

BUILDING UPDATE

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INTEGRASPEC® is your best choice of ICF to deliver

The Ballantine Building Solutions team has over 20 years experience as ICF Builders suppliers, Installers & Builders using ICF and have worked on many successful ICF projects.

ICF is based on hollow lightweight block components that lock together to provide a formwork system into which concrete is poured. The blocks are made from expanded polystyrene panels fixed together with plastic webs (reducing thermal bridging) to create a formwork to which horizontal and vertical steel reinforcements can be easily added for extra strength. Once braced, concrete can be poured into the forms enabling fast construction one storey at a time.

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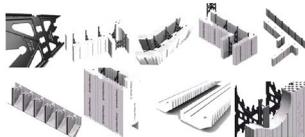
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Building Solutions

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Significant Savings Compared with Traditional Build Block/Timber Frame

WHAT IS IT?

Insulating Concrete Formwork (ICF) is an energy efficient method which creates insulated structural walls for residential and commercial buildings



MAIN BENEFITS

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- 🏠 Good House Keeping
- ⚙️ Simple Service Installation
- 🛡️ Improved Site Safety
- 🏗️ Structural Stability
- 💰 Significant Cost Savings
- ⌚ Less Down Time
- 👷 Immediate Follow-on Trades
- 🏠 Less Heavy Plant
- 💡 Energy Savings



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Make your project possible

DCON Safety Consultants Limited offers leading health and safety consultancy and construction statute advice services. The company prioritises and specialises in the highest levels of informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocation and compliance assurance. Informed by industry expertise, DCON Safety Consultants Limited knows that every project has potential risks, no matter what its potential benefits, so its team of highly 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 and CDM Advisor in various sectors across the Irish construction market. No project is too simple or too complex for the company's construction safety 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.

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

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

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

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

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diarmuid.condon@dconsafety.com
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Waterproofing you can rely on



Carlisle Construction Materials Europe (CCM Europe) manufacture high quality waterproofing systems for new build and refurbishment flat roofing projects, along with the ARBO® range of sealants and EPDM tapes for façades, providing complete building envelope solutions for the construction industry.

CCM Europe is a dynamic company, driving innovation in speed and ease of installation, sustainability, and waterproofing performance across a variety of roofing technologies, including EPDM, bitumen and liquid Waterproofing. Offering expert technical advice to specifiers, CCM Europe supports optimised specifications, leveraging the variety across the company's waterproofing and sealants ranges.

CCM's RESITRIX® single ply waterproofing for flat roofs is the only roofing system that combines the properties of EPDM synthetic rubber and polymer-modified bitumen to create a durable hybrid membrane. An extremely flexible, single-layer waterproofing membrane, it can be applied on almost all substrates and provides fast and neat installation, with each section of membrane welded together quickly, easily and safely using a hot-air device without any need for naked flames.

Suitable for mechanical installation using induction technology, CCM's HERTALAN® EPDM system



enables roofs to be made watertight quickly, with the company able to produce EPDM membranes up to 30m in length and in various widths up to 20m, thanks to its vulcanisation factory in Mansfield.

Another hero product within the CCM range is the ARBOFLEX® PU single component liquid waterproofing system. Made from pure polyurethane, which, once cured, forms a seamless elastic roof covering without any joints, ARBOFLEX® PU delivers air tightness and waterproofing on most substrates.

A high performance and wear-resistant membrane, ARBOFLEX® PU can adapt to any surface, including uneven, curved or irregular substrates. With its rapid-curing properties, it allows foot traffic

within 24 hours. The single component liquid waterproofing can be applied straight from the tin, allowing fast and easy installation, and it is green roof compatible.

You can watch installation videos for CCM Europe products here:



In addition to offering state of the art flat roofing and façade solutions, Carlisle supports expertise and knowledge sharing with the company's training courses at the CARLISLE® ACADEMY. Designed by professionals for professionals, CCM's training courses enable attendees to learn about the proven advantages of EPDM waterproofing solutions in an up-close, hands-on manner, ensuring construction industry professionals can maximise the products' performance benefits on site. For more information, visit: <https://www.ccm-europe.com/gb/academy>

Anticipating change creates opportunity for innovation and exceptional customer service. CCM has recently strengthened its sales and distribution network for the UK and the ROI market, welcoming new professionals to the company's sales team, with appointments including Charlie Patrick, who looks after the Eastern region, and Crawford McAllister who looks after the North and Scotland.

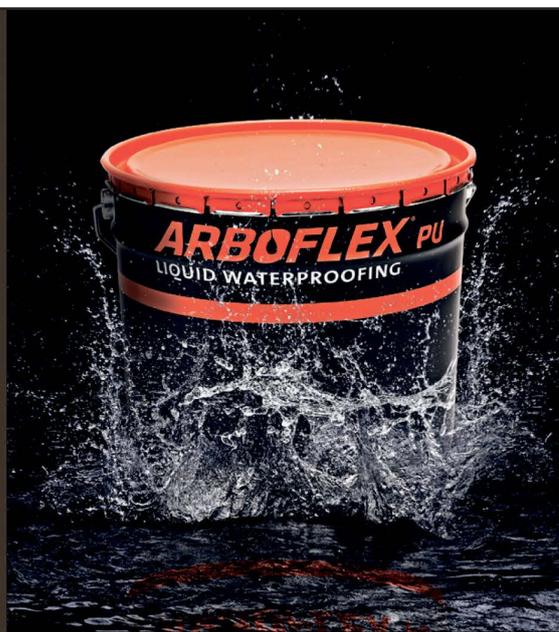
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www.ccm-europe.com



The Home of Le Tonkinois Varnish UK

B & D Murkin are a small family run business based in Maidenhead. Providing varnish and sander products, they are the sole importers of Le Tonkinois Varnish and the Flexidisc Sander.

They have been importing Le Tonkinois Varnish and the Flexidisc sander for almost 40 years.

They demonstrate and sell these products on various shows throughout the UK and operate a first class mail order service.

Le Tonkinois Varnish is a traditional oil based varnish, manufactured using a 200 year old Chinese recipe. It contains Linseed oil, Tung oil & natural resins. No

solvents or water therefore it is environmentally friendly and is a pleasure to work with, no nasty smells and no brush marks.

Le Tonkinois Varnish is 100% waterproof and does not crack or flake off, even on oily woods like Teak and Iroko. It also withstands hot pans and boiling water. It produces a high quality and professional finish and requires very little maintenance, simply add a top up coat every few years as required.

Le Tonkinois Varnish has gained world recognition for its results and is regarded as one of the world's best varnishes for indoor, outdoor and marine use.

The flexidisc sander is an extremely unique piece of equipment, although being a general sander, it can also be converted into many other applications including: finishing sander, bench grinder, general purpose sharpener,



partial angle grinder, polish applicator, polisher and grinds glass and nails.

"The Flexidisc sander can be used to prepare any type of material prior to applying Le Tonkinois and results in a better finish than most orbital Sanders in a fraction of the time.

For any more information, please see the details below:
h



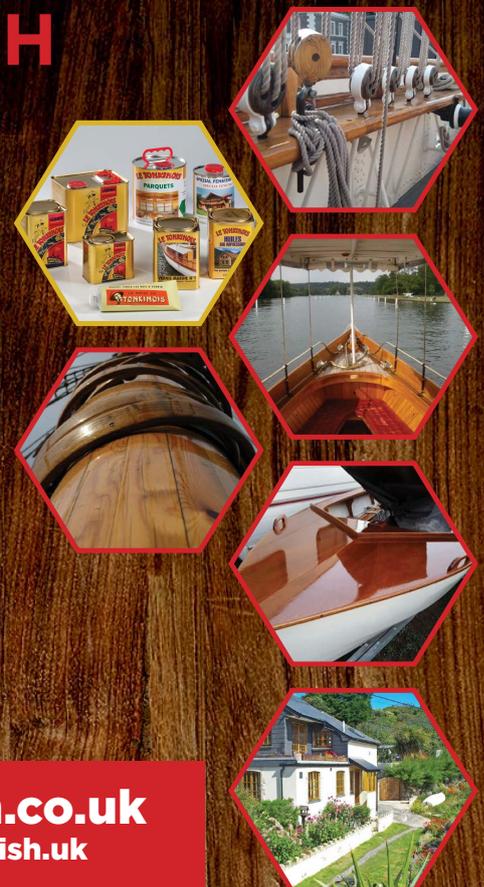
LE TONKINOIS VARNISH

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KEDEL TRADE
ECO-FRIENDLY PLASTIC PRODUCTS

Environmentally friendly plastic lumber

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

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



Established by three brothers, Kieran, Dermot and Lewis Walch, Kedel is based in Burnley and supplies nationwide. We spoke to Dermot who explained what commitment to excellence means to them and how they feel they achieve it. "Commitment to excellence is an attitude towards work. You're only as good as your weakest link, so we try to give our staff an autonomous responsibility around servicing our customers and through this we are achieving service excellence. Because of this, people can make quicker decisions and our customers end up 100% satisfied much quicker. Eco-Friendly Plastic is what we do. Not many people believe plastic can be green but it can. We manufacture plastic wood made from waste polystyrene, and are also suppliers of many other types of recycled plastic profiles from other manufacturers, which allows our customers to keep their carbon footprint down. We maintain excellence throughout our business through our sustainable products, sustainable supply chain and sustainable manufacturing policy."

Winners of the Feefo Trusted Service Award, Kedel's range of recycled plastic lumber reflects the future of the construction industry. From plastic fencing pales and edging board pegs to round posts, boards and planks, tongue & groove planks, decking, and so much more, Kedel's extensive product range comes with a number of benefits. Of course, the largest advantage of plastic lumber in general is that it does not rot, absorb water and is highly resistant to



damage. This much more versatile material means it has a life longevity to be placed in all weathers and climates making it a perfect material for use in construction, leisure, education, gardens and any water applications.

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

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

For more information, please see below:
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BespokeCrete releases new Microcement shower trays

Here at Building Update, we have chosen to recommend BespokeCrete, a team of in-house carpenters and steel fabricators whose craftsmanship and innovation classifies the company as one of the most sought-after specialist furniture makers in the UK.

BespokeCrete is one of the biggest Microcement companies in the UK for furniture, and over the years has had to evolve constantly and consistently with the demands of the industry.

We spoke to Ness from BespokeCrete who explained a little more about what the business offers: "BespokeCrete is very unique in the fact that we have a team of in-house carpenters and steel fabricators – along with our skilled Microcement applicators. We can craft many items such



as kitchen worktops, Microcement outside kitchens, sinks, baths, tables, furniture and so much more. A lot of our work is completely bespoke and we work with clients who have previously struggled to find their exact requirements."

Microcement is a thin 2-3mm coating that can be applied to a multitude of surfaces. It is fully waterproof as well as being heat, scratch and stain resistant. It is a cement and resin hybrid and is great for a multitude of products such as kitchens or furniture, inside kitchens, bathrooms, showers, baths, sinks, floors and walls.

Microcement is applied by hand and consists of primers, base coats, finish coats and sealers – generally taking 7-10 days to apply. "We can work on-site (such as a microcement floor, wet room or create seamless kitchen worktops) or products such as furniture, outside kitchens and kitchen worktops can be made in our workshop in Norfolk and delivered. We can coat directly over plastered walls, cement board, MDF, Ply, concrete and existing tiles giving each person the freedom to express their creativity," added Ness.

Following a successful summer, BespokeCrete is collaborating with 'Resin Rock' to make Microcement shower trays, baths and sinks. "We have also developed a Microcement stair tread system with the first project being installed in the New Year. We are very excited about our range of Microcement shower trays, where we offer bespoke options as well as standard sizes. Like all of our products – these will be available in any of our standard colour ranges



as well as colour matching options with a range of drain options too. We have noticed a rise in the popularity of Microcement applications and where we differ to competitors is that we started out by applying this coating solution onto furniture and the business evolved from there. With the popularity of Microcement increasing we do expect there to be a surge in contractors attempting Microcement finishes without the correct training and experience. We refuse to take shortcuts on any of our projects. Our finishes will never be the cheapest option but they are sure to be some of the best!" added Ness.

BespokeCrete is attending the home building and renovation show at the NEC at the end of March 2024 as well as looking to take place in further shows throughout the year.

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Fixings

Protecting your investment, with award-winning, sustainable products

External wall insulation (EWI) is one of the fastest growing areas within the UK construction industry. For time immemorial, timber pattresses have been used to secure the fixing of satellite dishes through to utility boxes upon reinstatement. This was until SWIFIX: an Exeter-based company came up with a brilliant, innovative design range that bypassed traditional timber methods in 2016.

Paul Brown is the Director and brains behind the operations, with an extensive background in leadership in senior management, starting his career as a plasterer completing EWI.

SWIFIX is a multi-award-winning company that designs cutting-edge solutions for securing external furniture through External Wall Insulations (EWI). Since its inception in 2016, the range has been extensively extended, including a recent, exclusive design partnership with SKY telecommunications for a

new product for securing cables and small pipework.

"We work with a broad range of customers from Architects, Local Authorities (LA's) to major contractors and system designers providing surefire solutions for securing external wall furniture, through insulation and cladding, across a range of properties, including retrofit, new build, and the off-site modular sectors.

"Our unique design approach has brought robust solutions to market, for securing external furniture through EWI. These include: satellite dishes, rainwater goods, canopies, light alarms, signage, cables, pretty much any item that needs reinstatement," explained Paul.

The SWIFIX range are PAS2035-compliant for quality assurance and with easy installation and added cost-efficiency, it's easy to see why they are the leading choice for many customers.

The products are regarded as industry-leading, shortlisted for the National Energy Efficiency Awards (2016): with many other accolades recognising innovation and Excellence in the Energy Efficiency Sector, and more recently, The INCA Innovation Award Winner in 2021. The Insulated Render and Cladding Association (INCA) is the recognised trade association for the EWI industry across the UK and awards are given for exceptional work in the industry. We asked Paul, in his own words what made SWIFIX products so special, "SWIFIX are recommended by many system designers as a product of choice, due to the fact that by using the solution and the way in which they are installed, they protect warranties and guarantees for the systems installed."



"The range provides a robust and watertight solution preventing ingress of water, which is damaging to systems. It truly offers a unique solution, unsurpassed by competitors, as it is suitable for many different formats and can hold greater weights. Overall, it is significantly cheaper than its competitors, offering considerable cost savings."

"I'm very proud of our green credentials: it is a very eco efficient-range, made from partially recycled plastics with all the parts are fully recyclable, along with the packaging, making our products very attractive in the age of sustainability."

For more information on this award-winning range, please see below:
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Our wallbed models provide limitless possibilities for transforming living space



Wallbeds have never been easier to order, build and install. They can help transform homes, offices and hotel rooms into multi-purpose and versatile spaces as well as providing functional storage areas.

Our wallbeds use a unique, safe, spring support system enabling the precise adjustment of balancing lift, compared with cheaper gas lifts. Our spring balance system has been developed over a 20-year period to guarantee safety and achieve the perfect balance. Being both powerful and adjustable means you can use a premium mattress for absolute comfort as well as to perfectly balance the wallbed, using fingertip control to open and close the wallbed effortlessly and safely.

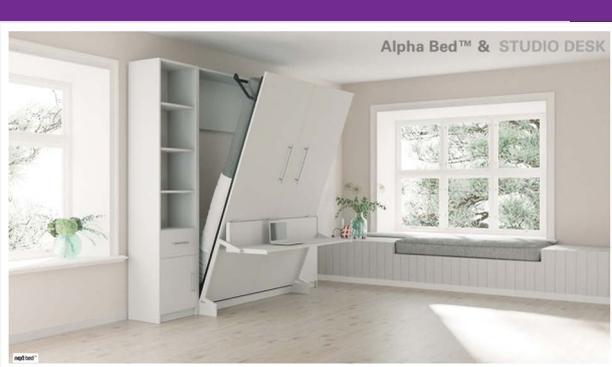
All our mechanisms and hardware models are complete with contract level finishes and strength.

The NeXT Bed™, Alpha Bed™, Beta DIY Kit, and Studio Desk provide huge scope for rethinking the way we live, work and sleep. Wallbeds can be used with subtlety and even completed hidden. Built to contract standards, and as well as appearing in an increasing number of homes globally, wallbeds are also gaining increasing popularity in the hotel and hospitality sectors due to their durability and suitability for everyday use.

Wallbeds can also provide additional capabilities such as providing extra storage, integrated seating or a

desk. Installation costs are low and especially reduced if installed when completing a full fit out. In furnished apartments, hotel rooms and in tiny or mobile homes, all our models utilise the floor plate very effectively which is essential especially where space is increasingly at a premium, and furniture must be dual purpose. Full drawings are available of cabinet fixings where needed.

Our innovative NeXT Bed™ is an instant wallbed solution used with or without cabinet, immediately installable and useable on arrival, and currently in stock and available worldwide. With a tiny footprint and with fingertip control, the NeXT bed uses the safe spring support system. It can even be part-assembled off-site



to further minimise installation time on-site.

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LS Products BV to introduce new Autonomous range in 2024

In this issue of Building Update, we are pleased to feature LS Products BV as our Landscaping Product Company of the Year.

LS Products BV is the manufacturer of the innovative Eco Clipper electric mower system that was introduced for the turf grower industry in 2018.

Due to the fact that all the mowers in the range are electrically driven and use a special mowing deck design that incorporates small mowing blades, the Eco Clipper range delivers fantastic contour following and has the capability to disperse clippings well even in wet grass.

Furthermore, because of the high-speed mowing system, productivity is inevitably higher and fuel efficiency better due to the small blades and electric drive. The machine is very quiet and versatile under different conditions such as dewy grass and weeds.

The Eco Clipper® Mowing System evolved from the mowing system that was originally developed in the nineties on the turfgrass farm of the Leijenaar family in the Netherlands. At that time, the electrically driven 10m wide rotary mower was a revolution for the turfgrass industry, and up until 2008 there has been various models of this rotary mower developed and marketed by Leijenaar Products BV.

In 2019, the Eco Clipper range was successfully introduced to turfgrass farms across Europe and then in 2020 they introduced the 14.11-meter-wide Eco Clipper: RM14 Butterfly Mower and the Eco Clipper TM14 tri-deck mower that were both revolutionary mowers for the turfgrass growers and sports ground sectors.



Syb Leijenaar is the Managing Director of LS Products BV and has a vast amount of experience that is deeply rooted in mechanical engineering and mechatronic systems design, and is one of the creators of the Eco Clipper range. We asked Syb how the company has fared over the last 12 months and what plans it has for the future.

"The last 12 months have been slower business wise, although it seems business is picking up since summer. As we are an agile company, we used the opportunity to spend more time on new developments. Our current developments are mainly focused on autonomous large area mowing. Our autonomous mowing system will be introduced in the coming year. We offer a 309cm or a 513cm wide Eco Clipper mowing deck where the power comes from either a diesel generator or a 61kWh battery pack."

"We are keen to increase productivity in large area quality mowing, hence lowering the mowing costs for our customers. For turfgrass growers and sports ground managers, we already have the most productive equipment in the market due to the large cutting width and high possible mowing speeds. For the autonomous mower it is important that it can be operated safely without immediate supervision otherwise it won't save labour. Therefore, we have partnered with a Danish firm that fully focuses on safe operation of autonomous equipment in the field."

Due next year, the Eco Clipper Autonomous Mower uses three different types of obstacle detection: camera; lidar; and radar for its safety in dusty environments. The new Autonomous range will meet speeds of up to 16km/h and surpasses all safety standards with its cutting-edge obstacle detection technology.

"Over the next few years we expect to grow gradually in the sports ground market. We receive strong feedback from our users stating that they like the capacity, quiet running and economic use of fuel. In 2024, we will be introducing the autonomous mower on a couple of selected farms. We want at least a year of real-life experience before we introduce these systems to a wider audience," added Syb.

LS Products and its Danish partners are really pushing the boundaries in autonomous mowing solutions, and the next five years are looking very fruitful for both businesses. In closing, we asked Syb how he felt receiving our award.

"I feel honoured being selected for the Landscaping Product of the Year Award. When you work with these products every day, you no longer notice that they are different. This award reminds us that we stand out. We are proud of that."

For more information, please see below:
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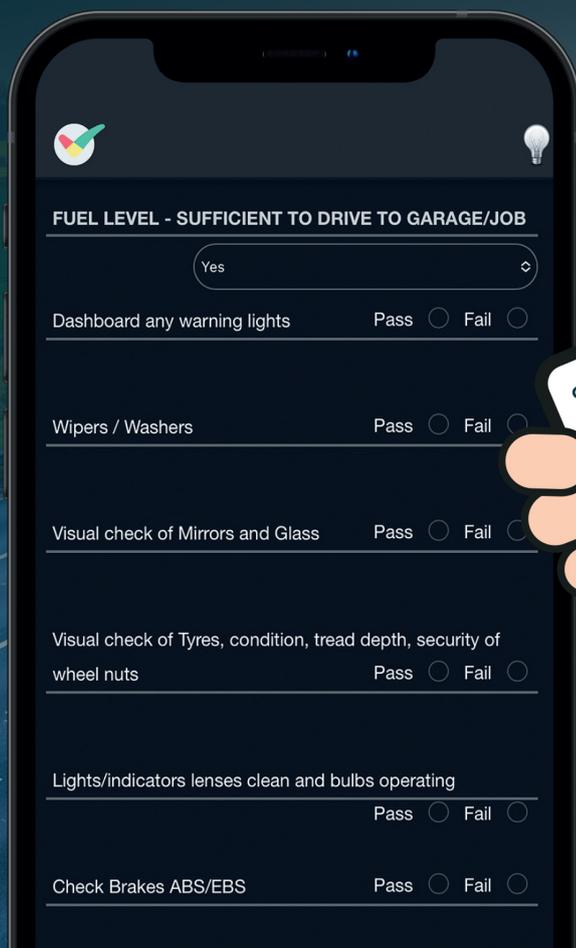


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ModCon Cabin Trader was formed in 2017 by Alan Willetts of whom has 25 years experience of working for some major manufacturers in the Modular & Portable Building Industry.

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

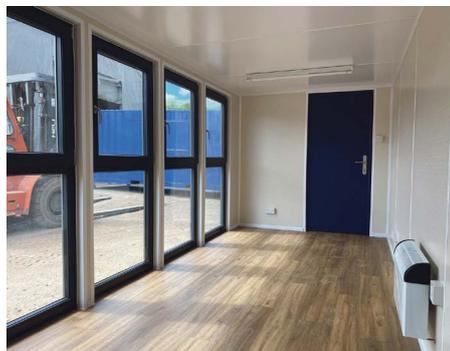
Items such as Portable Offices, Canteens, Toilet units, Drying units, Storage Containers, Chemstores, Smoking Shelters, Effluent Tanks,



Being that all items produced are mostly built on a jig and to customers own specification we are open to undertaking bespoke enquiries too so please feel free to engage with us here at ModCon Cabins even if you have a rather random enquiry for certain products.

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

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Staircases are regular and repeat produced items that we manufacture for our clients.

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Our workforce are all very skilled and experienced fabricators of whom have many years experience working within our industry and so know the expectancy of our customers requirements so you can be sure that if you approach ModCon Cabins to undertake your work you are in very good hands!



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Unrivalled professional expertise: Wakefield's expert-chartered surveyor

Fennell Green & Bates is a chartered mineral, waste, energy and building surveyors practice, with a specialism in project co-ordination and management in the construction and mining industries.

The company had evolved substantially since its inception in 1875 when founders Mr Fennell and Mr Green, took over the practice from the eminent mining engineer: Mr J Tolson White.

Under the expert direction of the current director, the company has expanded exponentially, employing experienced staff with chartered surveying expertise. From its convenient central base the UK in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, customers can be reached easily within three hours, excluding the southern counties of Devon and Cornwall, which takes a little longer.

As leading specialists in construction project co-ordination and management, the company's range of services includes: building surveys, land condition surveys, coal and other mining reports, contaminated land audits, land and mine surveying, geotechnical advice and site investigation.

To allow for a more streamlined process, the company has recently embraced the digital era, by moving its substantial archive, documentation and filing systems to a more secure online storage. This has already provided a more efficient service for its large customer base of: self-build, SME home builders and commercial developers, farmers and landowners.

"Experience in all types of land and former use with a large archive of material to research, helps inform



modern solutions to ground conditions problems," says company Partner, John Carlon and keeps Fennell Green & Bates ahead of the competition.

"Our experienced staff are familiar with mining law, land law and regulation and redeveloping land. Experience in subsidence identification from mining and treating the effect, is highly valued by our customers," elaborates John.

It is this winning combination of experienced staff, with knowledgeable areas of expertise, with access to extensive archived documents and drawings, that has cemented the company as a leading specialised chartered surveyor.

Enlisting the guidance of an experienced chartered surveyor, like Fennell Green & Bates, at the early stages of land development or building property can mitigate against further challenges. Drawbacks could include: mining induced ground conditions,

contamination and the boundaries of the site, but through informative advice, customers can make detailed, informed decisions.

It is these important, expert risk assessments that can determine whether land use can be developed further to what the client chooses.

"We can advise on developments in former coal mining areas and solutions to stabilise land from any mining or industrial use. Our coal mining risk assessments can be included with future planning applications in areas of high risk as identified on the Coal Authority data base.

We offer competitive, cost-effective solutions to most land condition problems. Our latest services include: level 3 structural surveys, contaminated land reviews and valuation."

From its Wakefield base, this experienced chartered surveyor practice has helped a large diverse customer base across the UK and according to John, is wholly focussed on helping companies, especially smaller ones to succeed, "The plan for the future is to grow the practice and help the smaller developer to find cost-effective solutions to ground conditions and contamination."

For further information, please see the details below:
T 01924 255666
M 07483 164372
fennellgreenandbates@gmail.com
www.charteredurveyorswakefield.co.uk

FGB

Fennell, Green & Bates

MINING ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Fennell Green & Bates Chartered Surveyors is a 150 years old practice based in Wakefield. At FGB, we specialise in building condition surveys, house structural surveys, project management, town & country planning, coal mining risk assessments, site investigation and remediation of brownfield land.

Fennell Green and Bates have been involved in over 1,740 projects over the past 22 years dealing with contaminated land, ground stability issues, phase 1 contaminated desk top studies, phase 2 site investigation projects, coal mining risk assessments and soil sampling for housing, commercial and industrial developments in north of England and the Midlands. Our practice also acts as mineral advisors to several building materials companies and that work has taken our surveyors all over the UK and to Ireland, Europe, Russia, South Africa and Australia to work on a wide range of projects.

At present we are managing the remediation of a glass works tip on behalf of a client for the site to be used as housing after the materials on site have been processed and re-engineered on-site for the development platform. We have recently completed the verification of the works for a medium sized housing development in Yorkshire in a former quarry that has been backfilled with engineered fill from site.

Our team is experienced in all types of site engineering and soil management that includes materials testing that can save costs due to the re-use of these soils and a reduction in muck away.



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 Old Joiner's Shop, 59 Oakenshaw Lane
 Walton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF2 6NJ

Tel: 01924 255666
Mob: 07483 164372
Email: fennellgreenandbates@gmail.com
Website: www.charteredurveyorswakefield.co.uk

IAS for your perfect access platform



In this issue of Building Update, we are honoured to select Independent Access Sales (IAS) as our Access Platform Company of the Year.

Access Platforms are indispensable for working at heights or hard-to-reach places, providing workers with a robust structure across many industrial sectors. Many essential services such as air conditioning units, pipes, and ductwork are often stored high in the roof and access platforms are key to installation and essential repairs/maintenance throughout the year. With health & safety in mind, the steady, well-fabricated structures give extra reassurance to workers, throughout the operation period.

Independent Access Sales (IAS) is a relatively new company but with decades of expertise behind it. Established in 2020 by Managing Director: Richard Martin, the Huntingdon-based company is set to take the country by storm.

IAS is a distributor of access platforms across the UK and Ireland and Richard brings more than 35 years of industry experience, from scaffolding, cradle platforms, erection, surveyor, to supervisor, "We are getting noticed now across the industry. We have won three awards in the last twelve months, including a Golden Award from Media2. We've been to numerous trade shows and generated a lot of interest."

"We are excited to reveal that we have exclusively signed with SOGAGE: producer of globally-leading aerial platforms to distribute their truck-mounted platforms, up to 100 metres. A truck-mounted platform



is a mobile elevating platform, which can be attached to a road-licensed chassis and is great when you require an access platform to be adaptable, as it can be switched from site to site easily. We are looking forward to adding this to our growing portfolio and by

the New Year, expect to be selling a wider range of Easylift Spider Platforms, SOGAGE Truck Mounting Platforms and Leonardo HD by Bravi HD to new and existing customers across: facilities management, construction, heritage restoration to tree surgery and many more."

The existing SOGAGE truck line has been flying off the shelves with customers already this year: the SOGAGE 20T carries loads up to 230kg and is a favoured mounted platform for working at height. The SOGAGE 21DJ works up to 20.3M and is a second popular choice for many applications.

For those working in facilities management or heritage restoration, the Easylift srl Piattaforme Aeree R360 provides a turret rotation of 360° for cleaning and delicate work in limited spaces. Designed to work at a height of 35.4M, it is also preferred by tree surgeons for all aspects of arboriculture. The R260 model works to a maximum height of 26M, with an outreach of

13.5M, precision-designed for maintenance and installation jobs.

The Bravi Platform HD meanwhile is the default choice for tight spaces and doorways, offering a sturdier alternative to scaffolding or ladders.

IAS offers a full consultancy service for new customers, to source the perfect access platform and moving forward, offers six-monthly inspections, servicing and maintenance, meaning you can just get on with the job at hand.

"It is a real pleasure to hear repeat custom across many sectors. We take great pride in customer service, from our expert, technical know-how, to quick lead delivery times."

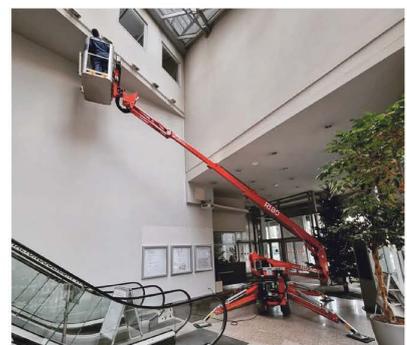
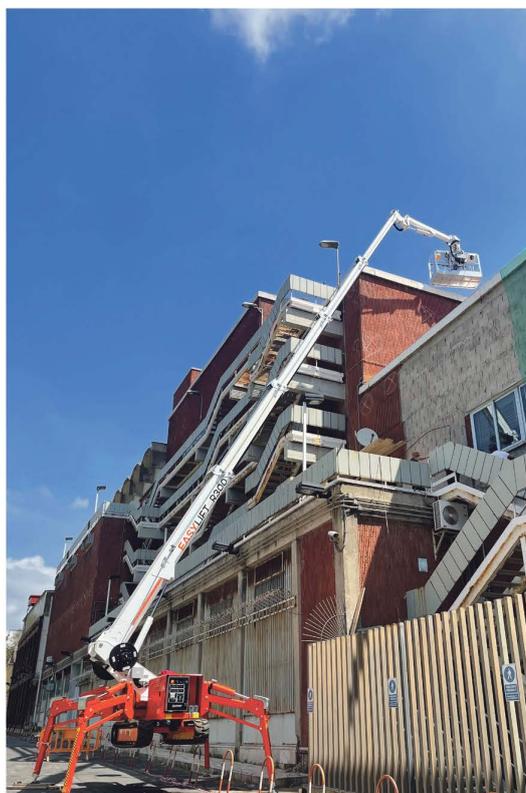
"In the near future, we are hoping to begin talks with a dealership of little truck booms. These are ideal for a variety of one-day applications from street work, signage, windfarms to pest control. Look out for our Spring demo road tour round the UK! We look forward to meeting new and existing customers then."

The company currently has an extensive range of used machinery for interested customers, including: JLG660SJ Articulated Boom, Aerial AL22 Truck Mounted, Multitel MJ201 Truck Mounted and Easylift R180 Spider Platform, please see this link for details: <https://iasales.co.uk/used-machines>

For more information, or to view the product range, please see the website below or ring Richard Martin directly: M 07483 246878 enquiries@iasales.co.uk service@iasales.co.uk www.iasales.co.uk

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Bluerun Ltd once again achieves excellence in the workplace

In this issue of Building Update, we are proud to announce that we have selected Bluerun Ltd as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence award.

Upon reopening its doors in May 2020 after the COVID-19 pandemic, Bluerun Ltd has gone from strength to strength with its trusted brand now being known as one of the best in the joinery industry that has recently attracted big name brands turned clients, Starbucks and Waitrose.

2022 was a great year for the company in terms of revenue and new business. It has managed to maintain a strong conversion rate despite the current economic crisis and has found that enquiries for larger jobs as opposed to 'single window' types of jobs has been more popular especially from domestic clients which mimics that of its regular commercial clients.

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

Of course, the company has the capabilities to manufacture most things from timber, hardwood, softwood, panels and sheet material. Some common items Bluerun Ltd manufacture for the domestic building market include windows, doors (exterior and interior), bi-folding doors, staircases, bespoke storage units and wardrobes, all of which come with the option of being sprayed in primer or to a finish.



Dee Newman, Finance Director at Bluerun Ltd presented the Commitment to Excellence Award

If you're looking for items made from both hard and softwood or even veneered and painted panels, Bluerun can reproduce an array of items including replacement sashes, where it can manufacture a brand new one on a like for like basis, so the mouldings will match. "Similarly, if a domestic client has found an image of a door, for example, that they would like us to reproduce, we can usually do that. Recently we

have started using a glass supplier that can supply us with stained glass effect units, complete with leading that has been aged and soldered, which looks absolutely breath-taking," added Dee.

Bluerun only produce purpose made joinery to client's drawings and specifications. Its unrivalled level of customer services means that free quotations are normally provided within 2-3 days or less, and the company can usually deliver a quick turnaround of any manufactured items required. And, because it has an experienced spray operative in charge of a modern spray paint and lacquer facility, articles can leave the factory in a fully finished state, ready for installation on-site.

What really sets Bluerun apart is that since its establishment it has never used computer aided machinery for any designs. Crafted to perfection, all items are finished by hand, drawings are prepared with pencil and paper, and everything that is manufactured by the team has been done so with the utmost attention to detail. It also has the ability to obtain colour matches of any paint colours for clients that would prefer something sprayed to a finish.

Apart from needing the item to fit out its workshop doors upon completion, there is no limit to any project that Bluerun will endeavour to take on. Inspired by a challenge, Bluerun will do its utmost to cater to all enquiries.

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Prompt
delivery



2025 – our aim is to
trade in Certified
timber only from
2025 onwards



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vandecasteele.be



A CLEAR CERTIFIED VISION

Vandecasteele Houtimport are one of the leading European timber importers and have ambitious aims to trade only in certified timber by 2025

The Belgian fifth-generation family company, founded in 1883, Vandecasteele Houtimport specialises 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.

Sustainability and reliability are an essential part of Vandecasteele Houtimport's DNA. With over 140 years of experience, the company is determined to achieve the goal of trading only certified timber by 2025. The challenge lies with the hardwood and especially the tropical hardwoods. Today they are at 80% certified and have a clear vision: only certified timber has a future.

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

Vandecasteele Houtimport has a unique business model. Importing timber from all over the world,



keeping in stock for several years, in some cases, even decades. Stock is our strength and our speciality. In times when supply is difficult or tight, we can count on our invested stocks to guarantee continued supply.

To achieve our goal, we have taken several actions within the company. First, we were assisted by external experts to get the procedures and protocols in place. Secondly, the team at Vandecasteele was reinforced with two forest engineers in Brazil. That way we can keep a finger on the pulse of every shipment, and we are able to accurately apply the ever-changing legislation in Brazil with great precision. This sends an important signal to our suppliers. They know that doing business with Vandecasteele Houtimport means complying with a procedure that is continuously refined and adapted. All timber transport requires our approval. When in doubt the timber is not accepted.

Masters in diversification

Vandecasteele has a long-term commitment to preserving the forests. The family business imports

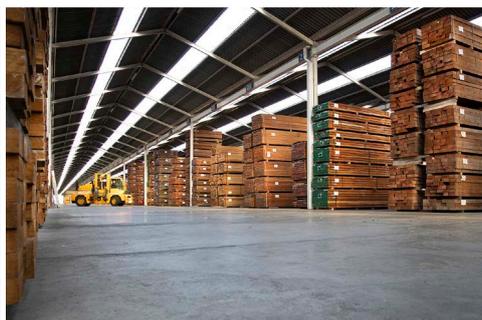
more than 130 different species of timber coming from 40 countries and has over 120,000 cubic meters in stock, mainly certified hard and softwoods. We support the LKTS program of FSC® Denmark with which we want to help promote the use of lesser known species. We keep these lesser-known species in stock and offer them as alternatives. Timber is too often prescribed from a specific well-known species. 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 timber species.

Rethink everything: a positive evolution in consumer purchasing behaviour

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 timber. There is a continuous evolution, because of new insights and new legislation.

Our company continues to make efforts to embed sustainability into the business. We validate our organization's sustainability efforts with the Voka Charter for Sustainable Entrepreneurship (VCDO).

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Elevate your business to the next level

In this issue of Building Update, we have selected Elevate Software as our Company of Choice.

Construction project management can often be arduous, requiring smooth communication flows between chief architects, main contractors, chartered surveyors and sub-contractors. With stringent health & safety and contractual laws, alongside urban planning laws and biodiversity considerations, it is essential that project management runs smoothly to avoid undue delays in constructions.

Steve McGowan is the manager of Elevate Software, with extensive prior experience working in construction, from apprentice joiner, to sub-contractor, contractor manager and consultant, under his belt. During his working experience, he noticed that the information flow was key to successful project completion and conversely, the

opposite caused frustrating delays.

"Elevate software can provide real-time updates, directing everyone on actions and this results in the team, prioritising their time and becoming more productive."

"Elevate Assist is a standalone software solution connecting everyone under one digital hub and is exceptionally user-friendly."

"Busy professionals are asked for requests for information (RFI's) daily on multiple projects and with higher management now often working remotely, they need updates quickly in real time, at the touch of a button. Elevate Software does all that and much more," explains Steve.

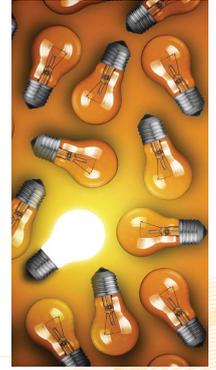
This smart software design was first market tested in 2007 and was shortlisted for Best Newcomer to Show at The Interbuild Trade show at the NEC to impressed industry professionals.

For more information, contact Steve McGowan on the details below:
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