Like nature, GO Green with Green Olive Firewood

Here on our farm in Sussex we hand cut, split and dry our sustainably sourced, natural hardwood logs. Our firewood is moisture controlled, hand packed, quality assured & a competitive source of heat. We have our own kiln drying facility which is heated using a biomass boiler fired using all of our own wood waste. We are a registered supplier on the governments biomass suppliers list meaning our wood-fuel has proven it meets the eligibility requirements for the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme.

Our Sussex & Surrey seasoned hardwood logs are moisture tested below 30%, whilst our kiln dried below 20% giving an easy, clean & efficient burn with maximum heat output for any home fire, ideal for wood burning stoves & open fires. Olive firewood is where it all began for our business, we buy our Olive wood logs from small olive farmers in the Mediterranean region, the wood is a sustainable byproduct of the olive industry, rich in aroma, dense, a real treat of a firewood but great value burning hotter and longer than most other hardwoods. The olive wood is cut into natural chunky pieces, moisture tested below 20% and hand packed by us for quality control. If you fancy regal yellow flames with a delicious Italian flavoured scent to your home our Olive firewood is just for you.

We have grown to be one of the largest UK branded producers of wood fuels to the retail trade, offering an earthy, honest and homely looking package with generous margins and small mixed pack regular deliveries to your store.

T 0845 4636 305
info@greenofc.co.uk

Safety light grid

Schmersal Group has launched a safety light grid with a built-in Bluetooth Interface.

The SLC440/COM with Bluetooth BLE is an active optoelectronic protective device that makes all status and diagnostic data on the operating status of the device available on smartphones or tablets via a Bluetooth Interface on a real-time basis.

The Bluetooth Interface supports easy start-up using a smartphone or tablet with the integrated setup aid. There is the option to save data which can then be used, for example, to document a repeat test or for predictive maintenance purposes.

The transmission of data to smartphones/tablets (Android, IOS) is facilitated by an app developed by Schmersal. BLE stands for Bluetooth Low Energy, a radio system for nearfield data transmission with secure transmission.

T 01684 571980
www.schmersal.co.uk
Sweet Squared look to Spectra for understated style

Spectra Packaging recently created new packs for the Sweet Squared wax treatment range. Taking advantage of Spectra’s ever-popular Tall Boston Round designs, the new packs were extrusion blow moulded in HDPE in 250ml (Ref: 6001) and 500ml (Ref: 6023) capacity sizes. Spectra’s expert team were also on hand to ensuring that all the key benefits of this design are met. They were also able to match the required sample accurately and with speed.

According to Dan Smith, Field Sales Representative, Spectra’s ability to provide an all-in-one packaging service continues to prove a compelling proposition with many customers. He said, “Our fully synchronised in-house moulding, colour matching and print capabilities provide a ‘peace of mind’ alternative to using differing suppliers, which can often impact lead times, add to additional transport costs and create unnecessarily increased carbon footprint.”

Spectra’s impressive range of HDPE and PET Boston Rounds feature other tall options as well as standard designs and a flat based versions in a variety of capacities from 50ml to 500ml.

Dan went on to add, “The versatility of our Boston round designs continues to prove very popular with customers, the timeless design provides the perfect all-rounder for a wide range of product applications”.

Holly Davies, Brand Marketing Manager at Sweet Squared, said, “We are delighted with the finishing packs and were very impressed with Spectra’s customer service from start to completion”. www.spectra-packaging.co.uk

Henry Howard Finance becomes Stonewall Cymru accredited

Henry Howard Finance Group has been accredited by Stonewall Cymru as an employer actively working to promote inclusivity in the workplace.

Wales’ largest independent finance provider is now a member of the Stonewall Cymru Diversity Champions Programme as a company committed to the integration of diversity and inclusion across all areas of the organisation, which operates UK-wide.

Anne Williams, COO at Henry Howard Finance, said: “Our company already has a near 50/50 split in gender across all staff, from office-based right through to senior management, so this accreditation was a logical progression for us in securing true equality for our workforce.

“We are absolutely delighted to have been accepted and recognised by Stonewall Cymru as an employer which operates in the interest of each and every one of our highly valued employees, at all times.”

Stonewall Cymru aims to achieve legal equality and social justice for lesbian, gay, bi and trans people in Wales. The registered charity currently works with over 750 of the world’s leading organisations to understand their objectives and provide further guidance to support them on the path towards workplace diversity.

HHF’s place on its Champions Programme will further deepen the company’s commitment to workplace diversity across all levels of the business through the implementation of assessments, actions plans, seminar attendance and more.

Anne said: “HHF absolutely agrees with Stonewall Cymru when it says people perform better when they are able to be themselves and believes that every one of our employees has the right to feel free in doing so, including during office hours.”

Established in 1996, Henry Howard Finance now has over 140 staff and has supported more than 30,000 businesses to date secure the asset, vendor or retail finance they need to move forward and grow.

For more information contact 01633 415222 or visit www.henryhowardfinance.co.uk

We all want to test quicker, says Metrel

A fantasy world?

Not since Metrel introduced the auto sequence facility to its multi-function testers. This testing procedure allows a selected range of tests to be completed with a single press of the test button. Each test is automatically compared to pre-set limits and passed or failed, and the results displayed and stored.

It saves so much time, and produces stable, repeatable results quickly. The auto sequence facility is pre-programmed into Metrel multi-function testers, ensuring a cost efficient and easy way of installation testing and improving operator safety. This options is ideal for situations where the same test is repeated continuously such as electrical installation condition reports (EICR). The results can be stored on board the tester and then downloaded to an ET certificate. The pre-programmed sequence of tests is selected by the operator depending on the part of the installation to be tested, the rating system, whether the installation is single- or three-phase and whether there is a RCD present in the installation.

Having connected the test leads, and pressed the test button, the tester will automatically perform the tests and indicate if each test is passed or failed. It also tells the operator where their interaction is required.

The key benefit to users of the auto sequence procedures is that they complete the testing up to five times faster than ordinary methods.

Contact
T 01392 245000
info@metrel.co.uk
www.metrel.co.uk
Business rate review is only part of the solution says leading finance provider

Henry Howard Finance urges SMEs to stay flexible in the current climate

Henry Howard Finance has welcomed news that business
rates are to better reflect property prices in future –
but says the move is only part of the solution for British
businesses now dealing with a multitude of challenges in
the current climate.

Ministers recently introduced new legislation which means
bills for UK business rate payers should more accurately
reflect current property values in future, maintaining
the current climate.

Business rate review is only part of the solution says leading finance provider

Sarah Freeman, Sales Manager at Henry Howard Finance,
says business rates are only part of the issue, however. “If we
look at the past 20 years alone, and the extent to which the
business landscape within that time has changed, it’s not
surprising to think that small to medium sized companies
are most probably feeling these changes the most. We have
helped over 30,000 UK SMEs to achieve their goals and during
that time seen many of these not just weather a variety of
economic storms but literally turn their businesses around
by thinking laterally when it comes to all kinds of business
decisions, not least their refinancing options.”

“With this in mind it seems a pertinent time to reinforce the
message that smaller companies that are willing to work
at adapting and evolving, and that are prepared to continue
doing so year in year out, are surviving and in many cases
thriving too,” Sarah added.

UK SMEs name ‘economic uncertainty’, ‘ongoing
digitalisation efforts’ and ‘increased competition’ as the
three biggest challenges facing their organisation over the
next two years, new research shows**. Access to talent and
‘regulatory changes’ were also in the top five issues SMEs in
Britain foresee tackling within the same period.

For more information on Henry Howard Finance
please contact 01633 415222 or visit
www.henryhowardfinance.co.uk

Filtertechnik’s
Particle Pal Pro

It is the lifeblood of any engine, lubrication or
hydraulic system. Organisations worldwide
depend on oils as a lubricant and moving force.
Gauging an oil’s lifespan and overall health on-site
has, until now, proven difficult, especially for viscous
gearbox oils.

Replacing oil too early, or failing to notice the need for
change, can have drastic consequences. In fact, 80%
of hydraulic and gearbox failures can be attributed to
oil contamination.

Introducing Filtertechnik’s Particle Pal Pro. A portable
oil life and contamination monitor. Fitted with a ‘Tan
delta’ Oil life sensor and software that has over 500
oil’s life profile. Used oil is given an estimated useful
life remaining percentage.

The Particle Pal Pro also utilises a revolutionary new
digital imaging particle counting technique that gives
unprecedented insight into the type and quantity of
contamination in any given oil sample. This
breakthrough technology also gives root cause shape
recognition to the particulate in live systems or bottle
samples of any oil.

Particles are counted and categorized in to fatigue,
sliding or cutting wear. Air bubbles and water droplets
are counted and then eliminated from the counts
making this suitable for live testing or permanent
installation on systems where air is present such as
large gearboxes.

High resolution images are created for further
analysis and reporting such as the one below taken
from the device. Images show particulate from 2
microns and above. The algorithms on the device
measure the size and shape of the particles.

An internal water sensor also gives the % saturation
or humidity of any oil or diesel fuel. Water is the
second most harmful contaminant after solid
particulate, understanding if water content is getting
too high is also paramount.

Particle Pal Pro is able to handle light oils and diesel
through to heavy gear oils up to 2,400cc. A special
internal stepper motor pump with controlled flow
rate can run for 6-8 hours on a single charge. All
results are logged internally and can be exported as a
downloadable pdf or spreadsheet for reporting purposes.

For more information please call
Particle Pal Pro on 0800 034 5850.

Thorite – Big savings at
Service Timber

F or many companies who need a
reliable source of compressed air,
the age of their compressor isn’t much
of a concern. “Well it’s running just fine, we have
it serviced regularly, so what’s the problem?”

The problem lies with the running
cost or energy consumption of an old compressor,
mixed against the cost of a new one that has all the latest
energy-saving features.

The savings that a company can
make by updating its compressor are
considerable. “Thorite, the UK’s
largest distributor of compressed air
products and systems, is extremely
profitable at showing factory owners
just how significant these savings can be.

Towards the end of last year, Capital
Account Manager, Steve Bradford,
visited Selby based Service Timber Ltd
and offered to data-log their two aging
fixed speed compressors; an 11kw
Hydrovane and a 15kw HPC model.

Service Timber is one of the largest
timber component suppliers in the
North of England with a wide range of
customers who rely on a dependable
supply of high-grade timber and the
two compressors are used to power
all the timber preparation equipment
and are in almost constant use.

By data-logging Service Timber’s air
compressors, Steve quickly established
their air demand profile, showing
that by replacing the two existing
compressors with one new variable
speed compressor, considerable
savings could be made.

Quite how much was amazing. A new
30 kW Hydrovane variable speed
rotary vane type compressor was
installed last November and is set to
save Service Timber over £2,000 per
year.

For more information please contact
Thorite on 0800 034 5850.

Filtertechnik’s
Particle Pal Pro

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results are logged internally and can be exported as a
downloadable pdf or spreadsheet for reporting purposes.

For more information please call
Particle Pal Pro on 0800 034 5850.
Smashtag launches web console

Smashtag has launched its web based console to combine with its low cost Bluetooth temperature logger ‘Chill’ to create a full service system to allow the full range of users in the cold chain to monitor their shipments quickly and easily.

Smashtag Chill allows producers and importers alike to monitor their shipments in the same way as current USB based temperature loggers but offers a faster, more secure and seamless way to collect, view and manage their temperature data.

The logger is placed with a shipment, usually in a reefer container and records the temperatures experienced by the cargo. Upon arrival and at other points throughout shipment, the stored temperature information is downloaded and transmitted to the web console via Bluetooth using any mobile or tablet with the free Smashtag app open.

The “Chill” was launched in April 2019 and the web console is the next big part of the Smashtag system. Matt Sims, MD says, “We’re constantly developing our products and system to improve the experience and make it easier than ever for our customers to use. There is a lot more to come from Smashtag and we’re focusing on what our customers need.

For more details, visit https://smashtag.global

Coolair goes nationwide

Air conditioning and heating installer Coolair Equipment has expanded its service and maintenance operations nationwide. The company, with bases in Manchester, Cannock and Kent, has consolidated its service department to a UK-wide business under a national technical and administrative management team led by long-serving employees Mark Cooper and Karen Swallow.

The new National Aftersales Division is the result of an expansion drive by Coolair aimed at meeting increasing demand from developers, contractors and end users for one-stop heating and cooling services.

Managing Director, John Otterson said, “Our business has been providing servicing and maintenance for many years. Now increased demand from our clients – impressed by our ability to deliver energy-saving solutions that reduce their cost – has prompted us to expand our one-stop-shop capabilities. Planned preventative maintenance is essential for the ongoing management of building operations because today’s highly advanced air conditioning and heat pump systems can lead to expensive failures and increased running costs if they are not properly serviced and maintained.”

T 01543 574777

JVL

Dear the successful introduction of the complete range of ServoStep integrated motors JVL is now releasing Add-On-Instructions for fast and easy setup and programming in Rockwell Automation’s Studio 5000 software.

All-in-one unit:
- Motor, Absolute multiturn encoder, Drive, Controller, PLC and Ethernet Switch as well as TÜV-approved STO option.

The integrated design with the controller in the motor minimizes the size of the control cabinet. With less components in the cabinet, the cooling requirements will be lower, reducing both system cost and running costs.

JVL’s ServoStep motors offer state-of-the-art performance that in some applications can rival servo motors at a lower cost. The high torque at low speeds make compact solutions without gear possible. The ServoStep family offers up to double power in same size compared to similar motors, due to higher current/voltage and advanced regulation.

JVL’s closed-loop ServoStep technology eliminates loss of steps and never stalls. The technology causes a paradigm shift that changes your perception of what you can do with a stepper motor. Ultra-high torque enables direct drive without gearing.

The motor series also has current control, which lowers power consumption and allows 100% duty cycle without overheating. The ultra-high step resolution of 499,500 steps/rev decreases acoustic noise and results in a smooth running motor. The motors have 8 programmable inputs/outputs: each can be set up as digital input, digital output or analog input. Motors are equipped with EtherNet/IP interface and as option you can choose STO (Safe Torque Off) versions.

T  +45 4582 4440
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www.jvl.dk

JVL
Helping you build amazing things

Industry Update is proud to announce that EverBlock UK has been selected as our Building Solutions Company of the Month, for offering an outstanding range of modular building blocks and flooring systems to both commercial and domestic customers.

EverBlock was founded by a US entrepreneur who wanted to help individuals and companies to build customised objects using a universal building block system. In 2018, EverBlock UK became the exclusive agent of EverBlock products in the UK and Ireland, and now work on a national scale from its premises in Northamptonshire.

“We offer provide quotes and design advice, using 3D renders of our customers’ designs,” explained Joe Plosky. “We help them to realise what they want, whether it’s a dividing wall, modular furniture or an exhibition stand. We simply design and quote how many blocks they’ll need, and we can also offer to build it if they want us to – we do as much as or as little as they need, remaining adaptable to different customers’ requirements.”

These highly versatile modular blocks have universal usage, being ideal for any industry. They can be used for an astounding range of projects, including in open plan offices where a company wishes to divide the space, shows, pop-up shops, and even team building exercises.

What’s more, EverBlock UK offers a rental service and a longer term, buyback scheme so that once a customer is finished with their blocks they can be re-used, and just recently they have been able to offer blocks manufactured from recycled plastic.

“They are versatile, modular and reusable, meaning ROI is incredible. The blocks are waterproof, portable and reconfigurable, as well as being robust enough to withstand drilling holes for hanging pictures and even supporting the weight of a car. As well as being great for companies, the EverBlocks are also popular with domestic customers, with our kits for desks and bedframes along with being perfect for building kids forts in the garden.”

Recently, the company released a new modular flooring system which clicks together, perfect for dance floors, tent flooring, stadium turf protection and exhibition flooring. EverBlock Flooring can also be placed on top of the blocks to create a stage, which can be variable heights depending on requirements. This interconnectivity between the EverBlock flooring and blocks only increases the two systems’ adaptability for a growing range of applications for risers, stages and platforms.

In the year called EvePanel, which will also feature interconnectivity with the block and floor systems. Furthermore, on 16–17 October 2019 EverBlock UK will be attending its first trade show, the Showman’s Show, an outdoor event services exhibition at Newbury Showground, Berkshire. If you would like to find out more information, head to the website or get in touch using the contact details below.

T 0203 795 9090
www.everblocksystems.co.uk
www.everblockflooring.co.uk

Breathe Easy

Thermal insulation isn’t only about keeping buildings warm in winter; a quality system will also ensure walls remain pleasantly cool in the summer heat. This dual performance is essential to creating year-round interior comfort for the long-term health and wellbeing of occupants.

Release the vapours

The most effective method for creating a healthy living space is to optimally insulate the façade – the better the insulation, the more comfortable the space will be. The specification of quality External Wall Insulation (EWI) can help achieve this desirable level of interior comfort. It’s a solution that is particularly effective in multi-occupancy properties.

Through everyday living, residents create water vapour. Baths, washing, cooking... it all creates steam – even breathing. Now, consider how much vapour is generated in a multi-occupancy building containing, say, 150 tenants. All that vapour will pass through the building’s elements, but in cases where the EWI contains a non-vapour permeable acrylic topcoat, the vapour will be trapped. This can lead to increased air humidity, condensation and the dreaded ‘V’ word – damp, which once inside a property, can take an awful lot of time and expense to remove.

Therefore, an EWI solution that might have appeared cost-effective in the immediate-to-short-term, could potentially result in unnecessary and unforeseen expenditure.

Robust frontage

Applying a non-breathable renovation system to a building causes what might be referred to as the ‘plastic bag effect’ – walls can become cloaked in condensation from non-escaping vapour. To create a breathable outer layer for buildings, an EWI system topped with a silicon-based finish render is preferable. Water-repellent, stain and weather resistant, such a system provides a no-nonsense façade, whilst optimising occupants’ living environment.

Silicon-based finish renders are also suitable for use without EWI, and can be easily applied to mineral renders old and new, providing a decorative, vapour-permeable topcoat that makes for an attractive exterior.

No compromise

There are a couple of very good reasons for choosing EWI over interior insulation. Unlike the interior option, floor space isn’t compromised with exterior insulation. A few millimetres less living room in a building containing multiple flats and potentially hundreds of walls, for instance, amounts to a sizable loss of space, which for private landlords could mean a reduction in income.

Another benefit of ‘going external’ when it comes to wall insulation? EWI removes the dew point – the temperature below which water droplets condense – from the inside of a building to prevent condensation forming. Systems-containing unique perforated Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) façade insulation boards ensure high vapour permeability, resulting in the release, rather than the entrapment, of water vapour. This has the added benefit of having no effect on a building’s airtightness.

The light fantastic

The development of innovative self-cleaning topcoat renders containing photocatalytic technology provide optimum protection against contamination using the power of light.

Such systems, when enhanced with a superior quality primer for pre-treatment of hard or non-absorbent mineral substrates, and the aforementioned EPS boards, increase a structure’s ‘breathability’.

This collective solution also offers outstanding levels of insulation when applied as part of a new-build or refurbishment project. In short: EWI improves the aesthetics on the outside and the building’s thermal performance without affecting the interior space.

For a damp, moisture-free, healthy-living interior, lime-based thin-coat plasters offer an excellent option. Vapour permeable, low-emission systems create an ideal environmentally-friendly breathable plaster for interiors of all shapes and sizes. We spend 90% of our lives indoors, therefore providing a quality finish for interior walls would appear paramount to our wellbeing.

There can be no doubt the government is right to address the alarming statistic provided by the Green Building Council report which stated 25 million homes across Britain will not meet insulation standards by 2050. However, airtightness can mean as well as retaining heat, our buildings are also containing moisture – which creates problems of its own.

Allowing buildings to breathe on the outside will not only ensure these buildings on the inside are living a lot happier and healthier; good thermal insulation can also help reduce household heating costs by up to 50%, which in itself is a great comfort provision.
New metallographic lab

Due to the growing demand for metallography and materials analysis, Buehler ITW Test & Measurement, a leading manufacturer of instruments, consumables and accessories for metallography and materials analysis, has opened a new European Solutions Centre in a collaborative venture with Warwick Manufacturing Group (WMG).

With more than 600 staff and strong relations with 1,000 global companies, it will offer support to more than 1,800 SMEs through dedicated programmes.

Part of WMG’s Materials Engineering Centre at the University of Warwick campus, Buehler’s new Solutions Centre aims to support academic and industrial research on various technologies ranging from additive manufacturing, energy storage, machining and processing of metallic and composite materials to joining technologies.

T +49 711 490 46900

AbrasiMet M Medium Abrasive Cutter Introduced by Buehler

Durable and Dynamic for Fast Sectioning of Metals

Like Buff, if Buehler is excited to unveil the most efficient and powerful abrasive table top cutter in its class, the AbrasiMet M. The machine is designed for heavy use and for customers that rely on sample cutting for quality control and inspection of parts. The compact AbrasiMet M is a manual saw with a powerful 5.5 HP (4kW) motor that can accommodate 10” (254mm) to 12” (305mm) blades with a maximized cutting chamber space and sliding hood design to provide customers with a quick, clean and simple cutting solution for sample preparation in any work environment.

Time Saved, Cutting Simplified

Lab technicians will be able to reduce cutting time and change blades easily without tools. In addition, cleaning the new high capacity, 30-gallon recirculating tank is simplified with its nested tank and filtration screen design complete with a large, rigid frame with wheels. The AbrasiMet M saves time in the sectioning process in busy production environments allowing users to quickly move to the next steps of the preparation process.

Built for Heavy Use

The AbrasiMet M is ideal for production quality control environments. Buehler designed the cutting to be durable with a corrosion resistant steel T-slot table. In addition, the hood design is reinforced for repeated opening/closing and the enclosed motor-cutting arm system to keep debris and coolant out to maximize the life of the motor.

Buehler has a complete selection of consumables, clamping kit, and blocks for all sectioning applications.

For more information on the AbrasiMet M cutter visit here.

www.buehler.com

Highly efficient cutters reduce time required for sample sectioning in quality control

With its new AbrasiMet™ XL Pro and AbrasiMet M cutters, Buehler, a leading manufacturer of instruments, consumables and accessories for metallography and materials analysis, is introducing two new sectioning machines designed for time-saving and therefore cost-efficient sectioning of samples with outstanding, high-quality sectioning results.

AbrasiMet™ XL Pro is a durable, floor-standing automatic cutting machine providing high performance in harsh industrial environments and capable of handling sample diameters up to 178 mm (7") using chop, linear feed, and planar cutting modes. The system accommodates blade diameters ranging from 356 mm to 457 mm (14" to 18"). Its large cutting chamber and powerful 10 kW motor ensures repeatable sectioning with consistently high quality, even when dealing with very hard materials and/or large samples.

An intuitive touchscreen interface allows users to start the section process with ease and to create and save multiple sectioning programs quickly for later access. Further features contributing to the cutter’s superior efficiency are toolless blade replacement process and a rapid setup for a cut with the help of a multi-function joystick, an alignment laser and a bright lit cutting chamber. Machine is equipped with a filtration screen to remove swarf from the coolant, and a double-chamber water recirculation system that facilitates efficient cleaning.

AbrasiMet M is a manually operated bench-top cutter designed for highly consistent cuts and high sample throughput, and, like

Test, Measurement & Instrumentation Update
Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering on track to become a major British manufacturing success for radial piston pumps

Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering, has been founded by director & CEO Amarjit Chana after acquiring the Andrew Fraser business from Oilgear Towler. Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering has taken over the whole IPR and trademarks for the Andrew Fraser equipment.

Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering will be the first company in the UK to produce radial piston pumps since Andrew Fraser and Co Ltd. Amarjit Chana explained that it was vital to keep the Andrew Fraser brand in the UK and not be acquired by overseas companies.

The company has also acquired the manufacturing and test capability to design and manufacture the Andrew Fraser equipment, operating from Leeds, West Yorkshire. Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering will produce a range of radial piston pumps to support new emerging industries while supporting its current employer base.

Andrew Fraser and Co was first formed in 1945 in Aston House, Aldwych, London. Its core business was the design and manufacture of monoradial piston pumps and associated equipment.

The company served a wide range of market sectors including energy (power stations), jacking pumps, oil refineries, hydraulic presses and marine. Market coverage was international, covering North and South America, Asia and Africa and Europe.

Wide portfolio
Andrew Fraser was acquired by Towler Hydraulic in 1981 and Towler Hydraulic was then acquired by Oilgear Ltd in 1985. Andrew Fraser offers a wide product portfolio, including high pressure pumps and motors and control valves. In the 1960s, Andrew Fraser radial pumps became a popular choice for a wide range of industries including power stations and refineries.

Amarjit Chana explained the background leading to the acquisition and formation of the new company. “I was running Fraser Pumps and working with Oilgear, and when Oilgear made the decision sell IPR for the Andrew Fraser ‘mono-radial’ equipment I was keen to acquire both the IPR and the machining facility and save a number of people’s valuable specialist jobs in the process. My vision for Andrew Fraser Pump and Engineering is to reignite the Andrew Fraser brand to new applications and markets while supporting and consolidating its current market share.”

He continued: “I also plan to develop the company’s distribution chain to provide access to Andrew Fraser equipment, while providing fast response times and excellent aftersales care and support for customers. Additionally, my team and I are keen to develop technology-led product development in collaboration with high education partners. We really want to make a major success of this company as a totally British brand and grow employment within this specialist sector.”

www.andrewfraserpumpcompany.co.uk

Test, Measurement & Instrumentation Update

Buehler Launches the AbrasiMet XL Pro™ at Control 2019

The Super-Size Cutter Maximizes Cutting Efficiency and Quality of Large Samples

Buehler, an ITW Company, launched the AbrasiMet XL Pro™ large abrasive cutter at Control 2019 to provide consistency and repeatability in cutting large samples for production environments. The AbrasiMet XL Pro allows the sectioning of high-quality cut samples with a diameter up to 7 in [178mm] which is best in class for an 18” cutter. It also has a 10kW motor, the most powerful motor on the market for this size abrasive cutter, and utilizes 14in [355mm] to 18in [457mm] blades. Quality control lab technicians in the automotive, aerospace, metals and other manufacturing will minimize processing times and ensure consistency and repeatability while enhancing the quality of their cut samples with the AbrasiMet XL Pro. Its durable design, intuitive user interface and optimized chamber will make it the ideal cutter for customers using Chop, Y-feed or Planar cutting types.

Sarah Beranek, Global Director of Innovation, explains, “Buehler designed the heavy duty large sectioning machine, so it is easy for the user to load parts, fast to perform a cut and simple to clean. We made sure the machine is robust, so it can handle our customers’ needs. All of this has resulted in a great machine that customers love.”

For more information visit www.buehler.com
**Riveting made easy - Chicago Pneumatic**

Chicago Pneumatic has launched a new series of rivet squeezers and hammers exclusively for the Industrial/MRO/Aerospace market. The CP42 series comprises of ergonomic squeezers and lightweight rivet hammers with six model of squeezers covering the most frequently used rivets.

With a low sound levels of 72 db and minimum vibration of less than 2.5 m/s², they are designed for operator comfort and safety.

A rotating swivel air inlet provides extra flexibility enabling the tool to be easily placed in the required position. Engineers also have a choice of sizes and either C-jaws or Alligator jaws to best fit the application and provide optimal access. These powerful forged steel jaws offer great durability and covers most types of rivets up to 3/16” (4.76 mm) within 3 inches (76 mm) from an edge.

There are also seven models of compact rivet hammers in the series from just 1 kg and available in a wide range from 1X for the smallest rivets up to 9X for the larger rivets. A triggering trigger allows users to deliver just the right amount of power and they can adeptly handle all aluminium rivets up to 3/8” (9.53 mm) in size.

Furthermore, when used together with the Chicago Pneumatic bucking bar, they provide excellent ergonomics so engineers can complete the task quickly and safely.

Contact
T 03442 839999
www.cp.com/en-uk/tools/
news-events/product-news/
cp42-series-rivet-squeezers-and-hammers

**Drag chain solutions**

In automotive manufacturing, drag chain systems for coolant filling systems have to transport a variety of flexibles while being robust and very reliable. Meeting the requirements, ready-to-install TOTALTRAX complete systems from Kabelschlepp Metso have proven successful in the modern filling systems from Sat Sterling. The systems consist of a base unit which is responsible for temperature-dependent mixing of the coolant. This is then transported to the mobile unit, which follows the vehicle on the right or left of the assembly track and fills it with the corresponding fluids while moving.

The mobile units usually move along gantry systems which are mounted on the ceiling of the production line, at a height of up to 6m. Kabelschlepp’s drag chains supply the power. The drag chains also contain other caliss and hoses for vacuum, compressed air, signal and coolant. These can transport up to five media at the same time.

The drag chains are supplied by the company as ready-to-install assemblies, including all cable, hoses and connectors.

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www.kabelschlepp.co.uk

**ICE Zodiac Eagle 107mm**

Coding and labelling specialist Clearmark Solutions recently launched the ICE Zodiac Eagle, a next generation 107mm thermal transfer printer, designed to deliver higher throughputs and support longer length 1200m ribbon for larger prints.

The ICE Zodiac Eagle, an evolution of the popular ICE Zodiac HS 107mm printer now features an airless all-electronic design, which allows for more precise control of the printhead and can help boost line throughput by up to 25%.

Engineering out a requirement for compressed air also helps to reduce the printers total cost of ownership, by helping to reduce operation and maintenance costs. The ICE Zodiac Eagle also features a full colour touchscreen, with the proven CLEARITY operating system. The system is fully modular allowing up to four printers to be operated from a single screen.

Chris Simpson, Managing Technical Director at Clearmark comments: “The ICE Zodiac Eagle is the latest evolution in the growing Zodiac range. This printer has been specifically engineered to incorporate a series of breakthroughs in coding technology to help customers achieve higher print quality with maximum efficiency, while continuing to drive down total cost of ownership.”

The ICE Zodiac Eagle follows the successful launch of the recently launched the ICE Zodiac Eagle, a next generation 107mm thermal transfer printer, designed to deliver higher throughputs and support longer length 1200m ribbon for larger prints.

**ICE Zodiac Hawk, the only thermal transfer printer with a built-in print checking system.** The ICE Zodiac Hawk is capable of reporting on the quality of each code it produces, largely removing the need to invest in costly add-on vision systems and operator training in order to meet increasing demand from retailers for code quality checks.

To find out more about the ICE Zodiac range or to book a demo, please call the Clearmark team on 01159 640144.
**Right first time, every time**

At Industry Update, we are dedicated to recognising and featuring companies which are leading the way in quality, innovation, and customer service. For this reason, we are proud to announce that Trizo has been selected as our Contract Electronics Manufacturer of the Month, for its provision of industry-leading contract electronics services.

Established in 2007 by Michael and Charlotte Nicholson and based in Bridgwater, Somerset, Trizo specialises in life and mission critical products for the aerospace and defence, medical, and automotive industries. Offering full end-to-end manufacturing solutions, Trizo works with its customers from initial concept to final result, ensuring every requirement is met. The company is one of the UK leaders in contract electronic manufacturing, and its highly trained production team can expertly transform an idea into a fully tested product.

“We pride ourselves in our on time delivery, with a ‘right first time’ methodology whilst maintaining the exceptionally high standards required to work within the life and mission critical sectors,” explained Charlotte Nicholson. “Also, the company’s entire management system is underpinned by the prestigious AS9100 REV D.”

In order to cement its position as an industry leader, Trizo is continually investing in state-of-the-art equipment to ensure it can provide cutting-edge manufacturing services to its customer base.

Recently, the company has seen a continued growth of its customers from initial concept to final result, ensuring every requirement is met. The company’s electronic manufacturing services are integral part of the company not just in its manufacturing processes but also in its business activities. With an understanding that the highest standards are vital to its customers, Trizo offers strong inventory traceability, serial number tracking, and in-process controls to ensure ongoing product compliance. This means that Trizo’s customers have unwavering confidence in the compliance, reliability and lowest total acquisition cost of its products.

Trizo’s services include supply chain management, NPI, DFM, SMT and through-hole PCBA, in-circuit and functional test, through to full box build, integration and logistics. The company’s electronic manufacturing services are fortified through its team’s expert knowledge, and Trizo liaises with its customers in order to fully understand individual requirements, offering customers peace of mind and establishing a strong sense of partnership.

Organic Products Company of the Month

**Everyday Organics from ORGANii**

Industry Update is proud to announce that ORGANii Ltd has been selected as our Organic Products Company of the Month, for its provision of certified organic and natural toiletries for the UK market.

Established in 2012 by Graeme Hume, ORGANii was born from the growing distribution of organic and natural skincare brands by Pravera Ltd. Due to successful sales, Pravera consistently attracted companies and brands with highly innovative products. Unfortunately, the marketing costs for bringing sales to profitable levels for a one-product company were disproportionate, rendering profit unlikely. What’s more, many brands that consisitently attracted companies and brands with highly innovative products.

These were the problems Graeme decided to solve with ORGANii, a company which brings innovation to the UK consumer in the form of certified, natural and organic products, with fresh and happy consumer-friendly packaging at an excellent price.

“Our key benefit is our integrity. All of our products are certified by a recognised certification body. By using Soil Association, Ecocert, and IDEA, for example, we can assure consumers that none of our products contain nasties, and that at a manufacturing level all the ingredients are audited for natural and organic status. These standards mean that the consumer benefits from plant oils, compared with the usual mineral oils found in skincare and cosmetics.”

Additionally, ORGANii’s products do not contain any synthetic skin irritants that are typically found in other products.

Recently, the company launched a new parent and child range, consisting of four different products: Nourishing Baby Cream, Foam Bath & Shampoo, Unscented Nappy Cream, and Fresh Scented Alcohol-Free Water. After discovering that most products in this category are not certified, or are very expensive and celebrity linked, ORGANii wanted to offer sensibly priced and effective products which parents could purchase time after time. Next year, the range will be expanded further to include Dry Baby Oil.

“We sell to health stores, independent pharmacies, quality grocers, and retailers. Our export business has also grown considerably, as buyers fall in love with the fresh dynamic visual of our packaging. Spain is currently our largest export market, and we also sell to Sweden, Malta, Canada, Hong Kong, and Ireland, with more locations in discussion,” explained Graeme.

Moreover, offering innovative products is not the only work ORGANii carries out. “We strive to not only supply products with integrity and efficacy but spend effort in educating,” said Graeme. “We are undertaking research into the negative effects of mineral oils and synthetics including sun screens, so we may pass the information onto retailers and thus consumers. Our leaflets always include some key information about ingredients, and sales staff are trained to explain the benefits of natural and organic over synthetic ingredients.”

ORGANii attends a number of trade shows each year, including MOPI in London which is always highly beneficial for the company, offering the opportunity to see regular customers and meet potential ones from the UK and worldwide. They are also regular attendees at the Natural Health Summit, Manchester, and Vitality in Dublin.

Contact
T 01278 455344
www.trizo.com

If you would like to find out more information on ORGANii’s full range of products, get in touch using the details below.

www.pravera.co.uk

If you would like to find out more information on ORGANii’s full range of products, get in touch using the details below.
Hydrostatic level sensor for up to 20m

EGE has extended its DGC line of hydrostatic level meters, adding a new sensor for measuring liquid media levels up to 20m. The sensor consists of a measuring head with integrated electronics and an IP68 probe attached to a cable. The cable is up to 20m long to ensure the probe can be lowered to the bottom of large tanks.

The electronics unit is enclosed in a rugged stainless-steel housing with a 4% thread for attachment, for instance on the tank cover. A line of LEDs integrated in the measuring head indicates the level at a glance.

The sensor requires a 24V DC supply. It can be used in ambient or media temperatures from -20°C to +75°C.

New Reduced Size Disciplined OCXO

IQD’s new IQCM-160 disciplined OCXO module is housed in a 30 x 25 x 14.6mm hermetically sealed through-hole metal package which covers approx. half the area of the current models. The IQCM-160 can achieve a holdover specification of 3.5 microseconds over a period of 8 hours when locked to a 1PPS (Pulse Per Second) input from an external GPS, GLONASS, BEIDOU, CAESARS or alternative 1PPS source.

The design incorporates an internal adaptive algorithm which enables the module to adapt to the parameters of the GPS signal after a period of 2 days of lock so that the holdover function can start in the event of signal failure. An internal alarm is built-in to indicate lock failure and subsequent reacquisition of signal. In addition, the unit incorporates a serial connection for more detailed interrogation of the devices performance.

Frequency is accurate to within ±0.005ppb when locked to a 1PPS external signal and can compete with the performance of many atomic clock references.

The standard operating temperature range of the module is -40 to 85°C. The required power supply is 3.3V with the output being standard HCMOS. Current consumption is only 75mA maximum during warm-up with this reducing to 35mA once the steady-state condition is reached.

The IQCM-160 has 1PPS and 10MHz output and also UART interfaces for software management, this has a fixed baud rate of 115,200 using 1 stop bit and no parity.

Intended for a range of applications including land based telecommunications systems as well as marine based navigation systems the IQCM-160 forms part of a range of highly specified modules and Oven Controlled Crystal Oscillators (OCXOs) available from IQD.

Packaged in ‘Bulk’ either direct from IQD or via its extensive range of worldwide distributors. Further details are available on IQD’s website at: www.iqdfrequencyproducts.com

Contact T+44 (0)1460 270000
info@iqdfrequencyproducts.com

Technology partnership results in portfolio for complete solution

Tidionic and Casambi have partnered to develop an innovative wireless light management solution. The partnership culminates in Tidionic’s basicDIM Wireless range of interoperable devices consisting of LED drivers, communication modules, sensors, a user interface as well as software in the form of the 4remote BT App. “Pairing Casambi’s technology with our long-standing expertise in the development of lighting components has resulted in a flexible and versatile new system that benefits every player in the lighting industry”, explains Bert Tuyt, Senior Director Global Systems at Tidionic.

Tidionic’s basicDIM Wireless technology is the ideal solution for wireless luminaire communication without requiring any additional wiring or construction. Conveniently controlled via Bluetooth, on/off switching as well as dimmable functions are just as simple as grouping luminaires and creating lighting settings.

Ideally suitable for office buildings or classrooms, each room and zone benefits from the system’s easy-to-use and multi-functional intelligence. To exploit the benefits of the basicDIM Wireless system, luminaires can either be fitted with Casambi Ready Tidionic LED drivers or later be easily upgraded with basicDIM Wireless Modules. Interoperable basicDIM Wireless sensors are the ideal addition to the system.

Contact T 01256 374300
www.tridonic.com
Helping you to deliver the technology of tomorrow

Established 40 years ago by Les Wheeler, IEW is based in Swindon, Wiltshire, and boasts over 60 employees who strive to offer industry-leading solutions for the contract electronics manufacturing market. “We work with companies that produce complex machines, with an aim to build better products for them so they can focus on completing their technology led projects,” explains Duncan Game, Managing Director.

Indeed, IEW is dedicated to understanding the exact problems and requirements of their customers, offering a flexible and tailored service to help the customer as best they can. With cost effective solutions, IEW endeavours to deliver finished assemblies on time and fully tested, ensuring the highest standards in both quality and reliability. They build their products to print, designing and testing everything for the customer, and are increasingly offering fast-term assembly for customers.

“...we are focused on bringing value to the industry, with a mission to bring high standards and 100% inspection, which are essential for our customers; we are passionate about building better products for OEMs and delivering quality to technology,” Duncan tells us.

IEW provides box and cabinet build, cable assembly and harnesses, PCB assembly, and PLC controllers, as well as a new 3D CAD Service using CAD modelling. This new service enables IEW to help the customer in achieving an optimum build at the best possible price. By using Siemens 3D CAD Solid Edge, they are able to work on assemblies according to customer specifications as well as creating amended drawings for manufacture.

Duncan took part in the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses UK programme, which was designed to offer quality practical education and support to leaders of small business and social enterprises throughout the UK. What’s more, the company also recently upgraded their website and bought a small CNC machine, allowing them to cut metal for switchboards at a much faster rate.

With an exciting past few months, IEW is intending to build on its impressive growth in the next year, developing PLC box build on top of their current services. What’s more, in the long-term, they are looking to branch into software to enhance their already highly valuable presence in the industry.

“We are service driven, flexible, and keen to give customers exactly what they need and ultimately exceed their expectations,” explains Duncan. “We are constantly working to improve our services to increase the quality and efficiency of what we can offer, and are looking forward to what the future holds.”

Without a doubt, the future is bright for IEW, with some exciting developments on the horizon for the company. If you would like to find out more information, they can be found at numerous exhibitions throughout the year, details of which can be found on their website. Alternatively, get in touch using the contact details below.

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www.iew.co.uk

Handling & Storage Update

Avery Weigh-Tronix offers 5-day turnaround on metrology equipment calibrations with the opening of new Calibration Select Laboratory in Birmingham

Avery Weigh-Tronix, one of the UK’s leading metrology calibration providers, has opened a dedicated laboratory to offer a 5-day turnaround on the calibration of torque, pressure, temperature and electrical equipment and mass weights.

The Calibration Select Laboratory, located at the company’s Soho Foundry site in Birmingham, features state-of-the-art testing equipment, supported by experienced laboratory technicians and a bespoke, online system which provides direct access to calibration certificates and asset details, and simplifies the customer experience.

Research shows the average turnaround time for metrology calibrations in the UK is between 7-15 days. Often this leads to businesses paying a premium to have items calibrated onsite due to time constraints, or duplicating the number of items needed for a process to use in rotation while others are sent offline for calibration. While recent changes to the ISO standards for calibrating torque tools will make the process of equipment calibration very difficult to achieve when working onsite at customer premises or in a mobile laboratory.

Calibration Select reduces equipment downtime by guaranteeing items are collected, calibrated and returned within 5 days. The expedited turnaround time is made possible thanks to a unique technician collection service, carried out by a network of over 120 Avery Weigh-Tronix service technicians across the UK. While the central location of the Calibration Select Laboratory in Birmingham provides easy access to major UK road networks.

Andrew Fox, Compliance Business Unit Manager at Avery Weigh-Tronix comments, “Based on our customer’s requirements for a single service provider for all types of metrology calibrations, we’ve expanded our offering to benefit our customers whilst developing a unique service model that has not been seen in the market place before. This enables us to deliver a guaranteed 5-day turnaround and provide our customers with the peace of mind that their equipment will fully conform with quality standards.”

To find out more, visit www.calibrationselect.co.uk
Packsize has released the X7 packaging machine

The system is designed to deliver the right-sized automated packaging for e-commerce applications. The automated custom box-making system represents a significant investment by Packsize in machine learning, packaging and process automation, corrugated infrastructure & testing and business intelligence. The automated system is the second in the company’s X series line of automated, On Demand Packaging® technology solutions.

The X7 is said to make, pack and ship a right-sized box in three seconds, producing 1,200 ready-to-ship boxes an hour for products of varying types and sizes.

"This advanced system positions packaged products well below the variable costs associated with many bagging solutions. The solution provides a more sustainable consumer pack and retains the shipping protection of the right-sized corrugated box," said General Manager Rein Beattie.

The X7 incorporates a top-down glue application, a reduction of corrugated cutting positions, reduced dust and trim, and a wide conveyance system, as well as several design approaches intended to boost speed and reliability.

Benefiting packaging optimisation and production requirements for customers, the Packsize software platform, PackNet, provides distribution and manufacturing businesses with a flexible, scalable architecture and an intuitive interface.

PackNet helps operators manage their corrugated yield, complex workflows, warehouse management and ordering systems, business intelligence, and the integration of other software and hardware.

Backed by a worldwide support organisation of expert engineers and technicians, Packsize can assist every X7 engagement at the local level and provide a full portfolio of packaging products and services for every unique packaging environment. Delivering the most needed functions to make pack and ship a right-sized box in three seconds, the X7 is available in multiple configurations designed to produce ready-to-ship boxes completely automatically in varying packaging types and sizes.

M +44 (0)7469 153192
Info.uk@packsize.com
www.uk.packsize.com

Kardex FramePick 4 Wholesale: Faster Order Picking

FramePick 4 Wholesale offers an alternative for intelligent order picking.

FramePick 4 Wholesale – Is an efficient goods-to-person storage and picking solution that virtually eliminates picking errors. Plus intelligent order batching that enables a fourfold increase in the productivity of order pickers – and all without having to install a complex system of rigid conveyors or investing in other costly material handling equipment.

Three steps to improve order processing using FramePick 4 Wholesale:
1. Increase picking performance
   - Improve picking accuracy
   - Reduce walking distances
2. Save Space
   - Optimise warehouse layout
   - Optimise storage area & volume
3. Scale your Intralogistics
   - System grows with you
   - Excellent ROI

Hans Bruyndonx, buyer at Chocolate World: “We were looking for a system where we could store our 1,500 items in boxes and pick 300 order lines per day. “The system handles up to 500 orders and store 2,736 customised boxes. Our expectations were exceeded!” Kardex Remstar supplies FramePick 4 Wholesale as a total solution including LR35 units, frames with put-to-light displays and Power Pick Global Smartpick 6000 software.

To learn more contact Kardex at info.remstar@kardex.com or visit our website at www.kardex-remstar.co.uk

Handling & Storage Update

Even ‘uglies’ moved with ease

Helping Hermes’ Rugby depot increase parcel traffic is a high-speed, semi-automated carousel belt conveyor from L.A.C. Conveyors & Automation.

Hermes required a speedier way of dealing with traffic, especially ‘uglies’, (bulky, non-machinable parcels). Much of this work was processed by hand, which slowed the transit of parcels.

The specification required the carousel conveyor to be made from heavy duty acetal plastic 2in pitch modular belt with a 5mm thick steel bed to handle 50kg/m. The straight length of the conveyor on either side is 52m. The design copes easily with 75kg/m and could go to 100kg/m.

With a tight 180° radius turn and inner radius of 1,000mm at either end to keep items moving along the 52m straight runs, the conveyor can move parcels up to 2m. A 12m wide belt provides plenty of room.

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www.lacconveyors.co.uk
GAZELEY UK AVAILABLE SPACE

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50,350 SQ FT

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UNIT 02
99,645 SQ FT

G-PARK NORTHAMPTON
UNIT 03
155,227 SQ FT

G-PARK STOKE 275
UNIT 01
274,719 SQ FT

G-PARK BIGGLESWADE
UNIT 02
106,338 SQ FT

G-PARK DONCASTER
UNIT 01
278,852 SQ FT

BUILD-TO-SUIT

G-PARK NORTHAMPTON
UNIT 02

G-PARK SKELMERSDALE
UNIT 02
Up to 606,830 SQ FT

G-PARK SKELMERSDALE
UNIT 03
221,123 SQ FT

G-PARK BECCLES
UNIT 01
128,393 SQ FT

G-PARK SITTINGBURNE
UNIT 02/03/04
50,000 to 780,000 SQ FT

G-PARK NORTHAMPTON
UNIT 04
132,698 SQ FT

SPECULATIVE COMING SOON

MAGNA-PARK MILTON KEYNES
MAGNITUDE 312
312,700 SQ FT

G-PARK BIGGLESWADE
UNIT 04
84,637 SQ FT

G-PARK BIGGLESWADE
UNIT 05
69,913 SQ FT

DOWNLOAD OUR AVAILABILITY MAP, VISIT GAZELEY.COM

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**Case Study – Tamar Coaches**

Ongoing support from Henry Howard Finance has seen fledgling transport provider Tamar Coaches Ltd travel to the next stage in business. The company secured £57.5k funding to purchase two coaches for their growing fleet. As a result, the Plymouth firm is well-established in the private hire sector and the expansion of its fleet has helped Tamar keep up with the competition. As the region’s newest coach operator, its founders always knew they would have to go the extra mile in order to compete – which is where Henry Howard Finance got on board.

Since its first commercial contract was agreed in September 2016, Tamar Coaches Ltd has firmly established itself as a regional supplier of coach travel for customers looking to span the length and breadth of the UK and beyond. Its modern fleet provides a range of travel solutions for wedding parties, school trips, commercial contracts, tourist groups and more. As a new company in a long-standing business sector, Director Tom Pearce always knew the quality and availability of Tamar vehicles would prove key to overall growth – so came to Henry Howard Finance for support in putting both factors in place.

The business has expanded rapidly since its launch, quickly adding a 33-seater Plaxton Cheeta to its fleet in 2017, and a Bova Futura 53-seater coach in 2019, with the funding it received.

Tom explained: “As a small, family-run company, pitching itself against long-established, regionally renowned competitors, we always knew Tamar would have to be high-quality and flexible in terms of its service offering. The support received has not only helped us add additional vehicles to our fleet, but also increase our capacity for more long-distance work with a higher class of vehicle involved.”

“With little experience of applying for business finance prior to engaging with Henry Howard Finance, our choice was based purely on good recommendation. The whole process was really easy, well explained and hassle free – the team clearly understand the specific difficulties of a small business. Henry Howard really took on board what we were talking about and have led us to gaining more long-distance work and a better image for the company overall as a result.”

Matt Jones, Head of Asset Finance at Henry Howard Finance, said: “This is a great example of the experience our team has in supporting businesses make the choices which are right for them – decisions which, for many, can often be make or break.

“Something that we are hugely proud of at Henry Howard Finance is the support we are able to offer our customers not just in terms of past performance, but with regards to their future potential too – we’re here for the ride, not just any one leg of your business journey come what may”

“We also know that getting ahead of your competitors in business more often than not relies on product quality and prompt delivery above anything else, and are delighted that, in Tamar’s case, our involvement has enabled this exciting new company to thrive as it continues to do both well.”

Contact Henry Howard Finance on 01633 415222 or visit www.henryhowardfinance.co.uk.

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**Fire Protection Company of the Month**

‘Our strength is your safety’: industry leaders in Passive Fire Protection

Industry Update is proud to announce that Firepro has been selected as our Fire Protection Company of the Month, for its industry-leading provision of Passive Fire Protection for companies and contractors throughout the world.

In operation for many years with Frances and James Rooney at the helm, Firepro is at the forefront of technology in the fire protection industry. Based in Dublin, the company is an approved installer and applicator of the industry’s leading Passive Fire Protection systems. Firepro has extensive experience in dealing with assigned specifiers on many types of projects, from Commercial & Industrial to Pharmaceutical & Public Sector.

Firepro take pride in installing and maintaining fire protection systems in numerous large building projects across the globe. Indeed, some of these include projects for major companies such as Pfizer Pharmaceutical, AIB (Agricultural Irish Bank), BHS (Bristol Myers Squibb), Arthur Cox, Google, Penney’s, Toyota, VHI, ESB, and Guinness/Dublpeps, to name only a few.

Passive Fire Protection (Passive Fire Protection) is fundamental to structural fire protection and the fire safety in a building, containing fires or slowing their spread through fire resistant materials which have already been installed throughout the building. This means that in the event of a fire, (Passive Fire Protection) buys more time for occupants to evacuate the building or reach an area of safety.

This essential area of (Passive Fire Protection) is where Firepro is a leading expert. As full members of the Association of Specialist Fire Protection Ireland (ASPI) the company is regularly checked by Firas, an independent body which assesses the Application and installation of Passive Fire Resisting Products. This approves Firepro’s consistent high standards of work both in office and onsite. The company also ensures all the products used are tested and approved to BS & EN Standards with complete back up data.

What’s more, because systems and technologies within the fire protection industry are constantly evolving, it is imperative that a company such as Firepro stay alert to these developments. “We keep up to date with researching new products and test data so we can provide the most efficient compartmentation within a building, to protect the structure and ensure it is a safe place for people to live and work in. We are always working to be number one, with a safe reputation and delivery of quality at all times.”

Through its expert services, Firepro helps its clients to meet legal obligations, such as insurance criteria, to provide a safe environment for employees and visitors as well as protecting valuable stock and assets. Thanks to its proficiency, Firepro recognises the challenges posed by modern buildings which include air-conditioning systems, communications networks and high specification electrical installations. This means Firepro ensures that fire compartments are maintained while considering the numerous cable, pipes and air-handling ducts and services which must pass through walls and floors.

If you would like to find out more information on Firepro’s full range of services, get in touch using the contact details below.

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info@firepro.ie
www.firepro.ie

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Industry Update is sponsored by GreenTeck Global – see them on page 28.
Indeed, 3DGBIRE offers world-leading 3D printing and scanning technologies, which are underpinned by top-quality materials and support with training services both on and off site. The company offers a comprehensive service, from implementation and training all the way through to providing first-class aftercare; 3DGBIRE is intent on its customers benefiting from substantial returns on their investment in additive manufacturing.

With a valuable mission to help companies integrate 3D printing into their business in an efficient and effective way, 3DGBIRE ensures it provides high-quality products and a customer-focused service with expert sales and technical support. Using this strong foundation, the company guarantees its customers have all the resources they need to positively transform their design and manufacturing capabilities and increase their competitiveness.

"There are some exciting developments in the pipeline for us," said Pete. "There is a range of new and enhanced technologies being developed in desktop 3D printers, large format 3D printers, filament materials, resins and 3D scanners. We work closely with the manufacturers to bring these new innovations. It's all about enabling industry to adopt additive manufacturing, and providing the expertise on how to make this happen.

"In December 2018, we moved to larger premises and since then we have almost doubled our workforce – the company is growing at a fast pace in order to keep up with our customers' demands. Over the next few years, we will continue to find new and innovative ways to support our customers, and help them make significant financial returns by using additive manufacturing. It's a very exciting time for our industry, and we're discovering new applications for additive manufacturing all the time."

Certainly, 3DGBIRE is continuing to cement its status as a premier 3D printing expert, guaranteeing satisfaction through its high-quality products and unrivalled service. If you would like to find out more information on how 3DGBIRE can help you, head to the website or get in touch using the contact details below.

Contact
T 01257 228411
enquiries@3dgbire.com
www.3dgbire.com

Premier 3D printing expert

Industry Update is proud to announce that 3DGBIRE has been selected as our Additive Manufacturing Company of the Month, for its outstanding provision of market-leading products and expertise to help facilitate the integration of 3D printing into a vast range of industry sectors.

Established four years ago by Paul Croft and Alex Mayor, 3DGBIRE was created to assist industry in adopting additive manufacturing, acting as a transformative power for companies working within general engineering, automotive, architecture, aerospace, and medical industries, to name a few. Based in Lancashire and servicing the whole of the UK and Ireland, 3DGBIRE offers sales, expert support, adaptable training, and a broad range of 3D printers, scanners, filaments, spare parts and service plans.

"We offer countless engineering benefits through the use of additive manufacturing," explained Peter Cropper, Operations Manager.

"This results in outstanding cost and time savings, and we work closely with our customers to discover where additive manufacturing can support and enhance their workflow, increase their efficiency and slash their costs.”

Case study – Luxe Fitness

A £450K funding package from Henry Howard Finance has helped breathe new life into a historic, city-centre building. Luxe Fitness wanted to get a state-of-the-art renovation project off the ground and develop a high-tech gym business, but restrictions around the site’s grade II listed status complicated plans.

Henry Howard Finance helped provide the former library and one-time art gallery in Bristol with its very own happy ever after. Luxe Fitness offers more than 150 pieces of high-tech equipment, 100 free classes, a virtual spin studio, HIIT zone, and juice and coffee bar at its base at Bedminster Parade. The business was launched in 2018 by former British Olympian Allyn Condon following the refurbishment of one of the city’s oldest buildings. Allyn is now looking to replicate the model at other sites in the Bristol area and across other locations in the South West.

Support from Henry Howard Finance enabled Luxe Fitness to create a revolutionary service offering in a competitive and ever-changing industry through the rapid acquisition of equipment, leading to decent membership figures early on and a healthy return on investment sooner rather than later in the process.

Allyn Condon, General Manager at Luxe Fitness, said: “We’ve created this fantastic space out of an old, grade II-listed building and put in a range of fantastic kit. We realised that there were so many gyms in the industry that were the same and looked at the fabric of this building to do something different.”

“The development project has been challenging; at times, mainly because the building is listed, but support from Henry Howard Finance has helped Luxe Fitness take it to the next level. They were able to structure a package that met our needs and were quick, flexible and proactive in helping us get this project going – straight away, we knew it was the right solution for us.”

Mark Catton, group CEO of Henry Howard Finance, said: “Our aim is to offer alternative finance solutions that help businesses achieve their goals and generate return on investment quickly, while competing in a competitive marketplace.

“We’re thrilled to see that our tailored finance plan has helped Luxe Fitness to complete its grade-listed renovation project and create a high-tech gym that is clearly appreciated by many. We look forward to watching Luxe Fitness go from strength-to-strength and forge ahead with its exciting expansion plans.”

Contact Henry Howard Finance on 01633 415222 or visit www.henryhowardfinance.co.uk.

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The Advanced Materials Show 2019 was a resounding success, taking place at the International Centre Telford on 10–11 July. The event welcomed over 1,500 visitors and 166 exhibitors, featuring engineers, scientists and leaders in Research and Development. These represented numerous industries including automotive, aerospace, construction, marine, energy, electronics, medical, sports equipment, and defence.

The event received outstanding feedback regarding the high quality of the visitors and the wide variety of industries represented. There was an excellent programme of conferences, featuring speakers from leading organisations in the UK and worldwide, who were responsible for some of the biggest investments in advance material research and development.

As a free to attend event, visitors had the chance to discover cutting edge advanced materials, meet new suppliers and learn about the latest techniques and technologies. It offered an unparalleled insight into current and future materials development featuring experts from all areas of the industry.

2020’s event will be on 8–9 July at a brand new venue, NAEC Stoneleigh. This will be co-located with two new events, Battery Cells & Systems Expo, and the Vehicle Electrification Expo.

This is our pick of the best exhibitors from this year’s show, listed here in alphabetical order: Glassflake, Malvern Panalytical, RadiSurf and Spectrographic Ltd. Further details can be found on this page.

RadiSurf

The polymer brush revolution enters the adhesive and coatings industry

Unthinkable just a few years ago, nanometer-thin and invisible layers of polymer brushes are suddenly becoming a real industrial option for superior joining of hard-to-bond materials or design of super-functional surfaces.

At RadiSurf, a small Danish-based company, a revolution is unfolding at a daily basis as they are breaking the way for the use of polymer brushes in everything from cars and electronics to medical devices.

“Polymer brushes are essentially polymer chains, the building blocks of plastics, that is chemically attached to surfaces,” explains Dr. Mikkel Kongsfelt, CEO of RadiSurf. “By tailoring their chemistry, we can achieve extremely strong, tight and eco-friendly bonding to most types of plastics with a process called chemical entanglement, or we can add unique new features to surfaces, such as water-repelling, antifouling or friction-control.”

Discovered ages ago and hailed as a top development featuring experts from all areas of the industry.

Glassflake

Glassflake is a world leader in the manufacture of glassflake, an engineered, performance enhancing additive. Our innovative manufacturing process enables accurate control of glass composition and flake morphology, creating an impervious physical barrier to moisture/gas permeation which can enhance fire retardancy, chemical resistance, isotropic dimensional stability, thermal stability, abrasion resistance and Young’s Modulus for protective coatings and engineered plastics.

Our manufacturing process also allows for the production of Nanoflake®, as low as 100nm thickness. Enhanced performance can be achieved at significantly lower flake loadings; the high surface area leads to improved mechanical properties.

Advances in product experience and knowledge at Glassflake have led to successful developments in a variety of new industries, such as powder coatings, 3D printing, flexible packaging and cookware coatings.

Due to the exceptional consistency and optical clarity, glassflake is used as a substrate to create Moonshine® effect pigments. Key features include high transparency for pearlescent interference, super shimmer effects and extraordinary gloss. Furthermore, our commitment to supply the highest quality products for the cosmetics industry has led to the development of Puraflake®, a cosmetic borosilicate filler with exceptionally low heavy metal content, engineered to create a soft skin feel.

Our new GF001-10 product was officially launched at the Advanced Materials Show in July this year; the product offers many of the performance benefits of traditional glassflake, now suitable for a range of novel applications such as printing inks and coil coatings.

www.glassflake.com

Malvern Panalytical

Malvern Panalytical Technologies are used by scientists and engineers in a wide range of industries and organizations to solve the challenges associated with maximizing productivity, developing better quality products and getting them to market faster.

Our mission is to create superior, customer-focused solutions and services to deliver tangible economic impact through chemical, physical and structural analysis of materials.

Underpinned by extensive industry knowledge and technical and applications expertise, Malvern Panalytical instruments help users better understand a wide variety of advanced materials.

All advanced materials start their life at the research lab. Specific additives, coatings, treatments are synthesized or formulated, tried and tested, to assess and improve performance. Our solutions are used to determine the structure and properties of advanced materials and their components at the atomic and molecular level through to the macroscopic scale.

These include technologies for assessing chemical composition, molecular weight, particle size, crystal structure and rheological properties.

As just a few examples, the cathode materials for Li-ion batteries as well as the high brightness LED were developed using our equipment, demonstrating the impact our high-quality material characterization tools can make. We can also develop customized solutions for you, to create unique instrumentation for cutting-edge research.

www.malvernpanalytical.com

New website launch - Spectrographic Ltd - Your metallurgical experts

Yorkshire based company, Spectrographic specialise in sample preparation equipment, consumables, microscopes, image analysis and hardness testers.

Celebrating 20 years in business, these experts can help you with all your application requirements and offer friendly and honest advice.

Their service team are used machine refurbishing specialists and they can support all brands of metallurgical equipment. They also have a full range of new machines available.

With the launch of their new website www.spectrographic.co.uk they hope to gain more exposure as a leading force in the industry and build on their customer base, to ensure strong relationships are formed.

“Customer service is always our priority” says Managing Director, Paul Chippendale, “ensuring our customers get the correct machines and consumables for the job and the aftercare support they need, is so important”.

Please contact 01943 879001 to see how Spectrographic can help you!
Health & Wellbeing Company of the Month

Stay Flawless

Industry Update is proud to announce that Flawless CBD is the Luxury Packaging Company of the Month.

Established in 2018 by Kim Malin and co-founder, Steve Evans, Flawless CBD was born out of a love of nature and a desire to bring something different to the CBD market. The company started with a small team of just two partners in 2018, and has since grown to become one of the largest Chocolatiers in the world, with offices in the UK, Europe, and Asia. Flawless CBD is dedicated to providing premium quality packaging and products to all of its customers, reinforcing its belief that customer relationships are vital to every aspect of the company.

Chief Executive Officer, Irin Malin, commented: “We are delighted to receive this recognition from the Industry Update team. Flawless CBD has been growing steadily over the last two years, and we are proud of the progress we have made so far. Our vision is to continue to grow and expand our operations, while maintaining our commitment to providing the highest quality products and services to our customers.”

Luxury Packaging Company of the Month

Wrap it up the right way with Stribbons

Industry Update is proud to announce that Stribbons has been selected as our Luxury Packaging Company of the Month, for its provision of premium quality packaging and embellishment products for companies across the world. It is the launch of a dedicated promotional products website. “This allows our products and services to be used by anyone looking to put their company name, brand, or logo on over 70,000 customisable products,” Tom said. “These include ribbons made from recycled or natural materials, and FSC paper for all boxes.”

Stribbons can also perform a variety of techniques in order to enhance its already magnificent packaging options, including foiling, embossing, debossing, 3D embossing, spot UV gloss, raised spot UV, spot UV glitter, handles and closure options.

Offering a comprehensive service, Stribbons has a three-stage process, working closely with its clients to help them to transition from initial concept to mass production of their packaging. First, the Stribbons team meets with the client’s sales representative and discusses the brand’s vision and design for the packaging. Then, once the factory quote is approved, the artwork is submitted for preproduction sampling. Finally, after the sample has been approved, the final artwork is sent for production, with a lead time of approximately 90 days for delivery.

The company has also been implementing sustainable practices within its product range. “Recently, we have been producing a lot more environmentally friendly products,” Tom said. “These include ribbons made from recycled or natural materials and FSC paper for all boxes.”

Another recent development for the company is the launch of a dedicated promotional products website. “This allows our products and services to be used by anyone looking to put their company name, brand, or logo on over 70,000 customisable products.”

There is no doubt that Stribbons will continue its impressive growth as it looks to the future, with the company’s turnover having tripled within the last two years.

If you would like to find out more information on its full range of products and services, head to the website or get in touch using the contact details below.

T 0116 234 4820
www.flawlesscbd.co.uk

www.stribbons.com

For more information, head to the website or get in touch using the contact details below.

T 01933 675012
info@stribbons.com
www.stribbons.com

www.flawlesscbd.co.uk

T 0116 234 4820

www.flawlesscbd.co.uk

T 01933 675012

www.flawlesscbd.co.uk

T 0116 234 4820
3D Printing Update

Adding a new dimension to 3D printing

Established in 2011, 3DPRINTUK has become one of the UK's leading 3D printing services, working with companies internationally to offer 3D printing solutions of the highest quality and efficiency. 3DPRINTUK has capitalised on the lack of plastic of 3D plastic production that up until the company's inception, had prevented 3D printing from reaching its true potential.

3D plastic production eradicates the need for CNC milling or high-cost injection moulding. 3DPRINTUK specialises in low volume production runs, and works with a number of notable companies. By using Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) machines, the company is able to produce components that end up more usable than those made by alternative machines.

TIJ printers streak through Moll’s coding tasks

In the first UK installation of its kind, Rotech has supplied Molls Bacon with a five head, centrally controlled TIJ (thermal ink jet) coding solution. The capital cost was a third less than the indexing thermal transfer systems that are usually specified for these on-thermoformer applications, and the bacon producer is enjoying low running costs thanks to exceptional ink economy, reduced setup times and zero servicing.

"I’m very impressed that the only upkeep I have to do on these printers is clean the heads twice a day. The unit is very efficient in regards to ink consumption, there is still 40% ink left and we haven’t yet replaced the cartridges since they were installed in March. If I’d known then what I know now about TIJ technology, I would have had these printers on our other thermoformer," enthuses Matthew Dowell, engineering manager at Molls Bacon. From its Birmingham slicing and packaging facility, Molls Bacon supplies the food service and retail markets in the UK and overseas with vacuum and MAP packed bacon, sold under its Cole Valley brand as well as under customers’ own labels.

Molls was already buying coding consumables from Rotech, so when it needed a new automated system for applying date codes and batch numbers to the film lids of thermoformed packs, it sought advice from the Hertfordshire coding specialist.

To this day, the company has printed over 1,000,000 models in one material, and has no plans on slowing down. With SLS machines of the same calibre as much larger companies, but being smaller in size, 3DPRINTUK can offer a more personal service to its customers but with end products that do not falter in quality. If you or your business is in need of 3D printing services, then 3DPRINTUK is most definitely the company for you.

For more information, see the details listed below.

T 02086 925208
www.3dprint-uk.co.uk

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CUSTOM PLASTIC COMPONENTS

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Try our NEW online injection mould comparison calculator!

Compare your injection moulding quote to additive manufacture and see how much we can save you on part production costs using SLS 3D printing.

hello@3dprint-uk.co.uk
T. 0208 692 5208
The new SMS R1 system from Rebo Systems in the Netherlands can be used in-house to create technical and safety labelling quickly and effectively. The R1 is a desktop system that can print in multiple colours and cut any shape in minutes and in any number of quantities. Users can create one-off labels or multiple labels, in multicolour and in any shape in one process. The R1 enables creation of pipe identification, cable identification, tagging, equipment labels, certification marking and generic safety labels – all from one device.

Producing mixed output means the R1 can deliver varied quantities of different types of labels in a single process, controlling costs and with instant delivery. Materials include high durability coloured vinyls, low and high strength adhesives, long life outdoor polyesters and difficult surface solutions.

T +31 3560 16941
info@rebo.nl
www.rebosystems.com

The SMS Kodiak is designed to make multi-colour signs from 10cm wide up to 22cm wide in one pass. The Kodiak has two print heads and interchangeable ribbons – so creating GHS and industry compliant HSE signage is now easy, fast and achievable from a dedicated system. Working as a standalone system, with its own in-built processor and wide colour touch screen – the Kodiak is free from network constraints and can be approached and used by anyone at any time.

The Kodiak can also be used connected to a computer; it has its own driver and comes complete with a tailor made software that gets the most out of the Kodiak's capabilities. Pre-loaded with a full GHS data base and a range of templates from Arc Flash, Pipe Marking and with over 2000 internationally approved safety graphics – the Kodiak brings a new definition to value for money and productivity. Unlike many large size safety sign printers on offer, the Kodiak is not an adapted printer; it’s a purpose designed and built product – fully optimised to deliver fast, durable and multi-colour output that last’s in aggressive environments.

T +31 3560 16941
www.rebosystems.com

Experts in labels, labelling and label printing, Datamark supply and manufacture a varied range of labelling solutions to a wide range of customers spread across various industries. Relying in the services of Datamark, customers can enjoy numerous benefits, for example gaining from the years of knowledge and experience amassed by Datamark.

Converting and seeking to add new products to their already extensive range, Datamark truly are the one stop shop for all of your labelling needs. Moving from strength to strength since its inception in 1995, Datamark offers customers competitive pricing, unparalleled customer service, reliable deliveries, rapid quote turnaround, and an extensive product range.

Datamark’s product range includes; Plain and Colourwashed Labels, Flexographic Printed Labels, A4 Sheeted Labels, Fanfolded Labels & Tags, Oven Brand Thermal Transfer Ribbons, Thermal Transfer Ribbons, Thermal Transfer Bureau Print Solutions, GoDex and other brand Thermal Transfer Printers, Thermal Transfer and Direct Thermal Print Solutions, and TT Printers Service and Maintenance.

Driving the company forward, aside from their extensive product range, is their continued emphasis on providing the best customer service possible. It is no wonder that Datamark supply such a wide variety of industries, including; food, distribution and logistics, storage and contract packers, electronics, homecare, automotive and industrial.

sales@datamarkuk.com
www.datamarkuk.com

Can you imagine a world without labels?

We manufacture bespoke labels in more than a dozen sectors including NHS, pharmaceutical and food and drink. Get in touch. We can help.

01642 474230
sales@firstchoicelabels.co.uk
firstchoicelabels.co.uk

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T +31 3560 16941
www.rebosystems.com
Established in 1976 – packing over 40 years of experience and expertise in their field – Cap Coder are based in Oxfordshire, and has been a family run business ever since its inception. Founded on trust and integrity, it truly is a company that cares, driven by a strong ethical code to do right by the customer. This is one of the many benefits of using Cap Coder, you’re guaranteed to have your needs put first by a team of technical experts eager to create a bespoke solution for the customer.

Cap Coder specialise in the design and manufacture of bespoke and standard machines for capping, coding, and filling applications. Cap Coder is well established in its field, serving a wide range of industry sectors, including: toiletries, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, complimentary medicines, chemical, food and beverages. Within these sectors there is a wide range of products Cap Coder’s machines can be designed for use with, from nail varnish to nasal spray, from tomato sauce to paint – Cap Coder have it covered.

All products can be handled by Cap Coder’s machines, including all shapes and sizes of bottles, Jerry cans and other bottles, tamper evident caps, pump action spray caps and trigger spray caps.

Aside from the versatility and adaptability of Cap Coder’s machines to suit customer’s specific needs, Cap Coder also offer customers unparalleled customer service. Offering a proactive and supportive service, once the client has bought a machine, the customer’s experience does not end there.

Offering an excellent technical support service, experts from Cap Coder will be at hand to service machines and provide and change spare parts.

The team at Cap Coder pride themselves on getting to know the customer, gaining a deep understanding of their needs before undertaking any project. Delivering first class and flexible results, Cap Coder has its finger on the pulse when it comes to the latest technological developments in the industry. Seeking to continually adapt and respond to changes in the engineering and packaging industries, Cap Coder is constantly developing new products.

Its machines are ideal for a wide range of industries, and are all accredited to 9001:2008 build standard and come supplied with a Certificate of Conformity/Incorporation. The array of machines is impressive, meaning there is no company too big or too small for Cap Coder, and no project too specific. From screw cap tightening (to a desired torque), press on capping, plug insertion (including brushes, roll-on deodorant balls and dispensing nozzles), liquid filling, agitator ball insertion, conveyor, and ATEX zone 1 and 2 compliance; Cap Coder have it covered.

Moreover, all of the machines are made in England and designed in-house, with this ensuring the team have complete control over the entire manufacturing process. The end result? Capping, coding and filling machines which are second-to-none in quality.

T +44 (0)1865 891466
sales@capcoder.com
www.capcoder.com

High quality coding, capping and filling machines designed and built in England
Get positive about packaging & the planet

No business leader can have seen the latest United Nations warning on biodiversity and failed to be struck by the scale of the challenge now facing the planet. This recent study warns that a million species are at risk of extinction without radical action to conserve the earth’s disappearing natural resources. But we also know that the world’s current pattern of economic growth risks making matters worse, not better. Rising populations are driving consumption in ways that place growing strain on our climate and ecosystems. Reducing the impact of our actions is no longer enough. We must find ways of designing a circular economy that adds to the planet’s capacity to sustain life; not merely reduces the planet’s capacity to sustain life; not merely reduces.

The current worldwide concern over single-use plastic packaging made out of finite fossil resources creates an opportunity to demand that all companies commit to using more renewable materials. Mounting concern over climate change is also rightly drawing attention to environmental impacts along the product life cycle. And with no need for refrigeration and a cold chain as goods are transported and stored, we’re also reducing food loss while cutting energy usage and carbon emissions in the food supply chain.

Another challenge is food waste. Aseptic carton technology allows farmers to make the most of the world’s most effective carbon sinks: forests. Its long ambient shelf life together with the lowest filling waste rate in the industry helps to tackle food waste and the role it plays in climate change. And with no need for refrigeration and a cold chain as goods are transported and stored, we’re also reducing food loss while cutting energy usage and carbon emissions in the food supply chain.

And finally, our role at the heart of the distribution system lets us collaborate with customers, suppliers, communities, employees, and other stakeholders to seek to develop a waste-free society, working together to further reduce carbon footprints and build effective recycling systems.

The crux of the issue for us at SIG is how to help create a net positive food supply system. Our role today is supplying food and drink manufacturers with technology for packing their products in aseptic cartons – an inherently more sustainable system than many packaging alternatives and one which eliminates the need for refrigeration and preservatives. These packs are made mainly from paperboard, a renewable raw material which can also be re-used at the end of its life cycle. We are working hard to help improve recycling rates and to design out other materials such as fossil plastic and aluminium. Our paperboard also comes from certified responsible sources, which helps tackle climate change directly by investing in the world’s most effective carbon sinks: forests.

CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS

It is one of the reasons we had been taking part in and supporting a major international forum in Hainan, China, in May – bringing together some 300 corporate leaders, start-ups, investors and international agencies to share and discuss decarbon and circular economy solutions for a sustainable and climate-resilient future. It’s a big topic and an even bigger challenge, but by sharing ideas and leading by example, we hope the Hainan conference can serve as a catalyst for companies everywhere to think more collaboratively about how to become part of the solution.

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WAY BEYOND GOOD

We recognize this will require a sustained effort by all involved in the supply chain. Consumers are rightly demanding that corporations take more responsibility for building a genuinely zero-waste society and truly circular economy. Our commitment to going ‘Way Beyond Good’ means we aim to halve our environmental footprint by 2030 while doubling our contribution to society.

Right now, the way the world consumes goods is polluting the oceans, exhausting landfill capacity and creates more than two billion tonnes of waste every year. Today’s climate and natural resource crisis means we face a real risk of supply failure in the food and packaging systems. Unless we decouple growth from environmental impact and ensure we leave ecosystems and society stronger than we found them, it won’t just be business which struggles to survive.

Contact

www.sig.biz
Kingston Engineering is one of the UK’s leading manufacturers of bespoke power screws. Based in Hull, the company offers a vast selection of materials and specifications designed to suit their clients’ requirements.

With a history dating back to 1919, Kingston Engineering has specialised in manufacturing Right Hand/Left Hand, single/multi-start, cut thread Power Transmission Screws and Nuts for over 60 years. Adaptable for mechanical power transmission, their products conform to the standards of British, European and American requirements. All of Kingston’s products meet ISO 9001-2015 accreditation and are examined thoroughly during the manufacturing process.

Kingston Engineering’s screws can be used in a range of applications across multiple industries, including aerospace, oil and gas, nuclear energy, the chemical and medical fields. The company works closely with both suppliers and end users to provide the best purpose-built screws possible, with customers across the UK and the US.

The company started trading as Hull Motor Transport and Engineering Co, manufacturing pistons and providing cylinder grinding. Robert Markham and Thomas Simpkins, the company’s original directors, focused on offering a bespoke service, which is something the company still upholds today. With only 10 employees, expansion was nevertheless on the horizon, enabling the company to provide general engineering services and build a renowned reputation for repairing both saw milling machinery and printing machinery.

The company became Kingston Engineering Co. Ltd in 1924 and started developing manufacturing screws in 1930. Growth during decades marked by World War One and World War Two was challenging, however, 1930-1945 saw expansion for Kingston Engineering, with World War Two bringing a need for manufacturing components for aircraft undercarriages.

After World War Two, the company operated from a larger site in Pennington Street and began to specialise in screw manufacturing. Kingston Engineering began to install modern machinery, giving them the perfect platform to grow and open new markets in Australia and South Africa.

In the sixties the company moved from motor sales to industrial sales, with further investments in its factory, export market, modern machinery, product range and ‘Off the Shelf’ service. Kingston Engineering now had extremely well-equipped workshops, enabling them to accommodate facilities for milling, shaping, welding, grinding and turning.

Kingston Engineering further expanded their factory premises and their product range, leading to a vast range of screws, sprockets, chains, pumps and bearings. They also expanded their sprayed coating services and began exporting across Europe. The eighties saw digital technology further increase Kingston Engineering’s already established skillset.

Now, Engineering provides a quick, efficient service with help from their 40+ workforce. Recently, they invested in a new Mituyo Euro M544 Measuring Machine, a significant tool for their inspection department. The machine allows the measurement of an object’s physical geometrical characteristics. The machine creates printed inspection reports and is controlled by an operator, with measurements designed by a probe attached to the machine’s third moving axis.

It is clear to see that over the years, the company has significantly invested in their machinery for continued success. The current directors have more than 100 years of experience between them and are continuously engaging in plans to help the company become global leaders in screw manufacturing.

Contact
T 01482 325676
www.kingston-engineering.co.uk

The core of PatWorld centres around an intuitive search form providing you with all the tools required to extract and analyse the results you need from over 115 million indexed patent documents covering multiple territories and languages.

We have drawn on over 100 years of combined patent searching experience to develop tools and features that allow you to achieve the most from your searches.
Flow waterjet ups the ante with Joe Gibbs Racing

Joe Gibbs Racing has added a Mach 500 4020 with Dynamic XD® cutting head and Hyper Jet® Pump to its production operations at its Huntersville facility. With high-precision, multi-axis capabilities, the addition will expand the team’s ability to design and manufacture custom performance parts necessary to maintain a competitive edge on the track.

Mark Bringle, technical activation manager of Joe Gibbs Racing says: “At this level of competition, precision is everything. This machine is the perfect combination of reliability, accuracy and speed we need to produce the parts that keep our cars at peak performance. This is a huge opportunity for us.”

As one of Flow’s signature workhorse systems, the Mach 500’s precision engineering makes it the quickest and most accurate production waterjet on the market. The team’s newly acquired unit is configured with a Dynamic XD® cutting head, capable of complex bevel and compound angle cutting with 5-axis motion for maximum flexibility as well as Flow’s Hyper Jet pump creating ultrahigh-pressure up to 94,000 psi. Jim Jensen, president of Flow International, comments: “It’s exciting for me to see our products contribute to real world results at the highest competitive level and as a personal fan, it’s an honour to give the team over at Joe Gibbs Racing the tools they need to succeed. Partnerships like this one are why we strive to be the best we can be.

This season, Flow is represented on the legendary No. 19 car, driven by full-time NASCAR Xfinity Driver Brandon Jones.

For more information please contact Thorite on 0800 034 5850 or visit www.thorite.co.uk
UNISIG Deep Hole Drilling Systems

Established in 1981, UNISIG has over the years garnered a glistening reputation as a leading global provider of deep hole drilling machines, accessories and related services. After being acquired by Entrust Manufacturing Technologies and relocating to Wisconsin in 1995, the company saw heavy investment, previous industrial limitations were contested, and UNISIG began stretching the boundaries of what could be achieved in the industry. Today UNISIG offers an unrivalled state of the art product line, installations of which can be found throughout North and South America, Europe and Asia.

UNISIG works closely with its customers to ensure that appropriate solutions are provided and requirements are met to the highest level of specificity feasibly achievable. The company boasts a lengthy history of achievement, through which customer satisfaction is consistently met irrespective of technical challenges. Regardless of a customer’s experience in deep hole drilling, UNISIG is happy to help, and consult customers on ensuring that they receive the most cost effective and efficient support possible. The company also invites its customers to visit its Wisconsin production facility while their machine is in the manufacturing process to witness how

the machines are constructed, and to see for themselves the kind of standards that UNISIG adheres to when putting together its machinery.

The machines that the company produces are all manufactured by engineers that have a comprehensive understanding of the industry and its challenges. All UNISIG engineers are trained in advanced 3D modelling and simulation tools, which leave UNISIG capable of producing virtual prototypes. Throughout the engineering process, the company applies various ISO, DIN and AGMA standards, which ensure that UNISIG adheres to the highest standards and regulatory stipulations. All castings, forgings and weldments are sourced locally, and all critical components are manufactured in the company’s Wisconsin facility, wherein handsome investment has been poured into equipment, tools and training.

UNISIG offers an express delivery service that allows quick shipment of all of its standard models, all of which will have been tested rigorously at the UNISIG tech centre. The test centre provides extensive prototyping services, which aid in reducing risk of new process development and are often the foundation upon which product development and improvement is exacted. If a customer requires a machine that can’t be found as part of UNISIG’s standard product range, the company offers bespoke solutions, wherein customer requirements can be met through custom built machinery, all adhering to the same disciplined standards as the rest of the UNISIG product line.

Over the last 12 months, the company has launched an additional five models in its USC-M product series. The machines offer deep hole drilling and milling centred for the mould industry.

The machines boast a sustainably stronger milling capacity, and offer robust support for indexable gundrill tools as well as some BTA tools, which halves production times for mould manufacturers, thus maximising profitability and production capacity. USC-M series products offer an extensive spectrum of solutions for manufacturers; these solutions include heavy weight table capacities, automatic tool changers, a rotating A-axis, and intuitive controls on each machine. There is a diverse range of capacities and options, with either universal or dedicated spindles.

As well as introducing new products to its already extensive range, UNISIG has recently begun the process of upgrading pre-existing models. UNISIG’s Philipp Steimle tells us “We are currently upgrading our UNI and UNE series of drilling machines, which are mainly used in industrial environments, contract manufacturing shops and the medical field. Simplifying integration of automatic loading and versatility will reduce cost and lead times significantly.”

The installation of UNISIG UNE series machines is simple and painless, and includes training at UNISIG’s training facility to ensure that new operators are given the opportunity to familiarise themselves with machine operation and process optimisation. The machines are designed to house technology that supports accurate and efficient drilling as well as having smart controls for intuitive operation and setup, all of which is achieved while the machine remains cost effective. The machines drill with high levels of precision, and they can handle prototypes, job shop and medium volume production environments without stress, making them extremely efficient.

The UNI series machines are production deep hole drilling applications that have been designed specifically for high

accuracy at high volumes, and are able to create a flawless solution for more tasking applications. Making the largest impact at the lowest cost the UNI machines fuse known, reliable components with new and innovative technologies, all of which come as a result of UNISIG’s own leading research and development. The machines offer an impressive and diverse range of functions and capabilities, including gundrilling options, BTA drilling or a combination of the two, and frequently integrate conveyors, robotics or other automation technology in order to optimise production.

Future plans for the company are to continue to provide the quality of products and services that the company has become so well known for, as well as increasing its presence throughout the international drilling community.

Philipp Steimle says “As a supplement to this global presence, UNISIG attends over 15 shows every year to raise awareness of their products and services. The most important show this year will be the EMO show in Hannover, where we will show a robot loaded gundrilling machine on our booth. As well as being present at numerous trade shows, UNISIG also has a website where you can find out more information about their full range of machines and technical services.”

For more information on UNISIG, see the details below.

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Optimum blasting of fastening elements

For more than 50 years, the BENSELER Group has been a competent partner for technically sophisticated solutions in the areas of coating, surface finishing, deburring and design of series components. 2017 saw the commissioning of a new plant in Lüdenscheid – prominently located right next to the A 45. In addition to its award-winning architecture, this aesthetically appealing structure embodies a multitude of modern technical details that are especially attractive.

Particular attention was paid to energy efficiency. This is reflected in heat exchangers installed on the ovens and an in-house thermal circuit for the pre-treatment process and the building. In addition, a chiller operated with waste heat ensures that room temperatures are at all times pleasant.

It therefore comes as no surprise to see that new approaches have also been adopted in surface technology with the creation of a fully automated concept. Benseler has introduced job coating of fastening elements for customer orders at the Lüdenscheid location. As a consequence, screws, nuts and washers all receive a high-quality zinc flake coating through the GEOMET® process. 2,500 to 5,000 different parts and designs are involved.

The majority of customers are in the automotive supplier industry, and these insist on workpieces retaining absolutely identical characteristics after processing. This stipulation also influences surface coating. Pretreatment of workpieces is realised in three drum-type blasting machines installed on the line by AGTOS. These are filled automatically and emptied onto a conveyor belt that transports the parts to the coating process.

Johan Adriaan de Heu, Plant Manager at Lüdenscheid: “We opted in favour of AGTOS as a supplier for blasting technology, as we were impressed by the drum-type blasting system concept. It’s similar to the concept of the downstream coating process.” Drum-type blasting systems have the major advantage of eliminating any tilting or jarring of parts. Damage to parts is prevented as a result, and this is also an absolute necessity also during mass production in the automotive industry.

A further advantage of these machines is their low maintenance requirement, this being a consequence of the avoidance of jarring. The geometry of the drums means they can be emptied completely, thus preventing mixing of different workpieces.

Over the years, Benseler has gained extensive experience of different blasting technology concepts. One example was the use of a large snail drum blasting machine, but the extensive drop height involved here during charging led to damaging of the workpieces. Other machines of the same type exhibited disadvantages during emptying, and rubber belt blasting systems also proved inadequate.

The concept presently employed, which involves a combination of three smaller AGTOS drum-type blasting machines, ensures that the company has adequate reserves to increase capacities even further in future. Blasting of around 150 t per day is currently realised with a cycle time of approximately 6 minutes per blasting machine. The loading capacity of the machines is approximately 250 kg, depending on the geometry of the workpieces. The parts are introduced gently to the drums and discharged with equal care following blasting by tilting the drums.

A centralised control system was installed at Benseler that monitors the complete coating line. A plug-in control panel enables direct on-site operation of individual machines. Electric linking not only involves the master computer which manages and visualises machine data. The washing station, the ovens and an in-house thermal circuit for the pre-treatment process and the building. In addition, a chiller operated with waste heat ensures that room temperatures are at all times pleasant.

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A centralised control system was installed at Benseler that monitors the complete coating line. A plug-in control panel enables direct on-site operation of individual machines. Electric linking not only involves the master computer which manages and visualises machine data. The combination of several machines makes the development of a continuous production system possible. In addition to an increase in capacity achieved through additional machines, this concept reduces non-productive periods and compensates for downtimes (e.g. due to maintenance).

Proven processes are essential for reliable production. AGTOS high-performance turbines employing the practical single-disc system are a further maintenance-friendly and powerful argument in favour of this plant. Optimised design saves abrasive, the real tool of blasting technology. In addition to these proven turbines, the reliable and service-friendly filter technology employed also deserves particular mention. Cleaning of filter cartridges governed by differential pressure also contributes to efficient operation.

A further aspect of the design process relating to these drum-type blasting machines was energy efficiency. All drives are designed to conform to the current Ecodesign Directive. As a consequence, the blasting machine consumes a comparatively low volume of energy when compared to conventional systems, and this keeps operating costs down.

The extent of the ‘blasting’ plant needed is developed on the basis of customer requirements and experience. Numerous variables, such as turbine performance, the charging and discharging system, abrasive type or other influencing factors ensure that the customer receives an exceptionally high-performance system.

The abrasive is maintained in continuous circulation. This involves collection following the blasting process and its conveyance to the upper part of the machine using a bucket elevator. The abrasive is cleaned here and undersized particles are eliminated before it is fed back again to the high-performance turbines.

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Toby shines in health and safety Rising Star Awards

Toby Cook’s dedication as a health and safety advisor for Lanes Group plc has earned him the chance to be named health and safety Rising Star of the year. The 20-year-old has been shortlisted for the award which recognises the talent, hard work and contribution made by young health and safety professionals across the UK. He will find out if he has won the award, given by Safety and Health Practitioner Magazine, at the S9F Safety Expo at Excel in London on Wednesday June 26. Toby said: “I am overwhelmed to be shortlisted. It’s very special to be recognised by my professional peers. I enjoy the industry I work in and the work I do, I also get a lot of support from colleagues, so it is easier to make a difference working for a company where safety is appreciated.”

Toby was nominated for the Rising Star Award in the utility industry category by Health and Safety Manager Kris Taylor from the Lanes operation delivering the wastewater network maintenance service for Thames Water, the UK’s largest water company. Working in partnership with Thames Water, Lanes is responsible for surveying, cleaning and repairing drains and sewers, as well as wet well cleaning and wastewater tankering, on behalf of 1.5 million customers across London and the Thames Valley.

Toby joined Lanes in April 2018 as a health and safety trainee with no higher education qualifications. He had previously worked as a suit salesman. To learn about his role, he went on ride-along days with operational colleagues – a concept adopted for all members of the health and safety team.

While studying for a NEBOSH General Certificate in health and safety, he used his study leave to support colleagues preparing for audits to achieve ISO 45001:2018 accreditation.

Toby has also used his new skills and knowledge to help coaches at his cycling club carry out dynamic risk assessments of activities undertaken by its youngest members, aged 6 to 17.

Lanes introduced its health and safety advisor trainee scheme to ensure it had people with the right skills and attitude to support a positive safety and wellbeing culture across its Thames Water operation.

Contact
www.lanesfordrains.co.uk

Composite trench covers

Many UK power generation facilities are adopting made-to-measure composite trench covers, according to Fibrelite.

Electrical power generation facilities have large quantities of cabling running below ground, which must be accessed regularly. In the 1960s, heavy concrete and steel or cast-iron trench access covers were the only option. Many sites now are upgrading to made-to-measure heavy-duty Fibrelite GRP composite covers, especially on road crossings where a high load rating (often D400 40t) and frequent access is required.

Fibrelite’s highly engineered GRP composite material is significantly lighter than metal, yet just as strong, and the company said it is fast becoming recognised as an effective alternative to traditional steel and concrete. Fibrelite covers are about one third of the weight and can be manually removed safely by one or two people.

T 01756 799773

TCFM retain their Top 2% position

TCF Facilities Management (TCFM), are celebrating an increase in their ACS score to 104 points, awarded to them in their annual audit. This means its position in the Top 2% of the SIA listed companies within the Approved Contractor Scheme is retained. In addition, auditors highlighted many areas of good practice during the 4-day audit along with no areas needing improvement.

Gaining and retaining SIA approved Contractor Scheme status gives both existing and potential customers the confidence that the service has been independently assessed against recognised standards and procedures and that all the security personnel have been correctly trained for the role they are performing.

The 4-day audit witnessed a full scrutiny of the TCF Security Services operation with Auditors visiting both the Head Quarters and satellite offices along with a mix of varied customers who receive services from TCF Security Services.

In response to the audit score, Steve Boyden, Managing Director of TCF Security Services said, “To achieve an ACS score of 104 every department in the company contributed 100%. However, the real unsung heroes responsible for this score were dedicated teams of security officers, who day in, day out do that vital work in ensuring our service delivery is second to none. Well done to you all, you are indeed a credit to TCF Security Services.”

Richard Chappell, CEO of TCF Facilities Management added, “This superb SIA audit performance by TCF Security Services is testament to a team approach. The combined efforts of the management team, our Compliance Department and employees right across the business display their total focus, professionalism and commitment to their clients have produced this much deserved result.”

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Supporting industry to reduce the risk of human error

As a Chartered Chemical Engineer with a 30-year career in the process industry, Lorraine Braben understands the challenges faced by her clients. Moreover, having significant experience in HSE and Human Factors in Process Safety, Lorraine is well-placed to advise clients on risk reduction, reflected in her accreditation by the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors.

When examining major incidents, there are usually many contributing factors. The environment, systems and resources available will impact behaviour and we can optimise them to create an environment which minimises undesirable behaviours or which can deal with the consequences of human error.

“My work is all about supporting businesses to manage the risk of human error” explains Lorraine, “and I assist them with all aspects of Human Factors management: audits and assessments, project planning and delivery, training and mentoring.”

Mitigating risk necessitates investigating what really happens in the workplace. There is often a disconnect between ‘work as practised’ compared to ‘work as imagined’ and managers need to understand the reality of how their facilities are actually operated and maintained.

Developing strategy, supporting clients to deliver their projects around Human Factors topics, or sitting in on HSE interventions all fall within Lorraine’s remit. As a qualified trainer, she also designs and delivers bespoke courses for clients, meeting their specific industry standards which helps to reduce risk by improving competence.

Contact
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www.brabenconsulting.co.uk

Ergonomic workstation

Bott has developed a flexible and efficient workstation, allowing customised applications and seamless expansion when a business needs change.

The ergonomically designed workstation can be changed to suit varying processes, with a height adjustable frame bench as the base, integrated accessories and flexible overhead solutions. The adjustable working height options allow for seated or standing working.

Ensuring staff welfare, safety and productivity, Bott believes that investing in a professional system is key to creating the optimal operational processes.

Simple and easy to use, the new online configurator tool from Bott allows users to design a unique workstation that best suits their operational needs and activities.

T 01288 355666

Anti-graffiti coating added to range of traffic signs

Leading UK online retailer of safety signage, SafetySigns4Less has added anti-graffiti coating options to its vast range of reflective traffic management signs.

Originating from the Greek word graphien, meaning to write, graffiti is a common illegal offence in the UK which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and fines of up to £2,500. However, threats of large sentences and expensive fines do not seem to deter those intent on making their mark with spray paint on property that does not belong to them. In London alone, it is estimated that the cost of cleaning up graffiti is £100 million per year.

The new anti-graffiti coating from SafetySigns4Less is available as a purchase option on all traffic management signs. The coating is applied to the sign during the manufacturing process and prevents graffiti from adhering permanently to the sign. This allows for graffiti to be easily cleaned off without any damage to the sign’s surface, making permanent vandalism a thing of the past.

Proving already popular, SafetySigns4Less is due to roll out anti-graffiti coating options to parking signs in Autumn 2019.

To purchase traffic signage complete with anti-graffiti coating, visit www.SafetySigns4Less.co.uk.

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Supporting industry to reduce the risk of human error

Health & Safety Update

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Aquateck: better cleaning solutions – pure and simple

Aquateck from Oxfordshire company GreenTech Global is a just-launched, innovative, product that looks set to make waves in the commercial cleaning market.

The process is environmentally friendly, green, cost-effective, efficient and safe... since it starts and ends with ordinary a salty brine.

Tap water is fed through a standard water softener and salt is added (0.5 gms per litre – sea water is approximately 30 gms per litre).

This solution is then passed through the Aquateck electrolysis unit. The result is known as AW (Activated Water) contains FAC Freely accessible Chlorine – the world’s strongest natural steriliser – and chlorine (5 ppm, compared to around 1.5 ppm for water in a swimming pool) that degrades back to ordinary H2O and salt. This AW can be used in a number of ways: spray-bottle applicators, direct application to surfaces, mop and buckets and even via industrial floor cleaners; effectively replacing the need for aggressive and expensive chemical cleaners,

In a spray-bottle, the AW solution remains active for around 72 hours, but after use there is even no need to rinse because as it works it degrades back to ordinary H₂O and salt.

GreenTech Global already manufactures and markets a range of airborne ozone generators, but its founder David Thurston has high hopes for Aquateck across a wide range of markets.

Extensive scientific trials of the Aquateck unit have just been completed at the Burlington Court Care Home in Northampton with remarkably impressive results. The large, modern, home has more than 100 residents and is rated ‘Outstanding’ by the CQC, so standards are already high.

Swab tests for Recoverable Live Units (RLUs) were taken both before and after cleaning in different locations around the home on a daily basis and the AW was used in direct competition with the products used in the home’s established cleaning regime. These sites included:

- Door push plates – where frequent use means cross-contamination could be an issue
- Handrails on staircases – also used regularly by staff and residents
- Food contact surfaces – prone to bacteria unless cleaned regularly and thoroughly
- Staff room – lower than expected starting readings, possibly because of regular use with existing chemicals
- A separate trial was also undertaken in one specific bedroom where staff had identified a persistent odour problem that was proving resistant to treatment.

The results across the fortnight of the trial showed that AW outperformed the existing chemicals across all the test areas: with the exception of just one area where it is believed there may have been an issue with the water supply prior to it entering the activation process.

Pre-cleaning swabs showed lower levels of RLUs, there was a significantly greater per centage reduction in the number of RLUs after cleaning and it appears AW gave greater and longer protection against the reappearance of RLUs. In the bedroom trial, where carpets were treated using AW in home’s own steam-cleaner, staff reported a dramatic reduction in the odour and noted that this seemed to be an on-going improvement.

Burlington Court is owned by Tej Sehmi, along with two other homes in the area, with a new, fourth one currently under construction and due to open next year. He said: “It is fair to say we were very, very impressed with the results.

“It certainly seems we were getting at least as good – if not better results – than with our existing regime. However we could certainly save money by not having to buy the range of chemical products we currently use.

“These products are aggressive and there is potentially the risk of a serious incident if they are misused or accidentally mixed. We have to have COSHH training for our staff to make sure they understand how to use these chemicals and the dangers associated. Whereas with the Aquateck unit there are no COSHH requirements because it is absolutely safe to use. It is also true to say that our staff really liked using the AW because it was literally as easy as turning on the tap... odourless, completely safe to use and so no significant risk of any accident.”

David Thurston, who has been involved in the ‘ozone industry’ for around ten years, including time spent in China, the USA and Central America where it is already big business, added: “We are really grateful to Tej and all his staff at Burlington Court for giving us the opportunity to carry out this capability demonstrator in the field so to speak.

“I have known for a while just how effective our AW is and we have installations of our other trioxygen generators to back that up, but it is always nice to be able to produce results and hard data to back them up in a real, live working environment.”

www.greenteckglobal.com

GreenTech Global is a just-launched, innovative, product that looks set to make waves in the commercial cleaning market.

Industry Update is sponsored by GreenTeck Global – see them on page 28
Vision Engineering was established in 1958 by Rob Freeman, a toolmaker who used to work as a race mechanic with the Jaguar Racing Team. Whilst there, Rob developed a borescope for inspecting internal race engine parts, without the need for disassembly. This led to him establishing Vision Engineering Ltd, in order to develop his interest in optics for use with manufacturing technology.

In 1994, the company introduced the world’s first stereo microscope without an eyepiece, the Original Mantis, which was designed to fill the gap between a bench magnifier and a microscope. This was a major ergonomic revolution, and it went on to win numerous design and innovation awards. Mantis became the new benchmark for high performance stereo magnification, and since then, Vision Engineering has consistently delivered leading-edge stereo inspection and optical measurement products to improve productivity and quality for thousands of companies.

“We design, manufacture and sell optical and digital inspection and measurement equipment. We are working to optimise the user interface, the point at which the user interacts with a system, be it a monitor, microscope eyepieces, keyboard or operating software, and our products are sold to manufacturers around the world,” explains Mark Curtis, Group Managing Director. “80% of our output is to the export market. We are an established global company with multiple overseas subsidiaries; America is our largest, along with Central Europe, and we also maintain a presence in France, Italy, China, Japan, and India, to name a few.”

Offering fault detection, rework, research and development, and quality control, Vision Engineering’s products are unparalleled for their ergonomics. The company’s unique patented products have saved manufacturing companies an abundance of man-hours, reduced material wastage, and ensured quality and conformance to desired specifications.

“We sell into four main vertical markets,” Mark explained, “electronics, aerospace, automotive and medical devices, and we also maintain a presence in France, Italy, China, Japan, to name a few.”

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“We sell into four main vertical markets,” Mark explained, “electronics, aerospace, automotive and medical devices, and there is a lot of crossover between these. Basically, any manufacturer that needs to exercise excellent quality control needs our products.”

Vision Engineering’s unique technology is industry-leading. The operator of its equipment will be doing repetitive tasks for up to eight hours a day. Carrying out intensive inspection, measurement, or manipulation tasks, so Vision Engineering ensures that it is easy to use its equipment for longer periods of time. Improved ergonomics not only improves the comfort of the operator, but also benefits the company by reducing absenteeism.

Microscopes which use an eyepiece require users to hold a fixed viewing position, which can lead to stiffness in the neck muscles. Vision Engineering’s eyepiece-less equipment means that users do not have to precisely align their eyes with the eyepieces, allowing freedom of movement and more relaxed muscles, reducing neck and back strain. What’s more, the company’s microscopes reduce eye fatigue, hand-to-eye coordination, and minimise the risk of repetitive strain injuries.

The company also pioneers solutions around cameras/digital technology, but this normally means sacrificing the natural, eyes-on view of stereo for a flat, field of view picture, with no perception of depth.

Recent developments in Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality offer stereo digital viewing, using VR headsets or polarized/ shutter glasses. Both of these new and exciting technologies involve either isolation from sensory inputs or from colleagues (in the case of VR) or significant issues with free view, natural subject view, comfortable working position, easy hand-to-eye coordination, and the ability to wear prescription eyeglasses.

Vision Engineering has applied its substantial expertise in ergonomics to correct the issue with the new VR/AR technologies and have produced a completely new technology, DRV Deep Reality Viewing.

“We recently launched the Deep Reality Viewer – DRV-21 – the world’s first 3D stereo viewer, for which we have global patents. DRV addresses the disadvantages of sensory isolation and disorientation. It means you can work more comfortably, for longer, wear your own prescription glasses and interact freely with your colleagues.”

 DRV-21’s sharing capability creates exciting opportunities to collaborate with real-time digital connectivity for companies with offices around the world.

“We believe that DRV is the next big thing,” explains Mark, “and so we are taking this technology and addressing the drive for real-time communicability found in the IoT and Industry 4.0. We are taking the real-time digital information that our products generate, including live moving stereo images and making it available to people no matter where they are, allowing valuable, real time, collaboration whether the other person is in the next room or the next continent.”

DRV-21's sharing capability creates exciting opportunities to collaborate with real-time digital connectivity for companies with offices around the world.

Without question, Vision Engineering is a company dedicated to progression and innovation, ensuring its products are designed to allow for optimal working conditions. “We are an international company with over 210 staff members, 120 in the UK and the rest dotted around the world. We have been exporting for many years, and despite all of the uncertainty surrounding Brexit and other international issues, we are dedicated to growing and expanding to ensure we are always giving our customers the latest advancements in ergonomics and technology.”

If you would like to find out more information on Vision Engineering’s full range of products and details of their ergonomic benefits, head to their website. Alternatively, get in touch using the contact details below.

Contact
T 01483 248300
www.visioneng.com
VEKA UK rolls out the welcome matt

Industry-leading systems supplier VEKA UK has unveiled an exclusive ultramatt material unlike anything else in the industry.

This innovative surface, called SPECTRAL, is exclusive to VEKA UK and was launched at the FIT Show where it was welcomed with fantastic feedback, being hailed the ‘star of the stand’.

Marketing Director Dawn Stockell explains: “This unique product uses ground-breaking technology to create an ultrasmooth, ultramatt finish that has unrivalled performance benefits. Visitors to VEKA UK’s stand at the FIT Show were impressed by its smooth and modern aesthetic; someone admiring the Imagine Bi-Fold in SPECTRAL’s Umbra Grey even asked the team if we had started offering aluminium systems!

“I’m told that Aztec Windows was already pricing jobs using SPECTRAL swatches the day after we launched it on the first day of the show. SPECTRAL has been years in the development, and has been created with our customers at the very heart of the process. We understand the need for original products that not only look great, but offer exceptional performance. We identified a gap in the market for a highly durable matt product that we could guarantee would look great for years to come, and which would bolster our customers’ already impressive product offering.

“Matt finishes seem to be growing in popularity on everything from cookers to cars, but rather than just being a ’fashion fad’, the construction industry has been seeing a steady rise in demand for this look for a number of years. Matt has long been favoured by architects and designers, and this sophisticated aesthetic is now being demanded by style-conscious consumers.

“SPECTRAL uses next generation surface technology to create an extraordinary finish that simply cannot be matched by any other matt PVCu surface on the market. It is highly scratch resistant, has anti-fingerprint properties and is also extremely resistant to UV light, extreme weather conditions and harsh chemicals. Dirt can be wiped away with ease, for a product that stays beautiful for longer. By absorbing rather than reflecting light, SPECTRAL offers a denser, richer quality of colour, and because it is velvet to the touch, it feels just as good as it looks.”

Simon Wade, MD of Rugby Double Glazing, was very impressed with the SPECTRAL products featured on the stand and believes that sophisticated colours and finishes are the answer to further success for installers: “This is the future of our business.

“Homeowners that we deal with want to add as much style and personality to the outside of their home as they do with, say, a new kitchen. We need to offer a wealth of different options to stay ahead of the competition. I think the new SPECTRAL finish is phenomenal, and with its aluminium ‘look’, it could also potentially open up more commercial opportunities for us too. I’ve already requested some samples for the showroom.”

SPECTRAL is available in four sophisticated shades – Graphite Black, Anthracite Grey, Platinum Grey and Umbra Grey. These specialist colours are made to order with a four week lead time and can be laminated on one or both sides of the product. They can also be complemented with stunning shades from VEKA’s Variations colour range.

For more information, or to order a SPECTRAL swatch book, call 01282 716611, email salesenquiry@veka.com or visit www.veka.co.uk.
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Curtiss-Wright have a commendable history behind them, having been founded by three of the world’s most celebrated aviation pioneers, Orville and Wilbur Wright and Mr. Glenn Curtiss, one of the forerunners of naval aviation. Their companies, the ‘Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company’ and ‘Wright Aeronautical Corporation’ merged in 1929 in order to create Curtiss-Wright. Today Curtiss-Wright is one of the world’s leading advanced engineering companies, having diversified and branched out into numerous different technologies across multiple sectors, including commercial and industrial, defence, power, metals, aerospace and much more.

At the turn of the 21st century, Curtiss-Wright had grown into a multi-national company, with global sales of over $2 billion and having acquired almost 60 businesses. Many of these companies still operate under their original name, such as Metal Improvement Company, Bolt's Metallizing, IMR Test Labs, Component Coating and Repair Services and more who now are part of Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies. These various divisions offer a wide variety of different specialised surface treatments such as thermal spray coatings, solid film lubricants, shot peening technology and much more.

When it comes to engineered coatings, Curtiss Wright Surface Technologies have a wide scope of services, including providing thermal management, corrosion and erosion, and protection and repair of turbine components. Curtiss-Wright Surface Technology can provide protective engineered coatings or metal coatings to protect components from the environment, corrosion, heat, and wear. As they can ensure protection for components of any size or complexity, they have a vast client base made up of those seeking their protective coating services, including the aerospace, oil, gas, automotive and medical industries.

Their range of coating solutions includes thermal spray/HDV coatings, solid film lubricants, liquid coatings, and parylene conformal coatings. Not only that, but Curtiss Wright Surface Technology also offer repair and overhaul for gas and steam turbine components, as well as laboratory testing and process verification for: salt spray corrosion testing, U.V. testing and development of their own bespoke coating systems such as Everlube®, Microseal, and Fluorene Lube-Lok®, sacrificial aluminium coatings, diffusion coatings and pre-treatments.

Metal and material surface solutions are a huge concern for clients, and is one of the most highly sought after services from Curtiss Wright Surface Technologies. Problems can be caused due to any number of reasons throughout the component design process, whether it’s the choice of materials used, incorrect assembly, or damage to the parts caused by bending, rolling or forging.

Components of any type can be damaged, such as blade roots, rotating rings and tie wire holes used in Aero-Engines, fasteners and strengtheners used in Airframes, and torsion bars, gears and keyways, which are used to make Crankshafts and more.

Thankfully Curtiss Wright Surface Technology have a large array of solutions, including but not limited to: C.A.S.E. isotropic superfining, Parylene coating, Thermal barrier coatings, Cathodic protection and much more.

If you would like to find out more about Curtiss Wright Surface Technologies and their many specialised, services and solutions, then be sure to get in contact with the company today. Alternatively, you can find out more about the company by visiting the website below, where information, animations case studies and links to their many services can also be found.

CWST are exhibiting at the Engineering Live Show on the 19th September 2019 in Solihull. Pop along and say hello!

Contact
T 01635 279621
www.cwst.co.uk

Not only does this allow the component to resist damage from erosion, strike damage, fretting, and corrosion, but it can also better withstand pressure from both low cycle/high stress and high cycle/low stress situations. Better yet, their laser peening process puts exceptionally deep residual compressive stress in certain parts of a component to prevent crack initiation and fatigue. Not only does this allow the component to resist damage from erosion, strike damage, fretting, and corrosion, but it can also better withstand pressure from both low cycle/high stress and high cycle/low stress situations. Better yet, their laser peening process puts exceptionally deep residual compressive stress in certain parts of a component to prevent crack initiation and fatigue.