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Nov-Dec 2016

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Welcome to yet another bumper edition of Ireland's plant, construction and quarrying magazine; there may be doom and gloom in some quarters following Brexit and the American Presidential election result, but that is certainly not reflected in this issue. Quite the opposite, in fact.

While challenges will always be with us, our industry is sufficiently robust and resilient to take it all on the chin; well, mostly. Just look at what is making the news in this issue:

- The Irish construction industry can generate 75,000 jobs, create 25,000 houses per annum and deliver infrastructure projects worth over €26 billion, if a supportive policy framework is in place, the CIF's annual conference has heard.
- Euro Auctions saw higher turnouts, brisk trading and strong prices achieved at its three-day October auction in Leeds, where 3559 lots realised a total hammer price of over £28m.
- The UK's largest construction trade event, UK Construction Week, attracted more than 30,000 trade visitors and over 650 exhibitors at the NEC in Birmingham recently to showcase their latest innovations, debate the industry's biggest issues and do business together.
- It was quite simply the most successful Irish National Ploughing Championships in history, with a total attendance figure for the 2016 event reaching a record breaking 283,000 over the three days.
- To date PLANTWORX being held in Leicestershire next June, has over 215 confirmed exhibitors signed up for the event - this equates to over 80% sold. Of these more than 35 exhibitors are brand new to PLANTWORX, which is a firm indication that confidence in the event is high.

Yes, it is all positive stuff! Also in this issue, we've been talking to Elvis Kirk from Downpatrick who recently became the proud owner of a limited 'platinum' edition 3CX backhoe loader, one of just 70 built to celebrate JCB's 70th anniversary.

We turn the spotlight, too, on the rise and rise of the tiltrotator, which has become a 'must have' piece of equipment across Ireland and the UK, and we take a look at what is new in the compact equipment market.

In our next issue, meanwhile, we will have a comprehensive round-up of who won what and why in our annual Plant, Construction and Quarry Awards 2016, so don't miss it!

Well, that's all for now, but remember, you can keep up to date by logging on to www.plantandcivilengineer.com.

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Mercedes-Benz Arocs lifts AG to new heights

AG (Acheson & Glover) has laid firm foundations for future success by commissioning the first six Mercedes-Benz Arocs tractor units to enter service in Northern Ireland.

They pull new SDC dropside trailers with rear-mounted

Palfinger crane grabs, and are being used to deliver paving products and bulk aggregates throughout Ireland. Three are based at the operator's headquarters in Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone, one at nearby Ballygawley, and the remaining two at a depot in Toomebridge, Co. Antrim.

"Manufacturing companies across the UK and Ireland have undoubtedly had a tough time of it in recent years," acknowledged AG Chief Executive Officer Stephen Acheson. "But business is on the up and at such times it is important to grow. This new fleet of vehicles is one of many strategic investments we're making."

The muscular Arocs range is purpose-designed for construction-related applications. "These smart new trucks are impressively robust and well-suited to the work," confirmed Operations Manager Lyle Cairns. "They are also fuel-efficient and have been well received by our drivers, while dealer Mercedes-Benz Truck & Van (NI)'s Dungannon workshop is conveniently located."

The new tractors are all 6x2 Arocs 2545 models with ClassicSpace cabs and advanced, 330 kw (450 hp) six-cylinder engines paired with smooth Mercedes PowerShift 3 automated

transmissions. They have joined a fleet of rigid tippers, tractors and bulk tipping trailers, tipper-grabs, and flat-bed vehicles and trailers with grabs, in which two other truck manufacturers have previously held sway.

Not only are the Arocs AG's first Mercedes-Benz vehicles, but in another 'first' for the operator it chose contract hire as the acquisition method. They are the subject of seven-year CharterWay agreements from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services. "The rates are competitive, which was another reason we chose these trucks," added Lyle Cairns.

"Once we've been running these Mercedes-Benz trucks for a full year we will review our experience. The evidence to date, though, is certainly encouraging. The Arocs are performing very well, and currently returning an acceptable average of 8.9 mpg, although these are still early days and the figures are getting better with daily use.

"Meanwhile, the customer support we've received from Mercedes-Benz Truck & Van (NI) has been exemplary – the dealer's Dungannon workshop team have been very helpful indeed."



McHale Plant Sales Makes Marketing Appointment

Construction plant distributor, McHale Plant Sales of Birdhill and Rathcoole, has appointed Damien McHale to the post of Group Marketing Executive.

Born in Cork city, Damien (27) is a Business Marketing graduate from Canada's St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ontario. Before returning to Ireland to take up his appointment, he had been resident in the United States and Canada where his work included assignments in the field of youth affairs.

At McHale Plant Sales, his role will include overall responsibility for the company's corporate marketing functions together with individual responsibility for the marketing of its Komatsu, Metso, Merlo and Zetor brands.

Driven by a return to growth fuelled by improving economic conditions in Ireland, McHale Plant Sales is preparing for anticipated future growth across all business segments as conditions in construction, infrastructural developments and agriculture continue to improve.



Damien McHale, Group Marketing Executive.

FP McCann's tunnels and shafts used on £330m research centre

Global pharmaceutical and bio pharmaceutical giant, AstraZeneca, is locating its new £330 million headquarters and global research and development centre at the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. On completion at the end of this year, it will become the company's largest centre for oncology research as well as

housing scientists focused on cardiovascular, metabolic, respiratory, inflammation and autoimmune diseases and conditions of the central nervous system.

The opencut works necessitated a half-ring build utilising FP McCann's 5.0m ID S/B back-bolted precast concrete segments set on their side to form a half tunnel run 40

metres long, whilst to facilitate the open-face tunnelling, an early access precast concrete shaft was constructed by the caisson build method.

For this, FP McCann supplied its 10.5m ID S/B universal fibre reinforced standard segments for safe and efficient construction of the shaft. FP McCann's smoothbore tunnel and shaft segments are all factory fitted

with EPDM rubber gaskets which provide an immediate water-tight seal upon construction.

Commenting on the half ring construction Paul Challinor, project manager for Joseph Gallagher Ltd, said: "The innovative use of this method to build the half tunnel is extremely efficient, allowing the team to quickly complete connections on the external face prior to the rings being lifted into place. It also demonstrates the versatility of the precast concrete lining design as typically, these segments would also be used in a shaft build."

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LIEBHERR

World's First Smartphone With Integrated Thermal Camera

The world's first smartphone with an integrated thermal camera, and the world's most waterproof smartphone – the Cat S60 – is now available. The Cat S60, unveiled at Mobile World Congress 2016, is the new flagship in the Cat® phones portfolio.

The Cat S60 includes an embedded Lepton Thermal Microcamera Module, powered by FLIR, which visualises heat that is invisible to the naked eye, highlighting temperature contrasts. It is accessed on the S60 via

the specially designed MyFLIR app which brings a rich range of features for capturing and analysing thermal imagery, unique among smartphones.

The Cat S60's thermal camera allows Cat phone users to be the first in the world to use just their smartphones for a multitude of new uses, including: detecting heat loss around windows and doors; spotting moisture leaks and missing insulation; identifying over-heating electrical appliances and circuitry; and seeing in complete darkness.

"Since we unveiled the product in February, our team has been in the field, gathering feedback and generating multiple test cases amongst our varied target audiences. From plumbers to horse trainers, architects to site managers, firemen to park rangers, we have been putting the S60 through its paces and the feedback has been overwhelming," said Peter Stephens, CEO Bullitt Group, global mobile device licensee for Caterpillar.

"We have also engaged the developer community, sponsoring a Hackathon to bring thermal imaging capabilities to a whole host of relevant apps – and we will launch the Cat S60 thermal camera SDK in the coming days, initially through an early developer program, for which there has been substantial demand."



Having a thermal camera integrated into the rugged mobile device provides endless time saving efficiencies from on-the-job report generation to email integration. Only having to carry one device around that has all the capabilities of a high end smartphone, plus can detect and measure surface temperatures, will enable a huge range of use cases for building professionals, utility workers, emergency first responders and gadget lovers, to name but a few.

The Cat S60 is also the most waterproof smartphone available, capable of withstanding depths of up to five meters for one hour. The physical buttons can be used underwater to access the camera and video camera, pushing the boundaries of mobile technology, and how and where it's used.



Danfoss Telematics Solutions Simplifying data and turning it into profit

As technology continues to connect our world, the flow of data becomes more and more integrated into our everyday lives. The off-highway, heavy equipment industry is no exception. Your customers need data to make

informed business decisions. Danfoss Telematics Solutions helps them simplify which data they need, and how to use it, to boost efficiency and product lifespan, minimize downtime, report

equipment location, use and condition - and more.

Danfoss Telematics Solutions are easily integrated into OEM processes without the need for specific programming knowledge, saving you time and money. When integrating with the Danfoss PLUS+1® service tool, retrofitting existing equipment is equally seamless - as easy as replacing a cable. Regardless of the application, Danfoss Telematics Solutions have been engineered to provide you and your customers with flexible, robust systems that not only meet today's needs, but also allow for future expandability. It's a level of customization and performance that simply isn't available from other telematics products - one that allows you to provide your customers with real, business-changing advantages that lead to stronger partnerships and higher profits.



Danfoss Telematics Solutions are as flexible as you need them to be, so they can fit virtually any business requirement. If it's a critical function that needs to be monitored or controlled, Danfoss offers an easily integrated technology option that does the job. From anti-theft and operator safety, to fleet and efficiency management, Danfoss Telematics Solutions can help turn data into results.

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Actavo opens new 8-acre flagship depot in Dublin

Actavo, a leading international engineering solutions company with a global workforce of over 5,500, has launched a new 8-acre flagship depot on Killeen Road, Dublin 12.

Officially opened by Republic of Ireland Football Manager, Martin O'Neill, and Mayor of South Dublin County Council, Guss O'Connell, Actavo's new

depot will serve as the Irish headquarters of Actavo's Hire & Sales and Events operations. Actavo | Hire & Sales supplies specialist products and services to the construction industry and has worked on key national projects including Dublin's M50 motorway and Galway's Gort to Tuam Motorway. Actavo | Events offers premier services to events such as Electric Picnic, Glastonbury, the State

visits to Ireland of President Obama and Queen Elizabeth II, Aviva Stadium and the London Olympics. Chairman and CEO of Actavo, Sean Corkery, said: "This depot will be instrumental in supporting the construction and events industries nationally. Our expansion is a key indicator of growth in both of these sectors and demonstrates our confidence in their continued development.

"Our offering of specialised building equipment and services is the backbone of Ireland's construction industry. Our events business supports the thriving entertainment and sporting industries that attract hundreds of thousands of people to matches, cultural events, music festivals and other large-scale gatherings year after year."

Hyster's "Breakthrough" Electric Forklift

Hyster Company has previewed its forthcoming J8.0XN forklift truck, claiming it is the first time an 8 tonne electric truck can deliver 'near ICE performance'. Achieving 100% charge in just two hours, it has the endurance to support three shift operations.



"The new electric J8.0XN provides similar performance to the Hyster® LPG equivalent in most normal paper, timber and steel applications, giving businesses the option for zero emissions and quieter operations," says Phil Ireland, Senior Product Strategy Manager. "It is an 8 tonne capacity forklift that will suit companies with large fleets and will be particularly interesting for timber firms that produce their own electricity," he says. "The truck combines Lithium ION with high voltage systems and superior motor technology." The Li ION battery is large enough to ensure long endurance, giving a stable performance over a full shift before recharge. From flat, the battery can be fully charged in two hours and will sustain high endurance levels during its operational life.

The J8.0XN was previewed at the Hyster® HUB event held in Weeze, Germany in October where international press and VIPs witnessed a comparison between the J8.0XN and an equivalent ICE (internal combustion engine) truck.

"The new J8.0XN is faster to accelerate over the first 15 metres and lifts at the same speed as the Hyster® ICE model," he says. There is a top speed of 21.4km/h (unladen) and 18km/h (laden) which Hyster claims is a full 4km/hr more than the nearest competitor, while noise levels at the operator's is just 73 dB(A).

The initial cost of the truck, battery and charger is higher, but in the right applications, the overall cost of operation over the life of the truck is reported to be significantly less.

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Loadmaster Alpha from RDS

RDSTEC NI has been providing weighing and measuring equipment to the agricultural and industrial market in Northern Ireland for over 25 years.

One of the earlier installations is the Loadmaster 4, now refitted onto its third shovel, and still weighing to within 300kg on a 30ton load. To operate the driver has to keep to the same rpm speed on each lift.

When the weight is displayed, he manually presses an enter switch to add each bucketful. The right hand screen has +/- buttons to scroll up or down to select a target weight.

ALPHA RANGE

Move forward nearly thirty years to the Loadmaster Alpha range. With its colour touch screen, the Alpha 100 uses inclinometers to give weight accuracy and repeatability in difficult conditions and terrains. One customer is regularly loading on a twenty degree slope.

With a SQL database it is easier to keep track of products as they are



The LoadMaster 4

moved through, and out of the quarry. Data output is via serial, Ethernet or USB memory stick. Printer options are also available.

RDSTEC NI, which has developed a large customer base throughout Northern Ireland and Donegal, now has a comprehensive range of systems, which may use up to four pressure sensors, to weigh on a variety of machines; fork lift trucks, telescopic handlers, wheeled loaders and excavators.



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FJS PLANT

Makes Early Impact with LiuGong Excavators

Just a month or so from taking on the dealership for the LiuGong range of excavators, County Kildare based FJS Plant has quickly made a positive impact with the brand that is already well established in the UK and elsewhere around the world.

Although new to the market here, LiuGong excavators have been employed by more than a few Irish companies on contracts and projects in the UK; and, as a result, some machines have even made their way into the Republic.

"We had been searching for a new product line to fill a gap for a larger excavator in our portfolio for the last couple of years," explains Director Frank Smyth. "We did a lot of research into the LiuGong brand and we spoke to a lot of people in the UK who were already operating the machines; they all without exception had a good word to say about the



excavators. They were very impressed with the build quality, and the drivers liked them.

"We drove a few of the machines ourselves, some with very high hours on them, and there was nothing bad to say about them, so that gave us confidence to take the LiuGong dealership on board."

The LiuGong Group has around 16 product lines including wheel loaders, excavators,

bulldozers, motor graders, pavers, cold planers, skid steers, backhoe loaders, rollers, forklifts, truck mounted cranes, crawler cranes, pipe layers, and mining dump trucks

At the moment, however, FJS Plant is focusing on promoting the excavator and loading shovel ranges across the island of Ireland, as some of the products have yet to be approved for the European and North American markets. The machines range from nine tonne right up to 50 tonne.

"So far, customer response has been excellent; there is a lot of genuine interest in the machines," says Frank. "We recently took delivery of our first excavators – a 15 tonne 915 machine and a 23.5 tonne 922 model. Our immediate intention is to build up a stock of the popular models in both ranges, so availability won't be a problem."

WORLD CLASS

For those not yet familiar with LiuGong; it is a manufacturer that is committed to world-class quality and engineering. Its machines are easy to own, easy to operate and easy to maintain. They are built with world-class components, using globally-respected systems and suppliers like Cummins, ZF, Kawasaki and others.

LiuGong employs over 1,000 research and development engineers to guarantee versatility, durability, efficiency and productivity





in every machine. Rigorous testing ensures the equipment can tackle any job thrown at it. LiuGong ranks as the 20th largest construction equipment manufacturer in the world and is a leader in the design and production of wheel loaders. It is also a company of many firsts, including being the first company in China to begin manufacturing heavy equipment and the producer of China's first modernised wheel loader in 1966.

Managing Director Frank Smyth, who in 2003 joined FJS Plant which was established 10

years earlier by his parents Fintan and Joan Smyth, is no stranger to the industry, either. He began his career as a field service engineer, specialising later as a hydraulic and electrical fault-finding technician before becoming involved in a main plant and machinery dealership, gaining invaluable experience in a variety of areas ranging from service and technical support to parts and sales.

FJS currently employs a substantial team of skilled and highly experienced staff across

sales, service, repair, parts, marketing and administration, and adds Frank: "As a service orientated operation, our customers throughout both the north and south of Ireland can be assured at all times of the highest levels of after-sales support from our well equipped premises which are located about 25 miles from Dublin.

"As mobile plant and construction machinery specialists and since taking on the LiuGong brand, we can now offer operators a wide range of compact and heavy duty equipment – from mini excavators and loading shovels right up to 50 tonne machines, and everything in between.



We believe the LiuGong range has big potential in the Irish market and we look forward to working with the manufacturer as we build the brand name in this part of the world."



CITB NI: supporting training for the local construction industry

The construction industry is constantly changing and forecasts are predicting a 2% growth in the sector between now and 2021. CITB NI need to meet with industry at all levels to make sure the industry is supported in the right way to develop the skills needed for its continuing success.

CITB NI are focused on driving investment in skills and training that a growing construction sector requires and offer key initiatives to help the industry train.

The newly launched CITB NI £1.3m Grant Scheme offers direct grants to registered employers for support in a wide range of training and qualifications for their employees working in Northern Ireland. New changes have been implemented in the 2016/17 to help businesses access funding and support funding to provide more training for local employees.

The grant application is simple and offers flexibility to claim whilst you train. Full details of the scheme can be found at www.citbni.org.uk/grants

Its Mobile Training Unit (MTU) provides training on site to all registered in-scope employers. It is a convenient way of meeting training requirements with minimum disruption to site work. The unit travels across Northern Ireland delivering short duration health and safety courses such as confined spaces, excavations, manual handling and working at heights encouraging the industry to build safely. In the 2016/2017 training year registered in-scope employers can book the Mobile Training Unit Free of charge. A cost of £300/day will be applied to those who are registered but do not pay a levy. For more information on available courses, log on to www.citbni.org.uk or telephone Des Hegarty on 07801 598520

SCAFFOLD TRAINING

CITB NI's scaffolding training facility is the only one of its kind in NI and is approved to deliver the Construction Industry Scaffolding Record Scheme (CISRS) enabling participants to achieve an industry recognised scaffolder's card.

CITB NI also offer an Undergraduate Development Programme for construction and built environment students currently on their placement year and CITB NI registered employers who enrol their placement students on the Undergraduate Development Programme are eligible to receive £100 payable per day on completion of the full programme (in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grants scheme).

If you are a registered employer and are interested in getting involved contact Gillian.watt@citbni.org.uk

INNOVATIVE TOOL

CITB NI have also recently launched VET360, an innovative new tool that provides a unique and memorable immersive experience which gives the user instant access to construction sites in a workplace environment. Used as a training tool VET360 allows the user to experience of being onsite within a safe training environment. The facility allows the user to see more, save time and stay safe as

VET360 is the perfect bridge between theoretical classroom training and the reality of a busy construction site. CITB NI will continue to focus on providing the support and services needed to ensure local businesses have the right skills. Through a mix of Grant funding and Direct Training Interventions CITB NI will help develop the workforce to meet client needs and grow their business.

STANDARDS

Meanwhile, the following National Occupational Standards (NOS) occupations will be reviewed during 2016 – 2017

- Specialist Installations
- Site Logistics
- Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Waste
- Stonemasonry
- Passive Fire Protection

CITB NI is a partner in the ConstructionSkills the Sector Skills Council for Construction which has responsible for the development and review of national occupational standards for the construction industry. National Occupational Standards (NOS) define the competences which apply to job roles or occupations in the form of statements of performance, knowledge and the evidence required to confirm competence.

HAVE YOUR SAY

To participate, current practitioners should be experienced in the field being covered and be able to provide the level of detail required to ensure that the Standards (NOS) reflects current industry practice. Representation from training providers and industry bodies are invited to attend as your continued support is valued and essential. To encourage local employer involvement in revisions to the National Occupational Standards, CITB NI is looking to schedule a practitioner group meeting to review the above occupations, it is anticipated that the meeting will last a full day using breakout group discussions for each occupation, please reply to confirm what areas you would be interested in participating in. You can have your say in a number of ways: By attending a National Working Group meeting; By attending a local Practitioner Group meeting; Or on the website at www.citbni.org.uk click on standards & then NOS 'Have Your Say'



CITB NI

As an Industry Training Board and Sector Skills Council our role is to encourage the adequate training of those employed or intending to be employed in the construction industry and to improve the skills and productivity of the industry in Northern Ireland.

We provide advice, courses and grants for training to help construction companies improve their skills to increase their competitive edge.

To find out more contact us

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Manufacturing an extensive range of buckets, quick couplers, hydraulic breakers and other award-winning attachments for the earthmoving industry from its base in Cramlington in Northumberland, Miller has built up an impressive global reputation.

Its wide-reaching customer base now includes many leading quarrying and construction original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), original equipment distributors (OEDs), national equipment dealerships, plant hire companies and end-users with Miller's products being used on major infrastructure and building projects in the UK and internationally.

The earthmoving attachment market has faced a great deal of uncertainty following the global financial crisis of 2008 and is in the midst of considerable change as a result. Demand has been highly volatile ever since and the consumer landscape has changed, along with customers' expectations.

Miller was quick to see the need to adapt and after a comprehensive strategic review which showed a change in patterns of consumption and production, it begun the process of moving towards a more connected smarter factory in order to better meet these changing needs with a more agile and responsive process.

During the last two years alone, Miller UK has invested almost two million pounds

in overhauling its UK manufacturing plant and headquarters in Cramlington - installing state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to complete the move to a more automated production process.

Mike Askew, managing director at Miller, commented: "This substantial investment, which is part of a major long-term plan, is designed to guarantee that we can continue to provide high quality, competitively priced attachments. It demonstrates our commitment to manufacturing in the UK."

As a result, the factory now boasts three robots welders for high volume buckets for excavators weighing 8 tonne to 35 tonne, and a fourth larger robot which produces buckets for heavy excavators weighing 35 tonne or more. Designed to optimise capacity during busy trading periods, the new robotic welders improve the rate at which parts can be welded as well as the deposition rate and have also reduced health and safety concerns for operators.

In addition two new plasma cutters, a high speed dressing machine, press break and dynamic parts storage system have





all also been installed, ensuring high quality components are delivered for robotic welding in an efficient manner. This supports a consistently high quality fabrication process and increase the overall manufacturing productivity.

The earthmoving attachment industry has traditionally been heavily engineering focused, with the manufacturing factors of scale and cost prioritised, but all this is changing. The current trend is higher demand for customised, bespoke attachments. Although standardisation as a means of driving scale in production, and shortening lead times is a familiar theme in the industry, customers are under continuous pressure to increase productivity, and this requires attachments tailored precisely for their needs.

This is something which the factory had to be able to deal with seamlessly and was another reason for the drive for increased automation. One of the key advantages of moving to a more comprehensive automated system is that the setup time is minimised when switching between different product types and the production process is optimised with the help of big data feedback.

Miller also decided to update its existing systems with an integrated Enterprise Resource Planning system (ERP) by investing a quarter of a million pounds in a new modern platform. The new software is designed to offer the management team an integrated view of the company's core business processes for a flexible and reconfigurable manufacturing system.

Stephen Brown, Operations Manager at Miller, said: "If our own manufacturing revolution

was described in a single word, it would be data. More production information will be gathered, stored, documented and analysed than ever before. By digitally connecting engineering teams designing products to the factory floor, other supply chain partners and to service operations, we are able to build a continuous loop of real-time data sharing, enabling faster, more accurate decision-making and an increase in productivity. We want to develop a digital thread that will allow us to design, manufacture and service our products more effectively."

Miller has already seen significant benefits from adopting the smart factory approach and is continuing to invest with the aim of having an almost fully automated factory within the next five years to allow it to continue to manufacture products designed to suit an ever-changing global market.



Topcon Takes Training On The Road To Help Increase Productivity On Site



As part of its new 'On-Site Series', Topcon GB & Ireland has been taking its products on the road in a succession of workshops that help new engineers use their Topcon kit to save time and money on site.

Held in both Dublin and Belfast, the first training days focused on total stations and GNSS technology and demonstrated how to perform as-built surveys and setting-out tasks with Topcon's latest hardware and software such as MAGNET Field and Office.

Topcon's MAGNET software enables users to create complex 3D models for the different stages of the build process and, using Sitelink3D, send these straight to equipment in the field. This means that engineers using total stations and field controllers on site can receive real time updates from the office if there are any changes to the plans. This helps reduce costs by avoiding timely mistakes due to inaccuracies or poor communication between the office and field.

Gerard Harte, a Senior Engineer at Power Grid Civils Ltd., attended the Belfast training day in September.

"I wanted to get more familiar with Topcon products to make sure I was working in the most efficient way possible in my day-to-day job. Being shown how to set out using the newest robotic total stations and GPS technology was really beneficial, especially as I hadn't used MAGNET Field before - I'm already seeing a real impact in my job."

"I'm not aware of any other courses like this, but they're definitely helpful especially for younger people just starting out in their careers or engineers who are new to the field."

The Dublin workshop was hosted at the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) and is part of an ongoing relationship between Topcon and the university. Topcon has been working with DIT for eight years to bring the newest technology to the next generation of engineers and surveyors.

Jonathan Argue, Technical Geomatics Specialist at Topcon, said: "Technology has a huge impact on construction projects and can be the difference between weeks of work compared to just hours. That's why we introduced our On-Site Series training days, to get out and help people realise the enormous benefits of smarter technology. Take our field controllers, for example. These have the power of a reasonably sized computer in a handheld device, but many people are only skimming the surface of their functionality."

"Training days like these really help people understand their workflows and learn the most productive ways of working to save time and money on site."

Following the success of the first On-Site Series training days, Topcon plans to host more throughout 2016 and 2017. To find out more, email: info@topcon.ie or info@topconni.co.uk

Topcon Profiles Machine Control System

Topcon GB and Ireland drew large crowds to its stand at the recent National Ploughing Championships with its wide range of geopositioning and machine control technology.

Topcon's recently launched robotic total station, the DS-200, took centre stage on the stand. The new total station uses XPointing technology to automatically seek out prisms in any condition, without the need for precise manual alignment. This means it can be set up and controlled remotely, saving time and also meaning data collected on site can be fed directly back to the office through MAGNET Field software in real time.

Also on the stand was Topcon's 3D-MC platform that allows all GPS technology on a project to be integrated, including total stations, dozers and excavators. This means information can be easily shared on site and ensures complete precision when using a 3D model. Changes and developments on a project can easily be transferred into the system to help avoid errors.

Joe Glennon, office manager at Topcon Ireland, said: "Machine control has started to really take off in Ireland recently, with companies of all sizes beginning to realise the time and cost savings that can be made using the systems."

"Machine control systems use GPS data and 3D models to help contractors dig earthworks more accurately. The 3D model, prepared by the site's architect or design team, communicates to a system in the cab via satellite positioning data - similar to the way a sat-nav works in a car. This gives an accurate view of the machine's current position compared to the desired result. On traditional excavation jobs, you can make great efficiency savings by avoiding over-excavation."





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Businesses Left In Dark Over Apprenticeship Levy



Ann McGregor (Chief Executive of NI Chamber); Michael Gould (Assistant Director of the Youth Policy Division at the Department for the Economy) and Áine Brolly (Director Ardlinn Executive Search, CEO Cpl Northern Ireland).

Some of Northern Ireland's leading businesses have expressed their concerns about the risks of the current Apprenticeship Levy which is due to be introduced in April 2017.

Over 80 members of the local business community attended a Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NI Chamber) briefing with the Department for the Economy recently.

The levy will affect all firms across the whole of the UK with a payroll of over £3m and will be 0.5% of a company's salary bill, paid through PAYE, alongside income tax and National Insurance on a monthly basis.

Speaking at the event, which was hosted by local recruitment specialists, Cpl Northern Ireland, Ann McGregor, Chief Executive of NI Chamber, said: "Businesses are overwhelmingly positive about apprenticeships, and recognise that workplace training can help boost skills, business growth and productivity. However, NI Chamber members have fundamental concerns about the proposed Apprenticeship Levy on a number of fronts.

"The Apprenticeship Levy is scheduled to be introduced in April 2017, just 6 months away yet it is clear that a lot of businesses have limited awareness or understanding of the implications or potential impact. It is important that the NI Executive seek greater clarity from HMRC for Northern Ireland employers, particularly on how the funding raised can be accessed post collection. In this period of uncertainty, following the EU referendum, further uncertainty is damaging to business confidence.

"From a business perspective it appears almost as another form of 'payroll tax' and it is not clear what the benefits to those businesses that do pay will be. It is already challenging enough to scale up Northern Ireland's business base and this levy has the potential to act as a disincentive to growth unless its impact on business is demonstrable.

"We do not think the practicalities of the levy have been fully thought through, particularly from a devolved perspective. For example,

how will businesses access the fund? How much of the fund will be available? How will it work for businesses that are multinational and train centrally or businesses that have staff working outside NI?

"The Executive must also provide assurance that the monies they receive from the levy will be ring-fenced for apprenticeship/skills funding only. It is also important to understand how the levy will complement existing apprenticeship and training policy in Northern Ireland and incentivise the provision of high quality apprenticeships in the region."

Aidan Flynn, Managing Director of construction firm Flynn, said: "Flynn are one of the largest local employers in construction with around 250 staff mostly working within Northern Ireland. As a result of this, we shall be one of the companies hit by the proposed Apprenticeship Levy which will result in a tax on our business roughly equivalent to our retained profits in a typical year of trading."

Mr Flynn commented that the construction sector already pays a similar CITB Levy and is now being faced with a further tax around apprenticeships. He continued: "As a leading training and apprenticeship organisation, Flynn has a long track record of success in providing the skills and experience to give young people sustainable careers within construction. That position is put under threat by the imposition of this levy, which on top of the CITB levy and Assembly's BuySocial clauses, means we are paying three times for apprenticeships with no increase in support or return from this new tax.

"The £3m wage bill cut-off is also a disincentive for smaller firms to grow permanent positions to a point where they will trigger this levy. Equally, large firms may well review their direct employment levels in an effort to reduce their wage bills below the trigger point. None of this is good news for creating sustainable employment within the local industry, already decimated by years of economic recession and government delay on investment in infrastructure.

"Our local Assembly must take note of the real concerns of construction companies who are striving to provide sustainable careers that add value to the economy. It would be unforgivable that this region is neglected by our elected representatives whilst competitors across the UK are supported."

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
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Armagh City Quarry Opt for Terex Trucks & Sleator Plant

When Armagh City Quarry needed a bigger dump truck, they had no hesitation in calling on Sleator Plant, based in Newtownabbey, the official Terex Trucks dealer of rigid and articulated dump trucks in Northern Ireland.

The long established family owned quarry on the Loughgall Road outside the city has been 'home' to several other Terex dump trucks over the years – three articulated trucks and a rigid - so owner Brian Elliott has every confidence in the brand.

This time round, he opted for a Generation 9 TA400, one of the most robust, heavy-duty, high capacity articulated dump trucks on the market. It is now earning its daily keep drawing rock from the quarry face to a crusher.

"We are still using a TA300 in the quarry, but we needed something with a larger capacity and the 40 tonne TA400 fitted the bill," says Brian. "We've had it for a few months now



and it is certainly more productive than the previous; the drivers love it, too."

Working in a busy quarry is demanding on any machinery, and no more so than a dump truck which takes a lot of punishment during the day, and although the Terex TA400 is built to withstand heavy duty usage, usually in muck shifting activities rather than a quarry environment, Brian opted to have an extra liner fitted into the body to reinforce it, thereby minimising any potential for damage.

"We were happy to provide that for Brian," says Sleator Plant's Bill Henderson. "We also fitted a tail door and made a few other modifications, essentially customising it to suit the quarry's specific requirements."

HIGH PERFORMANCE

There are a number of things that make the TA400 stand out, not least its driveability and functionality, its high performance, fuel efficient Tier 4 Scania engine which ensures excellent productivity, and its modulating transmission retarder which is coupled with an efficient exhaust brake and fully enclosed oil-cooled multidisc brakes to provide optimum control and increased safety in adverse conditions such as those encountered in the quarry.

The fully adaptable drive-train is designed to maintain traction and speed on the toughest of terrains, while the planetary gear transmission provides smooth, efficient gear shifting for optimised fuel consumption and reduced cost of operation.



view from the cab



SPACIOUS CAB

Operator comfort, too, takes priority, which is why the drivers at Armagh City Quarry love it! Interior noise levels in the state-of-the-art, spacious cab have been reduced in the TA400, and there are new control positions

for ease of operation, together with cab instrumentation that has been designed specifically for off-highway applications, and improvements, too, have been made to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system. Ride quality is also enhanced by the bogie beam rear suspension system.

Downtime can be costly, especially when you have deadlines and schedules to meet, so a high level of after-sales service and support is needed if the unexpected happens, and that's what you can expect from the team at Sleator Plant.

Routine service or maintenance, of course, can also result in downtime, but this is kept to a minimum thanks to the provision of ground level service access points, and a fully tilting cab and electronic assisted hood raise for ease of access to engine.

The TA400 transmission is also installed with the latest lubrication oil specification that extends oil service periods to 6,000 hours, further reducing operational costs.



Further Expansion at Pirtek Belfast

Pirtek Belfast just keep going from strength to strength adding more technicians and yet another vehicle to their fleet of mobile workshops.

Bringing their total to six vehicles ensures full coverage of Northern Ireland whether it's

Belfast, Omagh, Newry, Limavady or anywhere in between.

Comments David Adams, MD for Pirtek Belfast: "Having additional vans and engineers means that we can offer even better response times to our customers. "Using Pirtek as your preferred supplier for Onsite Hose

Replacement gives you the best service available; not only have you all the benefits of using a locally owned and operated company, you have the peace of mind that we are part of the wider Pirtek network ensuring that all our engineers (MSSTs) are fully trained and City & Guilds certified."

He adds: "Our two new MSSTs are also enjoying their new roles with Pirtek. William is a time served mechanic who had his own garage for a number of years and has now completed his training and is out on the road and Conor, the youngest member of our team, who came to us after four years with a competitor, is very impressed with the differences in how we serve our customers and is currently on

his first week of our two-week residential induction training.

"All of our MSSTs are a credit to us and they are the ones who are out there, day and night, responding to customer breakdowns, regardless of the weather."

And says Cathy Doyle, Sales Manager: "I joined Pirtek nine years ago and have seen a lot of changes and, like many of our own customers, have faced some tough times. It is a credit to the company and the whole team at Belfast that we are now growing our fleet and gaining new customers. It's exciting times now for us and we really would like to thank our loyal customer base for continuing to support us, as without them, this new growth wouldn't be possible."



Ready Steady Pull!

Companies across the Northern Ireland Cement and Concrete industry recently attempted to pull a Lagan Cement Products truck 20m in the fastest time, all in aid of Action Cancer.

The event was open to the public, and featured a family fun element and took place at the Eikon site at the Maze outside Lisburn.

The afternoon was hosted by former Strongman Glenn Ross and featured professional Strongmen taking part in a number of their own competitive events alongside fundraising teams!

Lagan Cement Products have committed to raise money and awareness for Action Cancer by branding one blue and one pink lorry, with the hope that both men and women will see the trucks and spend a moment or two reflecting on their own personal health.

First place went to the returning Champions from last year, The Emerson Legends, which truly cements their position as Truck Pull

champs. Second place went to the Irish Wolfhounds who did a fantastic job, and third was Carryduff Building Supplies.

Commented Darren McMillan from Lagan Cement Products: "As a business, we are committed to producing quality products, minimising environmental impact, being a good neighbour and focussing strongly on teamwork and our company values. It is our hope that events like this help a make a real difference to the lives of people affected by cancer by bringing together our suppliers and competitors to help raise vital funds for Action Cancer. Everyone had a fantastic day and we are already looking forward to the next Truck Pull! "

Haynes to dig deep with new JCB 3C MkIII Manual

Since JCB was founded by Joseph Cyril Bamford in 1945, the company has gone from strength to strength, with over 300 types of machinery sold in over 150 countries, and 22 factories across 4 continents.

However, it is the company's 'yellow digger' backhoe loader, distinguishable by its front shovel and rear backhoe attachment, that has captured the nation's heart and encapsulated the iconic JCB brand.

In celebration of JCB's 70th anniversary, and its contribution to the construction industry, Haynes is launching the JCB 3C MkIII Backhoe Loader Owners' Workshop Manual.

Written by Julian Carder, who is otherwise known within his industry as 'Mr Backhoe', the manual provides a unique insight into the design, construction and evolution of the backhoe loader, featuring previously unpublished photography and information in the unique Haynes style that readers will know and love.

First appearing in 1977, the JCB 3C MkIII is widely credited with playing a significant role in taking JCB from leading British manufacturer to a global construction force. However, with a post-war United Kingdom in need of rebuilding, the first backhoe loader actually made its appearance in 1953, when Joseph Cyril Bamford combined a lightweight backhoe with

his Major Loader to produce a highly versatile machine.

The engaging text provides a brief history of the JCB company and its evolution, along with the story of the backhoe loader, concentrating on the 3C MkIII, but putting it into context with its predecessors and descendants. The anatomy of the 3C MkIII is clearly explained with a wealth of technical illustrations, photographs and behind-the-scenes detail. Additional chapters provide information on restoring, maintaining and running an example of the 3C MkIII today, and explain why the 3C MkIII is synonymous with JCB nearly 40 years after its inception.



Talking about his experience with JCB, author Julian Carder explained: "After purchasing my first backhoe loader when I was 16, my passion for engineering has provided me with a great deal of hands-on experience and a rather unique nickname (Mr Backhoe). With the full co-operation of JCB, it has been a privilege to write an informative manual that explores the history of such a classic piece of machinery."

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UK Constuction Week

UK Construction Week Celebrates Second Successful Year

The UK's largest construction trade event, UK Construction Week, attracted more than 30,000 trade visitors and over 650 exhibitors at the NEC in Birmingham recently to showcase their latest innovations, debate the industry's biggest issues and do business together.

Featuring nine shows under one roof, the event featured eight strictly trade shows running for three days: Build Show, Timber Expo, Civils Expo, the Surface and Materials Show, Energy 2016, Plant & Machinery Live, HVAC 2016 and Smart Buildings 2016.

Then, overlapping the last two trade days, Grand Designs Live offered a unique crossover experience between trade and public.

Now in its second year, UK Construction Week attracted visitors from across the full spectrum of the construction industry – from tradespeople, self-builders and SME owners to architects, civil engineers, national house builders and interior designers. Organised by Media 10, the show covered over 70,000 square metres of exhibition space and featured more than 165 hours of seminar content from 100 plus speakers.

In total there were 13 different seminar theatres at the event with the main stage being hosted by television presenter and architect George Clarke, business journalist Steph McGovern and television broadcaster and business journalist Victoria Fritz across the three days. Debating topics such as productivity, the skills shortage, BIM, offsite construction and intelligent environments, the seminar theatres provided a powerful platform to share best practice, devise new strategy and drive progress.

PRODUCT LAUNCHES

UK Construction Week also hosted a raft of major new product launches from



leading industry companies such as CEMEX, Easy-Trim Roofing and Construction Products, Condair, Cotherm, Instant Upright Ltd, OX Group UK, Irwin Tools, Banbury and SAVANT to name but a few.

Feedback from exhibitors has been very positive and the show has received a high number of re-bookings for the 2017 event. Some of the companies confirmed so far for next year include Festool, Easy-Trim, Theben AG, White Haus, ForgeFix, Ecovolt, Combilift Ltd, Creagh Concrete and many more.

Joshua Watkins, Managing Director at Swifttec (Build Show exhibitor), said: "There have been a really broad variety of people here, which has been exciting. It's a great place to meet clients and visitors as well as getting a good grasp of what's going on in the industry."

Mick Jackson, IT & Marketing Manager at Joseph Ash (Surface and Materials Show exhibitor), commented: "Honestly we've been surprised with the footfall, which has been excellent and has led to some strong leads. We're excited to see what tomorrow brings!"

Ian Thornton, Specifier Consultant at Calor Gas (HVAC 2016 exhibitor), also commented: "We did our research before coming and knew we would meet a lot of relevant people here. That's exactly what has happened and we've done a lot of business this week!"

Dave Cole, Sales Manager at Vandecasteele (Timber Expo exhibitor), added: "We've long been an exhibitor at Timber Expo and will continue to be in the future as it is a valuable meeting hub for our UK customers."

UNIQUE FEATURE

UK Construction Week also hosted a variety of unique features and industry award ceremonies. The Business Advice Centre provided free professional advice to SMEs at the show, while the Gamification Zone offered visitors an opportunity to learn more about their leadership potential. Among the seven award ceremonies hosted at



the show, the inaugural Construction Enquirer Awards were a huge success with more than 500 people in attendance to recognise the construction industry's best companies to work with and for.

Nathan Garnett, Event Director for UK Construction Week, commented: "We are so pleased with how this year's show has gone and want to thank all of our exhibitors, visitors, speakers, association and media partners for helping us put on such an impressive event. I believe the show is testament to the willingness to progress and collaborate within the construction industry as a whole."

"With representatives from across the entire sector it was great to see all the innovation and life present in the industry. The seminars were really well attended and engagement was high from visitors, which goes to show that we were able to hit the mark in terms of content. The interest in next year's show has already started to flood in and with booking the NEC until 2019, we are confident that UK Construction Week will go from strength to strength over the coming years."

NEXT YEAR

Returning to the Birmingham NEC, the dates for UK Construction Week 2017 are set for 10 – 12 October. For more information about UK Construction Week or to register your interest for next year's show, please visit www.ukconstructionweek.com





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Groundforce plays supporting role in Kent Station upgrade

Every deep excavation in Cork City presents a challenge. The area is underlain by a series of alluvial deposits with highly permeable sands and gravels. This coupled with a tidal water table gives rise to significant dewatering and excavation support challenges.

These were exactly the challenges facing Irish Rail and main contractor SIAC Construction on its contract to extend the Kent Railway Station.

The contract involves construction of a new entrance building to improve access and provide better links to the city centre. The entrance building has a basement concourse linked, via a new subway, to the underpass leading to the existing station building.

To allow the construction of the reinforced concrete basement and subway, SIAC and others installed a 25m long x 9m wide secant piled perimeter wall and a 4m deep mattress of permeation grout, 7m below ground level. This effectively sealed the excavation from

penetrating ground water and provided a dry working area for the basement floor.

Given the poor bearing capacity of the surrounding soil, 22 ground anchors were proposed on the original temporary works proposal. SIAC decided to review the propping options with Groundforce and proposed some value engineering to the client. The alternative solution was to prop the capping beam internally using 5 hydraulic props and remove the need for tie back anchors.

"The props provided a significant time saving and resulted in a much lower risk of water ingress where the tie back anchors would have punctured the secant piles," comments SIAC project manager Adrian Farry.

He adds: "With the props there was much less finishing works than would have been required for the head of the tie back anchor. Installed on site in a day using a 60t crane and the 21t excavator, the props were a much simpler installation to execute.

Once some of the reinforced concrete structure had reached sufficient strength, removal was as little as half a day."

Ground anchors were installed on the underpass section of works, which was completed at an earlier stage of the works, and this provided the perfect case study to compare the two methods of temporary support.

"In many situations, hydraulic props can offer significant benefits over tie back anchors for the temporary propping of basements," comments Groundforce General Manager Joseph Lenihan.

For this 14-week Groundforce project, there were significant benefits when compared against the anchors including the advantage of speed of installation, reduced dewatering and the option of live load monitoring – all contributing towards the successful construction of the basement reinforced concrete works.



Construction and Quarry Machinery Show a Sell Out

Ireland's Construction and Quarrying Machinery Show, CQMS'17 is shaping up to be a sell-out months in advance, which is a compelling indicator of exactly how strong the appetite is both domestically and internationally within the burgeoning construction sector.

This biennial event will take place on April 21st and 22nd 2017 in Tullamore, Co Offaly. All outdoor stands for CQMS'17 are now full and among the confirmed exhibitors are JCB, Kubota UK,

Geith International, Topcon, Atlas Copco Construction & Mining Limited, Jim Macadam Equipment/Case, Palfinger Ireland, Sandvik, CDE Global, HSS Hire and Laois Hire Group, IFM Ltd, Whelan Planthire, Renault Trucks Ireland, Rockbreakers, Tesab, MacHale Plant Sales, Whelan Plant Sales/HHIE and many more.

Ireland is a hub of quarry equipment manufacturing and engineering. 65% of the world's crushing and screening equipment is produced in Ireland so it makes sense for this International show to take

place on Irish soil. Following the resounding success of Ireland's Construction and Quarry Machinery Show in 2015, CQMS'17 is set to be much bigger with a unique opportunity for international delegates to do factory visits around the country.

CQMS'17 will have 35% more exhibition space and will occupy 100,000 square meters with 200 exhibitors, 2 live demonstration zones, a new machinery launch zone, factory visits, family attractions and an exciting air show for visitors. Up to 8,000 delegates, industry professionals

and visitors are expected with a large overseas delegation. This demonstrative show, supported by the Construction Industry Federation, will bring together the industry leaders in construction and quarrying showcasing over €70 million worth of new machinery on offer in Ireland.

CQMS'17 will offer buyers and sellers an opportunity to see machines at work with two large live demonstration zones as well as a new machinery launch zone with latest technology and innovation from manufacturers and confirmed headline sponsors include AIB Finance & Leasing and Total Lubricants, represented by their Irish distributor partner Finol Oils Ltd.



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Construction Industry can add 75000 jobs by 2020 through 'Rebuilding Ireland'

The Irish construction industry can generate 75,000 jobs, create 25,000 houses per annum and deliver infrastructure projects worth over €26 billion, if a supportive policy framework is in place, the CIF's annual conference has heard.

CIF President Michael Stone in his address stated: "This year the construction industry has been tasked with 'Rebuilding Ireland.' It's clear the Government recognises again that our industry and the progress of the Irish economy are intertwined. Construction is critical to this country's growth and job creation. For every 10 jobs in construction, another 4 are created indirectly - meaning we support over 190,000 jobs in Ireland in communities throughout the country.

"In fact, the majority of key Government targets in the Action Plan for Jobs, the Public Capital Programme, the Enterprise 2025 strategy, the IDA's FDI targets, the National Broadband Plan and others are dependent on our industry's capacity to deliver high quality construction.

"We also underpin future economic development by delivering the physical

infrastructure and housing that all other sectors depend on for their competitiveness. Additionally, we're helping expand foreign direct investment into Ireland and supporting the related 1 in 5 jobs in the economy by building the specialist buildings, like the data centres and RDI hubs that these companies require.

"Our research with Solas and DKM consultants indicates that the industry could create an additional 75,000 jobs by 2020 in the delivery of Government's housing and infrastructure strategies. These jobs will be generated by the 30,000 plus enterprises in construction- 99% of which have under 10 employees- that are dispersed across nearly every community in Ireland."

He added: "Today, the Irish construction industry is starting on a journey that will lead to it becoming an internationally successful industry based in Ireland. The global construction market is estimated to grow to \$15trillion by 2030 and the Irish industry will step up to capture these opportunities generating jobs and growth and increasing exports significantly. We will pursue the highest standards of construction,

develop innovative products and services and deliver excellent value for money for domestic and international clients.

"To achieve this vision, we need to partner with Government today to ensure that the domestic market is a springboard to export growth for our companies. We must work together to remove barriers to growth which make it impossible for the SME construction company to scale-up and realise their potential. Addressing market failure in finance, supply constraints in housing, planning issues, low technology uptake amongst companies and collaboration across the supply chain will equip the industry to become globally successful."

The conference's theme, 'Constructing Ireland 2027', focused on how the Irish construction industry will shape Irish society in the coming decade. The conference kick started the creation of a 10 year vision that envisages an internationally recognised, innovative industry that delivers world class construction and drives economic recovery, job creation, FDI and regional development in the wider economy.

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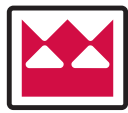
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Why Riddles Brothers Opt for Ormonde Machinery & Finlay...

NESTLED IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE SPERRINS MOUNTAINS IS THE SMALL MARKET VILLAGE OF DONEMANA. INDUSTRY IS LONG ASSOCIATED WITH THE AREA; YOU ONLY HAVE TO TAKE A TRIP TO THE LOCAL SILVERBROOK MILL TO REVISIT THE RESTORED CORN, FLAX AND SAW MILLS THAT WERE ONCE A THRIVING PART OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

Today another type of industry is flourishing, quarrying, contract crushing, plant hire and civil engineering as carried out by Riddles Brothers.

Established by Robert and David Riddles in 2001, the business originally began with a sand and gravel pit but soon evolved into contract crushing, plant hire and involvement in civil engineering projects in Northern and Southern Ireland. In 2006 the company opened its second sand and gravel pit and despite the challenging economic headwinds of the following years, the company are going from strength to strength with all aspects of their business.

Robert Riddles has a long standing relationship with the Finlay brand, with an investment in a Finlay sand washing plant at the start up stage of the business. Additionally, the company has three mobile Finlay plants, with the most recent addition being a new FINLAY J-1170 high-performance primary mobile jaw crusher purchased this year from Ormonde Machinery.

Commenting on their recent purchase from Ormonde Machinery, Robert Riddles says: "The FINLAY J-1170 Jaw Crusher has proven to be an excellent investment for us, further bolstering our mobile plant hire & contracts division. We are very impressed by the overall build quality, serviceability and user friendliness of the machine. In particular we find the T-Link Telematics remote monitoring system a very useful management tool allowing us to



Robert Riddles and Raymond Murphy

monitor performance of the J-1170 as and when required from any location. We looked at the various suppliers in the market for this size of jaw crusher but are pleased we opted for the FINLAY J-1170 from Ormonde Machinery. Their back up is second to none."

Given the range of projects and applications that Riddles Brothers are involved with, the FINLAY J-1170 Jaw Crusher is proving to be an excellent asset to the company's ongoing operations. The user friendly features on the J-1170 mean that customer demands for varying product types can be met quickly and efficiently with good rates of production being achieved. Whether it be a contract to produce 60,000 tonnes of 4" down or crush demolition waste to make





recycled fill material, the J-1170 is set up to respond to the application demands. Riddles Bros. are well established in the contract crushing business in Ireland and continue to invest in new equipment to meet the growing demand for aggregates as the construction sector improves across the island. The 49 tonne transport weight and compact dimensions of the FINLAY J-1170 mean savings for the company with lower transport costs between crushing sites. Set-up and fold down times are also speedier with the hydraulically folding sides and a hydraulic self-locking mechanism on the 9.6m³ hopper. Safety continues to be a key consideration for operators, and the J1170 has a robust and intelligent chassis design, with good clearance on both ends, which enables easy loading onto all transport trailers. When it came to making a decision about what machine to buy, a key factor was the long running relationship with Raymond Murphy from Ormonde Machinery, with his extensive knowledge and experience in the industry.

TELEMATICS

Riddles as well as having a long standing trust in the robust quality of Finlay machines, were very much influenced by the commitment to innovation that the company has demonstrated, particularly in the areas of telematics.

T – Link is a remote monitoring and fleet management system that combines inbuilt canbus control systems with satellite positioning and telematics software. T-Link can help remotely monitor and manage you fleet and thereby assist with growing your business.

T-Link enables you to stay connected and keep track of your equipment, monitor work progress, manage logistics, access critical machine information, analyse and optimise machine performance and perform remote operator support.

"With rising fuel costs and continual output targets, T-Link is a huge asset in being able to monitor those elements, it allows us to see at a glance just how profitable our machine really is. We can monitor how much fuel is being used on a daily basis and the total tonnage output," says Robert.

INCLINED SCREENS

The J1170 is complimented by the Finlay 683 and 693 inclined screens. Renowned for their quality, performance and productivity the Terex Finlay 683 combines scalping, screening and stockpiling into one self-contained unit. Complimenting this is the double deck Terex Finlay 693 which has been designed and developed with the demands of today's high production producer in mind.

For Riddles brothers, like so many other contract crushing screening operations the need to capture and process as many different grades of material as possible requires use of the 683 and 693.

"The FINLAY 683 and 693 inclined screens are designed for maximum utilisation of the two decks to provide ultra-efficient screening capacities even at small aggregate sizes. These machines allow us to screen more in spec material for customer requirements," adds Robert.

FIRST CLASS SUPPORT

For Riddles brothers versatility and innovation in their machines is also a priority but so too is avoiding downtime. The company were keen to work a partner that understand their needs and has the resources and know how to provide the solutions. With over 50 years' combined working experience in the construction, mining, quarrying and recycling industries, Ormonde Machinery has established a strong name and market presence.

"We have developed a very strong working relationship with Ormonde Machinery, we know that if our machine needs parts or servicing the technical and sales team will be on hand quickly and efficiently to deal with our needs. With locations and personnel both in Northern & Southern Ireland the company is well placed to meet our demands wherever we are in the country."

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KEY FEATURES

Terex Finlay 683

Renown for its quality, performance and productivity the Terex Finlay 683 combines scalping, screening and stockpiling into one self contained unit. Its rugged design enables the Terex Finlay 683 with its top deck 3.66m x 1.53m (12' x 5') and bottom deck 3.00m x 1.53m (10' x 5') screen to handle materials such as sand and gravel, limestone, crushed stone, coal, topsoil and demolition waste. Remote tipping reject grid, end tensioning of bottom deck mesh and three onboard hydraulic folding conveyors are standard. The Terex Finlay 683 is available on tracks or as a wheeled unit. Washing equipment can be fitted to the screenbox if required.

The double deck screen box has all round catwalk access allowing for ease of operational maintenance, while tracked mobility and hydraulic folding product conveyors allow for ease of movement and rapid set up.

Maximum utilisation of the two decks provide ultra-efficient screening capacities even at small aggregate sizes, and the screen box angle can be hydraulically adjusted to an angle between 18° degree and 39°.

Terex Finlay 693

The double deck Terex Finlay 693+ has been designed and developed to fulfill the demands of today's high production producer. The double deck screen configuration provides two full sized 6.1m x 1.53m (20' x 5') screen decks.

A high capacity belt feed hopper is available with remote tipping grid or double deck vibrating grid. Impressive features include hydraulic tipping reject grid complete with grouser bars, three on-board hydraulic folding conveyors and low level greasing access points. Now available with dual power technology option. On-board electrical motors allow flexibility to run from an outside power supply or standard on-board engine.

The double deck 6.1m x 1.53m (20' x 5') screen box with full catwalk access is the largest and most accessible in its class, while a combination of quick wedge tensioning on the top deck and end tensioning on the bottom deck ensure mesh set up and change out times are kept to an absolute minimum. Maximum utilisation of the 6.1m x 1.53m (20' x 5') decks provide ultra-efficient screening capacities even at small aggregate sizes, and the screen box angle can be hydraulically adjusted to an angle between 18° and 30°.



Platinum JCB Backhoe Takes Pride of Place at Kirk Contracts

When JCB revealed at the end of last year that it was going back to the future to celebrate its 70th anniversary with a limited edition version of the iconic backhoe loader that catapulted the company to success, Elvis Kirk took note.

Today, Elvis, who founded Downpatrick-based Kirk Contracts in 1978, is the proud owner of what is believed to be the only limited 'Platinum' edition backhoe in Ireland; in total, just 70 such machines have been produced for customers throughout the UK, as well as Australia, France, Spain and Russia.

Supplied by dealers BC Plant JCB Ltd in Hillsborough, this special 3CX, which is powered by JCB's 109hp Tier 4 Final Ecomax engine complete with autoshift torquelock transmission, is based on the 3CX Mark III first introduced in 1977 and was perhaps the most famous backhoe model.

The 'Platinum' 3CX features a red bucket, a full white cab and red wheels instead of the customary black and yellow finish. It is fitted with an air-conditioned cab, heated seats and six-speed automatic transmission. It even has an in-cab coffee maker.

"I bought my first JCB in 1979 and have always been a big fan of the brand," says Elvis. "So when the opportunity came up to acquire this special edition model I had

no hesitation in putting in an order; I am absolutely delighted with the machine."

Kirk Contracts has grown over the years to become one of the most respected civil engineering contractors in the Province, priding itself on its strong family values and its skilled workforce that focuses on providing a quality service tailored to the individual needs of its clients.

The company's projects vary from commercial and residential to healthcare, retail and civil engineering, so versatility plays a big part, which is another reason Elvis opted for the 3CX.

"Not only is it the 'Ferrari' of wheeled loaders, with every possible extra, it is also a very adaptable machine that we can utilise on





I bought my first JCB in 1979 and have always been a big fan of the brand

ELVIS KIRK

a wide range of projects – from fork work and moving material, to digging, lifting and even sweeping and site cleaning. And with a top speed of 40 km/h, we can travel easily and quickly on site and from job to job.”

At the moment, and perhaps understandably, nobody but Elvis is permitted to drive the machine. “It’s just so special,” he says. “It is a joy to operate.”

Three-speed controls allow the correct speed to be selected simply at the touch of a button, while excavator-style controls are fitted as standard, providing ease

of use and controllability – and a fully adjustable air-suspension seat provides fatigue free all-day operation.

There was a time, though, when Kirk Contracts didn’t have a JCB backhoe in its fleet, and admits Elvis: “We tried to do without a rubber tired machine for a couple of years, but found we really missed it; there are just certain jobs that require the JCB.”

Since JCB’s first backhoe loader was manufactured, the company has produced more than 600,000 backhoes and now sells them in 120 countries. JCB has also

been the world’s biggest manufacturer of backhoes for 15 years in succession with a range that spans 40 models from the compact 1CX through to the mighty 5CX.

JCB Chairman Lord Bamford began his business in a rented lock-up garage in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire in 1945. He used a second-hand welding set and some surplus military equipment to make tipping trailers for farmers to hitch to the new generation of petrol-driven tractors.

He commented: “The backhoe loader was the building block for the success of JCB and while we now produce many other different types of machines for construction, agricultural and industrial machines, it remains one of our most important products. The JCB backhoe has not only helped put JCB on the map but Britain too and I’m delighted that we have been able to produce limited edition models to mark the company’s anniversary.”



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FROM THE DESK OF:
GORDON BEST, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, QPANI

At Last, Some Good News!



Gordon Best, QPANI

At the time of writing expectations are growing that the UK Chancellor will announce a significant infrastructure stimulus as part of his Autumn Statement. The good news for Northern Ireland is that we should get a significant uplift in capital funding allocations through the Barnett Consequential process.

At the recent Construction Industry Forum (CIFNI) meeting Finance Minister Mairtin O Mulleir was very upbeat and positive following discussions he had, along with other Finance Ministers from Wales and Scotland, with the Chancellor.

While I am not a betting man, and gauging by the mood music at present, I do believe there is a real chance that the strategically and economically important York Street Junction will get the go ahead sooner rather than later.

The Chancellors Autumn statement will undoubtedly deliver a message that the UK is open for business despite all the uncertainty around Brexit. The size of the capital funding package is as yet unknown but we believe it will be good news for construction material suppliers in Northern Ireland.

Locally the latest Ulster Bank PMI signalled that overall business activity returned to growth, although the rate of expansion was modest as total new orders were largely unchanged in spite of a substantial increase in exports.

What is concerning is that new work levels in the construction sector has declined, staffing levels have reduced and the sector posted a sharp fall in activity that was the fastest since November 2012. The PMI information is taken from a small number of local contractors and suppliers who I believe are operating mainly on mainland UK and the stats are a reflection of the downturn being experienced in the GB construction market.

Certainly the message that I am getting locally in Northern Ireland is that members are steady or busy. Its definitely glass half full rather than half empty. Indeed, talking to plant suppliers they are indicating that there is a greater level of confidence in the construction material sector that has resulted in increased orders for new plant and equipment.

APPRENTICESHIP LEVY

The QPANI has been working alongside other trade bodies to highlight the negative impact the ill thought out Apprenticeship Levy will have here in Northern Ireland. We are calling on the Finance Minister and the Economy Minister to give the Construction Industry answers to the many

questions that have been raised about the forthcoming changes created by the AP. We haven't even had a consultation in NI on how the AP might work here.

The Government have proposed that from April 2017 employers with a payroll of more than £3million will be charged an apprentice levy at a rate of 0.5% of their annual pay bill. We estimate that there are 40 Northern Ireland companies affected within the Construction Industry contracting and supply chain.

In England, plans are in place for a voucher system that would allow levy-paying employers to claim back training costs. The English system is also set to support smaller employers who take on 16-18-year-old apprentices or young care leavers. No such plans are yet in place in NI! Here it is unclear how this money raised through the Westminster levy will be distributed in the province and how it will affect areas such as funding for the further and higher education sector, and also for organisations such as CITB NI.

It could quite possibly mean the end of CITBNI, an organisation that has served the industry well over the last 50 years. It is unlikely that those larger companies within scope of the levy will want to pay two levies so they will more than likely apply to opt out of paying the CITBNI Levy.

On a wider industrial front how will the requirement to pay the Apprenticeship Levy affect large manufacturers such as Bombardier in Belfast who are already facing high operating costs here. Could we see a migration of large manufacturers out of Northern Ireland? Work continues to seek a solution to this problem.

PLANNING

On the Planning front QPANI and local Members are in the process of responding to the Local Development Plan Preferred Options Paper for both Fermanagh Omagh Council and Mid Ulster Council. This is extremely important work as the outcomes and agreement reached will determine where and how aggregates will be extracted in Northern Ireland for the next 15 years.

This is of equal importance to both QPANI Members and Non Members and again illustrates the fact that there are companies out there who do not support the activities of QPANI but are quite happy to take the benefits of our hard work!

We have working with all of the local Councils over the past 18 months and have given them economic data on jobs and turnover in their local areas. We have also taken a lot

of time to highlight the very positive work that goes on in supporting local communities and protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

It is good to see that and here the Councils recognising the need for the future "safeguarding" of existing operations and the future reserves that will able operations to continue, even in designated areas, so that future generations will have access to essential resources to maintain and develop their infrastructure.

The reality is we all need quarry products. We need them for construction and for manufacturing, with each of us using more than 14 tonnes of aggregates per year, on average. Local industry offers sustainable solutions to the challenges of creating and maintaining our built environment, coping with climate change and providing for a growing population. The local quarry industry has been the engine room, doing our bit to help bring the economy out of recession.

As Government invests in our built and natural environment, it will look to quarries to provide the raw materials needed. The industry is looking to councils for support for our industry if we are to keep building Northern Ireland and supporting jobs and the rural economy in Northern Ireland.

THANKS TO ALL

As this is the last Plant and Civil Engineer magazine issue of 2016 I would like to thank all of our Members for their continued support and in particular those companies and individuals who participate and play such an important role in or sub committees and Executive Committee.

While the expectations for the next 12 months are more positive than what they have been for some years the Industry faces a growing threat from a very militant and vociferous environmental lobby who are basically "at war" with the Mineral and Aggregates Industry and those Government Departments that regulate it. I would warn of the risk of complacency and a belief that we can operate the way we always have.

This industry is under attack! Make no mistake about that and I would urge those companies, plant and service providers who depend on the Aggregates and Minerals Industry for the survival of their businesses to please consider joining QPANI to support us in our efforts to protect the "right to operate."

May I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy Christmas!

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working at height

Record Attendance at Working at Height Best Practice Forum

A record number of delegates attended this year's Working at Height Best Practice Forum, sharing their experiences and thoughts with like-minded professionals to help advance the safe operation of powered access, shape best practice and improve safety standards.

Facilitated by the UK's largest powered access company, Nationwide Platforms, the event has grown in size and stature to become one of the UK's leading powered access safety conferences. This year, the event was attended by more than 320 senior health and safety managers and directors representing a cross-section of sectors, industries and professions throughout the UK.

Driving innovation and safety, Nationwide Platforms took the opportunity to introduce a number of new products at the event including the latest version of its SkySiren® PCS™ (Pre-Crush Sensing) secondary guarding system, which has now been designed for use on scissor lifts. The new system provides the highest level of operator entrapment protection for scissor lifts and follows on from the successful introduction of SkySiren® PCS™ for boom lifts last year. Currently undergoing a supervised release with selected partners, full-scale production is scheduled for 2017.

Other new products on show included the company's SkyTel™ material handling attachment, which has been designed for the safe and efficient handling of mobile telecom antennas, and its latest innovation in safety, SkyScreen™, which has been designed to minimise the risk of dropped objects from the basket of an access platform when working at height.

As well as discussing best practice ideas and having thought provoking discussions with the industry's leading suppliers and



The Forum's market place allowed delegates the chance to share best practice ideas and thought provoking discussions with the industry's leading suppliers and associations

associations, delegates also took part in interactive breakout sessions on emergency rescue, onsite MEWP management and the latest developments in secondary guarding. There were also a number of presentations from industry experts, including Nationwide Platforms' Managing Director, Jeremy Fish, who opened the event with a speech on leadership. "In these uncertain times strong leadership is as important as ever. Unfortunately as leaders, we are still not doing enough to make our industry a safer place to work. Leadership is about having guts to stand up for what you believe in, showing others the way and taking them with you. The event is about encouraging leaders of businesses to come together and inspiring them to take responsibility. "It is important that they lead by example to help make our industry a safer and better place to work. In that respect, it was great to see so many leaders in one room dedicated to improving

safety standards within the industry. It was also encouraging to see delegates interacting with suppliers about the latest powered access machines and experiencing the very latest safety innovations. This year saw the introduction of SkySiren PCS for scissor lifts, as well as the chance for many to experience SkyScreen and SkyTel for the very first time.

"The feedback we received has been encouraging and we look forward to working on this year's comments, ideas, and insights in order to develop the next generation of products and services that users of powered access expect from a market leading powered access company."

The Forum also featured a number of fun and exciting activities throughout the day and close to £4,000 was raised for the company's chosen charity, MacMillan Cancer Support. This amount was matched by Nationwide Platforms' parent company, the Lavendon Group, with a grand total of £7,818 being donated to MacMillan.



Nationwide Platforms' SkySiren® PCS™ innovation being demonstrated on a scissor lift



The view of the outdoor display taken from a 70 metre truck platform



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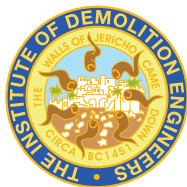
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local expertise

Northern Ireland expertise at the heart of £117m rejuvenation project for Sunderland

It has taken almost half a million man hours to bring the construction of the new cable stay bridge across the River Wear, at Sunderland, to its half way completion point. "And we are looking at the same level of commitment again to get us over the finishing line," says Farrans' Stephen McCaffrey, the project director. "This is a landmark project for the Sunderland area, one which will drive forward the strategic development of the city, from both a regeneration and future investment perspective."

Belfast-based Farrans Construction is delivering this unique £117m development as part of a joint venture with the Belgian steel fabrication company Victor Buyck.

The project also involves the significant input of other locally-based companies with an involvement in the construction and engineering sectors, chief among them Ballymena-based Moore Concrete Products Ltd.

The bridge, when completed, will be 336m long and will facilitate two lanes of traffic on either carriageway along with a 3m wide shared cycleway – footway on each side of

the bridge. Also included in the development will be 2.8km of new carriageway. It is at the heart of the Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor. The focal point of the new bridge will be a 105m high steel pylon, from which will radiate out the cable stays supporting the bridge deck.

"This is the most challenging bridge project that we have ever undertaken and the first highways bridge with a cable stay design," adds Stephen.

"Its complexity has required a tremendous planning input, involving ourselves and those other international companies working on the development of the bridge. Site works commenced in May of last year. The new structure will be commissioned in advance of its planned opening in spring of 2018. When fully operational, it will cater for 27,000 vehicles per day."

The bridge project has already been seven years in development, with the office bearers of Sunderland City Council making no secret of its strategic importance for the region as a whole

Cllr Paul Watson, Leader of Sunderland City Council, said: "The people of Sunderland have

waited a long time for this, so it's wonderful to finally see the bridge unfolding and our ambitions become a reality. It's a complex project, but we have the right skills and expertise in place to ensure it is delivered on time and to the highest standards.

"The new crossing is going to attract investment into Sunderland, help to regenerate key areas along the river, reduce journey times for motorists, and inject a great sense of pride into the community. There are no doubts in my mind that it will have a profound impact on the future of this great city."

IMMENSE SCALE

The physical scale of the project is immense. Its completion will require 3,000t of steel, 4250t of precast concrete decking elements and 100km of cabling. Its development has also entailed the input of an international design team.

Precast business Moore Concrete is manufacturing all of the precast concrete deck units for the new bridge. These involve 38 different designs comprising a total of 850 units ranging in weight from 5 to 15 tonnes.

"We have enjoyed a long working relationship with the team at Moore's," Stephen explains, while Moore's sales manager Richard Whiteside confirms that the new bridge is the largest structure which the company has ever supplied components for.

"Over the past number of years, we have invested heavily in the manufacturing facilities and skills' base to allow us commit to projects of this scale. And, obviously, we want to build on this for the future," says Richard.

"The Sunderland project has required the co-ordinated input of our own engineering, design and manufacturing teams so as to ensure the precast units meet all the required quality standards and that delivery times are consistently achieved."

Recent days have been marked by the first phase of the bridge decking being launched across the river.

"This represents a critical stage in the development of the overall project," comments Stephen McCaffrey. "The pylon, which will be pre-fabricated in Belgium, should arrive with us on a specialised barge in early 2017. Its erection will follow almost immediately thereafter, which should allow us complete the bridge and adjacent road carriageways by early 2018.

"I can confirm that the project is on schedule to be completed on time. This is good news for the people of Sunderland and for all the companies involved in the development of what is a truly iconic bridge structure."



Pictured (L to R) are Moore Concrete sales manager Richard Whiteside discussing plans for the new bridge over the River Wear at Sunderland with project director Stephen McCaffrey, from Farrans Construction.

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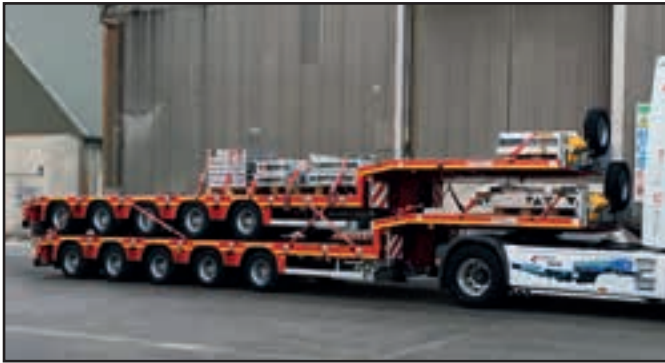
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2005 Nootboom 4 axle 9ft wide step frame 9.2m bed plus 6.5m extension, double flip ramps with side shift, two rear steer axles, sliding bolster, out riggers, hydraulic suspension, good tyres, ready to go straight to work.



2007 Nootboom 4 axle 9ft wide step frame, 9.2m bed, trough, double flip ramps with side shift, two rear steer axles, out riggers, hydraulic suspension, in test, ready to go straight to work.



2008 Nootboom 4 axle 9ft wide step frame, 9.2m, extendable 4m with trough, sliding bolster, double flip ramps with side shift, out riggers, two rear steer axles, hydraulic suspension, in test, ready to go straight to work.



2007 Faymonville 4 axle 9ft wide step frame, fixed bed with trough, single ramps with hydraulic side shift, out riggers and steel rimmed timber, two rear steer axles, in test and ready to go straight to work.



**LARGE SELECTION OF SECOND HAND TRAILERS ALSO IN STOCK,
READY FOR WORK, DOE'D AND SERVICED.**

Leica Geosystems Training at Innovate NI Offices

Innovate NI in partnership with Leica Geosystems recently offered Captivate & Viva training over two days at their facility in Antrim.

The first course on SmartWorx VIVA was designed to accommodate and update current VIVA users on the latest Firmware version and user best practice; dealing with issues such as coding, setting up function keys, using free codes, data upload/download [DXF & CAD Backcloths] alongside image capture.

A Q&A workshop concluded the training session where users were able to raise their own queries. The second day's training brought new users of Leica CAPTIVATE up-to-date on the latest Firmware Ver. 2.10 and how it can improve workflow.

Emphasis was on the Leica MS60 Multi-Station point and image collection with integration into Leica Infinity newly released Version 2.10.

The course also gave users the chance to see the latest additions of the Leica instrumentation portfolio including the new GS16 partnered with the CS20 using SmartLink.





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£35 million Magherafelt bypass opens ahead of schedule

Infrastructure Minister Chris Hazzard has officially opened the A31 Magherafelt bypass representing an investment of £35million, following its completion several weeks ahead of schedule.

The new 6kilometre bypass will improve links for the movement of people, goods and services in the Mid Ulster area to and from the M2, Belfast and north east.

Minister Chris Hazzard said: "My congratulations go to the construction companies BAM and McCann on the joint delivery of the scheme ahead of schedule."

Since the scheme began in June 2015 over 500,000 cubic metres of earthworks material has been excavated, including over 25,000 cubic metres of rock. 46,000 tonnes of bituminous material was laid, which directly benefited local suppliers of construction material.

The scheme provided employment for seven people who were previously registered as unemployed. It also provided employment for seven student placements and 16 apprentices. In addition, 90 training placement weeks were also delivered as a result of the investment.



Pictured here are Conor Loughrey TransportNI, Francie Molloy (MP), Minister Hazzard and Chair of Mid-Ulster Council Trevor Wilson

Metso Lokotrack LT106 Delivers Groundbreaking Excellence

Combining 30 years of experience in mobile crushing equipment with 21st century materials and design, the Lokotrack LT106 mobile jaw crushing plant's introduction is a 'giant leap forward in the mobile crushing industry' – according

to Metso distributor in Ireland, McHale Plant Sales of Birdhill and Rathcoole.

Billed as the 'new generation of proven performance', the Finnish-made LT106 is the improved successor to the world-renowned C106 jaw crusher – regarded by many as the industry

benchmark in mobile crushing, with a proven track record in the toughest of applications.

A primary crusher for recycling or rock-based material, the LT106, with a 1,060 x 700 mm (42" x 28") feed opening, can be used as a first unit in a multistage crushing process or as a stand-alone unit in reducing applications.

After material is fed on to its feeder by an excavator or wheel loader, the mobile plant's two stage scalping section removes the fine substance which can then be guided to its main conveyor or side conveyor. Output material size is controlled by the crusher settings, whilst the crusher is hydraulically driven to ensure trouble free operation.

The LT106's chassis design, with good clearance on both ends, enables safe and easy loading onto a trailer. Compact dimensions and agility on tracks mean lower transport costs between and within crushing sites. Its feed hopper sides, with a patented and safe hydraulic securing system and

radial side conveyor ensure the unit is ready for crushing or transport within minutes.

New features, including a radial side conveyor, high inertia flywheels and Metso's IC700 automation system that utilises an ultrasonic material level sensor, are said to offer the best capacity and cost efficiency in the 40-tonne class. The new fuel-efficient CAT9.3 Tier4, 224 kW (300 hp) engine with hydraulic drive ensures trouble-free operation and enables the direction of the crusher to be changed in the event of a blockage.

A new engine layout and flywheel composite covers, together with spacious service platforms and excellent accessibility make daily operations safe and easy. Flexibility can be added with additional features such as a screen module and long main conveyor.

McHale Plant Sales director Tim Shanahan says the LT106 is a machine 'built to deliver groundbreaking excellence' and he adds: "Its introduction takes production capacity to a whole new level, cutting operating costs and generating the highest customer value possible."



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Institute of Quarrying celebrate at Stone Crushers Ball 2016

The Northern Ireland branch of the Institute of Quarrying's annual Stone Crushers Ball took place recently at Belfast's Europa Hotel.



Sam Eccles (IOQ)



Stephen Robinson & Janet Robinson, Sam & Elma Eccles, David & Eileen Johnston



Sam & Elma Eccles, Robert & Valerie Waddell



John McRobert (CIHT Chairman), Mike Phillips (IOQ) & Brendon Morris (IMQS)



Brendon Morris (IMQS)



David Johnston, Marie McNally, Art McNally



Alwyn & Bernie McCreanor, David Johnston



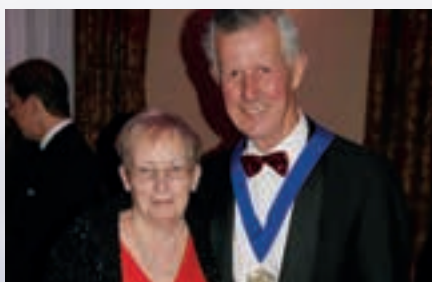
Roy & Janice Wallace, Elma & Sam Eccles



Brian & Breige Curtis, Colin & Beverley Emerson, Adrian Madden, Rona Roberts, Gordon Best



Alan Dolan (IMQS), Adrian Madden & Brendan Morris (Chairman, IMQS)



Rona & John McRoberts



Pierce Kirwan, Roy & Janice Wallace & Colin Barkley



Mike Phillips (IOQ)



Colin Barkley



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Fletchers Metals and Waste Recycling invest in an EDGE TRT622 Trommel

Founded in 1982 Fletchers Metals and Waste Recycling (FMWR) has grown to become one of the leading waste management and skip hire experts in South Yorkshire and the Derbyshire regions.

With a strong emphasis on eco-friendly waste solutions their Sheffield site incorporates secure storage and treatment facilities where they can manage all types of waste and metals to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 standard, helping maximise their re-use, recycling and waste-to-energy capabilities.

In an effort to introduce more capacity and efficiency at their Sheffield site, FMWR have recently invested in an EDGE TRT622 Trommel and was supplied by EDGE's UK distributor Max Innovate.

This decision was made after the company had researched the market and looked at several manufacturers before reaching the decision that the EDGE machine was the most robust, with the best features and the best value for money.

Richard Fletcher- MD at FMWR, commented, "We looked at all the leading models on the market and after much research decided that the EDGE Trommel was by far and away the most fuel efficient, this coupled with the unparalleled screen capacity and huge stock piling capacity it had to be the best machine for us."

The EDGE TRT622 Trommel is the largest trommel EDGE manufacture. Featuring a 2.0m x 6.9m drum the TRT622 is a heavy duty

machine suited to all applications from C & D waste, to compost and general waste.

Steven Lythgoe- Director at FMWR, commented, "Since we took delivery in May we have been very happy with the performance. The throughput and capacity has been spot on and has reassured us that we made the right decision."

Featuring the widest inlet of any trommel in its class, to prevent material bridging or blocking, the feeder also incorporates a full length impact plate to prevent the belt getting punctured and ripped.

With an intelligent load sensing hydraulic control system, the trommel drum and feed conveyor are in constant communication with the feeder rate being adjusted accordingly to prevent drum overload. Fuel consumption is reduced via the drums eco-power saving functionality. The control system detects if there is no load on the

drum and will reduce the engine to idle speed, eventually turning the engine off.

Operation can be controlled from an 8 function remote control which starts and stops the machine, along with machine movement (superb manoeuvrability) and slewing the radial fines conveyor.

Forward thinking design features include a 1500mm wide collection conveyor under the drum which ensures the sides of the machine are steep, preventing material building up and spillage. The angle of the drum can also be hydraulically changed depending on ground conditions and the type of material to be processed.

Fines collection is discharged out of the opposite end to the oversize where a 180° radial provides huge windrow stockpiling capacities.

Fintan McKeever, Director of Max Innovate, UK distributor for EDGE commented, "The heavy duty design and construction which has been developed in this impressive screening trommel is ideal for applications such as top soil, recycling, composting and is proven in C&D waste. Designed for maximum productivity the TRT622 incorporates heavy duty construction and zero spillage- it's the perfect machine for FMWR."

Added Richard Fletcher, "We have been very impressed with the performance of the machine and we were pleasantly surprised by some of the smaller design features which we had not previously noticed, including the automatic grease cartridges and access to all the service points."



Hazzard Confirms A5 Commitment with Cross Border Councils

Infrastructure Minister Chris Hazzard recently met with senior officials from five Councils to reaffirm his commitment to deliver the A5 Western Transport Corridor.

The A5 Western Transport Corridor is an Executive led scheme which aims to provide 85 kilometres (55 miles) of dual carriageway from south of Derry at New Buildings to south of Aughnacloy.

Commenting after the meeting, Chris Hazzard said: "I am encouraged by the commitment and support for the A5 transport corridor shown by Derry and Strabane, Fermanagh and Omagh, Mid Ulster, Donegal and Monaghan Councils. One of my key priorities as Minister for Infrastructure is to remedy the North's infrastructure deficit - particularly west of the Bann.

"The A5 transport corridor will provide a high quality road link between Derry, Strabane, Omagh and Ballygawley; it will unlock the potential for future economic development of these areas, including Counties Donegal and Monaghan; it will create immediate employment with over 1,000 jobs for the construction industry.

"The A5 scheme will underpin the economic and social development of the North West. I am currently engaging with Departmental officials to explore options to maximise delivery of the A5 and also want to engage with the Irish Government to ensure that they are key partners in the delivery of this project."

The Public Inquiry into the scheme, which is being administered by the Planning Appeals Commission, is ongoing. Subject to the successful completion of all the statutory procedures and a satisfactory outcome from the Inspector's Report, it is anticipated that construction can commence in late 2017 on Phase 1A in line with the Fresh Start Agreement.

UK & Ireland's First FL 4x4 Rigid For NIE Networks

NIE Networks is responsible for managing 47,000 kilometres of overhead and underground cables that deliver electricity to 850,000 homes and businesses across Northern Ireland. As part of its regular replacement vehicle programme, the fleet - which currently comprises over 400 vehicles - has taken on the first five Volvo FL 4x4 trucks to go into service in the UK and Ireland.

The company opted for the FL 4x4 due to its four-wheel drive functionality to help access remote areas and suitability for bespoke bodywork conversion. Each of the 250hp trucks is equipped with a Palfinger 12001-EH crane to help with the delivery of electricity poles to site.

The new vehicles are being used within the Lines Delivery side of the NIE Networks business, to help maintain the electricity network for the benefit of homes and businesses across Northern Ireland.

NIE Networks is a business that puts its customers first and, as part of this commitment, a number of the new FL 4x4 trucks will be used as 24/7 emergency response vehicles. To help reduce costly vehicle downtime, Dennison Commercial's award-winning aftercare support will keep NIE Networks' engineers on the road.



David Corry, Supply Chain & Fleet Manager, NIE Networks, commented: "As the network company, we have a responsibility to ensure homes and businesses across Northern Ireland have a reliable electricity supply."

He adds, "It was the reliability and the first-rate aftersales service offered by Dennison Commercial which helped to make it an easy decision when it came to replacing vehicles on the fleet. We were aware of the excellent reliability of Volvo's FL range and are looking forward to working in partnership with Volvo and Dennison into the future."

Sandvik Merges Operations Into Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology

Sandvik has merged its operations Sandvik Mining and Sandvik Construction into one business area called Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology and is moving into a new location in Portlaoise.

Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology operations will be organised in a de-centralised business model with separate product areas based on the product offering. Each product area will have full responsibility and accountability for its respective business.

"Products developed for the customer segments mining and construction are based on common technologies with a similar aftermarket offering. By joining the operations into one business area we achieve a leaner and more efficient structure. The decentralised business model enables an even clearer focus and faster response to our customers," says Björn Rosengren, Sandvik's President and CEO.

Sandvik says the move shows clear intent and is part of its long term plan to support customers in the Irish market for Mining, Surface Drilling and Crushing applications. The new facility at Portlaoise will hold stock of key spare parts and key rock drilling tools for drilling machines and crushers.

A fully integrated workshop is available for the repair and maintenance of machines, including the large underground loaders and trucks used at Tara Mines. Service Engineers will be based at the facility and will be utilised in the field and in the workshop.



Sandvik has also announced the return of Mark Fekkes to the company. Mark who previously worked for both Svedala and Sandvik will be responsible for the sale of stationary equipment, parts and service in the North and South of Ireland.

MOBILE CRUSHING & SCREENING

Sandvik mobile crushing and screening, meanwhile, will transact as a separate business unit with a focus on its direct customers and global distributor network. This will be led by the manufacturing plant in Ballygawley, Co. Tyrone.

ASHFIELD & WILSON: Keeping Kramer at the Forefront



Since being appointed a Kramer dealer for Northern Ireland and the border counties just over three years ago, Ashfield & Wilson have taken brand awareness here to a new level.

Kramer, of course, has been a familiar name in this part of the world since the 1980s, but to some extent it had dropped from the radar for a few years. Its return to the Balmoral Show earlier this year was widely welcomed.

"Primarily, we took on the Kramer dealership for its renowned wheel loader range which not only fills a gap in our product portfolio, but also perfectly complements our other brand offerings for the agriculture and construction sectors," comments Andrew Farquhar, Sales Manager

"The German made Kramer is the only machine on the market with a rigid frame and offering four-wheel steer and grab steer, making it superbly safe, stable and manoeuvrable on all types of terrain. In the Kramer range there is virtually a machine for every possible job, such is the versatility of the brand."

Adds Andrew: "Last year was our first year at the Balmoral show in over 20 years. We had a large stand to display many of the Kramer models. Our stand attracted both former and new customers and we did a lot of good business from the event. It was great to see Kramer back at the show after a long absence and in such a prominent position; we are already making plans to be back at next year's Balmoral Show."

Ashfield & Wilson, of course, is a long established company going back more than four decades, providing agricultural sales and service to the farming communities in Tyrone, Fermanagh and Armagh.

The company now has extended its reach with the Kramer dealership and is well situated to serve a much wider customer base from a prime location just off the M1 junction 15 at Dungannon.

Its modern, purpose built workshop is manned by highly trained technicians, all of whom have an extensive knowledge of the company's entire product range of wheel loaders, telehandlers, tractors and other machinery.

The importance of an excellent service department has always been a source of

pride for Ashfield & Wilson, with service vehicles able to provide 'on site' standard servicing and repairs, in addition to repairs and servicing in the workshop.

"Recognising that downtime must be kept to a minimum has resulted in an efficient professional approach from our experienced servicing team," says Andrew.

Availability of Kramer machines and spare parts will never be a problem as Ashfield & Wilson carry comprehensive stocks.

MODEL CHOICES

The biggest machine in the wheel loader range, which starts with a 30hp model, is the versatile 100hp Kramer 8095T which offers a 2.4 tonne lift and a 4.3 metre reach.

A robust and reliable workhorse, like all Kramer machines, it features a driver friendly and particularly spacious panoramic soundproofed cab with the highest level of operator comfort, with large, heat insulation glazing that extends down close to the floor. Easily accessible, it has entrance and exit doors on both sides. Other features include air con, reverse fan and hydraulic pressure release from the front of the machine.

All models in the tele wheel loader range are straightforward to operate, easy to drive and cost little to maintain. They are made for hard, sustained use and as such include features like low kerb weight, high fuel efficiency thanks to optimally balanced system components and intelligent engine and hydraulics



“Primarily, we took on the Kramer dealership for its renowned wheel loader range which not only fills a gap in our product portfolio, but also perfectly complements our other brand offerings for the agriculture and construction sectors,”

ANDREW FARQUHAR, SALES MANAGER



management, and few fuel-intensive drive components when in operation, further reducing consumption thanks to the manoeuvrability offered by the four-wheel steering.

The compact telehandler range from Kramer, meanwhile, includes the 1245, which combines the advantages of a mini wheel loader with those of a traditional telescopic handler. With superb all-round visibility, it offers a reach of just over 4 metres and can easily handle a 1200kg payload, while the bigger 2205 offers over five metres of stacking height with a 2,200kg payload.

The newest in the compact range is the Kramer 2706, offering a 2.7 tonne lift and a six metre reach. With a 80 hp engine, this machine measures just two metres high by two metres wide, making it ideal

for work in restricted or limited sites; indeed, with their compact dimensions, Kramer telescopes open up a wide range of applications across many industries.

ALL ELECTRIC

Meanwhile, Kramer's new award winning 5055e electric wheeled loader will also be available soon, giving customers a choice: fully electric or diesel driven.

Construction site operators face a challenge when it comes to using diesel-powered vehicles in buildings, on inner-city construction sites or in tunnels.

Thanks to the new fully electric drive, it will be possible to perform work indoors, completely emission-free with the Kramer 5055e. Additionally, both operators and the

environment are protected thanks to zero emissions and extremely low noise levels.

Due to the significantly lower maintenance costs, the initial higher price can quickly be recouped. The usual maintenance intervals still comply to ensure that the machine continues to work reliably and economically, but as maintenance of an engine is not required, inspection of the machine is correspondingly shorter and hence cheaper.

Depending on the application and utilisation of the wheel loader, a single charge lasts up to five hours of operation. The charging time of the machine is between four and eight hours depending on the battery option chosen.

For more info contact Ashfield & Wilson Ltd on 02887722133 or Andrew on 07900263440



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CIHT Begin Winter Programme

I had the privilege of taking over as Chairman of the Northern Ireland Region of the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation at our AGM last April, so already, as we start the winter season of presentations, we are half way through the year.

My term started with our hugely successful study tour for to Liverpool. This included technical visits to Cammel Laird where the new Strangford Ferry was being built, the biomass transfer facility being built by Grahams in Liverpool docks which has a capacity of 10,000 tonnes of wood pellets per day and storage of 100,000 tonnes en route from Canada to Drax power station; then the new stand being built for LFC at Anfield, and Liverpool Gateway, the new bridge over the Mersey and associated roads at a total cost of £1.5bn.

What was particularly impressive about all of these projects was their complexity, the number of different trades and skills

involved, and the very tight timescales under which they were being carried out.

Other visits included the Royal Liver Building board room and roof-top, the Mersey Ferry (with appropriate background music), and the Anderton Boat Lift (the 18th Century equivalent of the Falkirk Wheel). The group of thirty included a number of regulars, but it was particularly good to have the company of so many younger engineers from the various parts of our industry.

Presentations leading to over fifty new student members have already taken place at our two universities, and our first evening talk, which will have passed by the time you read this, is a joint meeting with TPS: Accessibility Analysis – “An essential tool in integrating land use and transport planning” with speakers: Stephen Wood – Department for Infrastructure and Peter Morrow – AECOM.

This was followed on 9th November by a joint breakfast meeting with CILT entitled Work-related road safety in Northern Ireland – Why it's important & how to improve it.

The third meeting on 21st November is a presentation by Dr Philip Brown of Graham Construction on the Tennyson Road Bridge, a new bridge constructed over many tracks of live railway line.



The central column at low tide

Various other events are planned, some technical, some more social, culminating in the annual gala dinner, again this year in the Titanic Building, on the 9th March.



Looking at the £5m travelling former used for casting the deck spine.



The Strangford II

CIHT Northern Ireland Events Programme 2017

The following programme of events is subject to change.

Please check the CIHT website regularly for updates – www.ciht.org.uk/events

For further information please contact:

John McRobert: 028 2566 2501

Email: john.mcrobot@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Roisin Wilson: 028 4461 8156

Email: roisin.boyle@drdri.gov.uk

DATE	EVENT	TIME & VENUE
Friday 9th December 2016	CIHT Annual Luncheon Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London For details and to book please see: http://www.ciht.org.uk/en/events/events-listing.cfm/ciht-annual-luncheon-2015	Venue: Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London
Monday 16th January	Joint Meeting with IAT: (Details to be confirmed)	TBC
Friday 20th January	Joint CIHT/ICE webinar: 3D Modelling of Road Pavement Defects using Non-Contact, Close Range Photogrammetry Speaker: Dr. Grainne McQuaid, RPS	Webinar
TBC	Young Professionals Site Visit & F1 Challenge (Details to be confirmed)	TBC
TBC	CIHT NI - Professional Qualifications Seminar Lunchtime seminar on routes to professional qualifications including CEng, IEng EngTech and TPP (light lunch included)	TBC
Monday 20th February	A6 Randalstown to Castledawson Speakers: DfI and Aecom	Time: 6.15pm Venue: QUB David Keir Building Room LG 024 <i>Tea served from 5.30pm in the Hub</i>
Thursday 2nd March	CIHT National Conference: Delivering world class transport infrastructure and services For details and to book please see: http://www.ciht.org.uk/en/events/events-listing.cfm/ciht-annual-conference-2017	Venue: Park Plaza, Victoria, London
Thursday 9th March	Northern Ireland Region Annual Gala Dinner To book contact: freddie.patterson@laganconstruction.com	Venue: Titanic Belfast
Monday 3rd April	Joint Meeting with ICE: A82 Pulpit Rock Road Scheme Speakers: Gareth Brennan (McLaughlin & Harvey) & TBC (Tony Gee & partners)	Time: 6.15pm Venue: Ulster Museum, Stranmillis Road, Belfast
Monday 17th April	Annual General Meeting followed by Colas Competition	Time: 6.15pm Venue: QUB David Keir Building Room LG 024 <i>Tea served from 5.30pm in the Hub</i>
Friday 21st April	Joint CIHT/ICE webinar: New Lagan Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge: Speaker: Kris Campbell, TransportNI	Webinar
May	Northern Ireland Region Annual Study Tour	TBC
Friday 21st June	Joint CIHT/ICE webinar: Coleraine to Derry-Londonderry Rail Upgrade Speaker: Clive Bradberry, Translink	Webinar

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If you would like to know more about CIHT's CPD scheme, please contact: education@ciht.org.uk

The Executive Hire Show 2017 Kicks Off to a Great Start!

The 11th Executive Hire Show (8th & 9th February 2017) exhibitor 'Kick off' meeting took place recently at the event's established home at the Ricoh Arena Coventry – in the heart of the Midlands.

Show Director Robert Aplin 'kicked off' proceedings to a large crowd of the 2017 Show exhibitors. He used his opening address to announce his retirement from the event after 10-years at the helm and introduced the Show's new Event Director, Craig Donovan.

The new Executive Hire Show owners, the Hemming Group Ltd, were also introduced to the delegates and the company's group MD, Graham Bond was present to welcome the EHS exhibitors.

Mr Aplin said, "Having achieved the fantastic milestone of celebrating 10 Shows earlier this year – an achievement I am immensely proud of - I have decided that the time is now right for me to have some more exciting adventures before it is too late!

"The time is right to hand over the reins to Craig Donovan and the rest of the EHS and EHN team - Emma Sandy, Alan Guthrie, and Mandy Rees - who are all eager to develop the businesses further. To help guide and support them, I am confident that I have identified an ideal financial and commercial partner in Hemming Group."

Craig Donovan, who has been the company's Group Commercial Manager since 2012 will take over Robert Aplin's role with the support of the rest of the EHS team.

He addressed the exhibitors with the very latest news about the 2017 Executive Hire Show where there are many new and exciting initiatives – EHS may only be a two-day event but its reach and its influence continue throughout the hire industry throughout the year.

The 2017 show has an impressive 152 exhibitors in the Main Hall and the Atrium to date, which means that these areas of the event are now already 98% sold out – by Christmas the EHS team is anticipating that these areas will be full! Of these exhibitors 24 so far are brand new to the event.

Potential exhibitors that have yet to book need not despair as a new area has been

created – the 'Hire Show Hall' – where a direct link has been created from the Main Hall into the Lower Halls. The EHS team has confirmed that the construction of this new link is almost complete and they are now taking stand bookings for the new area.

"Bookings for the 'Hire Show Hall' are off to a good start with several new exhibitors already signed up," said Mr Donovan. "Eagle eyed exhibitors within the main areas of the Show, wanting larger stands, have seen the potential in this new area and have already moved their stands to exhibit in this new space."

The 2017 exhibitor list is looking very impressive – with the majority of the key players, in the hire industry taking stands. These include A & Y Equipment, Altrad Belle, Atlas Copco, Avant Tecno, Bomag, BTE Plant Sales, Doosan, Firefly Solar Generators, GenQuip, Greenmech, Hire Supply Company, Husqvarna, Ifor Williams, Knott-Avonride, Kubota, Leica, Mace Industries, Makita, Manitou, MHM Plant, Niftylift, Obart Pumps, Ridge Tools, Shindaiwa, Sumner, Thwaites, Topcon, Wilkinson Star, Yokota and Zenith.

The EHS would also like to extend a warm welcome to the brand new exhibitors that have committed to the 2017 event so far – these include: Astrak UK, AV Industrial Products, Camberwell Plant Hire, Briggs & Stratton, Castle Brooke Tools, CCL, CEMO, Datatag, Carrymate, EC Hopkins, North West Tools, FLEX, GGR Group, Harford Attachments, HTS, Identipro, Imex tools, Klingspor, Leach Lewis Rubber Tracks, Multiquip, National Flooring Equipment, Niftylift, Nightsearcher, Paragon Protection Systems, Russon

Access, RVT Group, Stanley Handling, Tammet Systems, Trime (UK) & Van-Line.

The 2016 event attracted 1,851 relevant hire industry visitors and the EHS team has already begun its 2017 National Visitor Campaign, working for the fourth year in partnership with Hire Supply Co, utilising the expertise of Steve McKenzie, who will be travelling the country visiting Hire Depots to mobilise and excite hirers to attend the 11th annual event.

EHS will also be working with Altrad Belle for the 2nd year running. The Altrad Belle team will also be visiting hire depots country wide to drum up visitor support for the Show. From mid-November, check out where the team have visited on the Show diary of the EHS website.

Back by popular demand is the Innovation Trail, first launched in 2013, as innovation continues to be an integral part of the Show. Al-Ko Kober, a manufacturer of chassis systems has already confirmed that the company will be sponsoring the Trail once again.

The Innovation Trail concept is simple. Ahead of the Show, all exhibitors are given the opportunity to submit details of an innovative product that they will be highlighting at the Show. Finalists will be selected in advance by a third party judging panel including independent hirers, and the EHS will highlight these products with a floor tile outside their stands so visitors can actively follow the Trail on their visit. All Finalists are then mystery shopped by the Judging panel and a third, second and first place are selected and announced the Show.

Another initiative from the EHS team are the 'Executive Hire Regional Road Shows' which have been well received, now in their 3rd-year, local hire companies are invited to come along and see just what the EHS has to offer and can take advantage of special deals from participating suppliers, available only at these events. Details of these events can be found on the EHS website.

The 2017 EHS website - www.executivehireshow.co.uk - is where visitors

and exhibitors will find the latest news about the Show which will be updated on a regular basis between now and the February event.



Hire Convention 2016 delivers for delegates and exhibitors alike

Organised by the Hire Association Europe and Event Hire Association (HAE EHA), the Hire Convention returned to Loughborough's Holywell Park for its third outing.

Boasting an impressive conference programme, with highly auspicious speakers from across the sector and leading players exhibiting, delegates were able to learn from, network and engage with many of the hire industry's key players. Feedback, post-event has been incredibly positive from all those involved.

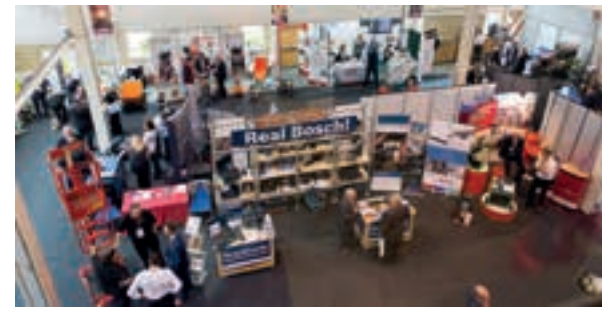
The training and development of young people within the hire sector is a key focus for HAE EHA and played a major part in



the Convention's programme. A team from Bristol University brought along the virtual reality technology that has been developed, in association with HAE EHA. The virtual reality on display was dedicated to Working at Height training; delegates were able to test their knowledge with some simple tasks such as applying the caster-wheels footbrake to the working platform before attempting to climb the ladder.

HAE EHA are looking for suppliers to get involved with the development in terms of sponsorship, developing further training and promoting the technology to the hire industry. This could include having supplier products featured as part of the animation.

Graham Arundell, managing director of HAE EHA said: "This was the perfect opportunity for the industry to get involved with VR technology and experience how it can be utilised in the hire industry. Initiatives like this undoubtedly help the sector relate and attract the younger generation to take hire seriously and consider making their careers within it."



Commenting on the content at this year's Hire Convention, he added: "The calibre of speakers and presentations at this year's Convention was exceptional and undoubtedly a step up from 2015. Our objectives were clear from the outset; to focus on our key initiatives and outline how the hire industry can be smarter, safer and stronger by working together. I believe we've set a standard for content at hire industry events that will be hard to beat. The challenge for myself and the rest of the team now is to build on that success and to shape an even better programme for 2017."

Alongside the main conference programme there was also a number of workshops looking at everything from, marketing your business and raising your profile online and an exhibiting masterclass, to how to get involved in a mystery shopper programme and find out how your sales team are performing.

The Hire Convention will return to Holywell Park in 2017.

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Consultation on CPA's Reducing Unintended Movement of Plant

The Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group, formed to produce good practice guidance on plant safety-based subjects and managed and chaired by the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA), has published several publications on various topics, produced through subject-specific meetings by those from industry holding the relevant expertise.

The group's latest project is Reducing Unintended Movement of Plant; it is all about managing exposure to consequential risks, where inadvertent operation of a control such as a switch, lever, pedal etc. has caused unintended machine movement resulting in, in several cases, serious injuries and fatalities.

The 2014 publication of an HSE-commissioned report on inadvertent operation of controls with excavators supports the notion that users of plant needed to be made aware of the risks and what control measures should be taken to mitigate consequential risks.

The CPA hosted an industry meeting in April 2015 to discuss the topic, and all present agreed that guidance needed to be produced.

A task-specific working group was formed consisting of a range of employers representing tier 1 contractors and SMEs, and further included trade bodies, manufacturers and training organisations as well as the Health and Safety Executive.

Work on the guidance commenced June 2015 from which several meetings were held to discuss the issue, and identify and document the causes and suitable control measures. The group identified that in principle, inadvertent operation occurs through either the operator unknowingly activating a control lever, intentionally activating a control lever but a different action occurs to what they expected, or where safety systems were bypassed or defeated.

The guidance covers:

- Planning of the task and the selection of plant
- Attributes of personnel, supervision and training requirements
- Control of the working zones and those within the area



Image Courtesy of Nick Drew Media nickydrew@btinternet.com

- Communication
- Types of operating controls and means of isolation
- Selection and fitting of additional control measures, inc. clothing specifications
- Checks, inspections and maintenance requirements.

A large number of case studies on real life incidents have been documented and provides an analysis on the causes, consequences and outcomes of each, for which in many cases there are a number of causal factors. This will highlight to readers how incidents have occurred and how they could have been prevented.

Manufacturers of plant form part of the working group with the intention of getting them to ultimately design out potential inadvertent operation and risks during a machine's development phase. The guidance encompasses all plant types including those

operated through a remote-control unit, except MEWPs where a separate publication from the Plant Safety Group on crushing issues has already been produced.

The working group consider that the draft document is now ready for a public consultation programme, where those within industry have a chance to comment on the content prior to formal release.

The draft document for public consultation on the Reducing Unintentional Movement of Plant can be downloaded from www.cpa.uk.net/sfpsgpublications along with a comment feedback sheet.

The working group welcomes feedback on the document from a wider audience and the public consultation period will close on 16 December 2016. It is envisaged that the final version will be available in early 2017 and a condensed, summarised version will subsequently be produced for easy reference.

Dromad Hire Adds Snorkel Scissor Lifts to Fleet

Dromad Hire, the Dundalk-based company, has taken delivery of a range of battery scissor lifts from Snorkel UK, 10 units in total.

These newly upgraded mark 3 battery scissors from Snorkel come with roll out deck extension with dual locks, non-marking tyres and a high quality powder coat finish.

Dromad Hire managing director Seamus Byrne said: "We were really pleased when we seen the quality of these newly updated scissor lifts from Snorkel. We have been running AB38's in our fleet now for some time, so the Brand is already proven to us, Snorkel UK provide us with excellent backup and support so this made our decision over choosing other manufacturers a very easy one"

Andrew Fishburn, MD of Snorkel UK stated: "Dromad's recent purchase of scissor lifts from us obviously demonstrates their commitment to deliver the most up to date product to their customer. And we look forward to being of continued service, along with supplying many more machines in the future."



PLANTWORX 2017

On the Runway to Success

The PLANTWORX team are preparing to put on an impressive exhibition when the biennial show returns to Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground, Leicestershire, from 6 -8 June 2017.

The UK's Largest Working Construction Equipment Show, hosted by the CEA (Construction Equipment Association), will be the biggest event to date where visitors can expect to see the very latest in construction machinery and equipment innovation, which will set future trends.

The show represents the industry for construction machinery in its entirety and is a platform that features an extensive range of brand new products and includes many world-premieres! To date PLANTWORX has over 215 confirmed exhibitors signed up for the event – this equates to over 80% sold. Of these more than 35 exhibitors are brand new to PLANTWORX, which is a firm indication that confidence in the event is high. Returning exhibitors are also confident with many booking larger stands and extra demonstration space. Demonstration space is at a premium for the 2017 show and is almost sold out.

New exhibitors to the 2017 event include attachment manufacturer Arden Equipment, security tracking company CanTrack Global, plant hire firm CRH Plant, tool manufacturers Hilti (Great Britain) and Husqvarna Construction Products, who also manufacture Demolition Robots! Also new is welfare cabin manufacturer Mobile Mini, attachment manufacturer Mount Machinery and tilt-rotator manufacturer Rototilt – the PLANTWORX team is looking forward to seeing all the new exhibitors at the show! Construction Plant & Machinery Sales were new to the 2015 event – the company is coming back in 2017 with LiuGong machinery. The company caused quite a stir in 2015 with its impressive demonstration of its machinery - CPMS have once again booked a large demo plot to put the kit through its paces!

A&Y Equipment, Case Construction Equipment, Doosan, Finning-CAT, Hanix Europe, Hyundai Heavy Industries Europe, JCB, Komatsu, Liebherr, Takeuchi and Wacker Neuson are also returning to the show and will be demonstrating a wide range of machinery. Molson Group has also taken a demo plot for 2017 and will be demonstrating JLG Equipment.

Other confirmed exhibitors include BOMAG, demolition robot specialist Brokk UK, Morooka dealers Cautrac, Hydrema, Kubota, Ladybird Cranes, Merlo, Thwaites and Volvo. There will also be two undercover pavilions (A & B) at the 2017 show which will house more stands for ancillary and support products and kit that keeps the construction equipment machinery sector on the move. Confirmed exhibitors in pavilion B include AV Industrial Products, brand new exhibitor Garden Hire & Spares, GKD Technologies and Towergate Insurance Brokers.

Pavilion A will be home to the Training and Education Area where colleges and training bodies will exhibit. Ainscough Training Services is the latest company to sign up to exhibit in the training area alongside NPORS and Mentor Training Solutions. CEA Chief Executive, Rob Oliver said, "Trade shows are a great test of business confidence and we are pleased to report

that our PLANTWORX exhibitor bookings are even better than 2015. There has been no sign that Brexit, and the uncertainties surrounding it, is affecting the show. In fact, we have had a record amount of engagement with overseas companies keen to explore the UK market. Around 80% of the show space is now allocated – and our roster of new exhibitors is already up to over the 35 mark and counting week by week. Amongst these it is particularly good to see the take up from access and lifting companies."

Mr Oliver added, "As PLANTWORX is still very much a show 'for the industry, by the industry' we are also very open to exhibitors telling us what they would like to see improved at the event. We knew from feedback that we needed a better wifi offering for 2017 and, by working with the Bruntingthorpe management, we now believe we have a great solution with the installation of a permanent wifi facility. We are also putting extra resource into on site traffic management to make sure that both exhibitors and visitors get a smooth passage with minimum delay."

The 2017 PLANTWORX event will be 20% larger than the 2015 show – with an impressive 140,000 sqmtrs of space. More exhibitor stands have been included and there is an increase in demonstration areas to meet the demands of both exhibitors and visitors.

The last day of the show (Thursday 8th June) PLANTWORX will once again open its doors to young plant enthusiasts! The Student Day was introduced in 2015 and is aimed at encouraging children into the Construction sector, which is suffering from a major skills shortage. Parents, Grandparents and Guardians are invited to bring along young family members to the show and take part in the 'Student Trail' to get a taste of what working within the construction machinery industry could be like! In 2015 more than 300 children took part in the Student Trail – a real success!



Brokenshire meets construction representatives from across NI

Representatives of the NI construction industry gathered recently at Keystone Group, Cookstown, for a discussion on challenges and opportunities for the construction sector in Northern Ireland.

The session was the fifth meeting of the Secretary of State's Business Advisory Group and



was a further opportunity for James Brokenshire to reaffirm the government's commitment to strengthening the NI economy and to gain direct insight and guidance on the immediate and long term economic priorities facing the Northern Ireland construction industry. The meeting also allowed the Secretary of State to listen advice and guidance from the sector on the NI priorities for the UK's Industrial Strategy and on the potential impacts and opportunities that EU exit will bring.

Key facts:

The NI construction sector is long established with some 12,000 firms employing around 30,000 people.

Construction accounts for around 10% of Northern Ireland's total output.

The total volume of construction output in Northern Ireland in the second quarter of 2016 increased by 4.1% compared to Q1 2016 and was 3.3% higher compared to the same quarter in 2015. This is the third consecutive quarterly increase in overall construction output.

The increase in the overall output in the latest quarter was accounted for by a 7.4% increase in new work.

In Q2 2016, infrastructure output increased by 8.5% and there was also an increase in other work of 4.8%.

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland James Brokenshire said:

The construction sector is vital for those who work in it and rely on it, and for the Northern Ireland and UK economy as a whole. This discussion was extremely valuable.

"I will continue to listen intently to business here to ensure priorities, challenges and opportunities in Northern Ireland are properly understood, as we build an economy that works for everyone.

Speaking after the event Sean Coyle, Chairman of the Keystone Group, said: "Keystone was honoured, as one of the significant manufacturing companies in our area, to host the meeting between the Secretary of State and NI construction sector businesses on the ongoing Brexit situation.

"The recent vote to leave the EU has already thrown up considerable challenges and we enjoyed hearing from the Secretary of State how he and the UK Government plan to address those challenges."

QPANI Political Question Time a great success

The recent QPANI Political Question Time held in the Seagoe Hotel was a great success. Attended by over 40 QPANI members our panel of local MLAs gave their opinions on issues such as skills, infrastructure, Brexit and energy costs in NI.

On Skills the panel was united that more investment is needed in our Universities and centres of excellence for R&D. The panel agreed that many of the skills shortages we are facing, not just in construction, but in other sectors of the economy is due to a disconnect between schools, colleges, careers advisors and business.

It was also felt that too many young people are going to University and not enough profile and value is being given to apprenticeships and learning a



trade. Grave concern was voiced over the ill thought Apprenticeship Levy.

The panel viewed it as a business tax and highlighted the need that any money raised by the AL and sent to London should come back to NI and be ring fenced for apprenticeships.

On Infrastructure the panel agreed that future Capital Budgets in NI looked healthy with a number of major road, school and

health projects in the pipeline. Concern was raised that due to the public sector voluntary exit scheme many experienced staff had been lost, particularly in roads and NIEA.

It was clear new models of finance need to be found to address the infrastructure deficit. The panel was unanimous over energy supply concerns and the need for the North South Interconnector to be built as soon as possible.

However John O'Dowd did say that the opinions of local residents in the areas where the inter-connector will pass through must be taken into account and if necessary in certain areas the line should go underground.

Steve Aiken shared his view, and one which is shared by QPANI, that an Infrastructure Stimulus is on its way and will be announced by the Chancellor in the Autumn Statement.

Local Council Planners Complete Mineral Planning Training



27 Local Planning Officers have completed the Institute Of Quarrying Mineral Planning for Mineral Planners 6 month on line training course.

On the 20th and 27th of September those on the course split into two groups and took part in a half day workshop followed by a site visit to a local quarry.

The workshops took place at Mid Ulster Council Offices and were delivered by Julian Smallshaw of the Institute of Quarrying. The site visits were hosted by Patrick Bradley Ltd of Kilrea and QPANI would like to thank John Shannon and Paul Callan of Patrick Bradley Ltd for doing an excellent job.

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Tiltrotators: What makes Steelwrist the UK Market Leader?

Tiltrotators are no longer new to the UK market and have slowly become a desired piece of equipment. Making the driver more flexible in the work that he can do, more time efficient, fuel efficient and safer, and as an owner making yourself and your fleet more productive, getting more from your excavators. Before you make your decision on where to purchase your tiltrotator there are several points that you should seriously consider before parting with your cash; in this article, we hear from the team at Ag Con UK Ltd, the distributor of Steelwrist Tiltrotators.

Price and delivery times are important, but equally and possibly more important is the support you receive when out at work. Problems or breakdowns happen, it's the nature of the job.

But just how quickly will you be up and running if you've broken down?

"Down time is costly, we have the engineers and experience to ensure down time is kept to a minimum. Buying a Steelwrist Tiltrotator you can be guaranteed a first class install & first class support second to none, and not always as expensive as you think."

What else is it that makes Steelwrist the preferred choice? Steelwrist Tiltrotators are made from cast high tensile steel, making the Steelwrist Tiltrotator lighter but keeping the strength.

"Casting allows us to add material where we need it for strength, and remove it where it is not required reducing overall weight. Other manufacturers cast using a type of ductile iron, the disadvantage of this is it is more brittle and very difficult to weld all be it cheaper."

QUICK COUPLERS

Steelwrist is the only manufacturer on the market that have a symmetrical coupler completely cast in steel, free from welding with large pin contact surfaces and material where needed, creating an extremely compact robust design.

In comparison with other brands the build height can differ as much as 40 percent!

FRONT PIN LOCK

Steelwrist Front Pin Lock is a patented mechanical solution that enhances safety on symmetrical quick couplers. The result of a dropped bucket can be devastating. Front Pin Lock ensures that you can not drop the bucket by accident as long as the front pin is connected. With an FPL quick coupler, you and co-workers are safe at work.

Compared to other solutions Steelwrist FPL works equally well with all types of excavators, both small and large, new and used, and especially with all types of control systems. Steelwrist's Symmetrical Quick Coupler is the only one living up to the new ISO13031 without compromise.



Front Pin Lock consists of two innovations that, when combined increases safety considerably:

- Snap Locked front shaft – locks the front shaft of the attachments as soon as it enters in the front jaw.
- Positive lock indication – intuitive indication with red indicator when the



Quick Coupler is open and green indicator when the bucket is in a safe position.

Front Pin Lock is today standard on all Steelwrist tiltrotators and quick couplers with symmetrical brackets.

ADVANCED CONTROL SYSTEMS

Steelwrist work in partnership with SVAB, the global leader in Tiltrotator Control Systems.

The Steelwrist XControl is the most operator friendly control system for the control of tiltrotators on the market. XControl uses well-tested software for hydraulic valve control which provides superior drivability and feeling.

"In designing Generation 2, we wanted to do something that no one had done before. We wanted to make it much easier and safer, for the operator. We also wanted to reduce fuel consumption, improve ergonomics and give the driver more valuable information. XControl G2 is today the most advanced system for controlling the tiltrotator."

With XControl G2 all settings and changes to the system are made on a 3.5 inch touch screen with clear and logical menus.

It is easy to set different profiles for different drivers, work situations or work tools.

CLINOMETER

Clinometer with XControl G2, Steelwrist were the first to launch a control system with built-in Clinometer. The Clinometer shows you the rotation and tilt angle compared to predetermined plane. It's a tool that you can utilise in your daily work.



X12 with gripper & grab



Auto-tuning for lower fuel consumption

AUTO-TUNING FOR LOWER FUEL CONSUMPTION

Many excavators consume more fuel than they need because of the tiltrotator's control system.

In developing the XControl, we included Auto Tuning, this means that the system itself sets the optimum values for minimum fuel consumption and maximum performance.

WHEEL & TRACK STEERING

XControl G2 Wheel or Track Steering gives full control directly from the joysticks. Great emphasis has been put into the design of the joystick steering in order to handle the tough requirement. Steelwrist's XControl G2 fulfils all demands.

XControl G2 Wheel or Track Steering gives you:



SVAB L8

- Efficiency – Faster movement and better flow of work.
- Safety – Meets the requirements on all excavators including ISO5010 and ISO15998
- Adaptability – Smooth steering for maximum flexibility and precision

- An unbeatable combination – XControl Joysticks with pistol grip and index finger rollers!

If you select wheel steering, you should ensure that your supplier meets the relevant regulations. The regulations are defined in several ISO standards with ISO5010 being the most important.

These requirements are the minimum that must be met in order for you to have an approved wheel/track steering. (**Note:** If you find that the wheel steering cannot do this, talk to your supplier.) The alternative steering must not be possible to activate at speeds over 20 km/h.

JOYSTICKS

With Steelwrist you have the choice of SVAB L8 Joystick or Steelwrist XC Joysticks; these are the two leading joystick in the market place. Both joysticks have excellent ergonomics and share the same components. As a rule if you have smaller hands then L8 will fit you better, if you have larger hands then you will likely be happier with the Steelwrist XControl joysticks.

ANTI THEFT PROTECTION

Thefts have increased over the recent years and whilst you can't always prevent it you can make your equipment less attractive to steal. Steelwrist comes with DATATAG as standard. DATATAG is the world's largest marking system for this type of equipment, and is a method for DNA marking of equipment which reduces the risk of theft by 80%. Why not have your excavator DATATAGGED as well.?

HEIGHT, WEIGHT & TILT ANGLE

Steelwrist have the most compact, robust design with the highest tilt angle on the market. It is important to compare build height, tilt angle, weight and durability. Make sure that the weight and build height is correct to your excavator. Lower build height means that you retain more of the break out force from the bucket



Height, Weight & Tilt Angle

cylinder. A higher tilt angle makes you more flexible in addition to being able to perform more operations without moving the excavator. Excess weight will increase fuel consumption, keep the weight down.

INSTALL, SERVICE & SUPPORT

"Your Tiltrotator should look like an extension of your excavators boom, we only provide a first class install and fully the respect the money you have spent. Support being centrally based in the UK with an experienced team second to none, we are able to quickly react to any problems that may occur, regardless of where you are.

"Support may be a quick and easy solution achieved over the phone or may require one of our service engineers to visit you, whatever it takes we'll have you up and running.

"At Ag Con UK Ltd, distributor of Steelwrist Tiltrotators, you'll only be give honest, straight forward professional advice, gained from years of experience in the Tiltrotator Market, no one else can offer you the expertise we have gained over the years."

JN BENTLEY Increases Excavator Efficiency With Engcon's Latest Tiltrotator Technology



Generation 2 tiltrotator systems from Engcon are part of the high-tech specification of three new Komatsu wheeled excavators for JN Bentley, one of the UK's leading civil engineering and construction companies. Each of the customised machines is being fitted with a fully integrated Engcon EC219 tiltrotator, SS9-2 control system and Q-Safe quick coupler.

As an existing Engcon user, JN Bentley had no hesitation in purchasing the latest Engcon tiltrotator system for its new excavators.

"Engcon's package ticks all the boxes in terms of safety, efficiency and technology," says Alan King, a member of JN Bentley's Plant Team. "It will enable us to work more effectively in confined areas, and improve the efficiency of our operations on site. In fact, we are already planning to invest in a further 27 Engcon systems – both new and retrofitted – over the next 12 months."

JN Bentley will be using the new equipment to deliver new-build and refurbishment schemes in the water sector, much of which is delivered through MMB, a joint-venture with global consulting giant Mott MacDonald, which acquired Bentley Holdings (including JN Bentley) in 2014.

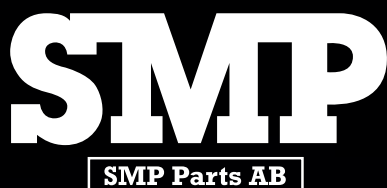
The EC219 tiltrotator selected by JN Bentley is part of Engcon's Generation 2 series which includes models for excavators from 1.5 to 32 tonnes. The new range is designed to further increase profitability and excavator versatility, letting the operator tilt or rotate the bucket (or any other attachment) for optimum flexibility and accuracy. Being able to rotate the bucket 360 degrees makes tasks like backfilling and offset digging quick and easy, while tilting up to 45 degrees allows grading to be carried out precisely and in tight spaces. All models are equipped with double-acting tilt cylinders for optimised tilting force and a more even operation.

JN Bentley has combined its new EC219 tiltrotators with Engcon's SS9-2 control system. This second generation version of the popular SS9 nearly doubles the number of program modes available to the operator giving greater versatility with hydraulic attachments, as well as providing safer locking methodology which meets the requirements of EN 13031. In addition, the SS9-2 is able to handle voltage supply dips, a common problem with 12 volt excavators at start up. JN Bentley's Engcon tiltrotator package is completed with Q-Safe, the only quick coupler for excavator tools and attachments featuring a triple-lock safety system. The

Q-Safe system effectively hard wires Engcon's safe use directives into its control system using a series of complementary fail-safes. For example, proximity sensors mounted in the hitch detect the positioning of both of the bucket axles, which allows the Engcon hitch control to activate audible and visible alarms and, optionally, disable the excavator's boom and slew functions when the hitch is open or is not fully locked with both axles in position. As well as significantly increasing the operational safety of the hitch, this system actively prevents the movement of buckets by hooking and lifting only with the rear jaws; as is possible with conventional hitches. The hitch also has, as standard, a check valve within the ram to prevent the hitch opening in the event of hydraulic failure, supplemented by double return springs.

Alan King says Engcon was very receptive to JN Bentley's requirements and took a proactive approach throughout the specification and purchasing process.

"We really appreciated Engcon's willingness to visit our head office in Skipton and present the equipment to our plant team face-to-face. Overall, the service we've received from Engcon's UK team, Marubeni-Komatsu and our local dealer, K&W Mechanical Services, has been excellent."



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SMP Tiltrotators

Versatile & Indispensable

There was a time when contractors were not convinced about the merits of investing in a tiltrotator, but not anymore, according to Tom Quinlan Machinery Sales in Limerick, the all-Ireland dealer for SMP Tiltrotators.

They have delivered SMP tiltrotators to contractors across the north and south of the country as appreciation of the enormous advantages of having one fitted to an excavator continues to grow.

"They are fast becoming a 'must have' item with increasing numbers of contractors," says Tom Quinlan.

"They are also widely used by the Office of Public Works, and a civil engineering company is currently employing one on a contract at Dublin airport; it is one of the first things passengers will see when they land at the airport!"

Another is working on a utility project in Cork where contractor Richard Collins, of Collins Plant Hire and Groundworks Services, is using an SMP tiltrotator attached to a wheeled excavator; he says he doesn't know how he ever did without one in the past!

"I've been using an SMP ST15 tiltrotator since the beginning of the year and have found it to be totally indispensable," says Richard.

"I am currently digging trenches and laying pipes along a narrow

corridor that is no more than five metres wide where a conventional excavator just couldn't cope; you would need a much more compact machine like a mini digger."

PRECISION WORK

As Richard suggests, the SMP Tiltrotator improves the machine's capabilities by making it more flexible and effective when doing precision work, which with a conventional excavator arm would be more complicated and take more time.

An SMP Tiltrotator can either be attached onto the existing quick coupler or directly onto the arm. It is easily manoeuvrable from the driver's cab with a

joystick thumb roller or rocker switch. Indeed, the functionality of the tiltrotator can be compared to that of the human wrist!

It is ideal when performing the kinds of tasks where you would normally need to move the machine to get closer, for example during grading work or digging, where you can easily rotate the bucket to work with a reverse digging angle. This also makes the work environment safer for both the operator and those working near the machine.

The SMP Tiltrotator has a 360° endless rotation and tilting of up to 40°. To provide the best possible lubrication of the gear and gear ring, the gear housing is grease lubricated. The advantage of having a grease-filled gear housing





is that it requires less maintenance and avoids oil leaks due to damaged seals. The grease ensures full lubrication even at high torque and in all temperatures. The ST15, which Richard is using, can be adapted for most machines in the size range and is available with most types of quick coupler systems and with a direct mounted upper/lower section.



Definite Advantages

“Just as the quick hitch has become a standard piece of equipment, so will the tiltrotator. You wouldn’t be allowed on to a site without a quick hitch, so I don’t see why you should be allowed on to a site without a tiltrotator,” says Richard. “I have been in the industry for a long time, but only went out on my own about two years ago, and since I acquired the tiltrotator it has given me a definite advantage when competing for new work,” adds Richard. “Previously, I operated several different machines, but by utilising a variety of attachments with the versatile tiltrotator, I can complete virtually any project that comes my way with just the one excavator which is always in demand.” The SMP tiltrotator has proven to be a reliable addition. “It has never let me down,” says Richard, “and the support and service I enjoy from Tom Quinlan Machinery Sales is second to none.”



Rototilt Turns Your Excavator into a Multi-Tasking Machine

Nowadays an excavator has to do more than just dig, they tend to be more of a tool carrier – and the Rototilt system, available from County Tyrone based Cullion Plant Service, allows machine productivity to be maximised, giving the operator unparalleled control and flexibility.

It allows an excavator to work in previously impossible ways, both maximising machine up-time and reducing the need for re-positioning.

A Rototilt equipped excavator can perform tasks previously thought unmanageable or uneconomical and due to this there is often a reduced number of machines on site, therefore cutting input costs.

In essence, the Rototilt System turns your excavator into an efficient multi-tasker, enabling you to easily and accurately rotate and tilt buckets and other work tools with the same movement, and with no compromise on safety.

That's been the experience for property developers and house builders Ferson Brothers from Cookstown; they have been using a Rototilt since August and comments Neville Ferson: "We couldn't do without it now; it has become a vital piece of equipment on site."

VERSATILITY

The R4 tiltrotator, supplied by Cullion Plant Service, has been fitted to a JCB JS145 excavator. "It turns the excavator into an extremely versatile machine," says Neville. "We use it on a wide variety of tasks – from foundations and pouring concrete to sewer works and general digging. We can reach places that would be inaccessible with a conventional machine. It is amazing what you can accomplish with it."

But how easy is it to master? "It was a bit daunting at the beginning, but after a few weeks, once you get your head around the controls, it quickly becomes second nature; I don't even have to think about it now. It has definitely been a worthwhile investment, and the support we have had from Cullion Plant Service has been excellent."

Those sentiments have been echoed by Brendan Mulholland who runs a plant hire business in Toomebridge. "It is the best money I have ever spent," he says. "I was able to convert all my current buckets to suit, so that was a bonus. I have it attached to a Case 130; it was previously used on a Hitachi, and the switch-over was easy when I got the Case machine."

GREAT INVESTMENT

So what prompted him to invest? "I had been reading up on the tiltrotator for some time and when Cullion Plant took on the agency, my mind was made up. Some people may be put off by the initial cost, but like I said, it has been worth every penny."

Brendan's work is varied, ranging from building sites and roads projects to the agricultural sector, so the versatility of the tiltrotator plays an important role. "Before acquiring the tiltrotator everything was accomplished 'old school,'" he says, which speaks volumes about the merits of the Rototilt!



The Rototilt is robust and versatile



The tiltrotator on Brendan Mulholland's excavator

Like Neville, he readily admits it wasn't easy to master the controls but after a few weeks it became 'child's play.'

"To be honest, in the first couple of weeks of trying to use it, I thought I had made a big mistake, but the more you use it the more confident you become and you begin to realise just how brilliant it is. I simply wouldn't be without it. It has certainly made my life a lot easier, the benefits are just unbelievable, and the back-up from Cullion Plant is first class."

There is a wide range of Rototilt models to choose from, suitable for excavators

from three tonne to 30 tonne, all built using components of the highest quality and with minute attention to detail throughout production control.

ATTACHMENTS

Rototilt also offer a full line of tiltrotator-specific attachments, all designed around and to work in conjunction with the Rototilt system. They feature high strength combined

with lighter weight and more importantly, the correct shape and geometry for you to get the most out of your Rototilt.

From a full and comprehensive line of buckets – including the famed 'Scandinavian style' grading buckets and 'ditch-profile' buckets – to multi-purpose and sorting grabs, pallet forks, asphalt cutters, ripper legs, grapple saws and brush cutters.



CULLION PLANT ARE THE MAIN DEALER FOR ROTOTILT TILTROTATORS AND ATTACHMENTS IN IRELAND

Rototilt® is known for its quality, operational reliability and low levels of energy consumption. Some of the product benefits include an oil-filled rotor housing for the best possible lifespan and economy, low fuel consumption with the market's lowest weight and low levels of power loss thanks to optimized hydraulics.

To suit Machines from 1.5 - 35 ton, we have a model to suit you.

Features and options include:

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Complete with the full range of Rototilt attachments and buckets.

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Back To Basics With Evoquip & Blue Ireland

Terex Materials Processing (MP) has launched a new brand EvoQuip which offers a comprehensive portfolio of products to address the needs of the compact crushing and screening markets in five key industries: building and construction; quarries; farming and agriculture; landscaping and gardening and asphalt and concrete crushing.

Terex identified an opportunity to bring value to customers in these industries by providing intuitive equipment that is simple to operate and maintain, fuel efficient and easy to transport. User friendliness is at the heart of the brand and as new products are developed the focus will be on simplicity and entry level customers. "We want to reinvigorate the focus on the basics of crushing and

screening," said Matt Dickson, Global Product Line Director of EvoQuip.

Blue Ireland has been appointed as the official distributor of EvoQuip™ crushing and screening equipment servicing the needs of customers in the North and South of Ireland.

Liam Brophy, Blue Ireland Director, said: "Our experience as a distributor of Fuchs and Doppstadt equipment means that we can count on a strong focus on customer support, one of our core principles. Extensive industry experience also means that blue Ireland already has strong relationships with customers. In addition to sales opportunities, Blue Ireland will provide parts, service and warranty support for EvoQuip equipment by factory-trained technicians. Financing options will also be available to qualified customers."

The EvoQuip™ range starts with the Bison 35 crusher capable of outputting up to 30 tonnes per hour and goes up to the Cobra 260 crusher capable of outputting 250 tonnes per hour. The compact size of the EvoQuip machines will overcome transport issues in many countries.

EvoQuip™ machines can come directly to your site to crush and screen the waste from your demolition projects, screen top soil from gardens or golf courses; or crush material from worn driveways and brick walls. They can offer agricultural contractors an opportunity to diversify in the off season, helping to retain staff and ensure a steady workload throughout the year.



The Bison 35 crusher

When customers are not farming they can use EvoQuip equipment to demolish old farm buildings, process material for lanes, driveways or drainage projects. Certain models in the range can even be transported on an agricultural trailer and can overcome access issues on narrow lanes and country roads.

EvoQuip™ products will be manufactured in existing MP Centers of Excellence in Northern Ireland with additional support and service from facilities in North America and India to bring customers the high levels of service you expect from Terex.

"We look forward to adding more products to the portfolio in 2017 and serving our new customers to a very high standard," added Matt Dickson.



Matt Dickson, Global Product Line Director of EvoQuip



THE HX AND HL RANGE OF EXCAVATORS AND WHEEL LOADERS JUST GOT BIGGER!

Hyundai is introducing three new excavators including two short tail machines - HX380 L, HX235 LCR, HX145 LCR. Also two brand new wheel excavators - HW140 and the HW210. New to the HL range of wheel loaders are the HL940 TM the HL955 TM tool master machines the HL940 and the HL980.

Construction industry group proposals for national renovation strategy

Pat Barry, CEO, Irish Green Building Council has presented a set of recommendations for the next national renovation strategy to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Denis Naughten.

Each of the first six months of 2016 set a record as the warmest respective month globally in the modern temperature record. In Ireland, June 2016 marked the 14th consecutive month of record-breaking heat. Ireland's climate targets mean that emissions from buildings, transport and agriculture must be reduced.

Against this background, the Irish Green Building Council (IGBC), in conjunction with the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment organised a series of workshops on large scale deep-renovation across Ireland in April – June 2016. Over 150 stakeholders including senior representatives from government, local authorities, industry, academia and charities participated in these events. Deep renovation essentially means medium to large scale building works that improve the energy efficiency of the building and comfort of the building occupiers.

Based on key workshop findings, the IGBC launched a "Declaration in 10 points for a better national renovation strategy



Pat Barry, CEO, Irish Green Building Council - Marion Jammet, Business Development Manager, Irish Green Building Council - Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Denis Naughten T.D.

and an efficient implementation plan".

Particular recommendations include the adoption of a long-term holistic approach, higher investment, more targeted awareness campaigns and better support for citizens and organisation undertaking deep building renovation.

The workshops were organised as part of the EU funded "Build Upon" project. The aim

of Build Upon is to bring together a diverse range of organisations to support government in designing an ambitious new national renovation strategy for Ireland. The strategy is required by 30 April 2017 under EU law.

A copy of the "Declaration in 10 points for a better national renovation strategy and an efficient implementation plan" can be downloaded at www.buildupon.eu/ireland.



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Kubota Unveils New Agri Smart Tractor Ranges

Kubota, which recently held its European Agri Dealer Convention in the French city of Lille, has launched its MGX-III tractor range boasting machines from 90 to 140HP, building on the success of its ever-popular MGX-II range.

The four-cylinder engine, combined with its eight-gear powershift transmission, allows users to quickly switch between multiple applications without losing power, ensuring difficult daily challenges are overcome easily with the modern engine technology.

The new range comes complete with Intelli-Shift, a smart powershift transmission system, which makes changing gears easier, either automatically or manually; particularly useful when undertaking work on difficult ground conditions such as slopes.

Available in five models - M95GX, M105GX, M115GX, M125GX and M135GX – the series is fully equipped to provide farmers increased output and improved productivity, more comfortable driving and full visibility from its large cab.

Complementing the range, the MGX III series incorporates two new front loaders, LA1955 and LA2255, offering optimum versatility whatever the application.

Offering the perfect choice for those farmers who are looking for a high-performance engine, the range boasts great manoeuvrability, thanks to Kubota's Bi-speed technology that boasts a high lifting capacity and outstanding visibility of almost 360° from the cab, the best in its segment.

Inside the cab, all the important elements of the control panel have been positioned ergonomically so that they can be reached easily, beneficial for operators who spend long periods in the seat and demand high levels of comfort. The tractor also stands out for its low level of noise in the air-conditioned cab, which contributes

to creating an optimum environment for confronting long working hours.

M5001 SERIES

Kubota also unveiled its new M5001 Series, a brand new range of 95HP to 113HP tractors, powered by a four cylinder V3800 Kubota engine and including a host of leading edge technology to maximise power, performance and end-user comfort and control.

The range has been introduced to replace and succeed the company's previous M8540 and M9960 models.

When designing this innovative tractor, the company focused on four fundamental aspects of the tractor that would enable it to successfully carry out any daily job in the field. These were driving convenience, the ease of use, the versatility of the tractor and its manoeuvrability. By doing this, Kubota has been able to launch the new M5001 Series that will make significant improvements in all these areas, satisfying the requirements of the most demanding customers, at the same time as increasing the efficiency of the job. This is an extremely exciting time for Kubota business as the company continues his long term investment in the agricultural sector. The launch of the M5001 Series completes the renewal of M Series, which started with the introduction of the Flagship M7001 Series, introduced to target the 130HP to 170HP sector. Kubota has also invested over €40 million in a new production facility in Northern France – Kubota Farm Machinery, highlighting Kubota's commitment and global move in the mainstream agricultural market."

The M5001 series impresses with its functions and high efficiency, thanks to Kubota's leading-edge diesel technology. In this regard, the Japanese company is the first manufacturer to incorporate a CRS (Common Rail System) equipped with a urea catalyst (SCR), a system to recirculate



The new M5001

exhaust gases with water refrigeration (EGR), a diesel particulate filter (DPF) and a diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC). The combination of these technologies optimises the individual operation of each one of them and reduces power consumption. In addition, this 16-valve engine meets strict emission control requirements imposed by Europe in the last stage of emissions known as Phase 4.

Simplicity, manoeuvrability and comfort

Another key feature of the Kubota M5001 Series is its ease of use, which allows end-users to successfully perform any type of job. Thanks to its retrofit ISOBUS system and its range of solutions in precision farming, pesticides and fertilizers can be applied and seeding jobs be carried out efficiently, cost-effectively and precisely.

The tractor has been specifically designed for jobs that demand excellent manoeuvrability and a demanding operability in jobs with power take-off. The use of the two programmable revolution memories, coupled with the electronic management of speed, allow the working speed to be kept constant.

In addition, the 40-ECO transmission with six synchronised gears, with dual speed High-Lo technology, allows farmers and contractors to change gear directly, gently and quickly. The electro-hydraulic reverser, which avoids using the clutch, provides a fast and gradual change in direction.

Kubota is aware of the importance of comfort when working. The Ultra Grand Cab II has been designed for this reason, a cab that is so wide that it offers a vision of almost 360°. This panoramic visibility is increased thanks to the sunroof with a sliding sun visor. This, together with a large range of equipment, ensures maximum comfort and high levels of productivity throughout the year. The tractor also features high-power lights that allow working at night, and the storage spaces and doors have been optimised, with continuous glass and with the possibility of entering from both sides safely.

The M5001 tractor can be equipped with the LA1854 shovel specifically designed by Kubota for this tractor that guarantees compatibility and optimises results in the applications.

The downward sloping design of the bonnet provides optimum visibility and safety. Another key safety feature are the anti-lowering valves, which allow the shovel to maintain its position even if the system suffers pressure losses.

The loader is equipped with a quick coupling system for implements and hydraulic hoses, which makes it easier to change buckets and disassemble the loader.

Every last detail has been taken care of in the Kubota M5001 tractor for the driver to work as comfortably as possible. The front loader is equipped with KSR (Kubota Shockless Ride), shock absorber system, which minimises sudden movements in the cab when working for example on rough terrain or driving on the road.



The MGX-III tractor

John Deere Expands Its Use Of Cesar On The Gator Range

Mud soaked trails, impossibly steep inclines, freezing cold starts, John Deere Gators have proved themselves year after year as go-anywhere, dependable and reliable work vehicles.

With more than 500,000 built, they've earned a reputation for durability and quality like no other. Unfortunately, their positive attributes have made Gators a popular target for professional and opportunistic thieves.

Reacting to this, and following the success of CESAR in reducing tractor theft from John Deere customers and dealers, John Deere has announced that from the 1st November 2016, all XUV & HPX Gator utility vehicle models sold in the UK & Ireland will be factory fitted with the CESAR security marking and registration scheme.

According to the Metropolitan Police's PANIU team around 200 Utility Trucks are stolen each year in the UK with approximately half being John Deere Gators. Many machines are 'stolen-to-order' and shipped abroad within hours of being stolen.

The official CESAR Scheme, which is widely supported by trade bodies including the Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA), uses a range of security marking technology supplied by Datatag ID, including tamper evident plates, with a unique registration number for each piece of equipment, RFID tags, forensic DNA and Datadots to give each machine a unique fingerprint that thieves cannot remove.

During the LAMMA 2015 exhibition, John Deere's Marketing Manager, Chris Wiltshire, proudly unveiled an XUV 855D model as



the 200,000th machine to be fitted with the CESAR Scheme. Nearly two years later the 225,000th CESAR plate was fitted to BBC's Countryfile presenter Adam Henson's combine harvester at his home in the Cotswold's.

Gearing Up for 2017 Q8 Oils Farm Machinery Shows Throughout Ireland

AJS Promotions have released details of their 2017 Q8 Oils Farm Machinery Shows which commence with the Q8 Oils Spring Farm Machinery Show in the prestigious Green Glens Arena, Millstreet, Cork from 12 noon till 10pm on 18th & 19th January 2017.

This extremely popular event which will be in its 10th year in

2017 showcases all the latest innovations the farm machinery industry has to offer.

This will be followed by Ireland's Largest Annual Farm Machinery Show at the Ecclesville Centre in Fintona, Co Tyrone on the 24th, 25th & 26th January which continues to attract thousands of visitors over the 3 days, generating significant business and forming key industry

relationships for exhibitors.

The Q8 Oils Cavan Farm Machinery show will then take place on the 1st & 2nd February at the ideally situated Cavan Equestrian Centre. This show continues to expand annually and is definitely one not to be missed.

On the 22nd & 23rd February the Q8 Oils Spring Farm Machinery and Construction Show takes



place at the Eikon Arena, Balmoral Park, Lisburn, which will, as the name suggests incorporate a large construction element, all in the excellent facilities afforded by the new exhibition centre.

Royal Ulster Winter Fair enters its fourth decade

The Royal Ulster Agricultural Society has launched the 31st Winter Fair in association with Danske Bank. The celebration took place at Draynes Farm, a dairy enterprise only a short distance away from the Eikon Exhibition Centre at Balmoral Park.

The Winter Fair will return to Eikon Exhibition Centre on 8th December. As the premier event in the national dairy calendar, it provides an opportunity for farmers, exhibitors and industry specialists alike to meet.

Competition will be fierce as quality livestock from Northern Ireland and ROI compete for the coveted title of Supreme Champion

Danske Bank have sponsored the event since its inception in 1986 and John Henning, Head of Agricultural Relations at Danske Bank commented "We value our close links with the Winter Fair and hope that our investment in the event - both financial and people - has contributed to the undoubted success of this major dairy showcase.



Rhonda Geary and Billy Robson RUAS, along with John Henning, Roberta Miura and Sharon Wylie from Danske Bank who have sponsored the Winter Fair throughout its 31 years.

"Our support for the Winter Fair reflects a strong and ongoing commitment to the wider agri-food industry in Northern Ireland - both in terms of significant lending to the sector and expertise of our dedicated Agribusiness team."

On the cusp of Christmas visitors flock to the Winter Fair and observe the highest quality of livestock competing. This year the RUAS are delighted to welcome Paul Trapp, who is travelling from Wisconsin, USA, to judge. The event is also a great chance to interact with two hundred dairy related trade exhibitors on the most relevant technological advances, difficulties and solutions in the industry.

Rhonda Geary, Operations Director, RUAS, added: "In preparation for the 31st Winter Fair we have increased the livestock accommodation and now have stalling, washing and milking facilities for 200 cattle. There is 4750m2 of exhibition space and a full house of 200 trade stands.

"The continued generous financial support of Danske Bank has played a huge role in making the Winter Fair the very successful event it is today. We are proud of our long standing partnership and are delighted that we recently announced a continued three year sponsorship deal."

The 2016 Winter Fair will take place at the new Eikon Exhibition Centre at Balmoral Park on Thursday 8th December from 9am to 5pm. To keep up to date with 2016 Winter Fair news check out the website www.winterfair.org.uk.

Most Successful Ploughing Championships Of All Time

It was quite simply the most successful National Ploughing Championships in history, with a total attendance figure for the 2016 event reaching a record breaking 283,000 over the three days.

NPA Managing Director Anna Marie McHugh commented: "We are delighted with the overall attendance figure this year.

"The three days ran very smoothly and the feedback from early on, via social media, has been extremely positive, both on Twitter and Facebook.

"Feedback from landowners, the local community and the wider public has been very positive and all were incredibly enthusiastic to see a return."

Meanwhile, it's been confirmed the National Ploughing Championships will return to Scraggan, Tullamore, Co Offaly on September 19th, 20th & 21st next year.

"Speaking also with many of the exhibitors and visitors throughout the event, all were very vocal about their wishes to have it staged again in Scraggan

given how well it worked as a location this year. The site has proved popular for several reasons including its central location and surrounding road and rail network. By and large most people travelled to the site with ease and the minimum of traffic delays. This has certainly helped the event in being such a success this year and we hope to repeat this again in 2017."

Anna May McHugh also congratulated all of the winners who were awarded at the recent prize-giving ceremony. Current World Ploughing Conventional Champion Silver Winner Eamonn Tracey from Carlow will again represent Ireland in next year's World Ploughing Contest in Kenya. And bronze medal winner John Whelan from Wexford will take part in the Reversible Class.



Doosan Bobcat Dealer Enjoys Successful Ploughing Show

Limerick-based Doosan Bobcat dealer, Adare Machinery, has been celebrating a very successful stand at the recent National Ploughing Championships in County Offaly.

Adare Machinery had its biggest ever stand at the show and unsurprisingly it was flooded by visitors, and the company received excellent feedback from customers and prospective buyers throughout. As well as hundreds of enquiries, several sales were concluded

on the stand during the show, including those of a Bobcat E62 compact excavator and a Bobcat E85 compact excavator.

The Adare stand included 14 new Doosan and Bobcat machines being shown for the first time in Ireland, including the new Doosan Stage IV compliant DX140LCR-5 15 tonne reduced tail swing crawler excavator and Doosan DL450-5 wheel loader.

For the Bobcat brand, new machines included the TL358+ telehandler for the farming market and the larger T35130S 13 m telehandler for the construction and rental industries. These were joined on the stand by a wide selection of Bobcat compact excavators running from the E10 to the E26 models and Bobcat skid-steer loaders including the S70, S530 and S770 models.

All of the Bobcat compact loaders were equipped with different attachments from a choice of over 60 types of Bobcat attachment for use with the Bobcat compact loader range.

Both the E62 and E85 excavators feature upgraded hydraulic systems resulting in higher pressures and flows, generating smoother and greater digging and lifting performances. The E62 excavator offers a 10% increase in the arm digging force to 28.7 kN and an 8% increase in the bucket digging force to 43.1 kN in the short arm version. In the E85 model, the bucket digging force has been significantly increased to 61.8 kN, a 13% increase over the previous model.



MagGrow Wins Two Awards

AgTech start-up Agricultural Magnetics, t/a MagGrow, won two Awards at the 2016 Innovation Arena Awards at the Championships.

The company won the Sustainable Agriculture Start-up Award and the Best Competitive Pitch Award. The 2016 Innovation Arena Awards recognise innovative agri-tech capability and new product development in the agriculture sector.

The winners of the Gold Medal Awards, sponsored by Enterprise Ireland, Irish Farmers Journal and the National Ploughing Association (NPA), were announced by Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

MagGrow is a pioneering magnetic spraying technology which reduces drift by up to 80% while at the same time delivering superior coverage by using fine droplets, a key challenge of conventional drift reduction technologies.

The company, founded in 2013 by Gary Wickham, Derek Wickham and David Moore, is headquartered at NovaUCD, the Centre for New Ventures and Entrepreneurs at University College Dublin, and currently employs a staff of 12 people.

Gary Wickham, CEO MagGrow said, "These awards are a great testimony to the dedication of the MagGrow team in the development of our groundbreaking technology that has significant transformational benefits for the arable and horticultural sectors."

Irish Ploughmen Take On Europe and Win

Congratulations and well wishes poured in from all over the country following the recent announcement of the results of the European Reversible Ploughing Contest in Scotland.

Ireland's representatives on the European stage, Jer Coakley and Liam O'Driscoll won 1st and 2nd place respectively for their country; both men from Cork performed phenomenally and fought off very stiff competition.

NPA Managing Director Ms Anna May McHugh said: "This is a fantastic win for both men and Irish Ploughing as a whole. Since qualifying at the Nationals last year to compete in the European Ploughing Contest, the men have been working extremely hard preparing and now all their efforts have paid off. They have made their country extremely proud, congratulations and a very well done to them both and all of their families.



"Ireland have always been highly respected in terms of producing ploughmen to compete on the international stage. And given the high level of competition there was in Scotland throughout the contest, this is another

great result for both men and further enhances their reputation as Masters in their field."

The Irish team were coached by Corkmen Jackie O'Driscoll and by Judge John O'Donovan.

New Hakki Pilke Firewood Processor Makes Debut

The Hakki Pilke Easy 43 firewood processor made its debut at the Championship on the M Large stand; it will be available for customers from early 2017.

The Hakki Pilke Easy 43 is an entirely new firewood processor for professional users. Building on the overwhelmingly positive experiences of the Easy 42, the new model boasts improved features.

Easy 43's user interface is based on easy-to-use and ergonomic joystick control. Sawing takes place with the press of a button which always applies the optimal force automatically, and the automatic hydraulic chain tensioner adjusts the saw chain continuously into the optimal tension.

Hakki Pilke Easy 43 firewood processor has the hydraulic AC 10 automatic chain tensioner as standard. The electric chain lubrication pump together with the automatic chain tensioner ensures long lifetime for the saw chain and the bar, and provides unparalleled cutting efficiency.

Replacement of the saw chain requires no tools. Hydraulically swiveling out-feed conveyor equipped with an in-built debris cleaner comes as standard. Other standard equipment includes hydraulically retracting log measuring device as well as log landing plates. Easy 43 is efficient with variable-sized logs including the maximum size (43 cm) hard tree species.

Hakki Pilke Easy 43 firewood processor is available as PTO and combi model.

Also demonstrated by M Large was the Hakki Pilke Powerpack, an alternative power source for not just PTO or combi-powered Hakki Pilke firewood processors but also for any tractor-powered processor.

It is hailed as the best choice for any user whose tractor is needed for something else such as log handling or other tasks than powering the firewood processor. Users have the option to choose between gasoline and diesel motor to be installed with the Powerpack.

Blaney Motor's Launch Thirds Wheeled Loader

Irish manufacturer Blaney Motor launched a third wheeled loader concept on its stand at National Ploughing Championships.



Blaney's wheeled loaders are specifically designed to be compact for manoeuvrability and mobility, with a focus on their multipurpose use. Thanks to their weight and size, these loaders can be easily transported on a trailer under 3.5 tonnes and can be used in areas where space is restricted.

Blaney showcased the L1 10-27 pivot steer model with a working demonstration on their stand, which pulled in a crowd attentive to the small but powerful and nimble machine, opening up many minds to consider how they could put it to use on their construction site or business. The newest model to be unveiled is the TL1 10-33, a compact wheel loader with a lifting capacity of one tonne and a telescopic reach of 3.3m. The engine is rated 40hp and the unit has a hydrostatic transmission with four wheel drive limited slip differential. It has been developed to have the capability to stack pallets, load a dump trailer or reach for working at height.

Blaney loaders have been designed to be simple to operate, with all the controls at your fingertips. For those with multiple vehicle operators and various skill levels, the Blaney design incorporates easy controls for any novice.

Given their manoeuvrability, the Blaney compact loaders can be used to replace many jobs done manually or using a wheel barrow, which helps avoid the increased concern for health and safety around lifting weights over 25kg.

Their small size and tight turning circle allows them to get in close to finished property where larger telehandlers would pose a risk of damage. Given the increased emphasis on higher density housing schemes, the result is less space to operate when jobs are nearing completion. This means jobs such as levelling and sweeping, installing patios and fencing can be done more quickly and more easily using a compact loader.

The R&D team and engineers at Blaney Motor have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback from visitors to the show and look forward to organising demonstration events in the coming months.

MF New & Updated Tractors on Show

Massey Ferguson brought a range of new and updated machinery to the show, including the all-new MF 4700 Series range of tractors – the first to have been developed in recent times specifically for the highly-demanding, multi-purpose 75-95hp

sector of the market.

Now available as a result of using the latest computer-aided design and manufacturing techniques, MF 4700 Series tractors offer the most up-to-date equipment and specification in their class – including an all-new cab,

engine, transmission and drive-line technology.

There are three models in this new Series – the MF 4707 (75hp), the MF 4708 (85hp) and the MF 4709 (95hp). All have AGCO Power 3.3-litre, 3-cylinder engines that combine high power and torque with exceptional fuel economy, while the 82-litre capacity fuel tank will allow these tractors to keep working for 8-10 hours at a time.

Moving up the horsepower scale, the MF 5700SL represents a new breed of tractor in the all-

important and highly-competitive 100-130hp bracket. It marries the compact dimensions demanded by livestock and mixed farming businesses with the power and performance to cope effortlessly with the demands of arable applications.

Massey Ferguson's Colin Gleeson says: "The MF 5713 was making its first public appearance in Ireland, replacing the MF 5612 and 5613 models which have been popular on livestock and dairy farm as tractor/loader combinations."

Opportunities for Women in Agri Sector

This year's Local Enterprise Village at the National Ploughing Championships was home to 50 businesses started by women and the Local Enterprise Offices have been encouraging more women to consider starting their own business in the sector.

Of the 84 companies showcasing their products and services, with the support of the LEOs in every county and city, approximately 50 of them were founded or co-founded by female entrepreneurs.

The female entrepreneurs who were inside

the Local Enterprise Village operate within a wide range of business categories, across food, drink, skincare, children's toys, books, jewellery, fashion and giftware. Services for the agri-sector are also represented, such as soil, milk and water testing, manufacturing of sprayer attachments and genetic identification services.

Marcella Rudden with the Local Enterprise Offices said: "There are lots of growth opportunities in the agri-business sector and in the rural economy generally, for both business-to-consumer and

business-to-business companies.

"For example, small businesses inside the Local Enterprise Village generated sales and orders worth nearly €645,000 last year. Following in the footsteps of the 50 businesses in the Local Enterprise Village that were either founded or co-founded by women, we're encouraging more aspiring female entrepreneurs to start their own business in this sector and to seek out the supports that are available to them through Local Enterprise Offices in the local authorities network."

Gleeson Truck Bodies Ltd Focused on Further Growth

ABOUT US

Gleesons is one of Ireland's top truck body and trailer manufacturing companies. It offers a complete one-stop shop service for tippers and other body types, from design to manufacture, spray and finish.

It was founded in 1968 by the Gleeson family. Since then it has grown and diversified from a small agricultural equipment manufacturer to a cutting edge truck body manufacturing company, offering a wide array of superior products throughout Ireland and the United Kingdom.

With more than five decades of experience, the company is fully committed to offering high spec, high quality and durable products that customers have come to expect.

"Our commitment to manufacturing technologies, as well as highly skilled engineers, certified welders and production personnel, ensures that each product manufactured meets those customer's expectations."



Since first showcasing its innovative E100 bolt together tipper truck body at the CQMS'15 show at Tullamore Quarry, Gleeson Truck Bodies Ltd has gone from strength to strength.

The County Tipperary company's agreement with Drago Italy for the exclusive distribution of the E100 throughout Ireland and the UK was signed earlier last year and response from the market has been impressive.

Comments Gleeson Truck Bodies Ltd Managing Director PJ Gleeson: "It's been an exciting period in the history of our company. Our working relationship with Drago who make the bolt together kit, couldn't be better and we look forward to building on that in the years to come."

He also revealed that the company has put in place a sales agent - Livingstone-based MV Commercials - to promote the E100 across the UK. "They are using the flat-pack bodies on their 'Ready-to-Go' range," he says.

With a three year structural warranty on both the body and the tipping gear, the E100 is suitable for all bulk materials. Its contoured body is designed to optimise material discharge and allows for bulk material centering.

The bolt together technique makes for quick and easy assembly. It also makes maintenance and repair much simpler, as these can be done in far less time and at far lower cost, minimising the time it needs to be taken out of service.

The E100 has a full Hardox body, complete with a 5mm floor, 4mm sides, headboard and tailboard and an automatic tailboard. The top rail is 5mm and is profiled to ensure its strength. The body comes with a sub-frame as standard. The top lifting ram used increases stability when tipping. The bolt together technology used also eliminates the risk of weld fracture and fatigue.

Meanwhile, Gleeson Truck Bodies Ltd launched its new Grab Truck Tipper Body at the Tip-Ex show and at Hillhead this past summer, and the company has already booked its stand for the CQMS'17 show in Tullamore, with more new and innovative products in the pipeline.



compact equipment

New Xtra Capacity Boom From Genie

The first model in the new Genie Xtra Capacity (XC) stick boom family, the Genie SX-135XC self-propelled telescopic boom lift combines a maximum working height of 43.15 m (141ft) with more outreach and capacity throughout the

full working envelope than similar units in its category.

Providing customers incredible operational accessibility with 27.43 m (90-ft) of outreach, a compact footprint of 3.94 m (12ft 11in) x 4.11 m (13ft 6in), and the ability to work 6 m (19ft 8in) below grade – the new XC design features a standard 2.44 m (8-ft) tri-entry platform with side-swing gate offering an unrestricted 300 kg (660lb) capacity for two people, or a restricted 454 kg (1,000lb) capacity for three people while still leaving room for tools and materials. Built to lift operators safely and quickly to full platform height - 41.15 m (135ft) - in two and a half minutes, and drive enabled at full height, the Genie SX-135XC boom

lift will position workers and gear exactly where they are needed.

Delivering sufficient power to work on most jobsites, this new Genie XC unit is equipped with a Deutz or Perkins 55 kW (74-hp), Tier 4/Stage IIIB emissions-compliant diesel engine with four-wheel drive and four-wheel steer capabilities. The Genie SX-135XC boom's innovative design also features a working envelope ideal for the most extreme access jobs with a working height of 43.15 m (141ft) and a horizontal reach of 27.43 m (90ft) to offer 3 m (10ft) more outreach than any other self-propelled boom on the market.

To accommodate the Genie SX-135XC boom lift's increased capacity and range of motion,

Genie engineers developed a new hydraulically Telescoping Jib-Extend design that is robust enough to handle all of the up, over, out and below tasks rental customers need to do, and when the job is done, the jib is designed to be stowed under the primary boom for ease of transport.

Weighing 21,546kg (47,500lb), with an overall transport length of 13.28 m (43ft 7in), a tail swing of 1.14 m (3ft 9in) and a ground clearance of 0.38 m (15in), the Genie SX-135XC boom lift is transportable on a standard trailer; no over-width or over-height permits are required. Production of the new Genie SX-135XC self-propelled telescopic boom begins in Q4 2016, for global delivery scheduled end Q1 2017.



Bobcat Launches New E57W Stage IIIB Wheeled Excavator

Building on the success of the company's previous E55W model, Bobcat has launched the new E57W Stage IIIB compliant wheeled excavator. The new E57W is equipped with the Bobcat D24 diesel engine that delivers a 4% increase in power (42.5 kW) along with 7% fuel savings.

The Bobcat engine offers a distinctive solution to Stage IIIB compliance without the use of a diesel particulate filter (DPF). As well as reducing fuel consumption, this 'non-DPF' solution simplifies the operation and service of the machine, since there is no need for DPF regeneration.

The E57W has an operating weight of 5920 kg and incorporates an updated hydraulic system delivering enhanced hydraulic performance and a 10% improvement in lift

capacity. A long arm option increases the machine digging depth to 3795 mm and the dump height to 4510 mm. Peripheral equipment can be attached via 1st, 2nd or an optional 3rd auxiliary circuit and is operated with proportional controls.

A newly designed cab and operator area features a 7-inch display which provides fingertip operation of all of the machine functions. The cab also has a heated seat, ergonomically placed controls and simple, efficient operating procedures that reduce driver fatigue. In addition, the ROPS certified cab offers excellent visibility, making the worksite a safer place for everyone.

Overall, the new Bobcat E57W wheeled excavator is designed to offer high productivity, excellent fuel economy, enhanced ergonomics, improved reliability and reduced maintenance.



New E57W Stage IIIB compliant wheeled excavator

Kubota Launches Finance Solution On Five Tonne Excavators

Kubota UK has followed up on its recent construction Kubota Finance launch with a new finance solution for five tonne excavators, further boosting the company's commitment to increase customer value.

After recently joining forces with BNP Paribas Leasing Solutions to introduce Kubota Finance to its range of construction machinery, the company's new package offers a flat interest

rate of 0.49% p.a. on the KX057-4 and U55-4 machines, for 3+33 monthly payments.

The new initiative provides another addition to Kubota Finance's extensive portfolio, providing flexible and competitive financial packages, including bespoke finance deals that offer customers a choice between four options: Hire Purchase, Operating Lease, Contract Hire and Finance Lease.

Neil Winfield, Construction Business Development Manager at Kubota UK, said: "With the new finance offering on five tonne excavators, our customers can enjoy more affordable access to the Kubota range. The KX057-4 and U55-4 are two of our most popular and high performing construction machines, so this additional finance package will provide plant hire firms and owner operators another reason to do business with Kubota.

"The packages that we have launched over the past six months are designed to enhance our service offering by providing our dealers with the means to support customer investment using tailor-made finance solutions. We also want to support the long-term growth of our dealers' businesses, so providing this service makes it easier for them to stock and sell Kubota machinery. With the backing of one of Europe's leading banks, this increased financial flexibility is enabling us to further increase customer value."

SERIES 2016



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compact equipment

JCB's Next Generation 4-6 Tonne Midi Excavators

JCB now has introduced four additional next generation compact excavator models, with operating weights of 4.8-5.7 tonnes. The midi excavators are available in conventional, reduced and zero tailswing configurations.

The four new models are; the 48Z-1, which replaces the previous 8045Z/8050ZTS; the 51R-1 to replace the 8050ZTS/RTS; the 55Z-1, which takes over from the 8055ZTS/RTS; and a completely new 57C-1 model.

All four share the durable design proven on the larger machines in JCB's next generation compact excavator range, with 100% steel bodywork and a sturdy four-plate dipper arm construction.

The dig end is 100% bushed, leading to extended 500 hour greasing intervals. JCB has also revised the pin pick-up points

to work with a number of competitive bucket brands, while optional hydraulic or manual quickhitches can be specified for faster attachment changeover.

JCB has developed a new range of ECO buckets, with a redesigned profile for easier filling and improved material retention.

The excavators feature a redesigned dig end, with a longer main boom and shorter dipper arm, to provide up to 5% greater dump height for easier truck and site dumper loading. The upgraded hydraulic system also delivers up to 9% more bucket tearout force and 2% higher dipper arm tearout, boosting performance and productivity.

OPERATOR COMFORT

The excavators feature an improved operator's cab, with the 57C-1 using the

same structure as the larger 10 tonne machine. The cab is 18% more spacious and offers up to 11% more visibility, improving both comfort and site safety.

The biggest development in the cab is the adoption of a new display screen and control system, with an automotive style rotary controller allowing easy access to a host of systems and information. The operator can set auxiliary hydraulic flows for two separate attachments from the cab, while the menu mode button switches the rotary controller between throttle modes, including a one-touch idle function and menu mode.

The machines feature an open undercarriage design with sloping track frames for easy cleaning and to prevent the build-up of material. All models are available with JCB's LiveLink telematic monitoring and location service, providing customers with machine working hour data, fuel level and consumption information and a host of critical system alerts.

Terex Construction Introduces New Site Dumper Technology

Terex Construction has announced that a duo of new technologies will be added as standard to all models across its market-

leading range of Stage IIIB/ Tier 4 final-compliant nine and ten-tonne site dumpers.

Introduced earlier this year as part of a strategic trial to set new standards in the compact equipment marketplace, the technologies are proven to improve productivity, reduce maintenance requirements and deliver greater fuel economies. Each state-of-the-art development has been designed to improve efficiency while delivering an excellent return on investment by lowering machine running costs.

The first technology – Stop/Start Control – has been designed to improve on-site safety,

minimise fuel consumption and increase service intervals. With suitable interlocks in place to prevent unexpected movement, the new system will automatically start and stop the engine in predetermined conditions. Compliant with ISO13849 functional safety, the innovative technology means that, when loading materials, site managers will no longer have to worry about equipment being left running.

The introduction of Stop/Start Control will reduce hours on the clock, provide fuel savings and extend service intervals. Tested duty cycles have shown hundreds of pounds of fuel savings per

year, as well as extending service intervals by 24 weeks (on a typical 500-hour maintenance schedule).

The second technology, Autoshift, complements Stop-Start Control and will be featured on all new nine and ten-tonne models as standard. Many automatic transmission solutions use engine speed to trigger gear change points. Autoshift, however, uses torque demand to guide changes. In challenging and demanding conditions – such as steep gradients and high payloads – Autoshift technology enables the transmission to hold lower gears for longer, providing torque, power and drive when it's needed most. When the machine is unladen, the system allows gears to be changed quickly, again improving operator productivity and fuel efficiency.



Avant Launches Single Speed Tool Carrier

Avant Tecno has introduced a new, low emission model within its 7 Series of compact toll carriers to meet a demand for a cost-effective equivalent to the 760.

The 755 is powered by the same Tier 4 compliant Kohler direct injection diesel engine as fitted to the company's top-of-the-range 760i machine. This engine not only ensures quiet running but also uses 20% less fuel than the 750 model.

The low emissions have been achieved by the fitment of a diesel oxidation catalyst

which, in combination with the use of ultra-low sulphur fuel, eliminates the need for serviceable parts in the exhaust system.

In addition, the first oil change is only required after 400 hours and, thanks to the design of the engine, there is no requirement for oil top-ups between services. This highly efficient and quiet engine is also equipped with CAN bus technology and an electronic control unit.

This new machine, which rides on slightly smaller tyres than the 760, develops maximum torque at just 1200 rpm which ensures powerful performance and an ability to operate attachments at low rpm.



Doosan 5 tonne Stage 3B Compliant Wheeled Excavator

Doosan has launched the new 5 tonne DX57W-5 wheeled excavator which, in addition to complying with the latest Stage 3B emission regulations, incorporates many new features that increase performance, durability and fuel efficiency.

The DX57W-5 has increased power from the 42.5 kW (52.3 HP) Doosan D24 4-cylinder engine which also offers convenience and lower costs by meeting Stage 3B emission regulations without the need for a diesel particulate filter (DPF), through the use of cooled exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) and diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC) after-treatment technologies.

Factory tests show a 15% increase in fuel efficiency, depending on the mode of operation and the work being done. A new ECO Gauge on the control panel helps the operator to lower fuel consumption by providing real time monitoring

of fuel rate and there are auto idle and fuel efficiency menus. The availability of three power modes (Eco, Standard and Power) and three work modes (Digging, Breaker and Shear) improves controllability and versatility.

The new cab on the DX57W-5 offers more space for the operator and the controls for various functions have been grouped together for better ergonomics. The DX57W-5 has a new 7-inch TFT LCD adjustable and user friendly colour monitor control panel with a more attractive display and more functionality. The pressure and flow for the hydraulic attachment on the excavator can be adjusted from the main monitor in the cab.

Other comfort features of the new cab include a fully automatic climate control system with more air nozzles and additional storage compartments.

Fast workgroup movements enable the DX57W-5 to achieve a high degree of productivity. The



maximum digging depth is 3795 mm, the maximum digging height is 6170 mm and the maximum reach at ground level is 6400 mm.

Equipped as standard in the single tyre configuration,

the operating weight of the DX57W-5 is 5.79 tonne. A dual tyre configuration is available as an option. The DX57W-5 offers two travel speed ranges, with a maximum travel speed of 30 km/h.



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compact equipment

Kubota further improves its R065 wheeled loader

Kubota has updated its already popular R065 wheeled loader, with the new model offering improved productivity, versatility and fuel efficiency.



The prototype of Kubota's R065 compact wheeled loaders were first shown at Plantworx last year. Since then, modifications and improvements have been made for the UK market, with this latest specification making its debut at this year's Hillhead show. Kubota's R065 is specially designed to suit a variety of applications, from loading and clearing to pallet fork operations, to ensure users can get the job done faster and efficiently. The machine offers a long dumping reach and high

dumping clearance, facilitating ease of use for operators. Adopting the articulated steering system and also featuring Z kinematics linked with a parallel movement structure, the R065 offers superior breakout force, high levels of manoeuvrability and excellent stability, making it the perfect choice for use in all working conditions. The machine also provides excellent visibility for the operator and significant developments have been made inside the cab for maximum comfort for

extended periods of operation to help increase productivity and minimise downtime. This includes a tilting steering column, low noise, an adjustable wrist rest and a modern digital display. The R065 is powered with a Kubota Engine for a strong and powerful performance and with one of the lowest emission levels on the market. An anti-theft security system is also included on the R0 Series as standard for maximum security and peace of mind.

JCB Excavators Designed To Perform, Built To Last

A year since their launch the JCB 8T Excavators are still breaking ground in the mini excavator market.

Both the JCB 85Z and 86C have excellent serviceability and no DPF or after treatment, reducing maintenance costs and helping to minimise downtime these machines tick many boxes. When you add this to their unique 'below idle' feature which saves fuel consumption when engine speed

is low upgrading to an 85Z or 86C from earlier models can be self-justifying. Philip Chick of BC Plant, JCB Dealer for Northern Ireland, said: "Expanding their product range is not something JCB are doing half-heartedly, they are offering 0% Interest Hire Purchase on many Mini Excavator models including the 85Z and 86C until the end of the year. This is another reason why these machines make

an excellent business decision - saving's for the customer in many ways including time, fuel efficiency and now finance.

"Establishing long term relationships and delivering excellent customer service is important to us and being in a position to help with access to funding is a valuable aspect of this service."

Tractive effort and 5kph tracking speeds are class leading on these models, ensuring high dozer capabilities and fast travel times. The auto kickdown motors automatically adapt to changes in terrain increasing productivity further. JCB are certainly committed to providing solutions to the growth in demand for compact machines.





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Quality Giant and Hanix Compacts from BPS

With a comprehensive and well respected range of compact equipment on offer, Ballyward Plant Services has enjoyed a year of steady growth as it continues to expand its customer base.

As agents for Giant and Hanix, BPS stocks a varied range of mini excavators,

telehandlers, skidsteers, wheel loaders and attachments.

Giant machines feature high quality components including Bosch Rexroth hydraulics, Comar axles and Kuboto engines. The range is made up of seven main chassis types with variations on each type. Lift capacities range from 1,000 kg to 2,920 kg and

engine power varies from 20 hp to 60 hp. Engines are either three or four cylinder and comply with European Stage 3a emissions regulations.

All Giant machines are hydrostatically driven with either single or two speed transmissions depending on the model. The main loader controls along with transmission speed selection and direction change are located on the right hand joystick.

"Giant machines have become increasingly popular within the construction and agricultural sectors since we took on the franchise last year," says BPS's Robert McAlerney. "Sales in the south of Ireland are also picking up as we have made them available through Purcell Plant in Naas in County Kildare."

BPS has also enjoyed a successful year with Hanix, having been named 2015 Hanix Dealer of the Year. Its mini excavators, of course, are world-renowned for their powerful digging performance, thanks to class-leading reach and digging depth.

All Hanix mini excavators are manufactured to exacting standards, providing operators with innovative value for money machines; built to last, and to do the jobs you need them to without compromising operator comfort – and keep an eye out for the launch in

the New Year of a new 8.5 tonne Hanix digger.

Also available from BPS is a wide range of Lumag compact equipment including mini dumpers, wood chippers, compactor plates and concreting tools, in addition to a comprehensive choice of products from Fairport, including concreting machines, compaction equipment, breakers and water pumps.

Over the past year, BPS has been displaying its product ranges at various shows up and down the country; you can see the Giant range on display at the forthcoming Winter Fair at the Eikon Exhibition Centre, Balmoral Park at the beginning of December.

"The shows have generated a lot of interest in both Giant and Hanix machines and we are planning to be present at a number of them in the New Year, including the Spring Farm & Construction Machinery Show also at the Eikon Centre, and, of course, the Balmoral Show, as well as some of the more local events," says Robert who also revealed that in the past few weeks, BPS has further expanded its product portfolio, adding all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and quads from the highly respected Quadzilla range.



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Glendun Plant Sales: Compact Ranges Performing Strongly

Service is key to the growing success of Glendun Plant Sales - the Dungannon based company, the full line Wacker Neuson dealer covering Northern Ireland and the border counties, says its compact range of equipment has been performing strongly throughout the past year.

Its other products complementary to the Wacker Neuson range are also seeing solid sales, most notably HPC Kaeser compressors, Niftylift access equipment, the EZICAT range of detection equipment from Cable Detection and the recently added Skyjack scissor lifts.

"While product quality and reliability are vitally important, equally so is a high level of service, which customers appreciate," says Glendun Plant Sales director Dermot Cunnie. "In today's competitive market, customers cannot afford the luxury of unnecessary downtime, which is why we place a great deal of emphasis on after-sales support and why we have invested considerably in our facilities and in staff training."

The Wacker Neuson brand is well respected and popular with both contractors and the plant hire sector, and Glendun Plant has enjoyed sustained success since taking on the franchise. The range is comprehensive, extending from excavators, telehandlers and dumpers to rollers and soil and asphalt compaction equipment – and at Glendun Plant Sales it is all under one roof.

Increasingly popular are the 4m 1.2 tonne TH412 and 5.5m 2.2 tonne TH522 compact telehandlers and, especially at this time of year, the dumpers, as Wacker Neuson is currently the only manufacturer to offer a cab dumper.

Also performing well is the full range of mini excavators, ideal for builders and those working in confined spaces, as is the unique 803 dual power, zero emissions, micro excavator; its compact dimensions means it can drive through internal doors, and its rubber tracks won't damage floors and other such surfaces.

Among the most popular in the NiftyLift range is the bi-energy 12 metre 120TPE boom lift which is specifically designed to give maximum reach

performance from the most compact chassis possible. By utilising its versatile telescopic upper boom, it delivers unrivalled working outreach, especially at lower levels where it's needed most.

The latest product offering at Glendun Plant Sales is the world renowned Skyjack scissor lift range, and customer response has been positive. "We have been concentrating on the smaller scissor lifts in the range, but we are now looking at adding the larger diesel powered machines to our line-up," says Dermot.

He adds: "Demand right across our product portfolio has been good, especially from hire outlets and from the utilities sector where contractors are particularly busy at the moment."

Being centrally located in Mid Ulster, of course, means that Glendun Plant Sales can easily service its customers no matter where they are in the territory, while availability of equipment is exceptionally good, with high levels of stock to call on.



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compact equipment

ET16 Tracked Excavator from Wacker Neuson

When it comes to moving earth there is no way around an excavator. The new tracked excavator ET16 from Wacker Neuson is especially suitable for excavation work in confined spaces

and offers the operator a generous cabin for best working conditions.

With the new mini-excavator ET16, which will replace the 1404 from autumn 2016, Wacker Neuson proves once again that compact size and high performance can be matched wonderfully. The ET16 can reach hardly accessible spots without problems and is therefore particularly suitable for work indoors, the inner-city area or for landscaping - simply for all those places where working in confined spaces is often necessary.

Its telescopic undercarriage, which can be extended from 990 to 1,300 millimeters, allows the operator to drive through narrow passages and also ensures a high level of stability when the telescopic undercarriage is extended. An operating weight of 1.5 tons makes the new mini-excavator ideally suited for use on sensitive soils as it can easily be controlled there. Due to its low transport weight which is 1,400-1,600 kg, a normal car trailer is sufficient to transport the ET16. The side elements of the dozer blade

are firmly connected to the plate, making installation or additional tools unnecessary.

Ergonomical and high quality design, the cab provides the operator with a maximum of legroom and headroom. The full glazing of the cabin also ensures maximum security and allows a panoramic view of all workspaces. The two-part front windshield can be pushed completely under the cabin roof, which provides a pleasant working environment during high temperatures.

A powerful and fuel-efficient 3-cylinder diesel engine (13.2 kW) and a second traveling speed of up to 4 km/h allows quick switching between different working positions and makes the mini-excavator a fast and flexible helper on the construction site - thanks also to its digging depth of about 2,240 millimeters and a maximum dump height of 2,500 millimeters.

A direct access to the engine compartment provides easy and quick access to all relevant service points and allows for shorter maintenance and downtimes. Thanks to the standard auxiliary hydraulics, a variety of attachments can easily be installed. This not only expands the range of application of the mini-excavator, but also increases its efficiency.



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Matt Ackley, IronPlanet Chief Marketing Officer.

"Additionally, IronPlanet enables parallel listing so that sellers can market on their own website and on IronPlanet, reaching a seller's local audience as well as our 1.5 million registered users. For buyers, the new allEquip is a great set and negotiated pricing format option to auction bidding, which also enables us to bring more quality equipment to market, faster."

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More information on IronPlanet's new allEquip can be found at www.ironplanet.com.





*Jonnie Keys,
General Manager
of Euro Auctions*

Euro Auctions sees leap in attendance and prices achieved

Euro Auctions saw higher turnouts, brisk trading and strong prices achieved at its three-day October auction in Leeds, where 3559 lots realised a total hammer price of over £28m.

The winning combination of some of the highest quality of used equipment to be consigned to an auction to date, with a strong Euro and a record breaking 1800+ bidders registering (7% of whom were first time buyers with a large proportion of the total coming from overseas) all looking for a deal, resulted in a bumper sale.

A high proportion of the lots sold went to Mainland Europe and North America with the Middle East also proving a popular destination with almost five percent of all purchases destined to be shipped there to meet ongoing requirements from within this buoyant sector.

"Average prices achieved per lot were over 16.5% higher with a high quality field of equipment in the auction from some of

the best known operators in the business including M O'Brien, Ardent, Charles Wilson, Hargreaves and with UK Coal also consigning equipment," said Euro Auctions' Jonnie Keys. "While the total number of lots was down slightly for this auction, the quality of the equipment consigned was probably some of the best we've ever seen; and this, combined with a stronger Euro, increased interest from mainland Europe and internationally that resulted in some really competitive on site and internet bidding, meaning we just fell short of the record breaking 'Biggest ever' overall hammer total achieved in August.

"We recorded an excellent turnout across all three days. Demand for used construction equipment is exceptionally high at the moment and good quality, well presented plant will always command a premium. Equipment owners increasingly trust us to obtain the best possible prices for their used machinery and buyers know that

Euro Auctions gives them access to quality plant and they are therefore prepared to pay for the knowledge that it will be reliable and ultimately hold its value."

The stand out lot of the auction was a 2012 CAT 825H Compactor which caught the eye of a number of international bidders online and those present at the event and ultimately achieved £235,000.

The sale also attracted considerable interest beyond the usual equipment buyers and sellers with a number of international trade journalists attending the auction to gain an insight into this growing phenomenon. Given the success of the previous auction, the BBC also sent along a TV news crew to report on the sale and this was subsequently broadcast as part of the evening news on the first day.

Euro Auctions' 26 acre Leeds auction site was expanded earlier in the year with the acquisition of an adjacent 80 acre plot of land. All the necessary infrastructure including the administrative offices, visitor parking, ancillary buildings and the main auction stages were already in place, but as increasing volumes of used equipment is being assigned, 40 acres of the adjacent plot was immediately cleared and used to better display the equipment being auctioned. At this Euro Auctions sale the hammer went down on a piece of equipment at the rate of one lot per minute in the main auction stage with two additional rings for smaller equipment being required.

The first Euro Auctions sales in 2017 comprise: Leeds on 25-27th January, in Dormagen in Germany on 8-9th February, and in Brisbane on 23rd February, with future dates for Atlanta, Dromore and Zaragoza still to be confirmed.



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96-97 CAT D9R - choice
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2009 CAT 345DL



2012 New Holland E385C



2015 CAT 311F - choice
of 2



2015 Volvo EC140DL



2008 Komatsu PW140-7



12-13 CAT 308E - choice
of 2



2013 Komatsu
PC80MR3



2013 Hitachi
ZX48U-5A CLR



Unused New Holland
E18B - choice



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- choice



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Legislation Update: 'Go Greener' under Euro 6 Emission Controls

How will the stricter Euro 6 emission controls impact the non-road and off highway plant and machinery sector? Kirstie Henry, from the AdBlue specialists Kingspan Environmental, looks at the market and explains what is in store for owners of construction plant and machinery.

Since the late 1990s, when the non-road and off highway market was first regulated, the European Commission has legislated to reduce emissions across all industry sectors by limiting the particulate matter that diesel engines emit; with construction and civil engineering related sectors high on its agenda.

Euro 6, the latest set of the regulations from the European Commission, has made it mandatory for all diesel driven engines to reduce nitrogen dioxide (NOx) emissions by more than 55%, resulting in significant changes for operators of plant, machinery and other construction equipment.

The leading technology that OEMs are implementing to reduce emissions is Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR). This involves spraying a fine mist of AdBlue into the catalytic converter of the engines exhaust system, which in turn reduces the nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions.

All non-road and off highway construction plant are categorised according to the power rating of the engine. More commonly known as the STAGE rating for the engine, the UK is currently working to the Stage IV classification, with the rating being Stage V emission standards, to be implemented between 2019 and 2021.

The Stage V standard will further align European non-road emission standards, making direct adoption by EU member states easier. Stage V will align all equipment types to a single emission standard, including those types previously exempted, by introducing emissions standards for compression ignition (CI) engines below 19 kW and all engines above 560 kW; previously outside the regulations.

Between the 19 kW to 37 kW rating, machinery will be upgraded from Stage IIIA to Stage V and equipment between 37 kW and 56 kW, upgraded from Stage IIIB to Stage V. This will mean more stringent standards and the potential expansion for SCR technology. New standards for equipment below 19 kW and above 560 kW will be introduced and this will include spark ignition petrol engines, in addition to the diesel powered hand

held category at the lower end and larger earth moving machines at the upper end.

So what are the options for plant and machinery operators when striving to conform to the regulations?

Equipment OEMs are already satisfied the latest legislation during production by incorporating emission reducing technology so replacing non-compliant equipment with new machinery that incorporates Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) technology using AdBlue to comply with the current Stage IV & V regulations is one option but this is costly.

However, there are other more cost effective options available. Retrofitting a Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) or fitting catalytic converters to the exhaust system of the engine will reduce particulate emissions as will using SCR technology, a combination of SCR and DPF in one single system. The SCR technology and AdBlue option, with SCR & DPF, is the most efficient counter measure, providing the best overall reduction of NOx gasses.

STORAGE

With an increased requirement to have AdBlue stored on site therein lies the critical challenge for quality storage techniques. The non-road and off highway market is currently being supplied with 'packaged products', with AdBlue delivered in 10 litre cans or small drums.

Companies like Kingspan Titan is now providing the market with an entire range of bulk storage options through its BlueMaster range. Operators running large SCR fleets are able to store and dispense AdBlue safely on site, maintaining purity, complying with international regulations and ensuring AdBlue remains pure for its lifetime in the tank.

The KingspanTitan BlueTruckMaster mini bulk storage unit also offers a portable AdBlue storage solution for when multiple machines need refuelling on remote projects in inaccessible locations, and where larger storage tanks cannot be sited.



Bobcat Winter Maintenance Range Continues to Expand

Combining the very latest in Bobcat compact loaders, telehandlers and winter attachments, the Bobcat range of products for winter maintenance work continues to expand. In the last 12 months, additions to the Bobcat range have included the S450 skid-steer loader and T450 compact tracked loader.

The S450 and T450 feature the same new generation cab design used on all larger new generation Bobcat compact loaders, providing class-leading entry and exit through the largest cab door opening on this size of machine. Hydraulic performance has been increased in both models and like all Bobcat loaders, they are equipped as standard with the quick-change Bob-Tach attachment mounting frame.

These are now part of a comprehensive choice of tool carriers that can be combined with the Bobcat range of winter weather attachments such as snow blowers, buckets, snow blades and salt and sand spreaders, to provide truly compact and versatile solutions for dealing with the effect of all types of winter weather.

These cover virtually any winter application, including clearance of snow and ice on urban and country roads; pavements; car parks; superstores and other out-of-town locations; driveways; parks; school playgrounds; sports fields and similar areas.

ATTACHMENTS

The Bobcat family of snow blowers offers a choice of 18 models, to ensure that the customer can select a snow blower that matches exactly the capacity of the carrier and its hydraulic performance, thus creating a top performing snow removal tool working at maximum efficiency.

The hydraulically-driven Bobcat snow blowers are ideal for cleaning pavement, driveways, parking lots and local roads. They can throw snow up to 15 m and have a rotating chute and deflector to point the snow in the direction desired.

Large capacity buckets, with widths from 1371 to 2540 mm and capacities from 0.36 to 1.53 m³, are available for handling snow. They have high backs to help with pushing snow and straight sides to penetrate snow



piles. For the removal of light snowfalls 100 mm or less in depth, the Bobcat angle broom is an ideal attachment for use on pedestrian pathways, providing quick access by removing snow in just one pass.

The Bobcat snow blade, available in six widths from 1219 to 2438 mm, is designed to quickly remove light or moderate snow from pavements and driveways.

Meanwhile, the hydraulic salt and sand spreader is ideal for spreading in confined areas, such as car parks and pedestrian zones, where larger equipment cannot be used. This attachment has a hopper capacity of 250 litres.

Terex Winter Kits Keep Deep Freeze At Bay

Terex Trucks has launched winter protection kits for its rigid dump trucks to help avoid the need to keep engines idling in extreme sub-zero temperatures.

It takes only a drop of four degrees in core body temperature for hypothermia to set in, therefore the body wastes no time in activating its defence against cold weather. Goosebumps, shivers, teeth chatter and raised hair are all symptoms triggered by the hypothalamus – the brain's temperature centre – to produce heat.

And it's not just humans who feel the effects of sub-zero climates, which can be experienced in countries such as Canada or Russia – where temperatures regularly plummet to -35 degrees Celsius. Machines also feel the cold too – and can suffer serious damage if not properly protected against the chill.

To meet the needs of trucks working in adversely low temperatures, Terex Trucks has released two extreme cold weather protection kits for their rigid hauler products. With the help of Webasto, the first of the two kits, labelled the Winter Kit, defends trucks working for prolonged periods where temperatures fall to -25 degrees Celsius while the second, the Arctic Kit, enables safe operating up to a deep freezing -40 degrees Celsius.

SOME LIKE IT HOT

General practice in colder countries sees engines constantly running even during shift changes to keep fluids warm,

prevent fatigue failures in the drivetrain, and seal leaks. Recognised as inefficient, the method of idling is one that is not only environmentally sub optimal but also costly to the end user due to the needless fuel consumption.

Thanks to the Webasto-supplied truck-mounted Thermo-Heater, non-productive fuel consumption, engine wear-and-tear and prolonged downtime are significantly reduced. The new technology makes use of an environment-friendly start-stop system, with just a very small trickle of diesel. The Thermo-Heater is powered once the engine is shut down, it then draws the coolant from the engine and circulates around critical components. The engine-independent heater has the ability to keep the machine at a pre-determined warmer temperature for hours after the motor is switched off, and restart without a hitch.

MINIMUM DOWNTIME

In its standard deliverable configuration, a Terex Trucks' rigid hauler is designed to safely operate in conditions down to -18 degrees Celsius but with the added help from the state-of-the-art heating systems, the trucks will be able to work safely down to an almost unimaginable -40 degrees Celsius.

Fitted at the Motherwell factory in Scotland, the protection kits will be available on the TR45, TR60, TR70 and the 91-tonne capacity TR100. The solutions can also be retrofitted on older machines and are covered on the Terex Trucks protection warranty.



Hoddam Contracting Selects Rapid after Positive First Experience

Rapid International Ltd (County Armagh) has recently supplied Scotland based Hoddam Contracting Co. Ltd with a newly updated Rapid 90B static concrete batching plant, capable of producing outputs up to 70 m3 per hour (continuously).

The static plant is located at the company's Ecclefechan site and is employed in the production of ready mix concrete and concrete for block making; the company also operates two sand and gravel quarries. Hoddam Contracting produces a wide range of aggregate and concrete products, including washed sand and gravels, sub bases, ready mixed concrete, concrete blocks, concrete paving and kerbs. It began manufacturing concrete blocks in the 1960s and now supplies throughout Scotland and the North of England.

The company initially began manufacturing blocks using a mobile plant but have since progressed to the use of a modern static plant. As a prior customer, they were confident in their decision to select Rapid to update their previous static plant.

The company's previous plant had reached the stage where it was requiring regular maintenance, so the decision was made to upgrade to a more modern, cost effective solution. Enter Rapid, who three years prior had supplied Hoddam Contracting

with two new cement silos. Pleased with Rapid's workmanship Hoddam Contracting selected Rapid for the static plant update. Rapid updated every aspect of the plant, with the exception of the recently supplied silos as previously mentioned. The extensive upgrade work comprised of an almost entirely new plant replacement, including bins, weigh belts, mixer platform, an R3000 Rapid pan mixer, CWH water weigher and PIL control system. Rapid worked closely with Hoddam Contracting at each stage of the process, troubleshooting any issues, to ensure that the plant was installed and running to their absolute satisfaction.

Rapid's static batch plant range is specifically designed for ready mixed concrete and precast producers. Each plant is supplied pre-wired and in modular sections, minimising site installation. Erection and commissioning of the plant can occur in as little as 3 days. Fitted with a Rapid R3000 pan mixer, giving an output of 3m3 per batch, the Rapidmix 90B offers the potential for readymix, block or precast production from a single plant. The Rapid 90B is capable of achieving outputs of up to 70 m3 per hour in continuous production.

Rapid's mixing technology expertise spans almost 50 years. The company manufactures a comprehensive range of pan, planetary and twin shaft concrete mixers, mobile

continuous mixing plant and mobile and static batching plant. Each Rapid machine is produced in its 50,000 square foot purpose built factory. The company takes great pride in its manufacturing capabilities, which incorporates lean manufacturing, and possesses the latest, most technologically advanced equipment. Quality and longevity are at the very heart of Rapid's machinery.

Peter Murray, Operations Manager - Hoddam Contracting Co said, "Having previously dealt with Rapid on a couple of smaller projects and been very happy with the service and quality they delivered, it was difficult to go past them when we were considering the new plant. The guys are very efficient and easy to deal with and our new plant is far quicker and more advanced than what we had previously."

Added Jarlath Gilmore, Sales and Marketing Director – Rapid, "We are delighted to work again with Hoddam and appreciate that based on previous experience they have chosen Rapid for the new project. Rapid focus on manufacturing plant that will deliver performance in-line with customers' requests and are proud of the customer support we provide to back this up, making our customers come back again and again. We wish Peter and his team well with the new plant as the Hoddam business continues to increase and expand."



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2 classy pieces of kit a New Case CX145C loaded up for C & C Civils, Keady, Armagh. - Cowan Bros



Mark Owens of Owens Contracts Ltd, Omagh taking delivery of New Case CX75C. - Cowan Bros



Ward & Burke Construction Ltd, Co. Galway taking delivery of 6 Kobelco machines from McSharry Bros.



New Taleuchi TB260 delivered to Dermot Cleary in Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



New PC490LC-11 Quarry spec ready for delivery to FP McCann Ltd. - WAC McCandless



Michael Doyle Civil Eng Ltd., Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford taking delivery of a new SK260LC-10 from McSharry Bros.



Lagan Plant - Junttan PMX20 Piling Rig.



Cyril Johnston Hire - New Wacker Neuson 3001, 3 ton cab dumper supplied by Glendun Plant.



A new Hanix H17D for Rock Tool Hire from Ballyward Plant.



McCarroll Plant Hire, another Niftylift 120TPE bi-energy boom lift supplied by Glendun Plant.

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New Yanmar SV08 ready for delivery to Watson Hire Letterkenny From Crumlin Plant Sales.



Lagan Plant - Vögele Super 1803-3i Paver 1.



WRC take delivery of their new Hanix H27DR from Ballyward Plant.



Colin Glendinning with the latest Manitou MT1840 for Neptune Group. N.Lift Trucks



A new Giant D254SW for G Abbot, from Ballyward Plant Services.



Raymond Harbinson Contracts - New Wacker Neuson EZ28VDS 3 ton mini digger supplied by Glendun Plant.



H&P Hire, John and Mark taking delivery of their first new Skyjack SJ3219 scissor lift from Glendun Plant.



Jarleth from JB Resurfacing takes delivery of their new Hanix H27DR from Ballyward Plant.



New TEREX TA9S sold to a local hire company. Sleator Plant



Mark from MN Contracts takes delivery of their new Truxa B450-G Mini Dumper from Ballyward Plant Services.



New Newelco sel 250s sold to Connor Keenan maybridge by Ds hammers.



PRH Construction, Portglenone pictured with their new Case CX130D. Thanks for the business and we hope you enjoy your new machine! Cowan Bros.



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320EL Super Long Reach for R.A. O'Neill. - Finning



JCMG take delivery of their new Giant V4502T from Ballyward plant services.



Kirkpatrick Landscapes take delivery of their new Hanix H17D from Ballyward Plant.



New Takeuchi TB250 with Demoter hammer ready to be delivered to Farsha Properties in Bunburb by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



MFL Hire collecting GENIE 2632 Scissor Lift. - Sleator Plant



New Terex TA3SH sold to a local hire company. - Sleator Plant



New Stelco sel 950s supplied to Owen Miskelly drumanness by Darryl rogan Ds hammers.



New Komatsu WA270-7 recently sold to Clive Richardson Ltd. - WAC McCandless



New Stelco 600s sold to joe Mcverry crossmaglen by Darryl rogan Ds hammers.



KPM Surfacing, new Kaeser M43 compressor supplied by Glendun Plant.



New SB152 breaker recently sold to SAEK Ltd by WAC McCandless.



Enda Ward of Ward Bros Quarry & Plant Hire, Co. Roscommon taking delivery of a new SK210LC-10 and SK55SRX-6 from McSharry Bros.

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New Cobra petrol breaker recently sold to TOC Utilities by WAC McCandless.



Graham Construction - first new Wacker Neuson DW90, 9 ton cab dumpers. Plant Manager Ian Balmer taking delivery from Dermot Cunnie.



New Rotair 290cfm Compressor with after cooler for sandblasting at Dernaseer Engineering Supplied from Crumlin Plant Sales.



Francis Haughey, Keady with his 2nd TEREX TA3SH Dumper. - Sleator Plant



New Yanmar VI033 ready for delivery to Nettec Environmental Services Dungiven From Crumlin Plant Sales.



New WA380-7 ready for delivery to J Morgan & Sons (Mayobridge) Ltd. - WAC McCandless



New Case CX130D LC ready for delivery to Glenview contracts, Cushendall. Cowan Bros.



New 320EL for L Loughran & Sons Contracts. - Finning



Another Rotair 185cfm Compressor supplied to Bann Hire by Crumlin Plant Sales.



2 new LT6005 Rammers recently sold to TOC Utilities by WAC McCandless.



New Atlas Copco CC1000 roller recently sold to Sammy Wilkin by WAC McCandless.



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Liam Whelan Plant Hire, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford took delivery of his second SK210LC-10. McSharry Bros.



A TB290 & TB260 with brake hammer being delivered to Abecorn Construction in Belfast by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



New Rotair 185cfm Compressor supplied to JB Plant Omagh From Crumlin Plant Sales.



New PC138US-11 ready for delivery to William Rogers Construction. - WAC McCandless



Pc plants new Stelco sel 600s from Ds hammers.



1.6t Takeuchi ready to be delivered to ANC Hire in Naas by Alan Milne Tractors, Newry.



New Takeuchi TB110 delivered to J Walsh Construction in Dunshaughlin Co.Meath by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Lagan Plant - Hamm HD90+iVV .



Mark McAvoy of McAvoy Construction with their new 320EL. - Finning



A new Hanix H55DR for DMF Contracts from Ballyward Plant.

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More stelcos for kubota dealer DA forgie.



New LF60 & LT6005 recently sold to Lough Road Surfacing by WAC McCandless.



Enda Ward of Ward Bros Quarry & Plant Hire, Co. Roscommon taking delivery of a new SK55SRX-6 from McSharry Bros.



The first 352FL XE in UK & Ireland sold to McCabe Earthworks. - Finning Ireland



New Takeuchi TB230 being delivered to P Webster Plant in Roscommon by Alan Milne Tractors.

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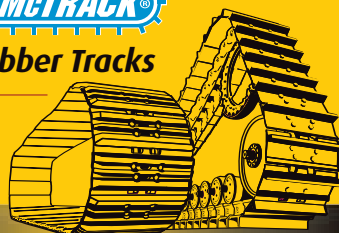
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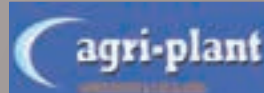
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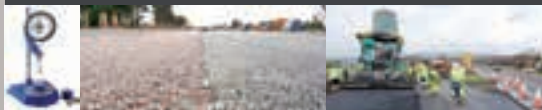


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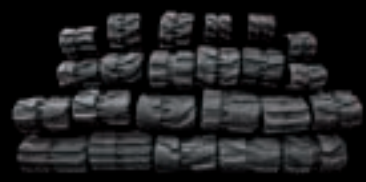
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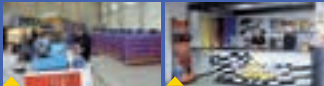
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