for the first time, to which David said, "This was enormously satisfying to our whole team.

Of course, you will notice that CCEL has the capabilities to work on a number of different projects, and one area that it also specialises in is heavy and contract lifting, rigging, and the erection of steel structures. Marked as a one stop shop offering a full end-to-end construction service, its ability to adapt and be flexible to all customer



requirements is just one of the reasons customers stay with the company for many years. Whether you're looking to build a steel sculpture, glass system or require architectural metalworks, CCEL has the capabilities and expertise to

Amongst all of its services, Structural Steel work is the core of the business. CCEL offer a full package from the design and detail drawings, to the fabrication of the structural steelwork and site installation. Once featured in a Grand Design build that consisted of transforming a Grade II listed property, CCEL's structural expertise were called upon to design and construct all steel frames for the structure of the building. With CCEL's help, what was once a Grade Il listed Manor house was transformed into an L-shaped modern new-build that was based on the key principles of sympathetic scale and position, combined with a considered use of materials and sustainable practices.

Its glowing customer reviews speak volumes for the work that CCEL has done and continues to do for the industry. always willing to go the extra mile for complete customer satisfaction is just one of the benefits of working with the company. If you would like more information on how CCEL can help you with your structural steel builds, get in touch below.

Brighton School specialist roof install

T 01375 360605 office@ccel.org.uk





STEEL CONSTRUCTION SPECIALISTS

We pride ourselves on delivering an excellent quality of service to all our customers. Our diverse portfolio proves we achieve high-end results to any project we endeavour, our association with structural engineers - draftsmen & specialist factories enable us to provide such diverse services from designing and construction of steel structures through to design and production of bronze railings, stairs & balustrades. Our site teams are specialists in heavy & contract lifting, rigging & erection of structures. We can offer a full construction service as a one stop.

- Bespoke Designs
- Specialists in Diversity
- **Architectural Metalworks**
- **Complex Architectural Structures**
- Creative Works
- Integrated Steel & Timber
- Specialist Lifting
- Temporary Works







Please visit the website: www.ccel.org.uk Tel: 01375 360605 • Email: office@ccel.org.uk

Door scheduling made easy, fast and error free

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.

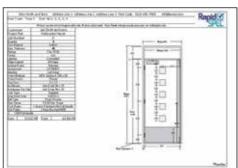
With RapidSpec everything is instant. Long gone are the days of spreadsheets, RapidSpec offers instant quotations that include all of the auto generated doorset drawings required. Simple to navigate, the operator uses multiple choice, yes and no questions together with the required dimensions and RapidSpec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

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."

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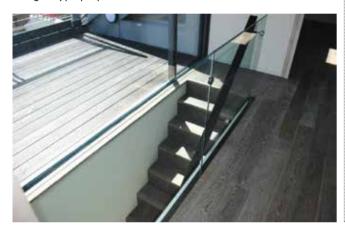
Demon Designs: Experts in glass

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!."

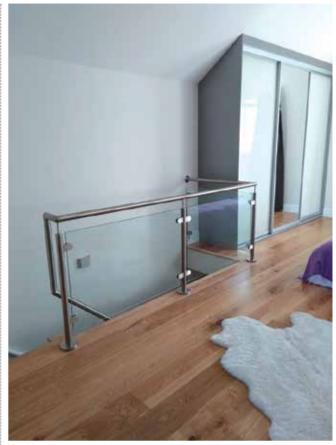
Indeed, as well as a loyal customer base, this commitment to customer satisfaction has resulted in impressive successes for Demon Designs over the past eight years, and this year has been no different. "It's been an interesting year for us," Dominic told us. "We have seen a shift in the type of projects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

Contact T 01903 733206 info@demon-designs.co.uk www.archglass.co.uk



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E-learning for the construction industry



Over the past 12 months, online learning and training have become increasingly more popular as individuals and businesses seek ways to upskill, develop or specialise in key subjects for self-improvement.

The four-stage training and qualifications scheme Concrete Technology & Construction leads to qualifications) for the construction industry awarded by the Institute of Concrete Technology (ICT). The training courses range from foundation level through to advanced, and TALENT Concrete Training Ltd., established in 2004, currently provide online distance-learning courses in Stages 2 and 3.

The industry-endorsed four-stage qualification framework is directly linked to the professional grades of membership of the ICT, formerly administered by City & Guilds of London Institute (CGLI).



The course outlines are as follows:

Stage 1: Concrete Practice, ideal for those starting in the construction industry. Candidates who complete this course successfully are eligible for memberships of the ICT at Technician grade and to use the designatory letters TechICT after their name.

Stage 2: General Principles, intended for those involved in the production, use or quality control of concrete. Candidates who complete this course successfully are eligible for memberships of the ICT at Afflict after their name.

Stage 3: Practical Applications, intended for those involved at a supervisory level in the production, use or quality control activities associated with concrete. Candidates who complete this course successfully are eligible for memberships of the ICT at Associate grade and to use the designatory letters AMICT after their name.

Stage 4: Advanced Concrete Technology, this stage leads to the highest award in concrete technology. Candidates who complete this course successfully are eligible for full corporate memberships of the ICT and to use the designatory letters MICT after their name.

Tony Binns, a Director of TALENT, and an honorary Fellow of the ICT commented, "TALENT courses enable participants to enrol and commence their studies at any time, with no dependence on the academic year. We have three fully qualified tutors who are constantly available for assistance, mentoring and discussion."

Stages 2 and 3 of the Concrete Technology & Construction training and qualifications programme are presented by TALENT as online distance learning courses. The course content has been written and designed by John Newman, Peter Domone and Tony Binns. Each tutor is successful in their own field and holds vast amounts of experience and expertise in concrete technology, as well as proven, successful techniques and skills acquired to mentor and teach.

"TALENT courses are well-established and recognised by the ICT. Revised and newly introduced ICT learning objectives are incorporated in the course material. In the future, we intend to introduce the foundation level – Stage 1: Concrete Practice, as an online course using the same successful online training methods as we have in Stages 2 and 3. The course material is updated to reflect developments in techniques and changes in British and European Standards and remains accessible to participants long after they have completed the course, serving as an up-to-date reference source," stated Tony.

The courses available are ideal for all producers of precast and ready-mixed concrete, test consultants, civil engineers and building contractors. TALENT training courses fully prepare participants for ICT examinations and have achieved a successful high pass rate, including a high proportion of Credits and Distinctions upon completion.

COVID-19 has had minimal effects on business for TALENT, and the concept of being entirely online has reaped tremendous benefits for the company. "Being entirely online involving no physical personal contact, TALENT courses have enabled those who seek training

and qualifications to enrol and progress without any adverse effects from COVID-19," said Tony.

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World first in Leicestershire

eicestershire business designs a World First Flooring
System made using 100% recycled white plastics.

Abacus Flooring Solutions Limited were formed in July 2020 by Nick Megson after working in the Industry for more than 3 decades. Nick has been the Industry Ambassador since 2005 winning no less than 12 awards for recycling and sustainability. When Nick started the business his intention was always to continue his strive to do things the right way.

Researching materials that would suit the reprocessing method were put to test, ranging from Loo seats, light switches to name a few.

Months of testing starting with the first batch being used at JCB Uttoxeter. Since then, Abacus Flooring Solutions have used the system at HNRC in Worksop, The Sturgess Motor Group, LCFC plus many more Blue Chip companies.

Nick has recently won a contract to install the flooring





at Wembley, not happy to simply supply recycled white plastic flooring, Nick has tested the use of old and broken Wembley spectator seats with great success.

Nick and his team install the first ever seamless resin floor made using recycled stadium seats.

Nick is incredibly passionate about recycling and continues to look into new possibilities of recycling for his flooring

The flooring systems are used mainly in the Industrial use such a Production Areas, Warehousing, Workshops, Engineering, Aerospace and Pharmaceutical.

Abacus Flooring Solutions work throughout the UK but have completed many projects in the Leicestershire area. Nick is looking at growing the business as on his own does prevent the growth he knows is possible.

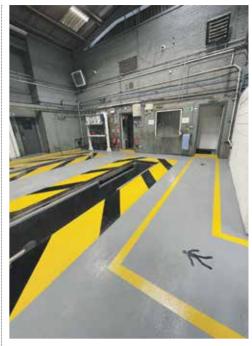
Nick proudly turned over in excess of £600,000 in his first year and year two is looking at a 30% increase in revenue.

Working our of offices and warehousing in Coalville the company has firmly set its roots in Leicestershire. Nick is looking into possibilities of employing more people to install the flooring and can offer Industry Certified schemes for the correct applicant.



"My intention has always been to build a business where everyone has a voice and is an integral part of the growth. I'm extremely excited about the long future of Abacus Flooring Solutions and will be gifting share to the people that grow with the business."

Abacus Flooring Solutions offer an amazing service of a free survey, options, specifications and quotations are provided all free of charge.



"The after sales process, in my opinion is equally as important as the initial contact, and we pride ourselves in ensuring we deliver the full service."

Site surveys to include slip testing is also available by contacting Nicks office on: 01530 432790, email: admin@abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk or visit: www.abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk



Tel: 01530 432790 nick@abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk

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Leading the way in deep hole drilling

t 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



advancements,
UNISIG doesn't just
manufacturer 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.

For more information, please see below: T +49 7125 9687590 info@unisig.de www.unisig.com





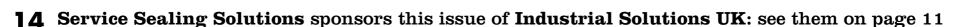
an industry leader in technology, innovation, support, and service. From small job shops looking to expand their capabilities, to large OEM's that need to drill millions of holes, UNISIG has the capabilities and the strong understanding of the deep hole drilling process, drilling tools and their

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







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Your partner for material handling

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 addition, Davison Forklift is also part stockists for Clark, Hyster, Samsung, Doosan, Linde, Lansing, Ausa and many more.

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 marks 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.

Included in its telehandlers range, the company offers two telehandlers; JCB 540-140 and JCB 535-125. Through JCB's commitment to providing outstanding products for its customers, the brand has flourished, growing from a one-



man business into Britain's largest privately owned manufacturer of telescopic telehandlers and industrial forklifts. Both the JCB 540-140 and JCB 535-125 models are equipped with the latest technology and advanced design capabilities, with features such as: low fuel consumption, reduced noise, high torque and power output, total reliability and minimal maintenance.

Regarding its tractor range, the company currently offers one tractor manufacturer available for hire; the New Holland T7.210. New Holland is renowned as a Clean Energy Leader for its active promotion and development of sustainable agricultural technology, offering solutions that enhance efficiency and productivity, while respecting the environment. The T7.210 is a great addition to the company's range and offers a power range of 140 to 210 HP, with a rated engine speed of 2,200rpm.

If you would like to find out any further information on the company, please see the details featured below:
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MR. J.W. RODNEY PEYTON OBE MD

An Epitome for Experts in the Medico-legal Industry

Adignified 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.

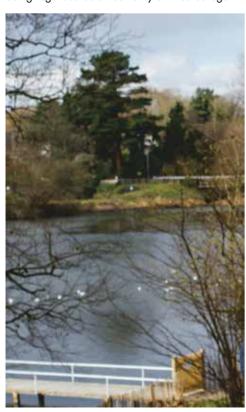
A Distinguished Career spanning Over Three Decades

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.

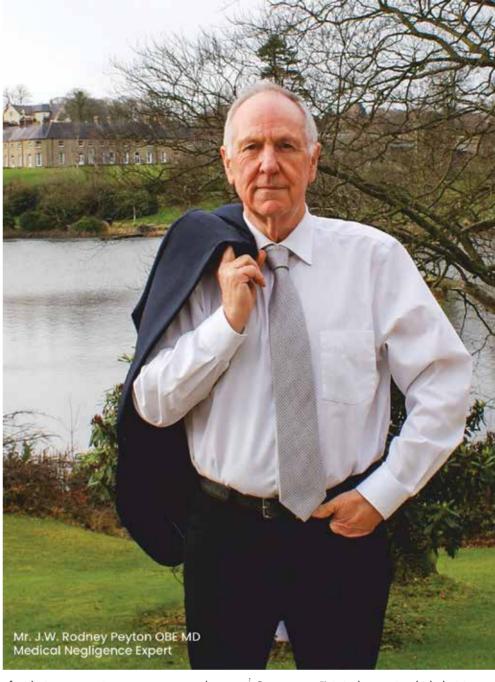
Mr. Peyton further mentions it is important to remember innovation in the legal profession is slow and steady. When in the witness box, an expert must not display innovative behaviors in terms of thoughts about managing cases. As the courts are looking for a fair degree of certainty, all the arguments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



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

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

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

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 vittees:

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.

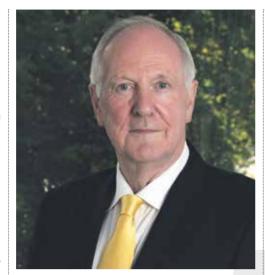
It is important to understand that, while judges are highly trained and experienced in the interpretation of the law, they and the barristers or trial lawyers who argue cases are nevertheless lay people when it comes to the healthcare professions. They are not medical experts and therefore require help 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



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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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.

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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

nvironmental 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 electricallypowered 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 batterypowered 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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