

ISSUE 674 • May 2024

# INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS UK

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## DEEP HOLE DRILLING EXPERTS

UNISIG supplies a large variety of customers from aerospace and automotive to energy, firearms, hydraulic cylinders, military, medical sectors, smaller bespoke companies and large original equipment manufacturers (OEM)

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**UNISIG**  
DEEP HOLE DRILLING SYSTEMS

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## Editors Comments

### Hello & Welcome to Issue 674 of Industrial Solutions UK!

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

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

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

Secondly, we are featuring Assentech with the 'Biogas & Ventilation' profile following their impressive performance over the years. For more information, turn to page 14.

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

**Ian Hayward, Editor**  
INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS UK

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## BUILDING UPDATE



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# Ocean Power

Transform into the cost-efficient and sustainable future



Energy Storage Systems



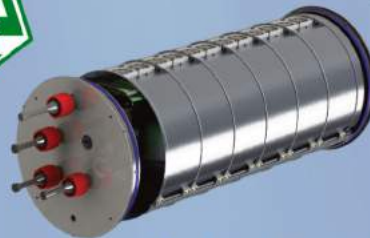
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Batteries

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# Cutting-edge technologies for the marine environment and sustainable measuring strategies for the ocean



**A**ward-winning SubCtech (Subsea Technologies for the Marine Environment) is a leading manufacturer of underwater technologies, subsea solutions and ocean monitoring systems.

Working collaboratively with distinguished customers across science, offshore gas and oil and industry, the company produces premium Li-Ion batteries as leading primary products: namely pCO<sub>2</sub> analysers and system solutions as leading primary products.

Established in 2010 by Applied Physicist: Stefan Marx (CEO), the maritime powerhouse is based in Kiel, Northern Germany. With a diverse team of expert mechanical and electrical engineers and software specialists, this medium-sized company is committed to next-generational R&D, bespoke project consultation, rigorous testing of prototypes and first-class manufacturing.

Under the expert guidance of Stefan Marx, the company is divided into two specialised sections:

- Ocean Power Products
- Ocean Monitoring Equipment

The Ocean Power Products are supplied primarily to customers in offshore oil & gas companies, monitoring stations/moorings, subsea applications and autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV), remotely operated vehicle (ROV) manufacturers. The Li-Ion battery systems (PowerPacks) range from standard, subsea, vehicle, customised batteries, chargers to battery-management systems (BMS.) The advanced-precision titanium housing is fully customised and can be used for depths up to 6,000m.

The subsea batteries, for example allow high-performance for a design life of 25 years, with the electronic and Li-Ion cells meeting meticulous, optimised safety standards. The rechargeable Li-Ion batteries provide robust subsea Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) and are perfect for marine and offshore technology applications, offering next-level capacity.

The PowerPacks™ automatically protect itself e.g. at low voltage, to prevent damage, leaving operators assured of safety at all times, with the capacity to disconnect in the event of overcurrent or external short circuit. The advantage of Li-Ion batteries over Alkali



primary batteries, is the high current operationality features, ability to function at subzero temperatures and during high currents/peaks. Furthermore, the corrosion-free titanium housing can be used up to depths of 6,000m. The batteries are used for industrial applications and are tested in accordance to API17F, MIL-STD, DIN-EN and DNV – according to the application.

The Ocean Monitoring Equipment are supplied to scientific institutes, scientists on vessels and sailors. The monitoring equipment covers surface, subsea greenhouse gas monitoring and micro-plastic samplers. The Autonomous Underway Measurement System (AUMS) is designed for pCO<sub>2</sub> monitoring on ships ('Ships of Opportunity') and can be further expanded by various sensors: Meteo Top-Box for Sea-Air Exchange flux measurements and any 3rd party instrument.

The latest Microplastic Sampler for example, offers autonomous monitoring on any type of sea vessel and can detect even the smallest presence of microplastics in the water, down to particles per m<sup>3</sup>. The next-level robust, waterproof design provides accurate sampling, even on high-speed boats travelling at 30kn.

With a growing, international presence in the maritime industry, we spoke to founder and CEO: Stefan Marx to find out more about this burgeoning company, "We are in a good position in our industry, enjoying rapidly increasing production capacity, due to explosive market demand especially across our Ocean Power Product line. We regularly supply to customers across the globe: Europe (including UK/Ireland and Scandinavia), Asia, Australia and the US, in fact any country that has a demand for underwater technologies. With our UN T38.3 certified batteries, we can transport our Li-Ion batteries safely by airline cargo to anywhere in the world."

"Our batteries undergo rigorous heat, shock and vibration testing, to reach the UN T38.3, MIL-STD, DNV or API17F standards of compliance and other on request."

"We have established a professional sales partner network around the world to have local partners in every region of the world, providing a streamlined service."

"Due to this exponential growth, we have nearly doubled our members of staff to 76 and are looking in the future to triple our company facility from 1,200sqm to 4,000sqm."

"We are highly conscientious about our environmental impact as a company and use LED lighting across all our facilities, encourage staff to use public transport and recycle all components including the batteries, contributing to the circular economy."

"Our cutting-edge Microplastic Sampler is helping tackle the devastating impact of microplastic pollutants in the ocean, with marine animals and later people sadly digesting them. Microplastics have now been detected in plankton, whales, commercial seafood and even in drinking water. The sampler is allowing world-renowned scientists to monitor the situation effectively across the world's oceans."

"Our latest innovation is already making waves across the industry: the Subsea 1MWh Energy Storage System (ESS). It has been a labour of love over the past two years and is now in the final testing stage: System Integration Test (SIT) before delivery to our customers in the maritime industry with the Technology Readiness Level 5 (TRL 5). The ESS is the first of its kind anywhere in the world and we are delighted by its design functionality and manufacturing high standards."

"We have been keeping a construction diary on our website, sharing all the milestones towards the final testing stage. Our hardworking team has completed all active manufacturing measures on the ESS and it is heading towards its final Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) imminently. The Power Skid (PS) with adjoining power distribution unit has been completed in tandem and is simultaneously undergoing an extensive, long-term environmental full-load test in our customised 18,000L capacity water tank, for the duration of three weeks. As we approach the final stage: the final, fully approved system with a total of 2MWh will be carefully delivered to our first customer. The final aspect will be to use offshore Support Vessels to prepare the seabed, to fully integrate the system, making it ready for its first operations."

"We are really excited about the release of our latest innovation: The Subsea 1MWh Energy Storage System (ESS) and looking to the future, we will become the market leader in our industry: across subsea and ocean power solutions and ocean monitoring systems globally."

"We are seeking strategic partners going forward and are always looking to network further across the entire international oceanology sector."

**For the latest, exclusive information on The Subsea 1MWh Energy Storage System (ESS) and more about SubCtech, please see the website below:**  
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# MAINTENANCE IN BALANCE, THE *ONLY SOFTWARE YOU'LL EVER NEED!*

MiB is a product/service that builds in diagnostic support for multiple assets via Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence.

MiB incorporates the diagnostic knowledge of expert diagnosticians in the conventions of mature condition monitoring techniques and aligns this with AI functionality to identify true outliers and then offer meaningful diagnostic advice.

As more assets are managed remotely and fewer onboard personnel are sufficiently experienced to deal with all scenarios, it is becoming clear that a marriage of technology and experience is needed to balance the equation.

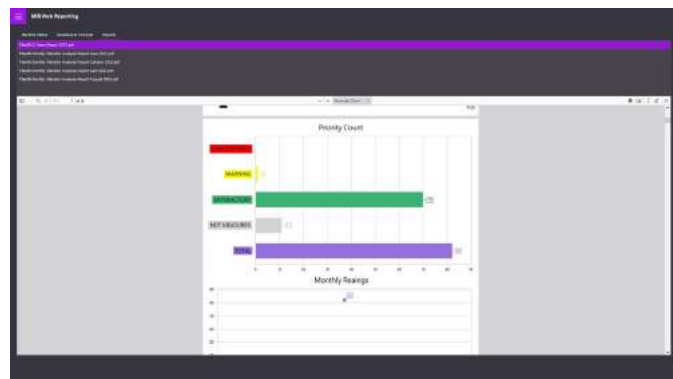
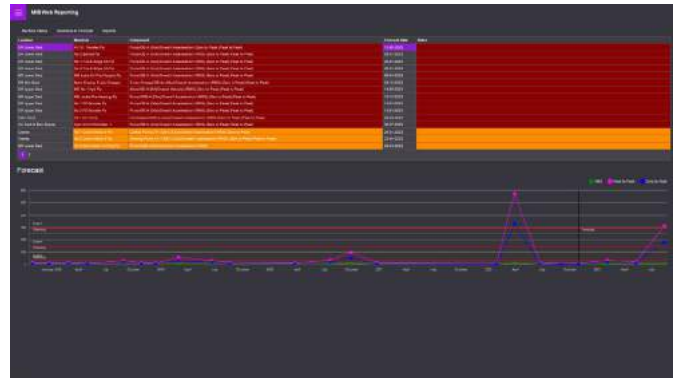
## Objectives

Using our asset condition assessment software MIB, we will create an integrated software platform for undertaking prescriptive maintenance on your ship's machinery, structures, and auxiliary systems. This will be achieved by using data from existing condition monitoring, diagnostic sensors and systems, the implementation of advanced predictive analytics and the integration of a maintenance actions/prescription database.

Based upon advanced, artificial intelligence (AI) and deep learning algorithms MIB will prescribe, the most appropriate maintenance strategy in real-time for every asset under its control, based on the subtle but pre-alarm indications of emerging faults that will occur at a future time.

## Specific objectives of MIB are to:

- Establish the monitoring and maintenance needs of each vessel
- Specify the software platform parameters based on each vessel's requirements
- Deploy our intelligent monitoring software module
- Integrate the module into the MIB platform and provide routine updates to the crew



[View the MIB interview on YouTube](#)

Please visit: [maintenance-in-balance.com](http://maintenance-in-balance.com)

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# CMServices Global Ltd: At the heart of Industry 5.0

For many industries, whilst Industry 4.0 is still dominating with advancements in automation, smart systems, robotics, big data analytics, AI, machine learning and of course, the Internet of Things (IoT), the focus for others is already on Industry 5.0. Defined by the European Union as 'placing the wellbeing of the worker at the centre of the production process and using new technologies to provide prosperity beyond jobs and growth while respecting the production limits of the planet.' In short, we are shifting from economic values to societal ones and embracing sustainability.

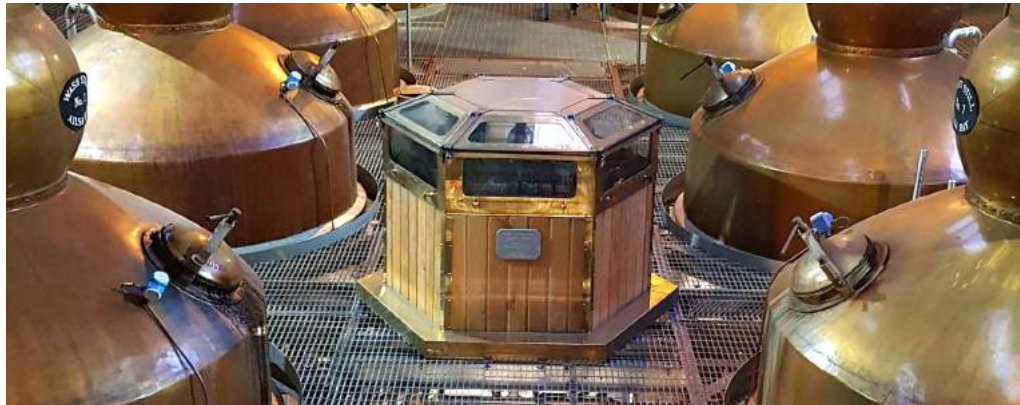
Condition monitoring is an important aspect of both Industry 4.0 and 5.0 through the real-time tracking of machine functionality but with the added bonus of predictive maintenance and remote diagnostics across a whole system.

AI now brings automated processing with faultless accuracy, through seamless analysis of huge chunks of data in real-time and identifying patterns proactively, before a problem arises, such as pump cavitation. This importantly allows on-site engineers to schedule checks and repairs before a more costly machine failure or malfunction occurs, later down the line, contributing to the five Rs of the circular economy: reduce, reuse, repair, refurbish and recycle.

CMServices Global Ltd is a market-leading consultancy, offering AI condition monitoring to diverse sectors from marine and offshore, automotive, manufacturing, food and beverage, postal sorting through to chemical, oil and gas. For decades, the annual scheduling of manual maintenance has been standard practice but with the advent of AI monitoring, irregularities can be identified through early warning prevention: smart analysis of sensor data and the comparison to standard historical data.

"Our robust software has been expertly designed to spot and analyse faults, using strategic comparison to known fault signatures. The root of the problem can be immediately sourced, saving downtime and costly repairs. This early detection system is a lifeline for companies in a cost-of-living, with this asset optimisation focusing instead on energy usage or machine productivity," explains Director, Simon Edmondson.

The Maintenance in Balance (MiB) software service from CMServices Global Ltd brings Machine Learning and AI together to provide diagnostic support for assets, through condition monitoring techniques that identify irregularities and provide further diagnostic guidance.



The MiB asset condition assessment software provides a cutting-edge, integrated platform for foresighted ship machinery maintenance and furthermore, drastically reduces inspection and maintenance costs, up to £500 thousand per ship annually. Predictive fault monitoring can decrease ship downtime from 7 to 1.5 days. With existing shipping delays due to geopolitical conditions in the Red Sea and Panama Canal, this is welcome news for the shipping industry.

That's not all: MiB helps shipping vessels meet compliant seaworthy regulations, giving quality assurance across the board. The real genius of MiB is it supplies an extra layer of real-time prescriptive maintenance outputs, based on accurate condition and systems performance data and provides next-level operational performance across safety, regulatory, environmental and business areas.

With rising costs, the annual lifecycle costs of operating one ship amounts to a staggering £60 million and a third of the annual budget is spent on repair and maintenance, to keep ships buoyant and operational. Research has found that as much as 60% of all maintenance is in fact wholly unnecessary and can even cause more issues going forward.

"In fact, a total 80% of unplanned maintenance is not age-related and circumvents inspection and service. This had led the door wide open for next-level AI-driven, continuous, accurate and automated condition monitoring and maintenance platform to be designed and implemented."

"MiB provides a bespoke integrated software platform for prescriptive maintenance monitoring on machinery

and all systems, which results in a real-time 'helicopter view' of the set-up, from each vessel."

It's no wonder then that MiB is in demand and when we spoke to Simon, he said CMServices Global Ltd was committed to 'eight separate current pilot projects' across cruise liners, container ships and oil and gas industries, alongside a tender process in power generation for three in Europe and two in the UK.

"We work on a truly global scale, across Europe, USA, Asia and Australia, supporting many on and offshore companies."

"CMServices Engineers are maritime professionals, with expertise in vibration/IR technology but we are looking to extend our services further to the other sectors like manufacturing and the renewable energy sector, namely wind turbines."

"MiB software can analyse wind-turbines in real-time, due to the fluctuating nature of gearboxes, generators, bearings, through to the speed of the rotating blades. Our state-of-the-art AI-system will demonstrate condition monitoring and predictive maintenance, allowing wind farms across the UK to save money and time on repairs. Our software is perfect for Industry 5.0 and would welcome any enquiries for repeat business going forward," concluded Simon.

For more information on MiB and other services, across any sector, please see the website below:  
T +44 (0)7422 079140  
<https://cmservicesglobal.com>

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# CML readies itself for a surge of new market opportunities

CML Innovative Technologies (CML) is the leading manufacturer of LED signal lamps for all industrial applications and has been working with light since 1931. As a market leader in its field, CML was one of the first companies to introduce LED lamps and now has one of the broadest ranges of miniature lighting products in the world. "In 2004, the company became CML and continued to grow, establishing its international pedigree with two factories in Guangzhou, China, and Sibiu, Romania. While CML remains in Bury St Edmunds, the group was acquired by Spain's Grupo Antolin, which employs 28,000 people globally," stated Roger Neal, Commercial Manager.



From lamps for signalisation, panel mount indicators, LEDs, LED displays, medical lamps, and aviation lamps, CML provide light to an abundance of markets and pride itself on the ability to be as flexible and adaptable as possible in the manufacture of their own branded products to meet customer specifications and demand.

"CML in the UK focuses on specialist applications mainly manufacturing lighting solutions for automotive, aviation and general industries. We manufacture a standard range of products and customer-specific solutions from customer concept to production, including in-house design. Our portfolio runs to thousands of miniature lighting options in size, function, colour, finishes and voltages," said Roger.

CML is continually developing its own product range and has recently witnessed positive movements from customers seeking more product value. Some competitors fall short as they only provide a face value market product however, CML offers further manufacturing capabilities such as the add-on of cables and connectors to a product, which carries weighted value. The ability to meet customer specific requirements has attracted much attention in the industry as the manufacturing processes available from CML dramatically reduce production time through its made to order service.

"Nothing is impossible for us, we produce to customer demand working with customers. We have done work for individual airlines and collaborated



with their design division to manufacture LED replacements for incandescent lamps. There is a cockpit lamp, which we have produced for years, and there can be up to 1,200 different pieces per aircraft of that particular type. Our possibilities are endless," remarked Roger.

You will find CML products all over the world, from medical applications to gaming industries, by having full control of the entire value chain enables CML to be flexible with our clients' requirements. Since COVID-19, 50% of the business has come from industrial sectors. "Automotive sales have improved in the last year and the industrial side has witnessed significant growth. The pandemic has only made us stronger as a company, and as a result, our flexibility has generated an upturn in demand and helped create new business opportunities," said Roger.

For more information, please see below:  
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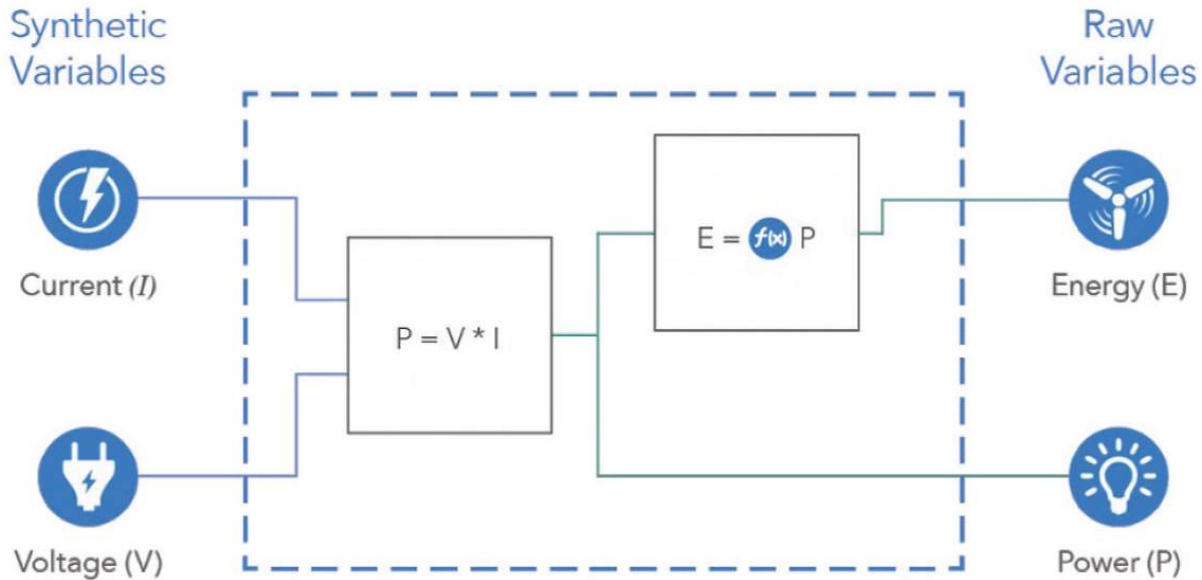
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# ECO PHYSICS AG develops new three-channel chemiluminescence analyser (NO/NO<sub>2</sub>/NH<sub>3</sub>)

ECO PHYSICS AG offers innovative analytical solutions for measurement tasks in the fields of environment, health and process control. Using its vital expertise and technology to contribute towards environmental preservation, human health, and industrial innovation, ECO PHYSICS' interdisciplinary research and development team work tirelessly to deliver the best customer orientated and tailor-made products and services for the industry.

Founded in 1990 through a management buy-out, ECO PHYSICS stands strong today as an independent Swiss shareholder's company with an active board of members who are committed to the future growth and success of the company. We spoke to Dr. Grischa Peter Feuersänger, Head of Sales & Marketing who explained how the past 12 months have fared.

"We have received a positive recovery post pandemic. Many public projects were reopened which generated a lot of opportunities for new references. The war in East Europe is a new tough challenge to overcome, especially for companies that rely almost completely on importing parts and exporting their finished products. But the main challenge for all of us has particularly been the manufacturing costs, shipping routes and exchange rates. Since 2022, we have used this time to expand our product portfolio and modernise our production line. New staff has been hired for production and R&D, and we have



rearranged the supply chain due to the rise in production costs. We have adapted our yearly forecast to cater to this, we know it will be hard, but optimisation is our current goal."

Knowing there is no quick fix to economic changes, ECO PHYSICS is determined to continue innovating and has developed a new three-channel analyser based on chemiluminescence. As an upgrade from the The nCLD AL2, the nCLDAL3/8555 CY analyser is the next generation in high precision nitrogen oxide measurement. Unique in speed and reliability, the nCLDAL3/8555 CY is modular designed and capable of simultaneously NO, NO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub> and NOX-Amines. The new and intuitive graphical user interface also individually displays and connects to other instruments' data.

Overall stability and reliability are lifted to a new level. The optional electro-mechanical bypass system balances out even the fastest

of pressure variations occurring in the sample flow. Furthermore, the analyser is adaptable to numerous non-standardised applications and the calibration of the unit runs quickly and automatically with all necessary data available anywhere at any time. Its user friendly, compact, modular, and intelligent hosting its own CPU whilst enabling interaction with other CPUs by BUS-communication.

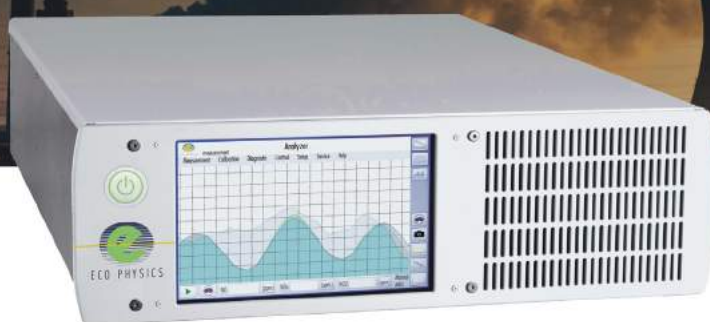
Additionally, ECO PHYSICS has also been developing upgrade kits for all its existing products to help counteract some of the problematic complications the supply chain has caused. "We have used this chance for some substantial upgrades in hardware, software and gas flow controls," added Dr. Grischa Peter Feuersänger.

Going forward, ECO PHYSICS is excited to continue working on optimising production workflow whilst simultaneously expanding its current portfolio and developing new technologies.

In closing, we asked Dr. Grischa Peter Feuersänger how the company felt receiving our award. He responded, "We are extremely honoured to be nominated, thank you."

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## ECO PHYSICS nCLD "Facelift" boxed solutions AL, AL<sup>2</sup>, EL S, EL, EL<sup>2</sup>



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 NO • NO<sub>2</sub> • NO<sub>x</sub>

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The one- and two-channel chemiluminescence based NO<sub>x</sub> analyzers of the nCLD "Facelift" box-solution analyzers detect NO, NO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> at concentrations ranging from 5ppm to 5,000ppm with minimal detection limits averaging from 0.4ppb to 0.5ppm. They hereby focus on two main application areas, Ambient Air (AL, <50ppm) and Emission/Process (EL, <500ppm; EL S <5,000ppm) monitoring. The one-channel nCLD AL, EL and EL S feature an external pump, while the two-channel nCLD AL<sup>2</sup> and EL<sup>2</sup> include an internal pump. The nCLD "Facelift" boxed solutions consist of five, fixed and pre-configured analyzers. The nCLD AL (Ambient Level) and EL S/EL include a standard NO/NO<sub>x</sub> measurement, with an optional NO<sub>2</sub> add-on, while AL<sup>2</sup> and EL<sup>2</sup> include, due to the two-channel set-up, a standard NO<sub>2</sub> detection. The slightly modified front panel has been equipped with an additional Power-button and a new internal PC. Additionally, are all nCLD-models capable of a remote power down/up including a failsafe feature.



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## 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 in 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.

**For more information, please contact  
ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd at:  
T 01403 290000  
Middle East Office +962 6515 9021  
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.

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- PP – Poly Propylene
- HDPE – High-density polyethylene
- GRP – Glass Reinforced Plastic

**For more information, call 01403 291 000,  
email [info@ergpf.co.uk](mailto:info@ergpf.co.uk) or visit [www.ergpf.co.uk](http://www.ergpf.co.uk)**





## Air pollution control specialist

Anua Clean Air UK Ltd are a specialist Air Pollution Control company with expertise in the field of biological treatment of air and Biogas. Anua are established leaders in the fields of high performance, low-cost emission abatement primarily based on our Patented Biofiltration and Bio scrubbing technologies.

Our Monashell™ and CrumRubber™ use recovered materials as the critical filtration component. The unique properties of these materials enhance capture and treatment which in turn provides multiple environmental benefits in terms of Circular Economy, Carbon Footprint (low water and energy requirement and no consumables) and removal of harmful atmospheric pollutants.


During the past number of years along with its parent Company Anua Clean Air International limited and Italian Sister company Air Clean SRL we have been very active in the UK, Ireland and in overseas markets including Italy, France, the Middle East, China and the US. International Reference projects include Dual Pass Monashell Installations in Riyadh, Jeddah, Laguna Lake in the Philippine's, Coimbatore in India, and Sindos in Greece. For our



new CrumRubber technology we have supplied new installations in the Canary Islands, China, Oman and UK and Ireland. We are also currently working with Air Clean USA on the delivery of a number of new installations for the US market.

Anua Clean Air International also specialise in Equipment Health Checks and process optimisation and media replacement services. Over the past number of years we have continued to perform System Health Checks and media replacement services on the many hundreds of Worldwide Monashell Installations.

[www.anuacleanair.co.uk](http://www.anuacleanair.co.uk)





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Leader in Odour Control and Biogas Cleaning Units

### Leader in Odour Control and Biogas Cleaning Units

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# Environmental Engineering Excellence



In this issue of Industrial Solutions, we are honoured to feature Clean Air Environmental Ltd for its Commitment to Excellence in providing Industrial Ventilation Systems.

Industrial ventilation systems are crucial for ensuring the health and well-being of occupants in various indoor environments. For over 60 years, the team at Clean Air Environmental has been involved in various concept design, contract management and installation projects to bring you the highest quality systems worldwide.

As an independent company, the benefits of Clean Air Environmental are vast and because it is not tied to just one manufacturer, they can design the best ventilation systems that will meet your exact needs, rather than specifying from one catalogue.

Invest in top-of-the-line ventilation systems that integrate seamlessly into your facility and provide healthy clean air for your workers and operatives. Clean Air Environmental has invested in the best equipment from all over Europe and the UK to ensure successful solutions are achieved every time.

Clean Air Environmental can take care of all your needs and provide a complete service that includes the design, supply, installation and commission of industrial ventilation systems. "We strive to provide an excellent service by responding to our customers' needs quickly and efficiently. We have worked really hard over the last 12 months to deliver such great

service to our customers and this has reaped many rewards, two of which being that the company doubled in turnover between 2023-2024 and that the end of year results showed an 80% growth over the last 12 months. We are a small company but we offer a brilliant service. We will continue to offer great service to our customers as we look to grow organically by investing in new talent to add our team," stated Mark Ashby, Managing Director of Clean Air Environmental.

Intelligent design evokes effective results and this is why Clean Air Environmental offers a detailed on-site consultation service that provides them with the required information and understanding to consider, assess, and develop a system designed to your exact needs.

There is no need to worry about finding the right products as Clean Air Environmental have access to some of the best manufacturers in Europe and can supply all the required plant and system components ready for on-site installation.

From a single point right through to a complete factory solution, Clean Air Environmental can also provide both mechanical and electrical installation. Its skilled engineers have the ability to work to the highest of standards, boasting an outstanding on-site health & safety record that is a result of the positive culture that the company has established over the years.

This family run company is extremely committed to quality. Founded by Mark Ashby and Bob Ashby, as Father and Son they have successfully created solutions that work every time. These systems are engineered to integrate seamlessly into any facility and are predominantly designed for use in industrial manufacturing such as automotive, aerospace, and food manufacturing as well as in universities, colleges and schools.

The company's meticulous attention to detail means only the best products, equipment's, installation techniques and methods are used.

An example of one recent project that Clean Air Environmental worked on was for a major Aerospace company to which it was asked to design and install some extraction systems for their new super-sized industrial units. For the project, EV header duct systems and fans were supplied and installed; based on two fans



per duty, one in use and one on standby. LEV spines were used from central header ducts to LEV positions. The 5 off centralised systems were installed to extract and remove the various contaminants present within the facility from the specified LEV locations as identified within each system machine log. These systems were chosen because they were designed to cope with a variety of corrosive, flammable, explosive and wet substances.

The set up of the systems were such that the above contaminants were mitigated through mass dilution and the ductwork velocities meant that all substances were suspended in the air stream. This meant that there was no chance that it would drop and settle permanently within the ductwork, thus allowing for safe exhaust outside the building.

Clean Air Environmental has also worked on many other successful projects, two examples being asked to supply and install a new laminar flow ventilation system in a fermentation building for a brewery, and designing and detailing a fully automated system for a specialist tool manufacturer.

**If you're interested in working with Clean Air Environmental, please get in touch below:**  
**T 07715 432051**  
**info@cleanairenvironmental.co.uk**  
**<https://cleanairenvironmental.co.uk>**



# Revolutionising Biogas Facilities: Enhancing Safety and Minimising Emissions with Cutting-Edge Vent-less Test Equipment



Founded by Ewart Cox in 2009, Assentech is a premier provider of equipment, services, and technical expertise in the realms of Tank Storage, Process Safety and Fluid Transfer.

One of Assentech's best-selling product ranges is the Vent-Less test bench range that has received much recognition winning gold position at the Global Tank Storage Awards in Rotterdam. We spoke to Debbie Pearce, Director at Assentech Sales Limited about how the Vent-Less test bench contributes towards the health & safety of a client's facility.

"The Vent-Less test bench employs AI-driven software aligned with API2000 Section 5.4, assessing breather valves against set criteria for pass or fail. It ensures correct settings, intended performance, and leak rate within recommended limits. The irrefutable certification that is generated following each test, will provide evidential proof to defend against litigation claims, criminal prosecution and environmental enforcement notices."

This requirement was written into the standards back in the 1960's long before protecting the environment came into the public awareness. These valves are easily assembled incorrectly with vacuum and pressure settings reversed causing structural damage to the tank leading to loss of containment which is a highly dangerous situation for people, the business and the environment. Breather valves are also often knocked in transit or packaging left in. To combat this, Vent-Less conducts a short test taking as little as 3 minutes prior to installation where both pressure and vacuum ports are tested and the results are detailed on an individual Test Report that is generated instantly.

Debbie continued, "Operators frequently unknowingly purchase breather valves untested by manufacturers, risking installation on valuable, hazardous and toxic storage tanks. Breather valves are vital safety critical devices safeguarding tanks, their contents, and surrounding communities, underscoring the importance of thorough testing and reliability. Understanding the API2000 test benchmark, the required test equipment, the operator competence and the certification detail will demonstrate your due diligence."

As experts on Breather Valves, Assentech's solutions are devised by Ewart Cox who sits on two international standards committees and who is currently writing an environmental annex that provides technical support to the Environment Agency, championing the innovation of Vent-Less.



Assentech has become known as the expert in all things tank venting. Leak tightness is essential and they train technicians on how to get the best performance out of these devices. Cox explains that even a human hair sitting across the seat on a valve will cause a leak sufficient to fail the test. Furthermore, Assentech has also been called on by the EA to support a Biogas site that had an enforcement following local complaints of excessive odours. Assentech replaced the breather valve with a quality unit and conducted the test that evidenced reduced emissions equivalent to a cloud the size of 198 double decker buses filled with methane to just 0.2. The new breather valve now ensures safe operations and protects the tank.

With the Industrial Emissions Directive now in force Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) planning is now a legal obligation in order to gain permission to operate. Initially rolled out in the waste to energy sectors recent news confirmed that this requirement has now been extended to the oil and gas industries.

The Vent-Less test bench produces irrefutable results in the shortest possible time by automatically selecting the most appropriate algorithm. Between 3-4 minutes is usual for both pressure and vacuum ports. Outputs are not influenced by the test technician skill set or integrity.

With the heightened focus on global emissions and endeavours to reduce climate

See what methane emissions cost you?



change with many countries introducing mandatory reporting, the Vent-Less technology is the only method to quantify emissions from tank or digester breather valves to provide evidential data on emission reduction and duty of care.

Assentech's commitment to protecting people and the environment extends to supply of their newly launched overflow and ground verification monitor. Otherwise known as the Rack Monitor this device protects the facility in the event of tanker overflow when loading petrol, diesel or oil. A busy loading terminal can load up to 600 tankers per day, with drivers coming in with a wide range of languages. The new SIL2 rack monitor automatically stops loading in the event of liquid overflow or loss of electrical grounding.

They also supply break-away couplings to protect against drive off during loading, bursting discs and flame arresters.

In closing, we asked Debbie what the company has in place to ensure it continues to shine brightly throughout 2024 and beyond.

"We're dedicated to raising awareness about emissions from tank or digester breather valves. By empowering readers to conduct their own due diligence checks and develop written examination schemes, we aim to enhance facility safety and reduce emissions. Our goal is to educate and inform operators to follow best practice in breather valve sizing, selection, installation and testing. We want to leave this industry in a better place than it was when we began."

For more information, please see below:  
T 01726 844707  
info@assentech.co.uk  
www.assentech.co.uk



AdCo's HD 250 NV is a true standout among industrial-grade hot melt glue guns, and a go-to tool for contractors and tradesmen in many fields of work.

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The 225 watt PTC heating system allows for quick heat-up times to its preset temperature of 210°C, and the ability to dispense upto 1.5 kilos of glue per hour.

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# The UK's number one sealing solutions provider

**S**ervice 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 and HKD, Service Sealing Solutions Ltd specialises in high-quality service duct sealing systems for utility services and watertight seals.

Service Sealing Solutions Ltd has the exclusive rights to distribute DOYMA 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.

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.

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



**Husband and wife team, Jim & Tina have recently visited DOYMA in Germany to find out about the innovative products that DOYMA have been developing**

conduits cast into concrete without the sleeves. They are supplied and ready to use, requiring no site preparation work prior to installation. With options such as KE Socketless service conduits, KG Wall Ducts and Floor Ducts, together with KG Twin Sockets for installation in pump sumps, HKD products are ideal for situations where suitability for thin-walled concrete structures is vital.

**For more information, please see below:  
T 01952 510050  
[www.servicesealingsolutions.co.uk](http://www.servicesealingsolutions.co.uk)**

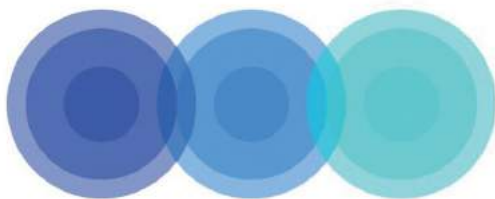




# Service Sealing Solutions Ltd - suppliers of DOYMA products



Service Sealing Solutions Ltd are the sole UK distributor of DOYMA products. 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 to the wall to permanently prevent any infiltration of gases and water into the building, and the duct sealing systems are guaranteed for 25 years. Service Sealing Solutions supply the full range of products to suit all situations for power cables, communication cables, pipes and ducts, and specialising in sealing district heating pipes.



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# BUILDING UPDATE

ISSUE: 674 May | [www.solutionspublishing.co.uk](http://www.solutionspublishing.co.uk)



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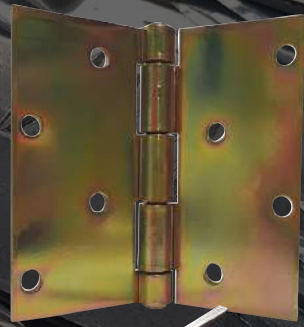
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Butt/Backflap Hinges

Lift-Off Hinges

Heavy Duty Hinges

Special Purpose Hinges



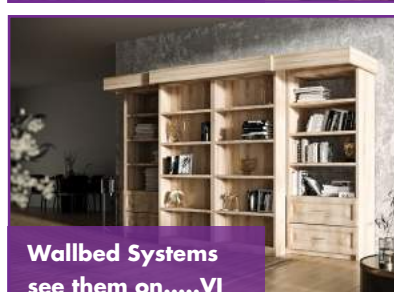
Gold & Wassall  
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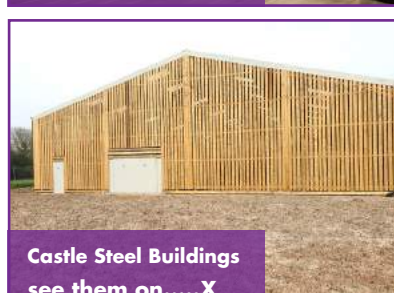
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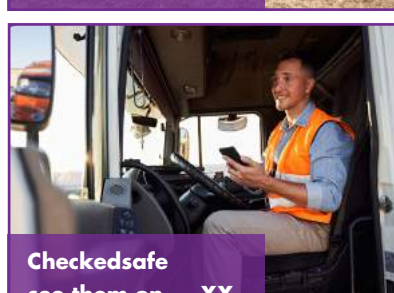
Bluerun Ltd  
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Wallbed Systems  
see them on.....VI



Castle Steel Buildings  
see them on.....X



Checkedsafe  
see them on.....XX

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# Exciting News: Gold & Wassall's new website is live!

Here at Building Update, we are thrilled to announce the launch of the brand-new Gold & Wassall Hinges website!

The new website has been a long-term project for the team at Gold & Wassall, who after months of hard work and dedication are overjoyed to see this project finally over the line.

Explore the updated design, user-friendly interface and exciting new features all designed to enhance the user experience.

As well as now making it possible to download CAD drawings and 3D models of each hinge from the website, Gold & Wassall has also introduced a new 'Hinge Finder' that allows the user to narrow down suitable hinges based on their required dimensions. Simply choose your hinge type, hinge length, open width, thickness, and pin diameter, and your results are shown instantly. This will help customers utilise the full range of hinges, and show hinges that they might not have found or considered previously.

You will find on the new website a clearer and cleaner way to scroll through their vast range of hinges from continuous/piano, butt & backflap, standard, lift-off, and special purpose to heavy duty and bespoke made to order hinges.

Furthermore, using the company's automatic section on the website that contains eight lines of automated machines, Gold & Wassall 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.

Please note: Gold & Wassall is the only hinge company whose hinges are UK made and all



of Gold & Wassall Hinges' stock is available for immediate dispatch.

Gold & Wassall has been manufacturing hinges for over 200 years using a mixture of tried and trusted methods along with modern technology. The launch of its new website comes timely as the company looks to continue its success into 2024 providing unrivalled levels of customer service.

Based in Tamworth, Staffordshire, Gold & Wassall manufactures all its own hinges out of

its in-house purpose-built factory where it also ensures that every product goes through a rigorous testing procedure and receives the upmost attention to detail before being sold. The company prides itself on its customer service and aims to treat every customer fairly and with respect.

The new website also keeps customers informed on the latest news, events and promotions with regular blog posts. The hard-work and expertise that has gone into the creation and deployment of new website will be instrumental in bringing Gold & Wassall's vision for the next few years to life.

**Explore the new website and discover all that Gold & Wassall has to offer below:**  
<https://www.goldwassalhinges.co.uk/homepage>







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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 Custom-Made Joinery Excellence Award for 2024.

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.

Since 2022, the company has continued to strengthen 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.

Based in Wimbish, near Saffron Walden in Essex, Bluerun manufactures quality, bespoke joinery items for the commercial market from door and window packers to shopfronts, reception desks, mainframes, pub doors, and years ago, even made a trebuchet for Stansted Mounfitchet 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.

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 that they would like reproduced, Bluerun can usually do that. Recently the company has started using a glass supplier that supplies them with stained glass effect units, complete with leading that has been aged and soldered.

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.

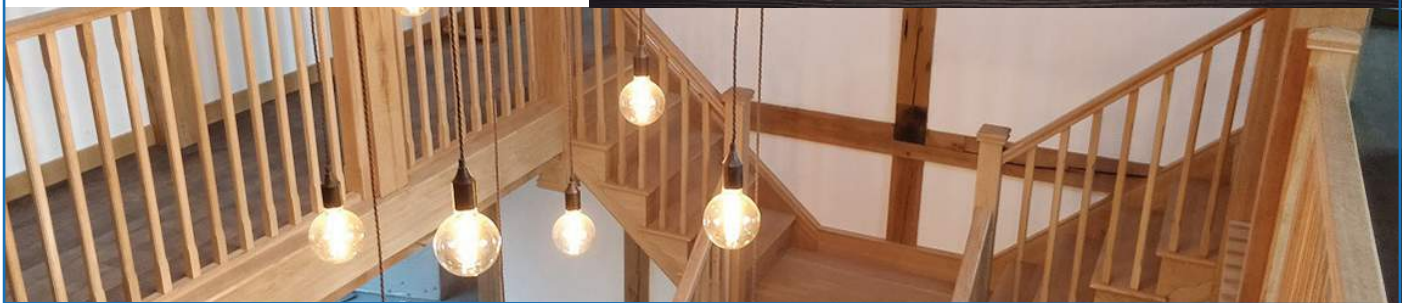
Apart from needing the item to fit out its workshop doors upon completion, there is no limit to any project that Bluerun will endeavour to take on. Inspired by a challenge, Bluerun will do its utmost to cater to all enquiries.

T 01799 599995  
dee@bluerunltd.co.uk  
www.bluerunltd.co.uk

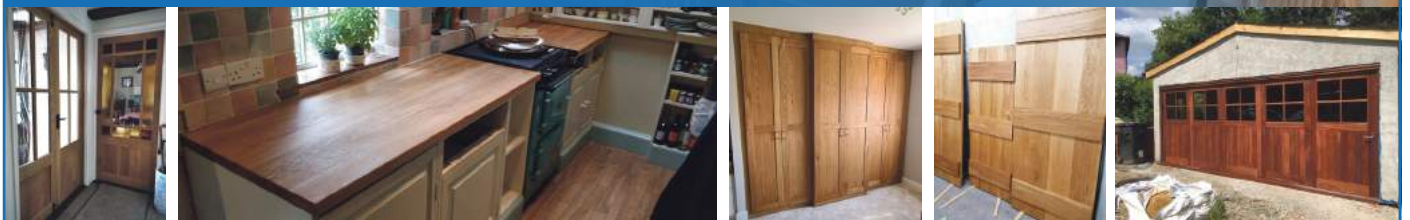


**Bluerun Limited**  
quality bespoke joinery since 1991

**QUALITY, CUSTOM  
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Bluerun Ltd have been manufacturing top quality, purpose made joinery for the domestic and commercial markets for over 30 years.



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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.

The Alpha Bed™ utilises rolled section steel for strengthening the wallbed front panel and includes cross braces to ensure maximum load compatibility whilst never compromising on the perfect balance nor comfort. Our Studio Desk, compatible with the Alpha Bed™, functions as either a desk or side table and integrates directly into the wallbed. Not only does it disappear when the bed is lowered but keeps desk items vertical and undisturbed while the bed is lowered, raised, and in use.



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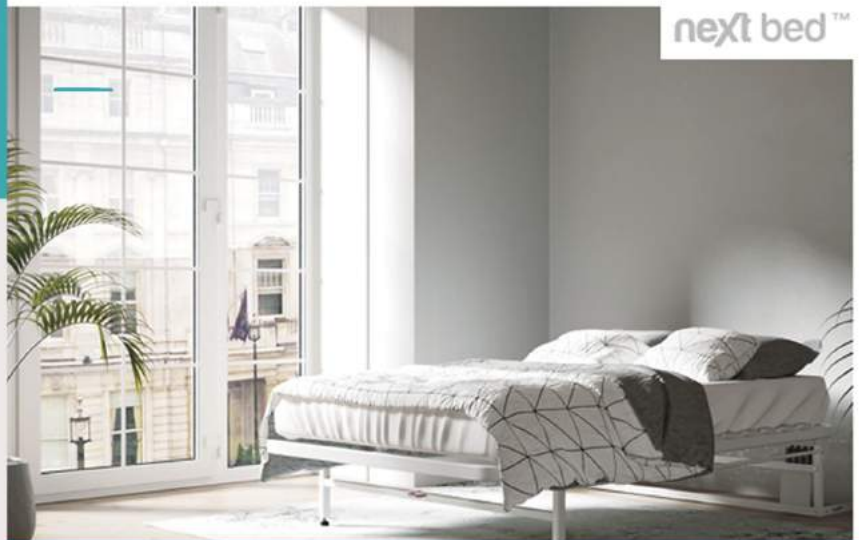
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# IAS for your perfect access platform



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."

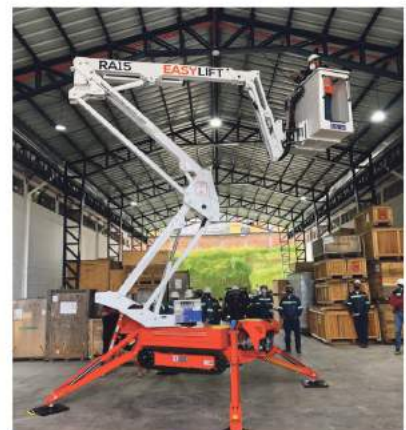
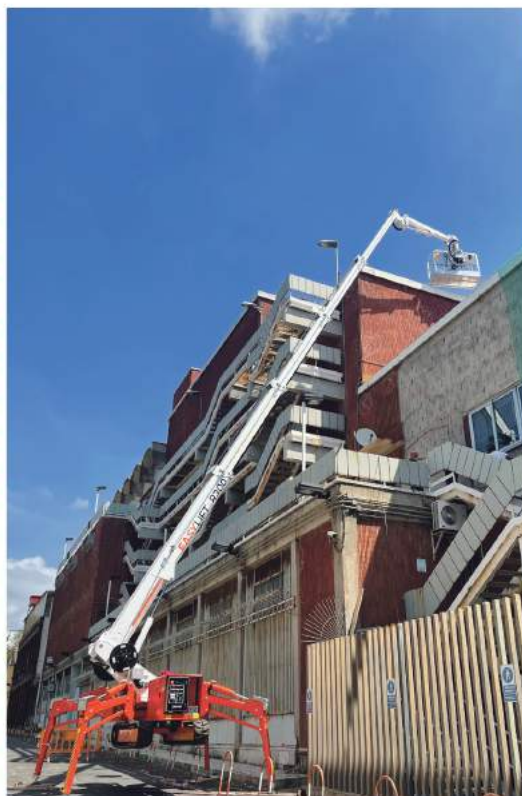
"In the near future, we are hoping to begin talks with a dealership of little truck booms. These are ideal for a variety of one-day applications from street work, signage, windfarms to pest control. Look out for our Spring demo road tour round the UK! We look forward to meeting new and existing customers 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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# CELEBRATING 10 YEARS PROVIDING HOISTS FOR CONSTRUCTION

**D**irect Hoist, an ever-expanding construction hoist hire and sales specialist, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. A relentless 10 years of evolution; a constant commitment to staff development, an unrivalled attitude towards impeccable safety standards and a green revolution within the industry sector.

The midlands-based firm is at the forefront of construction hoist technology, bringing innovative Italian Electroelsa machinery to the British market and establishing the foundations of an accredited training facility at its Lincolnshire headquarters to boost health and safety standards on construction sites.

Direct Hoist's company founder and managing director Rob Wilson (pictured), is keen to ensure customers can benefit from his firm's growth by gaining access to not just a wider range of products but a one-stop shop for planning, supply and tuition for the use of construction hoists.

For many years, Direct Hoist has specialised in high-quality German GEDA equipment and boasts a healthy fleet of modern, expertly-maintained machines always available for hire. But to keep ahead of competitors – and to ensure customers receive the best choice – Direct Hoist is also the UK distributor for Electroelsa, an Italian manufacturer of mast-climbing work platforms (MCWPs), transport platforms, material hoists and construction hoists.

Rob says, "Electroelsa is implementing a wide range of technological innovations, which we're excited to introduce to the British construction industry."

Electroelsa is a market-leader in safety, and benefit from high-tech computer control, including SIM technology with data-logging; it features a self-diagnostic function to remotely relate to Direct Hoist any problems, wherever it is in the world.



Direct Hoist invested in the expansion and redevelopment of its Lincolnshire site to include vastly greater storage areas, bigger offices and a bespoke teaching centre. Here, candidates will be trained to reach NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) Level 2 standard in hoist installation. A two-day session will be offered for experienced people, while a week-long course is available for a more comprehensive understanding of erecting and dismantling different types of construction hoists.

Direct Hoist's facility includes a 10m training tower, capable of transporting a two-tonne platform hoist to full height, and has partnered with a specialist training provider examined by an external assessor before they can receive a certificate to supply NVQ accreditation. So, at the end of each course, students receive a certificate, which will be recognised on most building sites.

Further expansion to the Direct Hoist Group includes the launch of its trailer hire, DH Trailer Hire, and plant hire department, DH Plant Hire – mini diggers, dumpers, excavators and such like – again to give clients better and easier access to the machinery needed.

Whilst achieving all that, Rob's approach to all aspects of the business is to take a fresh look at Direct Hoist's operations with an environmental eye.

Rob says, "Direct Hoist is moving forward to decrease our carbon footprint down to zero emissions."

The basics were covered easily: long-life, low-energy LED lighting was fitted to the firm's workshops and offices to replace inefficient equipment; recycling



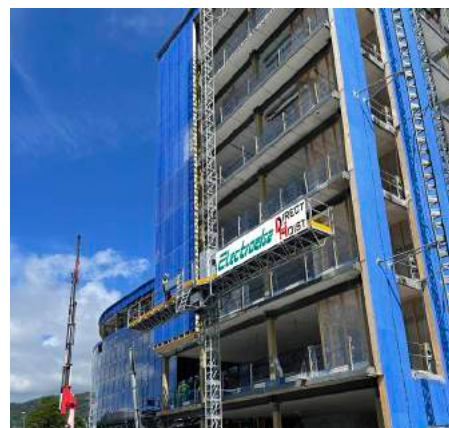
is rigorously monitored and separated to minimise general waste; scrap materials are saved up and weighed in only when there's a full load, and implemented paper-free hand-overs via phone apps, and virtually paperless offices.

Direct Hoist runs a fleet of diesel-powered vans on HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel. HVO (BS EN 15940 standard) is 100% renewable and offers a 90% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>.

Rob says, "We're looking at running a small EV (Electric Vehicle) van for local deliveries but the larger Electric vans don't yet offer the range we need, so HVO is a good alternative. Compared with white diesel, HVO fuels have benefits for 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.

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Contact Rob Wilson:  
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www.directhoist.co.uk



# ModCon Cabin Trader Ltd

**M**odCon 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](http://www.modconcabins.co.uk)

Items such as Portable Offices, Canteens, Toilet units, Drying units, Storage Containers,



Chemstores, Smoking Shelters, Effluent Tanks, Staircases are regular and repeat produced items that we manufacture for our clients.

Based in Gloucestershire in the South West we are logistically nicely placed around all the major motorway networks for ease of transportation.

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!

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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## Outdoor Buildings

# Warwick Buildings Ltd wins Award of Excellence for 2024

Warwick Buildings Ltd is a leading local supplier of high quality timber buildings, specialising in garden offices, modern garden rooms, and wooden garages. With a focus on quality craftsmanship and a commitment to using sustainable materials, Warwick Buildings is a trusted name in the industry, providing customers with versatile, aesthetically pleasing structures enhancing their outdoor spaces. Founded in 1988, at the heart of Warwick Buildings' success is its customer-centric approach. The company prides itself on delivering a personalised service, assisting customers from the initial design phase to the final installation.

E2 Media have recently unveiled their highly anticipated 2024 Awards of Excellence. Warwick Buildings Ltd, have secured the prestigious award for the second consecutive year. Their exceptional dedication to providing unparalleled customer service has set them apart.

Warwick Buildings' outdoor buildings are designed to meet the growing demand for functional workspaces within the tranquility of your home.



These structures are crafted with precision and attention to detail, utilising high-quality timber. Whether for remote professionals or those looking for traditional office spaces, these garden offices are a perfect solution. Warwick Buildings offers a wide range of customisation options, allowing customers to create a building that matches their specific requirements. Warwick Buildings incorporates advanced insulation techniques and double-glazed windows into their garden rooms and offices, making them energy-efficient, suitable for year-round use.

So, if you're looking for a suitable outdoor office space or want to increase your living space then Warwick Buildings is the go-to choice for all your needs.

For more information, please visit:  
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Vandecasteele sponsors this issue of Industrial Solutions UK: see them on page III



# Industry-leading solutions for EWI

**S**WIFIX is a multi-award-winning company that designs state-of-the-art solutions for securing external furniture through External Wall Insulations (EWI). Established in 2016, the range has been increasingly extended, including a recent, winning design partnership with SKY telecommunications for a new product for securing cables and small pipework and with City Fibre, and recent distribution to the EU as seen as a product that is required there.

Here at Building Update, we have been so impressed with SWIFIX, that we have previously awarded it with our External Wall Insulation Company of the Month and coveted Product Innovation Award, for its outstanding industry-leading services. Other prestigious accolades include: The INCA Innovation Award Winner in 2021, and has also been recognised as industry-leading by the wider building & construction industry and energy sector and has won a whole host of awards: The E2 Media Award of Excellence, Award for Innovation from Solutions Publishing and Best Practice Construction Award from Building & Construction Review. The company has also been named in 2023 as a finalist in the, Offsite Awards, Energy Efficiency Awards, INCA Awards and shortlisted in the Oscars of construction: The National Building & Construction Awards.

The Insulated Render and Cladding Association (INCA) is familiar to many in the industry, as the recognised trade association for the EWI industry across the UK. Awards are primarily reserved for exceptional work in the industry.

SWIFIX brings a unique design approach, offering a fresh way of looking at securing external furniture through EWI. Timber pattresses had always traditionally been the preferred manner for securing

the fixing of satellite dishes through to utility boxes upon reinstatement. That was until SWIFIX introduced its genius, design range and became a heavyweight opponent. The Exeter-based company is now part of one of the fastest growing areas across the UK construction industry.

We spoke to Director and Founder extraordinaire: Paul Brown to find out more about this multiple-award winning company, "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."

"We work with a broad range of loyal and new 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."

"SWIFIX are highly 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."

What's more, the SWIFIX range is 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.

From a quick glance, the innovative products look effortlessly simple in design but as we know from History, even the simplest design takes blood, sweat and tears. The design was years in the making,



including vigorous testing across wind loadings, shear and load testing and the crucial element of thermal loss and heat transfer, until the finished design was completed.

The finished range offers industry-leading, watertight solutions to the devastating impact of water ingress. With its versatile design, it is compatible with many different formats and can hold higher weights.

The cherry on top is the eco-efficient characteristics, made from partially-recycled plastics, with all parts fully recyclable. The packaging is naturally recyclable too, making this a desirable product range, as part of the circular economy.

We're looking forward to seeing which awards SWIFIX wins next!

**For more information, please see below:**  
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To find out more, please visit [www.swifix.co.uk](http://www.swifix.co.uk), call **01884 560477** or email [info@swifix.co.uk](mailto:info@swifix.co.uk)



# Number one choice for recycled plastic building materials

In this issue of Building Update, we have chosen Kedel as our Eco-Friendly Plastic Products Company of Choice 2024.

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 Lewis, who explained more about the company. "We manufacture plastic wood made from waste polystyrene, and we are also suppliers of many other types of recycled plastic profiles from other manufacturers. We stock tongue and groove boards, plastic sheet materials, decking, cladding, ground reinforcement and drainage grids, fencing and gates. In addition, we make a wide range of outdoor furniture often combining different types of recycled plastic into one product. These products

include benches, tables, picnic tables, notice boards, to name just a few. We also offer design services and have a large flatbed CNC (computer numerical controlled) machine for cutting and shaping to the CAD design parameters supplied by our customers or created for them by our in-house design team."

As specialists in building supplies and outdoor furniture, one of the main benefits of the products and services provided by Kedel is the long-term investment advantages of recycled plastic. Using recycled plastic not only greatly contributes towards the reduction of carbon footprint, but companies will see a significant reward on their return.

"It never rots, so if you build fencing or decking with it, you only do the job once in a lifetime. There's no cost of ownership, no maintenance – no costs for labour and materials, or for that matter, replacement costs.

Wood is becoming increasingly expensive and difficult to source, and needs constant attention to avoid deterioration. Yes, the initial costs for recycled plastic are higher, but over a 25-year period, a study by

WRAP (Waste Resources Action Programme), in 2000 proved it to be a more cost-effective material due to the product's extended longevity and zero maintenance properties."

'Your Housing Association' in South Manchester installed plastic fence panels made from Kedel's recycled plastic about 10 years ago. They haven't had to replace a single fence panel since!" said Lewis.

In the past, Kedel's plastic wood has been named 'Best Recycled Product' at the National Recycling Awards and is an ideal maintenance free replacement for wood, cladding, gallows brackets, pediments, fascia boards, rafter tails, finials, fencing and decking. Kedel has over 1,000 products in recycled plastics available on its website with a wide variety of profiles to choose from that could save you a lifetime of maintenance and replacement costs.

A notable product in Kedel's sustainable product range is fencing, that comes as fixed or portable panels, or you can buy the materials to make your own. You'll never need to replace a fence again. They are rot-proof and non-absorbent making them very hygienic and easy to clean. They don't chip, crack, or splinter, and are water and frost proof.

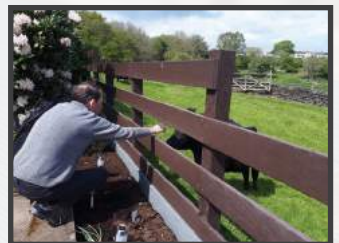
Ideal for education establishments and facilities management are Kedel's maintenance-free benches and picnic tables. They look like wood but perform like plastic, and the tables last at least five times longer than wood, making them a very attractive long-term investment.

For companies willing to create a circular economy for plastics, look no further than Kedel.

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# Introducing the Eco Clipper Electric Mowing Systems

**E**co Clipper offers large area mowers that help field managers minimise mowing costs while producing a professional finish. The Eco Clipper mowing system was originally developed to replace the cylinder mower in turfgrass production. The aim was to retain the cutting performance of a well-tuned cylinder mower, but not the high maintenance requirements and sensitivity to mowing conditions, such as wet grass and weeds.

## The system

The smooth cutting decks with fast spinning small blades ensure a high quality of cut and a good distribution of clippings. Thanks to the electrically driven blades, the mower is very economical and quiet. The large wheels and smart mower deck linking system ensures good contour following and enables high mowing speeds.



## The benefits

Users report high productivity gains and appreciate the low maintenance requirements and the ability to schedule mowing even under less favourable mowing conditions, such as early morning dew and wet autumn, which can often prevent removal of grass clippings.

## The models

Municipalities and sports field and park managers have discovered the advantages of the Eco Clipper mowing system. For them, Eco Clipper now offers two versions: the 4.11m wide EC-FM4 Sport and the 3.43m wide EC-FM343. Both are positioned in front of the tractor, providing excellent visibility and comfort for the tractor driver.

The EC-FM4 Sport has four independent mowing decks, mows till 4.11m wide and folds up to 2.5m width. It only needs 50hp, but fits best to small size agricultural tractors. To meet the demand for more lightweight mowers suitable for most park tractors from 40hp upwards, the Eco Clipper FM343 has been developed. This three-part Eco Clipper front mower cuts 343cm wide and folds to a transport width of 170cm. As with the larger 411cm wide EC-FM4, electricity is provided by a PTO-powered generator behind the tractor.

For more information, please see below:  
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## Belisha & Refuge Beacons

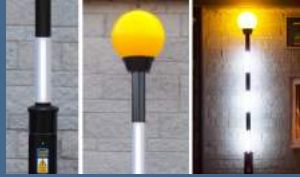
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# Hat-trick Award for Davies Turner Group

For the third successive year, the Davies Turner Group have been presented with an internationally-recognised award by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, RoSPA Gold Award, further solidifying this company's position as a worldwide freight and logistics partner.

Davies Turner provides pioneering direct UK weekly rail services in conjunction with their long-term partner in China, Air Sea Transport, who has years of experience in the China rail sector.

Since 2016, Davies Turner have operated China to UK rail services for full load (FCL) and groupage (LCL) shipments, assisting clients with their supply chain needs by reducing shipping times in comparison to Sea Freight. The availability of their import rail services has been vital to clients since the advent of the pandemic, where many importers witnessed shipping line ocean transit time delays, port delays and air freight became cost prohibitive for many large volume or dense cargo shipments.

With confidence and demand for China rail freight services soaring, as evidenced by the 50,000th China-Europe intermodal train embarking on its journey towards the west at the beginning of February this year, Davies Turner have introduced and support a dedicated weekly eastbound rail service for LCL cargo, having undertaken successful trials.

Established over 150 years ago and as one of the first companies in Europe to become accredited as a Full Authorised Economic



Operator, this forward-thinking company is now a bona fide international freight forwarder, with an award-winning pedigree.

The group has 15 UK branches, including a head office in Birmingham.

We caught up with Andrew Ford, Branch Manager in Rotherham, Yorkshire to find out more, "The Rotherham branch specialises in awkward and out-of-gauge shipments, shipping many vehicles ranging in sizes and type to small rail engines as well as large machinery moves around the world. Alongside this they offer standard freight forwarding – which means the Rotherham Branch can assist in almost all enquiries they receive: 'from an envelope to a large project.'"

"We have an extensive knowledge of the services that we offer within our branch, with our dedication to detail to ensure where possible shipments smoothly and clients are updated should there be any delays out-of-our-control."

"We have had a good start to this fiscal year, which was surprising with the current downturn in world trade. Our short-term plan



is to improve our office environment with some renovations and also look at team building activities that had to be suspended throughout COVID. We are also looking at more training for our staff so they can gain even more experience and knowledge to help assist our clients."

Despite most of the COVID-pandemic restrictions lifting and shipping costs starting to decrease, the world of international freight still has to contend with the challenges posed by the war in Ukraine, port strikes and a near-global recession.

Davies Turner offers a light at the end of a gloomy tunnel with its express freight rail service and its extensive European overland portfolio with direct groupage, part load and full load trailer services. Customers can choose between express transit and super-express options, in a thoroughly streamlined system.

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# Leaders in services, and health and safety for the piling industry

**S**ituated in Glasgow, Burnside Plant Ltd is a piling contractor and a company that prides itself on achieving the very best in customer satisfaction. Through this ethos, the company has established a strong reputation for its outstanding services, among its portfolio of regular clientele based throughout the UK.

Utilising its dedicated and professional team, Burnside Plant maintains an impressive amount of experience and expertise, enabling the company to be able to provide an understanding and flexible approach to its customer's requirements, while maintaining the highest levels of quality and safety.

"We provide a whole service including design, supply of materials and installation of sheet piles, tubular piles and provide hire or sales of the piles," said Shirley.

Burnside Plant provides sheet pile installation, cofferdam installation, king post installation, mini piling installation, tube installation, permanent and temporary design works, sheet pile hire and sale, Movax hire and haulage services, across the UK.

The company design, supplies and installs a vast amount of products including interlocking Larssen sheet piling retaining walls, for use in both temporary and permanent applications, king post systems, to meet UK standards and its customers particular specifications, and provides various methods of mini piling. Burnside Plant also maintains its own haulage for delivery and collection of sheet piles and all plant hire.

Shirley added, "We complete the whole scope of the

job. Our customer base can be quite varied, clients can range from civil work to everyday householder's requiring foundation piling for doing an extension."



One of the main aspects of the company's services is its commitment to health and safety.

Shirley stated, "We are Constructionline gold accredited, which means that we uphold high standards of health and safety, including online health and safety for our team. We are fully accredited and we have also taken out other health and safety precautions, including height restrictors on our machines and dead man switches, in case of an emergency. We have adopted various health and safety practices, as we understand that this is a dangerous industry and we have taken all the necessary precautions to ensure that everyone from our employees to anyone around, is kept safe."

As the company looks ahead, Burnside Plant is proud of what it has achieved so far and has experienced consistent growth. Moving forward, the company plans to continue to expand, and gain further confidence from its clients, knowing that their health and safety is of paramount importance to Burnside Plant.

"To be able to receive Constructionline gold, shows to our customers that we are a responsible company, doing everything we can to ensure safety." Shirley continued, "We are a small company, so we are very proud of it. We feel this is why our customers speak so highly of our services and often recommend us to others."

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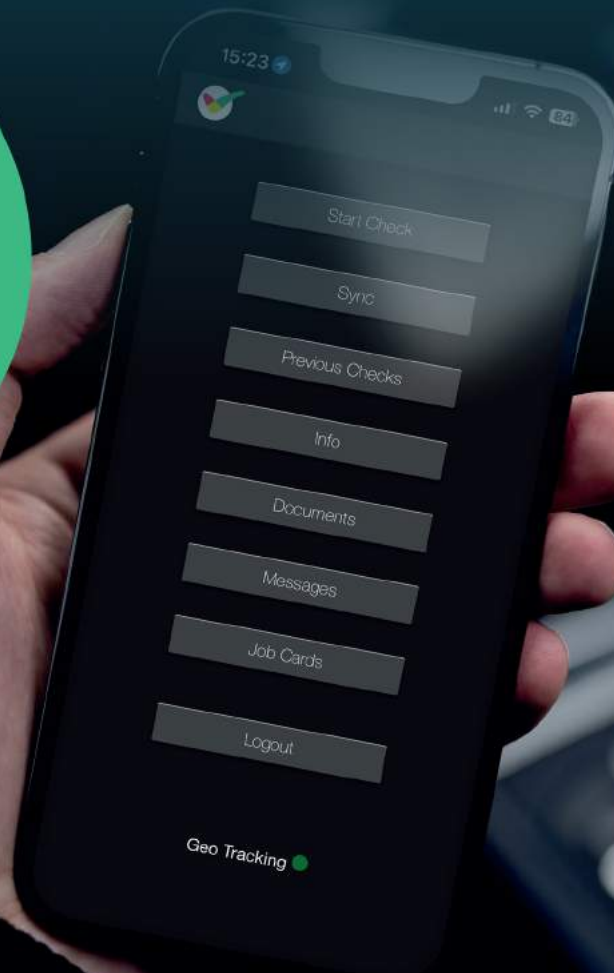


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# Take sound to the cloud with Quantum from Cirrus Research



For more than five decades, health and safety practitioners have turned to noise monitoring equipment such as handheld sound level meters and personal noise dosimeters to assess noise levels in the workplace. However, with more and more businesses choosing to operate from multiple sites as opposed to across one site, it's possible that these more traditional methods of noise measurement and monitoring may no longer be the most efficient.

**Quantum; the future of noise measurement** Quantum Indoor from Cirrus Research is a powerful noise monitoring solution with built-in cloud connectivity, perfect for continuous occupational noise monitoring, identifying the source and type of noise that is occurring, and highlighting where noise control measures are required.

With this instrument, it has never been easier to measure and monitor workplace noise continuously and remotely across one or multiple sites.

The cloud technology that is built into the Quantum instruments allows health and safety practitioners to connect multiple noise monitors on one account, allowing for data from each noise monitor to be viewed and assessed on one platform. This creates a network of interconnected instruments, whose data can be viewed and analysed side-by-side, removing

the need to download information from separate handheld instruments one-by-one.

Additionally, Quantum indoor provides a constant ear to the ground, offering live and historical data round-the-clock that practitioners can access from anywhere, at any time and on any device. Whether users are on the other side of the planet to where the instrument is installed, or they're stood in the next room, the data is always accessible on demand via the online Quantum portal, powered by MyCirrus.

With a network of cloud-connected noise monitors, the need for users to be physically on-site to measure noise levels is vastly reduced. Cloud-connected monitors, such as Quantum Indoor, can be installed and left to do their jobs completely unattended. They can then be configured remotely to send users real-time alerts when noise events occur, which provides greater control to health and safety practitioners in the workplace.

With Quantum Indoor, you can:

- **Link multiple units** to form a cloud-connected network of noise monitors to make viewing the full picture of your workplace noise impacts easier.
- View your **live and historical data** in the Quantum portal anytime, anywhere around the world on any device.

- Create numerous **audio triggers and notifications** based on your personal set of conditions for acceptable noise emissions, and receive these notifications via email, SMS or push notification.
- Use the **frequency analysis** screen on the Quantum portal to further view and analyse your noise data and better understand the exact nature of the noise.
- **Create detailed reports** directly through the Quantum portal based on direct data captured by your Quantum Indoor units.

The Quantum Portal; powered by MyCirrus With the Quantum Portal there are no fixed fees or set up charges. With Cirrus Research, users are offered subscription packages that are flexible to fit in with your noise monitoring programme and your preferred level of usage. These flexible plans means that you have the ability to change your subscription up or down on a monthly basis.

Powered by MyCirrus, this portal is suitable for all Quantum noise monitoring devices, and can also be used with other instruments such as the Cirrus Research Environmental Noise Measurement Kits.

**Subscription tiers available to users are:**

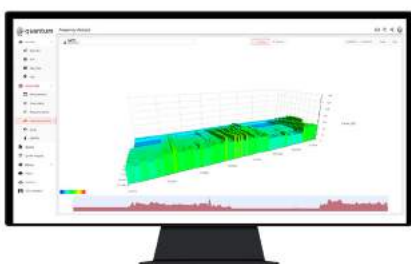
- **Standard subscription:** supplied as standard for 1 year and perfect for teams who need to analyse and report on noise events.
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With the ability to provide a greater level of control, make more intelligent decisions and reduce the need for unnecessary travel between multiple workplaces, Quantum Indoor is the perfect cloud-based noise monitoring instrument to complement your existing noise management programme.

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# Oliver Twinsafe Valves Supplied for MEG Injection Pump Systems

Oliver Twinsafe is to supply Double Block and Bleed pipeline valves for use on Monoethylene glycol (MEG) injection pump systems. MEG is a widely used hydrate inhibitor designed to reduce the risk of hydrate formation in pipelines that could cause blockages.

The order includes a batch of 2 1/16" API 6A 5,000psi Double Block and Bleed valves in A182 F55 Super Duplex material that have been dynamically tested to meet the requirements of API 6A PSL level 3. In addition, the valve designs were pre-qualified to API 6A PR2 Appendix F, which involves multiple cycle testing at low, ambient and high temperature with zero leakage allowed across the valve seats throughout these cycles.

A number of Oliver instrumentation valves have also been ordered,



taking the total number of valves supplied for this offshore project overall to over 300 with more valves in the pipeline.

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# Oliver Valves secure £890k order for Modular Wellsites



control the flow and pressure of oil or gas. They include; wellhead shutdown panels to control the wellhead valves, power distribution system with single phase and 3-phase power distributed to modules across the well site. A huge chemical injection system for flowline protection against corrosion, sampling pots to facilitate fluid sampling, and flow lines fitted with instrumentation valves that measure temperature and pressures.

Oliver Valves secured a £890,000 order to supply Double Block and Bleed valves in Alloy 625 material with a reduced overall length of 240mm and are to be fitted to Modular Wellsite Packages.

Wellsite packages are integrated skid-based units that house all the equipment between the Christmas tree and the production header. The skids are expected to be installed near the respective wellheads to

Oliver Valves are to manufacture 240 custom-made valves that are to be shipped to site over the next few weeks.

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# Big benefits from small parts picking in pallet racking

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**E**dward Hutchison, Managing Director of BITO Storage Systems, explains how using pallet racking for small parts storage turns this ubiquitous storage product into a flexible order picking solution.

While constant innovation generates a stream of new intralogistics solutions, 'classic' pallet racking remains the most commonly used storage system. Its relatively low investment costs and flexibility – whether through changing rack configuration, retrofitting special purpose modules or adding extra bays – have made it an indispensable framework for storage and order picking systems.

Of course, many operations use pallet racking as the basis for straightforward storage and retrieval of full pallets, either to fulfil customer orders or as a bulk store for replenishment. But the trend toward shorter product life cycles is increasing SKU numbers. The drive to minimise stock levels for each SKU and improve picking process efficiency to speed up order fulfilment, combined with demands for Just-in-Time delivery and online retail, is generating a greater need for small parts storage.



This is where the adaptability of pallet racking comes to the fore because small parts picking can be easily integrated within pallet racks. One option is to create small parts pick locations on the reachable ground level, with upper storage levels serving as a buffer store for replenishment. Small parts storage containers will help to store and organise small goods and C-parts – making them available for quick and easy picking.

This will result in a reasonably efficient picking process but ground floor locations within a pallet rack will, of course, be limited. Solutions are therefore required to maximise the available space to create a pick face with sufficient locations for the required SKUs, and enough stock to ensure availability during picks.

Flow shelves can be easily installed into pallet racking to increase the number of pick locations and volume of SKUs located on the ground level pick face. Goods are easily accessible from the front of the racking – the rollers on the flow shelves allow bins and containers containing small items to be picked roll smoothly to the front of the shelf – which makes picking easy. A full container of parts will roll to the operator each time the empty one at the front removed.

Standard shelving is another option to create flexible small item pick faces within pallet racking. There are several solutions: the first incorporates static shelving at right angles to

the racking, with space in between each run to facilitate picking. An alternative option is pull-out mobile shelving that maximises the available space under the racking – though movement of shelving has a negative impact on pick time. A third solution involves static shelving parallel to racking, which makes front items easy to pick. Shelving dividers can be fitted.

Inclined supply shelving within a pallet racking bay will make items clearly visible for picking. Cardboard cartons or plastic bins can be used, though the latter option enables preparation in advance at the goods-in area by filling the plastic bin with the items to be picked.

Plastic bins and containers will keep goods protected throughout the intralogistics process and during transport to ensure the quality of products are delivered to the customer in prime condition. It is worth seeking out storage system suppliers that in addition to offering racking, shelving and in flow lanes, also provide a container range comprising a variety of sizes with and a broad choice of accessories. Such a supplier will be able to design the optimum system to fit a given space, maximise the potential for small parts picking and, ultimately, improve fulfilment.

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# Deep hole drilling experts

In this issue of Industrial Solutions, we are delighted to select UNISIG for our Machinery Excellence Award 2024.

UNISIG is an industry-leading American producer of deep hole drilling machines. The company supplies a large variety of customers from aerospace and automotive to energy, firearms, hydraulic cylinders, military, medical sectors, smaller bespoke companies and large original equipment manufacturers (OEM.)

With unparalleled installation capabilities across Europe, Asia and America, UNISIG has the expertise to provide advanced precision-driven machinery for all jobs, with its complete deep hole drilling solutions that range from machinery to tools and automation.

The drilling capabilities include: Gun drilling, BTA, counterboring/reaming, trepanning, pull boring, skiving and roller burnishing, bottom forming, bottle boring and much more. With a wide range of stock machinery lines for diverse manufacturing needs, UNISIG can also provide bespoke-engineered machinery across all applications.

The American heavyweight was established in 1981 and since that time, has built up to a pole position across the global industry with its renowned production of gun drilling and deep hole drilling machines. Entrust Manufacturing Technologies acquired UNISIG in 1995 and then moved the company to its purpose-built headquarters in Milwaukee, USA.

Their US Milwaukee facility was expanded by over 100,000 sq. ft. in 2019 to keep up with increased production capacity demand levels. The CNC grinding machine also supports greater production, alongside regular upgrading across the production facility. The dedicated design engineers at the UNISIG Tech Centre in Milwaukee are more than happy to build customised drilling machine orders, from prototypes to finished machines.

We spoke to Philipp Steimle: Sales and Service manager for Europe to ask more about company developments, "Due to ongoing supply issues, our company is expanding its own manufacturing department. The Kellenberger CNC grinding machine we have installed will allow us to finish all the drilling spindles in-house. We have also installed a laser-cutting machine, a CNC press brake and welding stations so that we can do all the guarding and coolant reservoirs in-house to avoid delays in our machine building."



"The UNE6 series for medical instrument drilling with its fully integrated automation is a game changer for the industry and is proving highly popular in the market. We have, and continue to invest in more in-house production rather than external third parties to keep on top of our orders."

UNISIG is a clear market leader with a commitment to excellence to all customers. From quick machinery and part shipping orders delivered around the world, to meticulous service and repair jobs (conducted on-site and remotely), all jobs are carried out by an expert installation team made up of UNISIG engineers.

The recent addition of two new SSI Schaefer LOGIMAT® vertical lift modules (VLM) in the parts warehouse have further enhanced the already-excellent customer service. The storage units hold up to 28 tons of spare parts each providing welcomed streamlined organisation and tracking. UNISIG operators can now effortlessly access parts inventory on the touchscreen and the VLM moves the correct tray forward, whilst a laser then selects the precise bin and location of the required part. This use of automated technology has optimised the inventory storage capacity and created a smoother, more accurate retrieval system.

UNISIG leads the way in expertly engineered, high-performance gundrilling.

Another prime example of this is through the use of the Dual-Spindle gundrilling machine that comes with counter-rotation (UNE12-2-750-CR). This has impressive features that include the two spindles for advanced-precision gundrilling to 12mm in diameter and 750mm in depth, at 12,000rpm. And, with capabilities to produce over 2,000psi coolant pressure, with integrated chip collection system and a touchscreen control panel, the characteristic counter-rotation of cylindrical workpieces provides next-level hole straightness that you've never seen before.

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# BTA Drilling: Brazed Versus Indexable Tooling

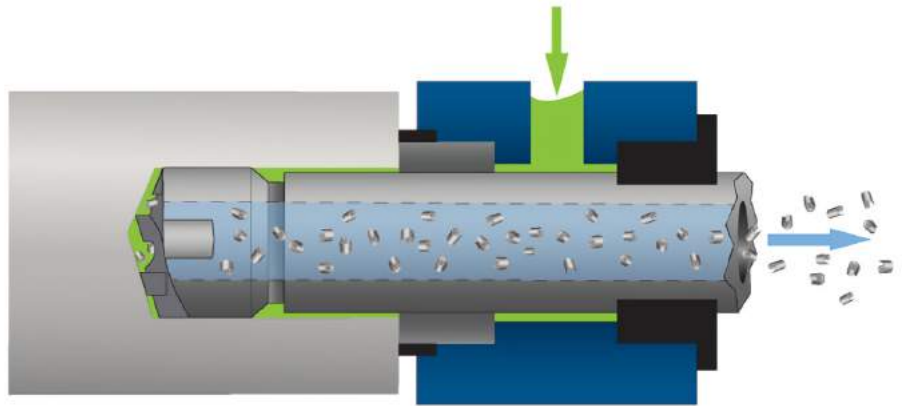
Photos: UNISIG

Deep hole drilling applications can be approached in several ways, but one of the most effective methods is often BTA drilling. BTA stands for Boring and Trepanning Association, although it is sometimes referred to as STS or Single Tube System drilling. Unlike gun drills or twist drills a BTA drill features internal chip removal, which has advantages in both productivity and hole quality.

The BTA drill head has multiple carbide cutting edges and guide pads mounted to it. Open spaces are designed into the head for chip removal, and chips are evacuated through the drill tube the head is threaded onto. Pressurized coolant surrounds the drill head in operation, and is key to forcing chips through the head and out the drill tube. This method of chip evacuation allows for a very clean and reliable process with excellent surface finish and high drill feed rates – typically 5-7 times faster than gundrilling at the same diameter. No peck cycles or feed interruptions are needed, resulting in reduced machine time while drilling extended depth-to-diameter ratios even greater than 40:1.

BTA drills are generally available in two forms: brazed or indexable; and tool selection is dependent upon several factors. As the name implies, brazed tools involve brazing a carbide insert and guide pads onto a steel body, while indexable BTA drilling tools have carbide inserts either directly mounted to the head with a retention screw or seated in a cartridge that is mounted to the tool.

Hole diameter is the initial consideration when determining whether to use brazed or indexable BTA drills. For small hole diameters



– generally 12 to 20mm in diameter – brazed tools are often the first choice as it's difficult to make small inserts and screws strong enough to withstand the torque and forces of BTA drilling. (Manufacturers of BTA drilling tools continue to make improvements in indexable BTA heads as small as 8mm in diameter, however).

Brazed tools offer extremely close tolerances and excellent surface finish as the insert and guide pads are mounted and then ground to the specified diameter, providing almost perfect concentricity and cylindricity. Ease of use is also a benefit – simply attach the head to the drill tube and discard it when it has dulled or failed. If you experience a tool failure, the investment in drill head isn't as costly as repairing or replacing an indexable drill head. Finally, an indexable BTA head can only be as accurate as the tolerance of the inserts themselves; but a brazed head has been ground to a very precise tolerance from the manufacturer.

By contrast, hole diameters starting at approximately 20mm favor indexable tools, primarily for economic reasons. Replacing larger diameter brazed tools is expensive, whereas indexing an insert and guide pads gives an easy extension on the tool's life. Indexable insert manufacturers also offer an exhaustive range of carbide grades, coatings and chip breakers for application-specific advantages.

The placement of the indexable inserts on BTA drill head varies by diameter and by manufacturer, and can include one or multiple inserts mounted directly to the head or set in a heat-treated cartridge, which is then mounted to the head. Guide pads are typically mounted to the head to counter the drilling forces and burnish the hole during drilling. Indexing, or rotating, a direct-mounted insert is as simple as loosening the retaining screw and turning the insert to expose a fresh cutting edge. If the insert and pocket were made with tight tolerances, your cutting diameter should remain reasonably consistent.

Cartridge-mounted inserts, however, typically incorporate a shim or other adjustment system to allow for a much more precise diameter setting after indexing inserts and guide pads. This process does require additional equipment, however, such as a micrometer and stand or tool presetter – as well as the skills needed to accurately make the necessary adjustments.

Whether you select brazed or indexable BTA drills for your deep hole drilling application, you will be rewarded with high feed rates and process reliability, along with minimal centerline deviation and excellent hole quality.



Brazed BTA heads – carbide inserts and guide pads are brazed onto the drill head

Further information on all machines and the complete UNISIG machine program is available at: [www.unisig.com](http://www.unisig.com) or follow the company on LinkedIn and Twitter (@UNISIG).

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# A cut above the rest

In this issue of Industrial Solutions, we are thrilled to feature CAMB Machine Knives International for its Commitment to Excellence in consistently supplying high-quality knives to the global machine knives industry.

Established in 1989, CAMB Machine Knives has served a broad range of industries for many years. From initial start-up to present day, CAMB has grown significantly boasting an international reach with a network of exporters and carriers and offices and agents based in Europe, New Zealand, South Africa and many more countries.

However, it has not always been plain sailing for the company. CAMB has overcome many challenges to remain the industry's best and this award only serves as benchmark to its excellence and continuous improvement through adversity.

We spoke to Neil Chapman, Technical Director at CAMB Machine Knives, who we believe has shown great courage amidst adversity over the past 12 months.

Neil explained that he and Darren were made the new company directors while the founder/owner Jerry Milner resigned in November 2022. Unfortunately, in June 2023, Jerry passed away. "Jerry was more than just a boss to everyone who worked here; he was a friend and a mentor. Now, we have big shoes to fill."

Through hardship, Neil and his team have done extraordinarily well to successfully steer the company forward and to achieve a record-breaking year. "Our forecast was conservative as there has been an increase in sales for the last few years due to COVID-19 and the uncertainty of businesses staying open during lockdown. We found many customers wanted to keep stocks on-site therefore, sales increased and we expected this to return to normal and sales decrease a little," added Neil.

Since the unfortunate passing of Jerry, Neil was appointed as Director alongside Darren Hitchings, who between them, have a combined 40 years of experience in offering the same high-quality service to customers around the world. Together, they have worked hard to boost employee morale and attract new business since Jerry passed.

CAMB produces an extensive range of high-quality machine blades for all industries that come in many different types, including: Circular Knives, Special Shape Knives, Top Dished Knives, Bottom Knives, Toothed Knives, Guillotine Knives, Granulator Knives, Confectionary Knives, Tray Form Blades, Anvils, and much more, from the food industry to reclamation.

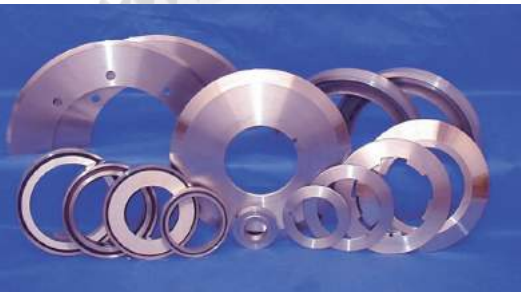
"We hold a lot of stock consisting of over 500 different knives, mostly for the poultry and food



industry. This means we can accommodate custom orders that require quick lead times by modifying our blades for a specific use case. We also supply Circular Microteeth knives for the poultry industry, and testing has shown our wear resistance is very good and with very competitive pricing," added Neil. These knives, in reference, include Circular Scalloped Microteeth Knives and replacement knives for many makes and models of machines.

With lots more in store for the company in 2024 and beyond, Neil explained some of their short and long-term goals. "In the short term, we are reviewing every process to help us streamline processes. In the long term, we want to invest in new machinery to expand our machining capabilities. We are extremely honoured to receive such an award, thank you. It is great to see our hard work over the last 12 months has paid off and getting the recognition the staff deserve."

For more information, please see below:  
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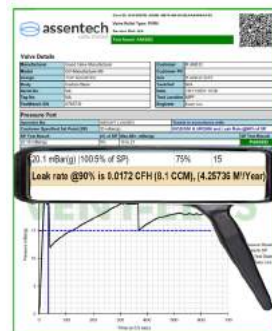
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