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PLANT & CIVIL

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Well, what can we say! The return of our 'Plant, Construction & Quarry' Awards exceeded even our high expectations. Favourable comments have been many from all those who attended and participated in what was a truly memorable night in Belfast.

Now firmly back on the calendar after a seven year absence, the awards attracted very strong support from all the main players in the various sectors of our vibrant and ever changing industry – and we thank you all, for without you, it would not have been possible.

This issue carries a comprehensive look back at the awards in words and pictures, highlighting who won what and why; if you weren't among the winners, there's always next year!

Since our last edition, events have taken a turn for the better up on the hill, with politicians finally agreeing on a way forward, and that can only be good news for our hard-pressed industry, although funding challenges remain, not least for the road maintenance programme. Let's hope there's better news when the NI Executive publish their 2016/17 budget at the end of January.

On another subject: one quite shocking statistic has emerged in recent weeks, with a report claiming that less than half of local construction workers have construction related qualifications and almost 1 in 5 of them feel they would benefit from training in Essential Skills. The figures have been revealed in a recent survey of 100 Northern Ireland workers by the CITB NI, more on which you can read in this issue.

Also in this issue, we take a look at the latest excavators and telehandlers on the market, and local companies in the news include hydraulic hose experts Pirtek, plant and machinery dealer DA Forgie, McHale Plant Sales and Graham Construction, while our view from the cab is from one of Manitou's latest telehandlers – plus all the very latest news and views from right across the industry.

That's all for now; we hope you had an enjoyable Xmas and trust the New Year will be kind to you. In the meantime, remember, you can keep up to date by logging on to www.plantandcivilengineer.com.

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GRAHAM Named in Top 1% of UK Construction Sites

Two landmark construction projects being delivered for Rolls Royce and the Ulster Hospital have won Considerate Constructors Scheme's National Site awards which place them among the top 1% of UK construction sites, thanks to the work of GRAHAM Construction



A2 Shore Road

The £40m regeneration of the Rolls Royce Marine factory in Derby and the £115m state-of-the-art inpatient ward at Ulster Hospital both won Gold awards and were named as runners-up at the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) National Site Awards.

The Considerate Constructors Awards were created to showcase the UK's best construction sites in terms of safety, best practice, minimisation

of environmental impact and the protection of staff welfare.

More than 9,000 construction sites were entered into the awards and only the top 1% of sites, a total of 98 schemes, secured Gold awards; even fewer sites, 31 in total, achieved runners-up awards.

Overall, six GRAHAM Construction sites clinched CCS awards:

GOLD – £40m CPC Regeneration Scheme – new Rolls Royce 7,200m² manufacturing facility

in Derby with a new 520m² Energy Centre and 1,500m² Product Assembly Building.

GOLD – £115m Ulster Hospital scheme to create 288 single bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, a new day surgery department with four state-of-the-art operating theatres and endoscopy suite and new pharmacy and café.

SILVER – £14.5m Deaconess House – regeneration project of a former 19th Century hospital in Edinburgh which will comprise of 315 student flats and a warden flat on the site of the former Deaconess Hospital.

SILVER – £17.5m The Heart of the Campus scheme at Sheffield Hallam University to create a new heart to the Collegiate Crescent Campus. The scheme will provide almost 9,500m² of high quality academic, teaching and social spaces in a new hub building. Alongside student services and general teaching there is also a new café, and open learning zones. The building provides a new base for the departments of Law, Criminology and Community Justice and Psychology, Sociology and Politics departments.

SILVER – £81m Peel Park – eight storeys of student accommodation for the University of Salford comprising 1,367

en-suite student bedrooms, alongside communal social spaces with games facilities, lounges, an on-site cinema, gym, basketball court and joint-designed kitchens.

BRONZE – A2 Shore Road – widening 3.5km of the A2 – part of the strategic road network in Northern Ireland.

Michael Graham, executive chairman of GRAHAM, said: "We are passionate about delivering top quality projects, and we believe we provide the best finished product for customers by maintaining high standards throughout the construction process. To have two of the landmark sites we are developing for Rolls Royce and The Ulster Hospital recognised among the top 1% of construction sites nationally is a testament to the high standards we deliver.

"The new Rolls Royce factory and the new in-patient ward at Ulster Hospital are nationally important projects. However, more importantly than that they are also hugely important to the local community in which they reside. By engaging with local people, ensuring safety on-site and making sure that the construction process has a minimal effect on the environment we are able to deliver top quality schemes for our clients and local communities. Every GRAHAM Construction project is a partnership and we are very pleased that this has been recognised by CCS."

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news

NI Hoses Joins Hose Replacement Network

A new hose replacement company has been set up in County Down to service customers across Northern Ireland.

Established by Darryl Rogan who has more than 30 years experience in the plant and machinery market as founder of DS Hammers and Dean Jackson of Dean Jackson Plant, NI Hoses has been appointed service agent as part of the growing HydraTEC hydraulic hose distribution network.

NI Hoses offers 'while-you-wait' and 'onsite' emergency hose replacement services, with quality and reliable products from the renowned world class Italian manufacturing company Alfagomma.

Alfagomma have nine product manufacturing plants producing a complete range of hydraulic hose, industrial hose, fittings and adaptors coupled with a

global network of Alfagomma subsidiaries and assembly manufacturing facilities covering 18 countries and five continents.

"We are delighted that Darryl and Dean have become part of our network. They are already well known in the industry we are confident NI Hoses will be equally successful," commented HydraTEC's Simon Van Lomkhuyzen.

Added Darryl: "We believe there is great potential for our services, especially as we have an already well established customer base and we look forward to building on that in the New Year."

With two onsite service vans on the road, customers can be confident that a prompt response will only be a telephone call away.

Completion of £4.8 million Wastewater Investment in County Londonderry

Regional Development Minister Michelle McIlveen has welcomed the completion of three major wastewater schemes which have recently been completed in County Londonderry, representing a total investment of £4.8million

Consent Solutions, which is a joint venture comprising of local companies, Dawson Wam (Saintfield) and Ovivo (Newry) was the contractor for all three schemes, with RPS providing technical and project management support.

The minister visited Feeny Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW), which was recently upgraded at an investment of approximately £1.5million. The upgrade will allow for future development in the area, as well as improving the water quality in the local Owenbeg River.

Similarly, a £1.6million upgrade at Maghera Wastewater Treatment

(WwTW) took place at the existing site on the Mullagh Road, serving Maghera and the surrounding areas. The upgrade will also bring environmental improvements, improving the water quality in the Moyola River.

Finally, a £1.7million upgrade took place at Gortnahey WwTW in Limavady, which serves Gortnahey village and the surrounding areas. The work took place at the existing site on the Gortnahey Road and will greatly improve wastewater services for customers as well as improving the water quality in the local Woodburn River.

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A2 Shore Road Officially Opens

Transport Minister Michelle McIlveen has officially opened the £50 million A2 Shore Road Greenisland dual carriageway.



Ceremony celebrates completion of £50m dual carriageway. Pictured here (L to R) are: Leo Martin (GRAHAM Construction), Michelle McIlveen (Transport Minister), Kevin Monaghan (Transport NI)

GRAHAM Construction commenced works on the scheme in March 2013 and the new dual carriageway became fully operational in September this year.

The A2 is a vital link in the strategic road network between Belfast and Carrickfergus, carrying on average around 35,000 vehicles each day.

Mrs McIlveen said: "The construction of the new dual carriageway represents a significant investment in our road network. It also resolves the problem of a major bottleneck for peak-time traffic travelling between Belfast and Carrickfergus and drivers are now benefiting from reduced journey times."

The Minister added: "This investment generated well over half a million working hours for our local workforce.

"In addition to delivering this scheme on time and within budget, GRAHAM Construction exceeded the requirements of the social clauses in the contract for engaging young people and long term unemployed."

The scheme widened approximately one and a quarter miles (1.9 kilometres) of the A2 Shore Road between Jordanstown Road and Station Road,

upgrading the section of road to an urban dual carriageway.

An entirely new dual carriageway of approximately one mile (1.6 kilometres) was also built between Station Road and Seapark. Four roundabouts connect the new section of road to the existing road network.

The contractor recently won the Plant & Civil Engineer magazine 'Construction Project of the Year' for its work on the scheme.

Caterpillar Cuts Jobs in Northern Ireland

One hundred full time jobs, 50 of them agency staff, are losing their jobs at Caterpillar's plants at Larne, west Belfast and Monkstown.

However, the company which employs around 2,000 people in Northern Ireland says it remains committed to the province.

In a statement, Caterpillar NI said: "Current weaknesses in the economies of some key markets are impacting on global demand for a number of our products.

"The company is therefore taking necessary measures during this time to help support the competitiveness and sustainability of the business for the future.

"This includes reducing our permanent workforce by approximately 50 positions and releasing approximately 50 agency workers. We know this is difficult for our employees and their families, and resources will be provided to assist impacted employees during this transition."

The jobs cuts are not unexpected. In September, Caterpillar said it was planning a restructuring that could impact on more than 20 of its facilities around the world.

New Series of Piston Pumps from Hi-Power

Sunfab's Irish distributor Hi-Power, which has depots in Belfast, Dublin and Cork, is now stocking a new generation of high efficiency and compact bent axis piston pumps.

The SAP 012-108 DIN is a series of light weight casing piston pumps with a fixed displacement for demanding mobile hydraulics.

SAP 012-108 DIN covers the displacement range 12-108 cm³/rev. at a maximum pressure of 400

bar. It is a modern, compact pump which meets the market's high demands on flow performance, pressure, efficiency and small installation dimensions.

It features a light weight metal casing design and offers smooth operation over the entire speed range. Other advantages include:

- Long life due to high quality demands on material selection, such as bearings, seals, etc
- Corrosion free light metal-housing
- Less heat generation due to better ability to dissipate heat through housing

The pump is either mounted directly on the power take-off or on a frame bracket via an intermediate shaft.



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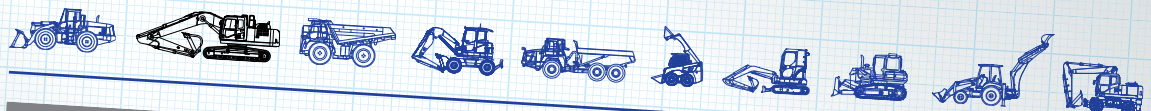
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Komatsu PC170LC-10 Excavator: A newcomer in the Dash 10 range.

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New specialist lender announced for SME sector

The Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland has announced that Dublin based Finance Ireland is to oversee a new €50m loan facility for the SME sector.

Under the terms of the deal SME's will be able to access more and lower cost funding for equipment, machinery and vehicles through Finance Ireland, a Dublin based specialist lender. It's understood the preferential interest rates will be typically 2% lower than current market rates.

Finance Ireland Executive Chairman Billy Kane said the deal was excellent news for SMEs, many of whom face significant challenges accessing funding.

"This deal will make more funding available to the SME sector, will do so at a lower cost and will also increase competition amongst lenders in the sector.

"Finance Ireland is delighted to be the first non bank to be approved by the SBCI for SME lending and the expertise



Pictured at the announcement were Billy Kane, Executive Chairman of Finance Ireland(I), and Nick Ashmore, CEO of SBCI.

and established distribution channels we have built up will ensure that the advantage of lower cost funding is

passed on in full to SMEs over the term of their loans.

"Finance Ireland has its own Direct Sales team and we will be

interacting directly with SMEs to ensure their requirements for highly competitive loans for cars, vans, forklifts and specialist equipment are met in the coming years."

SBCI Chief Executive Nick Ashmore said the Corporation was there to help solve problems in the SME lending market and help SMEs to support jobs and grow their business.

"This deal brings a major new player to the market who will help drive competition in Irish SME lending. Greater competition will make it easier and cheaper for Irish SMEs to borrow. Finance Ireland will bring cheaper long term finance for SMEs who plan to invest in equipment, machinery or vehicles."

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Visibility from earth-moving machinery – how is it looking?

By Malcolm Kent, CEA (Construction Equipment Association) , Senior Technical Consultant

If you are in any way involved in the safety of earth-moving machinery you probably already know that there is a problem with the technical standard for what operators need to be able to see from their work station.



This goes back several years to when a German citizen submitted a petition on the matter to the European Parliament. His claim was that the standard that earth-moving machinery manufacturers were using in the design of machinery, ISO 5006, did not provide a sufficient level of safety. After a long process of investigation and consultation the European Commission came to the conclusion that he was right, and in January of last year published what is called a Decision, with a capital D.

This Decision was to state that the standard had been deemed inadequate and that the Commission's approval of the standard was being withdrawn. What that means is that, although the standard still exists, manufacturers can no longer rely on it as a means to claim that their machines are safe enough with regards to visibility. What does the standard currently require? There are two areas where visibility is assessed under

the 2006 edition of the standard: firstly on a 12 metre circle around the machine at ground level, and secondly on a 1.5 metre high post moved around a rectangle set 1 metre out from the footprint of the machine. The detailed requirements vary depending on machine type and size but the principles are the same for all. Note that there is no requirement to be able to see anything at all between 1m and 12m from the machines, although in practice the operator would be able to see a great deal in this range. The main complaint in the original petition was that significant blind spots behind the machine were allowed under the standard and this led to the risk of accidents. So, what does 'safe enough' mean? Well, it depends. It depends on risk assessment that covers the type of machine, the size of machine, how it moves and how fast, how its work equipment (if any) moves and how it is used. That is quite a lot to consider but that is what each manufacturer

needs to do in the absence of any technical standard that they can hang their hats on.

It's not just manufacturers who are uneasy in the absence of a suitable technical standard: safety authorities across Europe are trying to produce guidance for manufacturers and are supporting the development of a new standard. The HSE have issued their own guidance document (available for download from their website) which covers some key considerations without going into a lot of detail.

So where are we going with the new standard? That is really hard to say. There are lots of fingers in the pie, from countries a long way away from Europe (remember that the standard is an ISO – international – one) who do not really see the need to plaster machines with mirrors, cameras, radar, or whatever, to countries at the heart of Europe with a culture that demands the highest level of technical risk reduction on products. Because of this there is a real tension over how much to change the ISO standard and it is not clear yet whether the project will succeed in publishing anything. Even if it does, it is by no means certain that the European Commission would deem it as being satisfactory. If they did not it would mean that the effort had been in vain as the block on the use of the standard would remain in place.

The other possibility is that new requirements on visibility could be written into a European standard, meaning that the influence of the Rest Of The

World would disappear. On the face of it this would seem more likely to succeed in producing a standard acceptable to the European Commission but the focus of work still seems to be missing the target as far as some people see it.

All this means that we are unlikely to have in our hands for several years (yes, years) a standard for machine visibility which will provide the level of clarity that manufacturers, customers and safety authorities all crave.

So what are we all to do in the meantime? Many manufacturers will be looking at the HSE guidance, which, amongst other things, tells them to review and update their risk assessments, to review what is available in terms of visibility aids and to keep themselves informed on how work on revising the standard is progressing. That last one is pretty well impossible as the work is going in fits and starts, in two directions at once. The guidance also recommends including 'visibility maps' in the machine instructions showing the blind spots around the machine. Given how often instruction manuals are used it is questionable as to whether this will reduce accidents.

As far as customers are concerned, some are asking manufacturers what they are doing about visibility and some are taking things into their own hands, installing after-market camera systems or other aids. Although there is nothing wrong with this, machine owners need to be aware that, along with the system supplier, they are taking over a significant chunk of responsibility for risk assessment.

So at the current point in time there is no clear vision on visibility. Manufacturers have to stand on their own two feet in risk assessment and the provision of visibility aids and that situation is likely to continue for quite some time.

McSharry Bros introduce the Kobelco Generation 10 series

McSharry Bros has announced the imminent arrival of Kobelco's latest specialist excavator to Ireland. The SK210LC-10 will come direct from Japan in February.

McSharry Bros are celebrating their first year as the exclusive Kobelco dealer for all of Ireland. After a very successful first year, when they sold every model from SK10 - SK500, the company is looking forward to 2016 and they expect sales of SK210LC-10 to be just as strong as SK210LC-9 in 2015.

Director of Sales at McSharry Bros, Fintan McSharry, comments: "Going back over the years, the SK210LC model has always been a proven model with Kobelco and very popular with customers. It has consistently delivered the quality and reliability that customers love about Kobelco. Last year, the SK210LC-9 was very popular. It delivered the best fuel performance in its' category and we have no doubt the SK210LC-10 will continue to build on this."

This new model range is the first from Kobelco to comply with Stage 4 of the exhaust emissions regulations and, more importantly, is redefining the operating classes it sits within. Kobelco, of course, is recognised as a market-leading brand that 'saves you money' through the use of many technical features built into its products, but none more so than overall low fuel consumption.

For Generation 10 (20-35t), Kobelco has gone further to reduce operational costs with even greater fuel saving. In the case of the Generation 10, fuel efficiency improvements through regenerative technology places Generation 10 at the peak of work-efficiency within the excavator industry.

The new SK210LC-10 excavator, for example, with Stage 4 engine

configuration delivers greater performance and efficiency in its working environment when compared to the previous Generation 9 equivalent.

In H-mode (heavy work), work volume increases by 6.7% for the same level of fuel consumption. In S (normal work) and Eco-modes fuel consumption is reduced by an impressive 6.1%. Reduction in fuel consumption is just one key factor in supporting the high durability of the SK210LC-10. The quality of design and manufacture lends itself to clean and powerful operating performance with greatly enhanced working hours and total working life of the machine, again enhancing cost efficiency. Serviceability is further improved with several key updates including the introduction of a new compact and easily

replaceable canister-type hydraulic oil return filter and a new specification air cleaner inner element. New operator accessible diagnostics via the cabin monitor assist to ensure work continuity, such examples are on-screen and audible warnings for hydraulic oil temperature and clogged oil filter.

The new safety cab revised to include control levers with a lighter-feel, a new 'lock' lever and control lever box. Additional air-conditioning vents and revised rear storage tray complement Kobelco's known cabin comfort. Easy routine maintenance, extended service intervals and a European spare parts back-up complete the Kobelco experience.

For more information please contact McSharry Bros + 353 90 6629500 www.mcsharrybros.com

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Featured model: SK260SRLC

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A 2.5t Takeuchi TB250 being delivered to PMA Trading in Coalsalsand by Alan Milne Tractors in Newry



A New Schaffer 9630T being delivered to G Hackett in Clogher Co. Tyrone by Alan Milne Tractors in Newry



Chris Armstrong from Co. Cavan taking delivery of his New Greenmech Arborist 150mm 34hp diesel wood chipper.



Cullion Plant Sale, Hurricane attachments ts200 hitachi tree shear sold to Mulholland plant hire



Dieci Mini Agri sold to Andrew Gordon in Newtownard by Alan Milne Tractors Newry Co. Down



First new Kleemann MR 130 ZS Evo 2 Impact Crusher in Ireland sold to Roadstone Dublin



First new Wirtgen S.P 15i Slipform Paver in Ireland sold to E Thomas Developments, Newbridge, Co Kildare



Gerry from Fingal Council, Dublin taking delivery of the first of 2 Hamm HD 12vvs



JB Plant, taking delivery of their New Greenmech Arborist 150mm 34hp diesel wood chipper.



Jim Dehiham, Ace Tool Hire taking delivery of his New Greenmech Arborist 150mm 35hp diesel wood chipper.



KDM Hire Ltd - 3no. BBA BA150E 6" water pumps



New PC490LC-10 ready for delivery to Omya UK Ltd by WAC McCandless



KDM Hire Ltd - Skyjack SJ66 telescopic boom



Matt Hogg of Alan Milne Tractors in Newry with the first Fendt S4 series sold to Arboe Coldstore in Ardboe Co.Tyrone



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KDM Hire Ltd - 5 of 6 Skyjack SJ46 & 51's recently delivered



McSharry PLANT SALES - SK27SR-5 Gerard McAleer, Cooktown, Co. Tyrone



New Fendt 312 with front loader being delivered to Ian Newport in Loughall Co. Armagh by Alan Milne Tractors Newry



TBF Thompson Plant Sales - ZX33U-5 re J & K Contracts



New Hamm HD 12vv sold to Pierce Hire, Waterford



TBF Thompson Plant Sales - Bomag BW120AD-5 roller re J B Plant & Tool Hire Ltd - Omagh (3)



McSharry PLANT SALES - SK55SRX Conor McSharry with Colm Kerrigan of Kercon Construction Co. Meath shaking on SK55SRx



New Takeuchi TB228 ready to be delivered to Roy McDowell in Ballymena by Alan Milne Tractors in Newry



New Vogeles 1803-3i ready for delivery to Northstone in Coleraine



McSharry PLANT SALES - SK140SRLC-3 William Cross & Sons, Larne, Co. Antrim



Nigel Maher from Maher Plant Hire Clonmel taking delivery of his new U55-4 from FJS Plant Ltd



Raymond Robinson taking delivery of his New 150 Palms Forestry Trailer with 12m extension, road lighting kit and hydraulic steering drawbar complete with 550 flotation wheels and 4 wheel braking.



New Taeshin TB150G Rockbreaker recently supplied to Amelio Utilities by WAC McCandless



New Atlas Copco CC1200 for PC Plant Ltd by WAC McCandless



A refurbished Kubota U48-4 and Thwaites 6 Tonne ready for delivery to A Barry Contracts, from Ballyward Plant Services



Sleator Plant Sales - 2 x Genie 1932 scissor lifts sold to Mallusk based manufacturing company.

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McSharry PLANT SALES - SK210LC-9 (one of two units) Ian Alexander and John McElwaine of Alexander Plant with the first of their two SK210LC-9



Richard Hunter from CP Hire receiving 2 more New Greenmech Arborist 150mm 35hp diesel wood chippers



Sleator Plant Sales - 2 x Genie 1932 scissor lifts sold to Mallusk based manufacturing company.



Staff at Wicklow Plant and Tool Hire taking delivery of their new Greenmech ARB150 34hp along with a Carlton SP900 pedestrian stump grinder.



New Faresin 14.42 ready for delivery to FP McCann from WAC McCandless



McSharry PLANT SALES - SK230SRLC-3 Quinn Automatic, Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone



New Yanmar V1025 C/W Rotair ols160 Rockhammer supplied to Martin McColgan from Crumlin Plant Sales



TBF Thompson Plant Sales - Bomag BW90AD-5 roller re J B Plant & Tool Hire Ltd - Dungannon (1)



New Kx71-3 Sold to PKF Developments from FJS Plant Repairs



TBF Thompson Plant Sales 2 x Thwaites AD1 tonne hi-tip dumpers re Point Hire, Warrenpoint



Stephen Shields, Landscape Supplies taking delivery of his Hakki Pilke Easy 42 along with a Hakki 422 Feed table and 6 & 8 way splitting blades.



Trinity Hire Wexford taking delivery of 2 new Kubota U55-4 Midi Excavators from FJS Plant Ltd



McSharry PLANT SALES - SK140SRLGP-3 (Low Ground Pressure) SG Curry Ltd. Co. Armagh



Michael Malone of Malone Forestry and Firewood Services Ltd, taking delivery of his brand new 8 ton Palms Forestry Trailer complete with 5.3 m reach Palms Forestry Crane and a new Hakki Pilke Easy 38 PTO Drive firewood processor.



New Hamm HD 8v sold to Murphy Hire, Tralee, Co Kerry

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Tony Marley with his new NC Dumper Crumlin Plant Sales



Sean Collins collects his new Hanix H27DR from Ballyward Plant Services



New Ammann ARX16 Roller supplied to Paul McCandless from Crumlin Plant Sales



A new Giant D332SWT X-TRA for B Doyle Contracts, from Ballyward Plant Services



New Yanmar VIO33 SUPPLIED TO Paul McCandless from Crumlin Plant Sales



New Rotair MDVN22AK Ready for delivery to PC Dynes from Crumlin Plant Sales



New Yanmar SV08 Supplied to Tony at Marley hire from Crumlin Plant Sales



New Yanmar VIO25 C-W Rotair generator supplied to Martin McColligan from Crumlin Plant Sales

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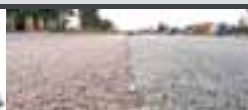
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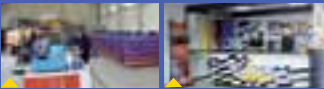
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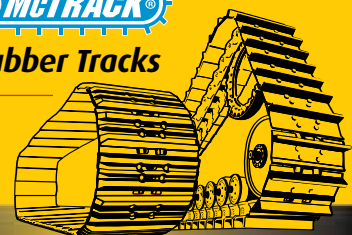
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LIEBHERR

Successful International Launch For Rapid Trakmix

The international launch of the Rapid Trakmix was marked by a week of events recently at Cenin cement factory in Bridgend, South Wales.

Cenin's headquarters provided optimal conditions for the series of concrete & hydraulically bound materials demonstrations using the company's highly sustainable, consistent range of cements.

A variety of activities took place, including, demonstration of 'Cendri' in Ground stabilisation applications improving load bearing strengths in a variety of soil types. 'Cendri' is a process or pre mixed material used to improve material recovery and drastically improve screen productivity when handling wet materials.

Attendees were also provided with tours of Cenin's ultra low

carbon cement factory, laboratory and on site renewable energy resources. The open event was attended by a number of delegates from approximately 30 major concrete, construction and environmental companies.

Rapid's latest innovation, Trakmix, is a track mounted, totally mobile and self-contained, fully weighed high volume mixing plant. Trakmix was designed in response to the growing demand for a mobile continuous mixing plant which provides easy, cost effective transportation and eliminates the need for special transportational permits.

Customer demand also indicated a need for a machine providing more options on outputs on a different platform, offering flexibility for a wide range of site types and applications.

Trakmix features a number of innovative, patent pending features, including a superior controls system that weighs all materials and double hopper cement weighing system. Other cutting-edge features include low friction surface lining on hoppers, bottom conveyor for easy cleanout and out-loading conveyor for easy discharge.

Trakmix offers outputs of up to 250 tonnes per hour via a high

volume continuous Rapid Twin Shaft mixer and 12.0m³ aggregate hopper, which includes a division plate for two different types of aggregates. The Rapid designed continuous twin-shaft mixer (pugmill) is the largest and fastest continuous mixer on the market, with specially phased shafts and paddles ensuring a homogenous mix for a variety of applications within the concrete, construction and environmental industries.

The Trakmix has been designed with ease of mobility and set up in mind. The machine possesses an entirely self-contained design mounted on tracks including on-board genset, providing mobile flexibility.



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Agricultural Excellence Showcased At Q8 Oils Farm Machinery Shows

AJS Promotions have revealed details of their 2016 Farm Machinery Shows which commence with the Q8 Oils Spring Farm Machinery Show in the prestigious Green Glens Arena, Millstreet, Cork.

Starting at 12 noon through to 10pm on the 20th & 21st January, this extremely popular event will be in its 9th year in 2016 and will showcase all the latest and best 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 26th, 27th & 28th January which continues to attract many thousands of visitors over the three days, generating significant business for exhibitors.

The Q8 Oils Cavan Farm Machinery show will then take place on 3rd & 4th February at the ideally situated Cavan Equestrian Centre; this show has attracted a number of

new exhibitors this year and is definitely one not to be missed.

Then on 17th & 18th February the Q8 Oils Spring Farm and Construction Show will be staged at the brand new Eikon Arena at Balmoral Park, Lisburn which will, as the name suggests, incorporate a large construction element, all in the excellent facilities afforded by the new building.

AJS Promotions are dedicated to offering shows that can continue to develop and provide both exhibitors and visitors with the best experience possible; it is where exhibitors unveil new releases and products, gauge the market for the 12 months ahead and start to fill up their order books.



Every area will be filled to capacity with a huge range of farm machinery and associated products and services.

If you are interested in exhibiting at any of these events or would like further information please

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news

Atlas Copco appoints Alexander Pavlov to manage Irish growth strategy

Atlas Copco Compressors has appointed Alexander Pavlov as Country Manager for its Compressor Technique business in Ireland.

In this new role, he will continue the implementation of an aggressive strategy to strengthen the position of Atlas Copco as a market leader in Ireland.

Alexander states his mission as: "To make sure we grow even stronger than the local economy in Ireland, meaning that we gain market share in the segments where we have not traditionally performed. In the last couple of years, Atlas Copco has invested a lot in the Ireland

organisation, especially in the sales and marketing team. Now we have a much stronger presence in the industrial market and the economic indicators are positive."

These last two factors, plus a number of new compressed air, industrial gas and rough vacuum products, including the recently launched GHS VSD+ vacuum pump that offers average energy savings of up to 50%, makes Atlas Copco Compressors' Irish

sales organisation well-armed to focus exclusively on growth.

"All of our products and services have one property in common, which is that they offer customers sustainable productivity. On top of that we have greatly improved our operational efficiency following the recent implementation of new state-of-the-art ERP and CRM systems."

From Belgium, Alexander's first impressions of the team in Ireland



were very positive. "I am very impressed with the team of 31 people we have in Ireland. We have a great mix of experienced mature colleagues and young high potentials. It's a great pleasure and honour joining such a team."

Datatag ID Launch 'Micro Cesar'

Datatag ID Limited, the power behind the official CESAR Scheme, has launched a new anti-theft system for small tools and equipment at the CITS conference held at JCB's world headquarters in Rocester called Micro CESAR.

Leading insurers, manufacturers and industry bodies have raised the issue of small tool theft and Micro CESAR is the response from the Construction Equipment Association (CEA), who initiated CESAR, and Datatag.

The Micro CESAR identity system, with Datatag technology including a unique RFID tag and a warning/registration label with an integrated QR code, will have the same effect that the CESAR

Scheme has in deterring theft and assisting in recovery.

CESAR, launched in 2007, has contributed to a 70+% reduction in the theft of large construction equipment since launched.

Micro-CESAR is poised to make a similar impact protecting small construction and landscaping equipment such as power tools, cut-off saws, hand-held hydraulic breakers and compaction plates.

As an added bonus to many companies the technology in the Micro-CESAR system can also be used as a stock management tool helping companies track tools in and out of jobs and allowing users to easily access on line health and safety advice and user manuals through the unique QR code and mobile enabled Micro CESAR website.

The 8th annual Combined Industries Theft Solution (CITS)

conference, 'Small tools Big losses' was broad in scope with a range of specialist speakers covering the gamut of crime within the industry. It reflected the industry's concern over the changing shape of equipment theft and was the ideal venue to launch Micro CESAR to not only 200+ construction industry, plant and tool hire delegates, but also over 150 police officers and the trade press.

Hillhead looking forward to largest show yet

Hillhead is on target to have more exhibitors and demonstrations at its 2016 event than ever before; the show is already heading towards another complete sell out.



Major players including Terex Group, Volvo, JCB, Komatsu, Case, Sandvik, Hyundai, Bell, Liebherr, Doosan, Bell, Atlas Copco, Bomag, Wirtgen and McCloskey are all rebooked, as well as a host of other Hillhead regulars and plenty of new and returning companies.

Event director Richard Bradbury explained: 'The rebooking process has been extremely positive

and the buoyancy in the market has been reflected in stand reservations for both existing and new exhibitors. As a result, there is now very little outdoor space left to offer new exhibitors, and the show is expected to be sold out early in the New Year.'

The show takes place from 28-30 June 2016 at Tarmac's Hillhead Quarry, near Buxton.

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Pirtek is said to be the number one fluid transfer solution and onsite repair provider across the north and south of Ireland, so Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out why...



Pirtek's stated mission is to provide the fastest and most convenient service available, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year – and that's exactly what it has been doing from its strategically located depots in Belfast, Cork, Dublin, Limerick, Waterford and Galway.

Its extensive range of products and services is available to customers across many sectors, including Construction & Plant Hire, Material Handling, Mining & Quarrying, Transport & Logistics, Automotive, Utilities and Agriculture.

What makes Pirtek stand out, perhaps, is the fact that no matter where a customer is active across the island of Ireland

and throughout the UK, they are within an hour of help.

"Pirtek is the only truly national onsite hydraulic hose company," says Colin Deane, Area Sales Manager for Ireland & Scotland.

That's significant as construction companies and other contractors are increasingly working far away from base.

"A customer who has an account, say in Belfast, has in effect an account with all of our 80 plus network of depots, whether it be in Cork or Galway, or across the water in Birmingham or Manchester," explains Colin who adds that Pirtek also has on-site teams working in European countries including Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and, most recently, Austria.

"While the network is nationwide, indeed, global, all our depots are owned and operated locally by highly experienced and qualified personnel offering the highest levels of service. We feel this gives our customers the best of both worlds; a local company to deal with but the reassurance of the backing of a global giant!"

Invariably, hydraulic hoses develop faults or need replacing at the most inconvenient times, but Pirtek's service teams

are on call 24/7 all year round to keep a customer's downtime to the absolute minimum.

"Although we carry out routine maintenance, our core business is onsite hose replacement, and more often than not, such work is classed as an 'emergency.' Response time to a customer's call is within the hour, and often much faster."

Clean & Tag

Significantly, Pirtek also clean hoses on fitting to prevent contamination which is a major cause of hydraulic system failure. When a hose is cut particles of rubber, fibre and possibly metal are generated and this will contaminate the inside of the hose. Shaking of the hose or simply blowing air through may





dislodge some of the contamination but not all.

For onsite hose cleaning, Pirtek has had independent technical validation from a UKAS accredited Laboratory (Particle Technology Ltd) that using a foam pellet fired through the hose twice, once in each direction, achieves a level of cleanliness matching that of new hydraulic oil.

Too, every hose assembly is fitted with a unique brightly coloured tag label which contains the details of the hose and the fittings and the date of installation. This makes identification easier for fast replacement. Using this system, a hose can often be assessed and scheduled for replacement before failure occurs.

Service Centres

Pirtek operate six centres across the north and south of Ireland, with a fleet of 26 service vans on the road, with another 350 plus throughout the UK. "Customers using our services can be assured that anyone sent out to fit a hose will not only be fully qualified to City & Guilds level, but, as we have our own national training centre in Birmingham where all our engineers have to complete a two week residential course followed up by refresher classes, they will be trained to the highest standards within the industry."

In addition, all Pirtek depots have a fully stocked trade counter, supplying all types of hydraulic hose, a wide range of hydraulic and engine oils, oil spill products, pneumatics and industrial hose. They also have 'machine shop' facilities to make custom solutions for all types of hydraulic adaptors, power steering pipes and hoses, and air conditioning hoses.

If the depot doesn't have what you need in stock, they each have the expertise, experience and equipment required to manufacture a bespoke solution – now, that's what you call service!

Fluid Power Glove

Of course, Pirtek's 'value added' offering extends beyond hoses and oils. The company has just launched an innovation new product, a fluid power glove, the first of its kind on the market to protect against fluid injection injuries.

The risk of injury through hydraulic injection is common to all hydraulic equipment irrespective of the system volume and can occur at relatively low pressures.

Hydraulic injection injuries are almost entirely occupational and sustained by manual workers, both skilled and unskilled, with injuries mostly sustained to the palm or pads of the digits of the non-dominant



hand. If untreated, hydraulic injection injuries can result in amputation or even death!

During rigorous laboratory testing at the Health & Safety Executive laboratory facilities in Buxton, the injection resistant technology used in Pirtek Fluid Power Glove demonstrated injection resistance at pressures up to 700 Bar (10,150 PSI) from apertures ranging in size from 0.05mm to 0.3mm using standard hydraulic oil.

The lightweight design and dexterity make it a 'must have' PPE garment for all

personnel working on or around hydraulic plant or equipment.

Contacts

Getting in touch with Pirtek throughout the UK and Ireland couldn't be easier, just call anytime and be connected with your depot of choice or the on-call engineer for that area when the depots are closed. From NI: 0800 38 24 38 and ROI: 1800 74 78 35 or download the Pirtek app which gives you easy access to direct numbers for all centres including Belfast, Cork, Aberdeen, Hannover, Nürnberg and beyond.



Executive Hire Show Celebrates its 10th Year with a record number of exhibitors

The 10th annual Executive Hire Show is taking place on the 10th and 11th February 2016 at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry and once again it's set to beat previous Show records with more exhibitors than ever before!

The Executive Hire Show has become a magnet for hire industry professionals and each year its support grows as the biggest name suppliers to the UK hire industry sign on the dotted line to exhibit – the Show may only be a two day event but its reach and its influence continue throughout the hire industry throughout the year.

This year an all-time record of 168 companies have committed to the event, amongst these 40 exhibitors are new to the 2016 Show. The 2015 event attracted 2,102 relevant hire industry visitors and the EHS team is confident that the 2016 Show will beat this record too!

The 2016 exhibitor list is looking very impressive – with many of the key players in the hire sector taking stands. These include Altrad Belle, Atlas Copco, Bomag, Cummins, Doosan, Firefly Clean Energy, GenQuip Groundhog, Greenmech, Hanix, Husqvarna, Ifor Williams, King Highway Products, Knott-Avonride, Kubota, Leica, Mace Industries, Makita, Manitou, Nilfisk ALTO, Obart Pumps, Red Plant, Ridge Tools, Shindaiwa, Sumner, Takeuchi, The Access Platform Company, Thwaites, Topcon, Wilkinson Star, YOKOTA Youngman, Zenith and many more.

Hire professionals visit the event to see the plethora of new products which are showcased - many of which will be seen for the very first time in the UK and in some cases will be

making world debuts. Many exhibitors offer 'show only deals', which makes the show an even better prospect for visitors. Here's a sneak peek at just some of what's going to be on display at the 10th annual Executive Hire Show.

Earthmoving

Takeuchi is back at the Show with more new models that it says fit the bill for hirers! Takeuchi will also be celebrating 20 years of Takeuchi in the UK and Ireland.

On show will be the new three cylinder micro with short tail swing. It powers in at 1180kg and fits through the narrowest entrances, adjusting from 750mm to 1020mm with extendable tracks.

Comfortable and powerful for a micro the new model is the simplest Takeuchi to operate – perfect for the DIY hire. The compact stylish dashboard incorporates travel throttle and blade levers with simple joystick and foot controls.

Kubota UK is showing its new range of wheel loaders and track dumpers. A total of 11 new machines will enter the UK market over the next few months which is the first time that Kubota has launched a whole range of wheel loaders in the company's history.

Kubota say that the RT Series Wheel Loaders have been designed to ensure efficiency and flexibility across a range of tasks and incorporate

a 45-degree articulation-oscillating angle for easy access into small spaces without damaging surfaces.

A&Y Equipment is the importer for Yanmar construction equipment, Ammann and Rammax compaction and excavator attachments together with Prinoth and Cormidi tracked dumpers for the UK and Ireland.

Showing will be a range of Yanmar excavators which have had a colour change this year, from green to black cabs so all the cabbed excavators will have the new black design.

On the JCB stand the brand new JCB 3CX Compact will make its UK exhibition debut. Powered by a 74hp (55kW) low emission Tier 4 Final/Stage IIIB JCB Diesel by Kohler engine, the compact backhoe loader delivers big machine performance for confined job sites.

Doosan Construction Equipment will be presenting products for the plant and tool hire industry from the company's Bobcat, Portable Power and Attachments businesses. Visitors can discover the latest Bobcat ranges of micro- and mini-excavators, skid-steer loaders, compact tracked loaders and telehandlers.

BOMAG will use its 2016 stand to showcase its range of hand guided compaction equipment – on display will be BOMAG plates, reversible plates, single drum rollers and tampers which are available

in 34 models and BOMAG say that they are capable of tackling the toughest jobs.

Avant Tecno (UK) will showcase the recently announced 200 Series of compact tool carriers, a ground-up redesign of the outgoing models and just one example of Avant's continuing commitment to provide the hire industry with a comprehensive choice of innovative equipment.

Avant will also be exhibiting some of its larger machines, together with a selection of the very latest attachments including a new flail, weed brush, lawn mower and a useful, lockable toolbox.

Associations

The CPA (Construction Plant-hire Association) will be exhibiting again for the 10th year running. The association will be promoting its 'Stars of the Future' which is an award scheme, now in its fourth year, for trainees in the plant-hire industry held in conjunction with a number of UK colleges offering plant mechanic apprentice training.

The CPA will also be holding its Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group outreach meeting at the event on the first day of the show.

The HAE (Hire Association Europe) will also be there promoting its services to hire industry professionals.

A full exhibitor list can be found online at www.executivehireshow.co.uk.

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QPANI Meet With Exchequer Secretary Over Aggregates Levy

The Quarry Products Association of Northern Ireland and a number of NI Members of Parliament have met with Exchequer Secretary, Damian Hinds.



Sammy Wilson MP, Gordon Best QPANI Regional Director, Margaret Ritchie MP, Andrew McDowell, UUP Special Advisor

The delegation raised concerns over the continuing negative impact the £2.00 per tonne aggregates levy is having on Northern Ireland quarry and construction material suppliers, particularly those operating near the border with the Irish Republic, and who are faced with competing against imported products not subject to the aggregates levy.

Gordon Best, Regional Director QPANI, who attended the meeting along with Margaret

Ritchie MP and Sammy Wilson MP said: "We greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet with the Minister to brief and inform him about the continuing challenges being faced by the quarry and construction materials sector in Northern Ireland as a result of the high level of aggregates levy in Northern Ireland.

"We also took the opportunity to express, in the strongest terms, our frustration that the current BAA legal challenge against the levy shows no sign of ending. It

is now abundantly clear that the greatest impediment to progress on addressing specific negative outcomes of the aggregates levy in Northern Ireland is the continuing legal case being progressed by the BAA.

"Despite the 13 years of challenge and a number of EU Commission decisions the validity and principle of the Aggregates Levy in the UK has never been questioned! The reality is that the exemption issues that are the current focus of the legal challenge could have been dealt with years ago through negotiation between Industry and the Treasury. The perverse fact that many commentators, and many in the industry, have missed is that the actions of the BAA over the last 13 years has actually increased the amount of levy the Treasury take from UK Quarry Companies."

Imports

The delegation also pressed the Minister on the issue of unfair competition of imported concrete and asphalt products whose aggregate content does not attract the aggregates levy.

"We are pleased that he has instructed officials to consult

with lawyers again to investigate, in more detail, what can be done to protect manufacturers of concrete and asphalt products from aggregates levy free imported products. We now await their reply."

Mr Best added: "We have agreed to continue working together to leave no stone unturned to find solutions to the specific problems being faced in Northern Ireland, within the constraints of the continuing legal challenge of course. This is proving increasingly difficult as the evidence required to gain State Aid approval for another 80% derogation on the level of AGL in Northern Ireland is at present beyond our grasp. In addition new EU State Aid Guidelines will mean any new environmental scheme conditional on achieving a new reduction in AGL would subject the industry in Northern Ireland to significant additional costs.

Realistically there will be no long term review and opportunity to restructure the levy until the current legal case has ended. It is unfortunate and extremely disappointing that the legal merry go round has started again with a new BAA appeal against the latest EU Commission decision."

QPANI Urge More Funding for Road Maintenance

QPANI recently met with Transport NI Chief Executive Andrew Murray and his senior officials over funding for road maintenance.

The Association received the concerning news that in the November monitoring round only £5 million has been released for structural maintenance capital resurfacing and £5 million for resource spend to cover patching, white lining, grass cutting and gully emptying. This funding is to last till the end of the financial year- March 2016, so 2015/16 will turn out to be the worst year ever for levels of structural maintenance resurfacing spending at £20 million. It has normally been an average of £70 million. The questions you may ask are: Is the right message being delivered? Yes, highlighting

findings of the 2010 Snaith Report and using the Departments own statistics!.

Is the message being listened to and understood? Yes, Two Assembly debates and a number of

motions supported by the Regional Development Committee.

Are the right decisions being made? No.

As identified in the 2010 Snaith Report 'planned maintenance of a proper magnitude is able to maintain a road network in a steady condition more cheaply than using reactive techniques or ultimately reconstruction'.

The report highlighted that when there is a decline in the condition of the roads system and therefore an increasing rate of reactive patching this creates an increased public liability claims and, most importantly, an increasing level of backlog maintenance.

In this 2010 report the level of backlog maintenance, was estimated at £726 million and since then it has increased to almost £1 billion.

It is accepted that the condition of Northern Ireland's roads is of vital importance to the economic and social well-being of the country. We are an export focused economy and most of our manufacturing businesses depend on excellent

connectivity with our ports and airports in order to transport their products quickly and efficiently to their customers.

Continued lack of funding for proper Roads Maintenance will only make this terrible situation worse and if proper funding is not made available NOW this will indeed lead to an even worsening vicious downwards spiral of even more money in the medium to long term being spent on poor value reactive maintenance and increasing public liability claims.

The NI Executive plan to publish their 2016/17 budget at the end of January. They must bring forward solutions to ensure the regular maintenance of our Roads Network.



Liebherr's UK facilities in Bedfordshire

Annual Liebherr Tour has the X Factor

Liebherr-Great Britain recent annual information tour at its UK facilities at Biggleswade in Bedfordshire certainly had the X factor, with the world premiere of a new range of wheel loaders.

News of the new XPower generation wheel loaders was announced by Sales Director Martin Gschwend. "Innovations of this scale come once every twenty years at most so this represents a significant milestone in the technological history of Liebherr wheel loaders.

He added: "XPower is more than just a new machine. It is a comprehensive, innovative machine concept that has the new power-split, Stage IV / Tier 4f compatible XPower drivetrain at its heart. Available in the whole range of large Liebherr wheel loaders, from the L 550 to the L 586 model, it has standard bucket sizes from 3.2 to 6.0 cubic metres.

"The new XPower generation has impressed both operators and drivers among our test customers and we believe that the positive results of these intense long-term tests show that our ongoing commitment to higher standards of durability has led to sustainable success."

Each XPower wheel loader is equipped with stronger axles than previous machine generations, while other core components have been strengthened. The power-split, Stage IV / Tier 4f compatible drivetrain at the heart of the XPower is particularly robust, with impressive performance and fuel efficiency. The drive concept combines a hydrostatic drive and a mechanical drive. The hydrostatic drive is the most efficient drive type for material uptake and travelling over short distances. The mechanical drive is the most efficient and powerful option for long distances and for driving uphill.

The new cabs offer the highest standards of comfort with an interior that feels spacious and handy storage options and stacking areas that make the daily life of the driver easier. Displays, operating elements and the driver's seat form an ergonomic unit and can be adjusted to the needs of the individual driver. The movement-following Liebherr operating lever is integrated into the driver's seat as a standard feature and allows accurate and intuitive control of the working and driving functions.

The glass and window areas of the comfort cab are larger and extend further downwards than in earlier wheel loader models to improve visibility on all sides, further enhanced by a reversing camera integrated into the cab's touch screen display.

Future Plans

The press gathering was also treated to a number of presentations outlining Liebherr's sales, distribution and service activities in Great Britain and Ireland.

Stefan Heissler, a member of the directorate of Liebherr-International AG responsible for corporate communication, us that the Group which consists of 11 divisions and more than 130 companies, had enjoyed another year of growth, albeit turnover rising by just over 2%.

"Not only in the area of construction machinery and mining but also in the area that covers our other divisions, we were able to slightly improve our figures overall," he said. There were contrasting fortunes across the various divisions. Tower cranes, for example, showed a



The new Xpower in action

growth of more than 19% while there was a decline of almost 14% in the mining division.

Looking to future prospects, he added: "We have good reason to believe that development in the tower cranes division, in particular, will have a high dynamic. There will also be growth in the divisions of earthmoving and mobile cranes. For concrete technology, the turnover is likely to be in the region of last year's level. Only in mining will there be a decline – the crisis in the global excavation industry is not quite behind us yet.

"This year, too, our investments will be at a high level. We are planning to invest approximately €755 million in our production sites and in sales, distribution and service."

Claire Webber, Business Manager at Liebherr-Great Britain Ltd, said that since moving to the Biggleswade site in 2004, the company has seen remarkable growth.

"Back in 2005 our Earthmoving division sold just 149 units in the UK and Ireland, and in 2015 the number will be close to 300. Similarly in the Mobile Crane market, our sales have grown from around 40 units to now 140 units. Our revenues have increased by 68 % between 2005 and 2015. Our workforce has also grown in that time, then we employed some 220 personnel, and today the workforce of Liebherr-Great Britain Ltd. is 350."

The company has now outgrown its Biggleswade facilities and has acquired a further six hectares of land adjacent to the existing operation where it intends to build a new machine preparation centre, spare parts distribution and expand its training area and new machine storage capacity. The total investment of this intended project could exceed £10m.

Plant Hoses Continues To Expand With New Depot in Coleraine

Plant Hoses continues to go from strength to strength, with its recently opened depot in Coleraine helping the company to further build on its already well established customer base across Northern Ireland.

This modern, progressive company was established 13 years ago with just two on-site hydraulic hose vans selling, fixing and replacing hydraulic machinery and equipment.

Having outgrown its facilities on the Newpark Industrial Estate in Antrim, the company opened a modern and spacious depot at Mallusk in Newtownabbey in 2014. It was an immediate success with customers, as has the new depot on the Bushmills Road in Coleraine.

The rapid expansion has been driven by the continuous demand for its many services. With its new depot, Plant Hoses is even more unbeatable



when it comes to the response times that the company is already renowned for.

Backed up by a fleet of fully equipped on-site mobile workshop vans operated

by experienced service engineers, the company services a wide range of sectors, including Construction, Building, Engineering, Quarrying and Agriculture.

The company carries all sizes, types and working pressures of hydraulic hoses and fittings, compatible with petroleum, water, steam and synthetic based fluids for mobile equipment, lube line, blow-out prevention, hydraulic lifts and construction machinery.

If on a rare occasion it cannot supply a relevant part or product over the counter, it can source it quickly and usually have it available first thing the next morning.

As is the case at the Mallusk depot, the new Coleraine trade centre is open from 8.00 am – 5.30 pm Mon – Fri and its out-of-hours call out service is available 24 hours a day on 0800 111 4247.

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PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY **AWARDS** 2015



AWARD WINNERS *IN PROFILE*



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Awards Night a Resounding Success as Industry Celebrates in Style

The return of our Plant, Construction and Quarry Awards has been a resounding success, with a night to remember when everyone was a winner!

All areas of the industry were strongly represented at the gala evening at the Ramada Hotel in Belfast where 400 plus gathered to celebrate the successes of the past year across the plant, construction and quarrying sectors.

While there were well deserved winners in all 14 categories, the night in many ways belonged to TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd's Managing Director Andy Magowan who received a standing ovation when he picked up the 'Special Recognition' award for his services to the industry over the past four decades.

"This is not something I was expecting; it is not deserved at all," said a modest Andy, who added: "It has been a pleasure

working for TBF Thompson for the past 45 years and, yes, I am delighted to receive this award. I have made many friends in this industry over the years and I wish them every success for the future."

The night, of course, was one long celebration to mark the achievements of many across all sectors of our industry which plays a vital role within the Irish, the UK and, indeed, the global economy.

"We believe the very best in our industry deserve recognition, whether you operate in the construction sector, in quarrying or civil engineering – or in the supply of plant and other products and services," said Plant & Civil Engineer magazine's General

Manager Justin Carrigan.

"Clearly, there is a wealth of talent right across the board, employing state of the art technologies.... innovation....and versatility... working on infrastructure and highway projects...new buildings and retail outlets... and a whole lot more.

Much of this work goes unnoticed, but tonight we are going to try to put that right." The chosen charity for the night was McMillan Cancer Support with guests contributing an outstanding total of £3,700!

This awards evening, of course, would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors, those who submitted entries into the 14 different categories and

those who took the time and effort to be in attendance; to all we say 'Thank You!'

And a big 'thank you,' too, to our expert and independent panel of judges for taking time out of their busy schedules to assess all of the entries. They included Gordon Best from QPANI, Pat Lyons, Art McNally, Kevin McShane, Chair of the Professional Council Construction Industry Group, Barry Neilson, Chief Executive CITBNI, and Lloyd Walker from Lloyds School of Motoring.

So who won what and why at the awards evening, which was hosted by well known BBC sports broadcaster Adrian Logan? All is revealed in this special supplement...

AWARD WINNERS

Construction Company of the Year
GEDA CONSTRUCTION

Health & Safety Award
WHITEMOUNTAIN

Civil Engineering Company of the Year
GRAHAM CONSTRUCTION

Heavy Haulage Operator of the Year
**DONNELL & ELLIS
HEAVY HAULAGE LTD**

Plant Hire Company of the Year
KDM HIRE LTD

Construction Project of the Year
GRAHAM CONSTRUCTION

Tipper Driver of the Year
THOMAS TAFTS

Sand and Gravel Quarry of the Year
**CREAGH CONCRETE
PRODUCTS LTD**

Tipper Operator of the Year
FP McCANN LTD

Sand and Gravel Quarry
Manager of the Year
COLM SCULLION

Hardrock Quarry of the Year
**WHITEMOUNTAIN &
KEEGAN GROUP**

High Achiever of the Year
DARREN McMILLAN

Hardrock Quarry Manager of the Year
ALEX ROBINSON

The Plant & Civil Engineer Special
Recognition Award
ANDY MAGOWAN MBE

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Construction Company of the Year
Close Brothers

Health & Safety Award
Pat O'Donnell & Co.

Civil Engineering Company
of the Year
VP Groundforce

Heavy Haulage Operator of the Year
Topaz

Plant Hire Company of the Year
Cowan Bros NI Case

Construction Project of the Year
First Trust Bank

Tipper Driver of the Year
DAF & TBF Thompson

Sand and Gravel Quarry of the Year
Powerscreen Ireland

Tipper Operator of the Year
Scania and Road Trucks

Sand and Gravel Quarry
Manager of the Year
**Hitachi &
TBF Thompson**

Hardrock Quarry of the Year
Powerscreen

High Achiever of the Year
Sleator Plant & Terex

Hardrock Quarry Manager
of the Year
**Terex Finlay &
Ormonde Machinery**

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CONSTRUCTION COMPANY OF THE YEAR

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**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

GEDA CONSTRUCTION

L-R: Adrian Logan, Eugene McKenna of Geda and Ciaran McAreavey, Close Brothers

The FINALISTS: Geda Construction, M&L Contracts Ltd, Whitemountain and Lagan Ferroviai Costain CJV

With more than three decades of delivering specialist civil engineering and construction projects, Geda Construction has developed a strong and award winning reputation.

Based just outside Dungannon, the company operates throughout the UK and Ireland, offering a one-stop solution in the specialised fields of civil engineering, commercial building and property development.

The company's many successfully completed projects include

WwTWs, pipelines and reservoirs, and it has also gained a solid and widely recognised reputation in building eco homes.

Commented the awards judges:

"GEDA is a company that blends expertise with high end sustainable construction. Through investing in the skills and expertise of their staff, they are able to work closely with clients, designers and stakeholders to enhance the project brief and develop innovative ideas that help deliver sustainable, energy efficient and cost effective solutions."

Notable past projects include the Bushmills / Portballintrae

WwTW and pipelines scheme which won the Utilities Category in the CEF Excellence in Construction Awards.

Another is the Strabane Household Recycling Centre which involved extensive site clearance, demolition of an existing agricultural building, cut/fill bulk earthworks and the construction of steel framed buildings including office accommodation, a large mechanical workshop and a waste transfer building.

Works also included construction of concrete & modular block retaining walls, realignment and upgrade of external public

access road, street lighting, CCTV system, installation of drainage and sewerage systems, diversion of existing services including overhead and underground NIE, BT and NIW infrastructures extensive landscaping and all associated mechanical and electrical works.

Also recently completed by the company is the construction of 39 social and affordable zero carbon homes for Choice Housing in Carryduff. The houses were built to Code 5 of the Code for Sustainable Homes which is the first development built to this standard in Northern Ireland.

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HEALTH & SAFETY AWARD

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AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

WHITEMOUNTAIN

L-R: Adrian Logan, Gordon Best and PJ O'Donnell, Pat O'Donnell & Co

The FINALISTS: Kilwaughter Chemical Company Ltd, Whitemountain and Morrow Contracts Ltd

Whitemountain is an established and experienced civil engineering contractor, having completed an extensive range of projects in the UK and Ireland including roads, airfields and construction site works sectors.

It is a company that is committed to ensuring the highest standards of Health and Safety for its employees, subcontractors,

visitors, customers and members of the public who may be affected by the work it carries out.

This year it received a Silver Award from the Considerate Constructors Scheme, being one of only two companies from Northern Ireland to do so in 2015.

Its capability ranges from sub-structures, ground stabilisation, groundworks, major enabling schemes, road construction, bridgeworks, environmental improvements, urban regeneration, infrastructure works and airfield construction.

Public sector clients include national and local authorities in the roads, education and health sectors, while private sector clients include principal construction contractors, airport operators and other commercial clients. It works with customers, clients and partners in a range of roles, consistently aiming to deliver for all parties.

Safety is paramount to the company and the awards judges were impressed by the way Whitemountain had established a comprehensive Integrated Management System, designed to help the company prevent

injury and ill health among its employees, as well as providing a high quality service and product, and preventing pollution to the environment through a proactive approach.

Part of the Lagan Group, one of Ireland's most successful and diverse construction and civil engineering companies, Whitemountain's original quarrying operations date back over fifty years, and today the company, apart from supplying its own needs, exports superior quality aggregates and surfacing products to major UK and European-based contractors.

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CIVIL ENGINEERING COMPANY OF THE YEAR

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AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

GRAHAM CONSTRUCTION

L-R: Adrian Logan, Stephen McFaul, Graham Construction and Ruairi O'Neill, Groundforce

The FINALISTS: AG Wilson Civil Engineering, Campbell Contracts Ltd, Morrow Contracts Ltd and Graham Construction

GRAHAM is a multi-skilled organisation operating in the construction, asset management and project investment sectors offering services to a diverse range of clients in the UK and Ireland.

The business is focused on building and maintaining the infrastructure we all rely on in everyday life. The company win work through positive personal relationships, understanding client needs and priorities, being innovative in the solutions it develops and delivers what and when it promises.

Across its operating companies its

aims are to deliver 'best-in-class' levels of performance for clients, to deliver long term sustainable growth in turnover and profits providing a stimulating, rewarding work environment for employees and to produce a return for shareholders ahead of its competitors.

GRAHAM Construction is the largest subsidiary in the Group and delivers building and civil engineering projects for both public and private sector clients.

With an impressive track record, it provides a comprehensive service through Design and Build, Public Private Partnership (PPP), Framework Partnering and traditional contracts throughout the UK and Ireland. Its construction expertise is founded on an extensive portfolio gained across all major forms of procurement.

Working through a network of regional offices, the strength of its team lies in its ability to combine local presence and knowledge with an absolute focus on client's requirements and a standard of service that repeatedly delivers quality construction projects in a safe, professional and sustainable manner.

In addition GRAHAM can also boast a long track record in all aspects of civil engineering from major infrastructure projects in the water, road and bridges sectors to specialist expertise in structural solutions, marine, transport, nuclear and energy sectors. Working independently, or as part of a joint venture partnership, its Civil Engineering team also retains the capability to bring extensive experience combined with local knowledge to deliver in any part of the UK and Ireland.

It has been involved in some of the most prestigious projects undertaken in the regions within which it operates, including the M80 Stepps to Haggs project in central Scotland, the iconic Samuel Beckett Bridge in Dublin and the M1/M2/ Westlink upgrades in Belfast.

The awards judges commented that while each of the finalists had individual reasons why they excelled in a particular sector, GRAHAM demonstrated an overall excellence in all the categories. "They demonstrated how they achieved positive personal relationships, how they understood the client needs and priorities, how they were innovative in the solutions they developed and delivered and how this aligned with their commitment to the client."

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Groundforce is one of the premium providers to the construction and civil engineering industry across Ireland, north and south.

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David Monteith of Terex Finlay; Gareth Robinson of Robinson Concrete; and Raymond Murphy of Ormonde Machinery.



Hugh McNally, Peter Allen and Robin Fleming, of Grahams Construction.



John Marks, Roadtrucks; Martin Hay, Scania; and Pat Grant, Granco.

15 ➤ 33A

15 ➤ 34A

15 ➤ 35A



Sonya Martin of Martrain with Hugh Smith, Damian Kerin, Rob Ireland and Chris Arthur, of Dennison Commercials.



Susan Dalzell and Noel Hamilton of Maxol Lubricants.



Brian Lynch, TBF Thompson; Darren McKinstry Skip Hire; Golda Burrows, Sustainable Ireland; Michael Millar, KDM Hire; and Mark McKinstry, McKinstry Skip Hire.



KDM Hire Team



Award winners and sponsors



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HEAVY HAULAGE OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

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AWARDS 2015

WINNER: **DONNELL & ELLIS HEAVY HAULAGE LTD**

L-R: Adrian Logan, William Donnell, Donnell and Ellis and Ray Dplan, Topaz

**The FINALISTS: Donnell & Ellis Heavy Haulage Ltd,
Mar-Train Heavy Haulage Ltd and Govern Low Loader Transport**

Since its founding in the early 90's, Donnell & Ellis Heavy Haulage Ltd has, year on year, invested heavily in time, equipment and capital to ensure a thriving business to serve its ever growing customer base.

Originally established to transport for Finlay Hydrascreen, it has over the years grown to provide heavy

haulage facilities to companies throughout Ireland, GB and Europe.

Donnell & Ellis was described by the awards judges as 'a world class' operator that has spent the last two decades building a highly successful supply route to Europe for the heavy engineering industry, as well as serving the needs of the local construction sector.

With a fleet of 30 trucks and an extensive range of 75 trailers, all of which are well maintained and serviced to keep them

compliant, the company is also accredited under the rigorous criteria of the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme.

Earlier this year, the company opened a new depot on the site of the former Nestle factory on the Beltany Road outside Omagh. The 11 acre site offers the company much more yard space, as well as administration, garage, workshop and storage facilities.

As the business continues to grow, the company has also taken on

extra personnel – and increased its fleet with the recent addition of a new Limited Edition Scania R730 LA6x2 Topline Golden Griffin, one of only a handful in the Province, produced to mark Scania's 50 years in the UK.

Now even better placed to serve its expanding customer base in the years ahead, the company has built up a wealth of experience over the past two decades, moving loads that range from the normal, abnormal and heavy to the very unusual.

SPONSORS



Topaz is the largest fuels and convenience retailer on the island of Ireland. Topaz, which is a fully Irish owned and managed company, has 350 retail sites in total and employs over 1,500 staff.

This multi award winning company and industry leader is continuing to expand its operations in Northern Ireland and it

now has 38 retail sites here as well as an expanding commercial fuels business.

"Every day we strive to do better for our customers by delivering world class service and standards. We aim to provide exceptional service and innovative products that make peoples' lives easier. We put our customer first and hope to exceed their expectations in everything we do."

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PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

KDM HIRE LTD

L-R: Adrian Logan, Michael Donnelly, KDM Hire and Rick Morris, Case Construction

The FINALISTS: Balloo Hire, CP Hire, Dromad Hire, Groundforce and KDM Hire Ltd

In what was a closely contested category, KDM impressed the judges with its extensive product offering from two strategically located and purpose built depots staffed by a team of knowledgeable and motivated employees.

KDM Hire was established in 1990 and celebrated 25 years in business in January 2015. It was founded by Keith McIvor to provide a quality hire service to

the local area and since those humble beginnings has grown to become one of the top 100 rental companies in the UK and has won numerous awards for quality, service and customer care. Today, the company operates from a six acre site on the main Cookstown to Dungannon road in Tyrone, with a second depot at Mallusk outside Belfast. Since 1999 it has developed a number of specialist hire divisions to cater for the specific needs of its customers requiring products outside the scope of the normal plant and tool hire range. Each division is managed independently within KDM and

offers a full range of products to ensure customers are provided with a complete hire service.

For example, it supplies a large variety of non operated plant and tools for hire, ranging from drills and lawn mowers through to 13t excavators, rollers and dumpers. Other products include traffic management equipment, pumps, lighting towers, scaffolding, welding equipment and temporary fencing.

It also hires an extensive range of material handling equipment for industrial or construction applications including forklifts, telehandlers and skid steer loaders, as well as an extensive range of equipment suitable for hosting

almost any event, whether it's a sporting occasion, concert, festival, social gathering or private party.

A variety of additional and supporting services are also offered to complement the hire business, including LOLER inspection, 24 call out, installation and commissioning, and fuel management.

The second time the company has won this particular award, KDM also has registered training centres at both depots, being accredited by the International Powered Access Federation and the Prefabricated Access Supplier & Manufacturers Association.

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CONSTRUCTION PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



L-R: Adrian Logan, The Graham Construction Team and Robert Deane, First Trust Bank

The FINALISTS: Geda Construction, Lagan Ferroviai Costain, M&L Contracts Ltd, Graham Construction and Whitemountain

GRAHAM Construction delivers building and civil engineering projects for both public and private sector clients, providing a comprehensive service through Design and Build, Public Private Partnership, Framework Partnering and traditional contracts throughout the UK and Ireland.

With its construction expertise founded on an extensive portfolio gained across all major forms of

procurement, the strength of its Building team lies in its ability to combine local presence and knowledge with an absolute focus on client's requirements and a standard of service that repeatedly delivers quality construction projects in a safe, professional and sustainable manner.

This award was in recognition of its work on the A2 Shore Road upgrade between Jordanstown Road and Troopers Lane in Carrickfergus.

Commented the awards judges: "This winning project exemplifies that construction is about a lot more than bringing together a collection of materials to create something new. It's about

managing the working environment and the many uncontrollable factors that impact the delivery of a design from the plans to reality.

"In 28 months this team delivered 1.9 km of on-line and 1.6 km of off-line dual carriageway, including new roundabouts, access roads and cycle lanes. But what made this project so notable, is that this had to be done while managing a traffic flow of 35,000 vehicles a day along the route of the project"

The team on the project also had to work closely with the nearby university and schools to programme areas of work to coincide with holiday periods. The close proximity of the work to more than 130 properties,

the delicate issue of providing access at all times and minimising noise meant that communication with residents and stakeholders was a major factor in the smooth delivery of the project.

Health & Safety was also a major factor in the execution of the project, making relevant training vitally important to ensure all staff and those in proximity to the site were safe.

With over 90% of the workforce attaining a CSCS card or equivalent, GRAHAM Construction was the first contractor in Northern Ireland to be awarded the CSCS Platinum Certificate.

SPONSORS



First Trust Bank has 32 branches across Northern Ireland. They offer a full range of financial products & services to the SME sector.

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TIPPER DRIVER OF THE YEAR

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**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNER:
THOMAS TAFTS
R.J. McNABNEY

L-R: Adrian Logan, Thomas Tafts and Walter Hopkins, DAF Trucks

**The FINALISTS: Michael Burns - Morrow Contracts Ltd,
Thomas Tafts - RJ McNabney and Sydney Hamilton - Carryduff Building Supplies Ltd**

All finalists in this closely category were highly commended by the judges, but it was Thomas Tafts from contractors RJ McNabney who stood out during what was a rigorous practical test.

The judges said Thomas had demonstrated a high standard of safety awareness at all times with

regard to both himself and those in close proximity of his truck.

"Throughout his assessment, he exercised excellent driver skills as well as high levels of safety when operating the tipper during the loading and unloading process; his years of experience behind the wheel shone through. He was safety conscious at all times during the test"

"This is a driver who also takes great pride in keeping his vehicle in tip top condition inside

and out. It was immaculately presented on the day."

RJ McNabney was formed in 1983 by Robert McNabney and his brother Ivor, initially offering agricultural services to the local farming community.

Through dedication and hard work, the business soon began to grow and before long a move into general haulage activities resulted in more trucks being added to the fleet. Robert's two sons, Roger and Robin, have

also now joined the business.

The company fleet currently consists of six concrete mixers, three tippers and two diggers, and supplies ready mix concrete, aggregates and agricultural lime to customers throughout Northern Ireland.

Like Thomas, all drivers have acquired their CPC, as well as meeting the standards required by the Construction Skills Register (CSR) allowing them to operate onsite.

SPONSORS



This year marks 20 years of UK market leadership for DAF TRUCKS, and that has been achieved through close partnership with its network of 140 dealers across the UK and Ireland.

Here in Northern Ireland DAF have been represented by TBF Thompson for those same twenty successful years. After achieving the top-rated status in DAF Trucks' Standards of Excellence programme this

year, the TBF Thompson dealer group continues to achieve consistently high standards of service.

Operating originally from its single location in Garvagh, TBF Thompson has since expanded its geographical presence with premises in Mallusk and Portadown. All three locations boast state-of-the-art workshop facilities, plus large stocks of genuine DAF and TRP parts.



Emma Harrison and Stephen McFaul, of Graham Construction.



Gerry Gallagher, Liam Conway, KDM Hire; John McElwaine, Ian Alexander, Alexander Plant; and Michael Donnelly, KDM Hire.



MacMillan Cancer Support were presented with a cheque for £3,700 from Garfield Harrison, Justin Carrigan and Helen Beggs, Plant&Civil Engineer



Adrian Logan



Justin Carrigan, Plant&Civil Engineer



Connor Magee and Katrina Quinn, of Anaconda.



David Johnston, McCreith Taylor; Brian Beattie, MAN; Golda Burrows of Plant&Civil Engineer; and David Kerr of McCreith Taylor.



Jonathan Campbell, Mark Cobain, Brian Frizzell and Aaron McCaul of Sleator Plant.

PCE-AWARDS15-011

PCE-AWARDS15-012

PCE-AWARDS15-013



Andy Magowan of TBF Thompson with BJ Toal and Brian Toal of JB Plant.



Walter Hopkins of DAF with Alan Espie and John Purdy of TBF Thompson.



Ciaran Grant, Aaron Grant and Richard Wilson, of Grantco.

15 11A

15 12A

15 13A

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AWARDS 2015**

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SAND AND GRAVEL QUARRY OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



WINNER:

CREAGH CONCRETE PRODUCTS LTD BRACKAGH PIT

**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

L-R: Adrian Logan, Colm Scullion and Conor McGlone of Creagh Concrete and Damien Quinn, Powerscreen Ireland

The FINALISTS: Tobermore Concrete - Lough Fea, Campbell Contracts Ltd - Tempo Quarry, Keegan Group and Creagh Concrete Products Ltd - Brackagh Pit

Established in 1976, Creagh Concrete has grown to become one of the largest and most innovative producers of concrete products for a diverse range of market sectors throughout Ireland and the UK; its Brackagh sand and gravel quarry supplies most of the virgin aggregate that goes into its concrete products.

The company operates from its head office in Toomebridge, with bases in Ardboe, Dunloy, Draperstown and Magheraglass and also at Nottingham, England and Edinburgh, Scotland.

The Brackagh quarry was recognised for the way it is managed and operated to the highest health and safety and environmental standards of ISO 18000 and ISO 14000.

The quarry has hosted a number of Quarry Products Association NI events including this year's RSPB Restore Project at which the guest of honour, Environment Minister Mark Durkan spoke highly of the company's

stewardship of the environment.

The site also hosted one of this year's QPANI / Northern Ireland Environment Agency Pollution Prevention Workshops.

The company also participates in the Mineral Products Association Safer By Competence initiative and the site has also hosted one of the HSENI / QPANI safety workshops earlier this year.

The company is about to increase its use of renewable energy to reduce its carbon footprint with the erection of three wind turbines and has a significant ongoing restoration scheme, advised by the RSPB, involving blanket bog

and upland heath reclamation.

In addition, it has a biodiversity action plan in place and is also working with the Woodland Trust to increase indigenous tree planting.

It was a double success for the company at the awards night, with Creagh Concrete's Colm Scullion also being named as 'Sand and Gravel Quarry Manager of the Year'.

Commented a company spokesman: "We were delighted with a double win. These awards are testimony to the team work at our quarry base in Brackagh and highlight the commitment displayed by the staff who make Creagh the success that it is."

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Kevin McShane, Chairman of CIG Professional Council; Louise Dougan, NI Chair CIHT; and Gordon Best, Regional Director of Quarry Products Association.



Patricia Treacy entertaining the audience

PCE-AWARDS15-066

PCE-AWARDS15-067

PCE-AWARDS15-068



15 66A



15 67A



15 68A

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TIPPER OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

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**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

FP McCANN LTD

L-R: Adrian Logan, Chris McCloy, Martin Hay, Scania and Callan Doherty of FP McCann

The FINALISTS: Carryduff Building Supplies Ltd, FP McCann Ltd, Creagh Concrete Products Ltd and RJ McNabney

FP McCann has carved out a successful business to meet the needs of a diverse range of customers across the construction and quarrying sectors throughout the UK and Ireland.

Through its quarries, surfacing, readymix and precast plants, FP McCann supplies a wide range of heavy building materials to the construction industry, offering a range of sustainable and

innovative product solutions that complement its standard package of products and services.

Every truck in its extensive fleet is employed to its maximum potential, transporting black-top, ready-mix, sand & aggregates and precast concrete products and last year travelled in excess of three million miles.

These vehicles can be deployed anytime 24 hrs a day and 7 days a week from the company's various locations across Northern Ireland and the mainland to ensure customers and contracts needs are met promptly and efficiently.

The vehicles are managed by a dedicated transport team who

use bespoke software developed in-house by the company's own software engineers to ensure all vehicles are fully utilised to their maximum potential.

This software includes vehicle tracking, vehicle maintenance and repair management. This also integrates with its distribution software to capture all dispatches from the company's 14 depots situated throughout the UK.

FP McCann, headquartered at Knockloughrim near Magherafelt in County Londonderry, is a company committed to providing high quality, cost effective and sustainable solutions tailored to meet customers' budgets

and expectations, serving the construction industry throughout the UK and Ireland.

The company has secured and completed an extensive portfolio of award winning construction work in Northern Ireland; these include projects in the public sector areas of health, education, water and transport infrastructure, and private industrial and commercial developments. In addition to this, the company is the UK's largest manufacturer of precast concrete products and serves the construction industry throughout the UK and Ireland.

SPONSORS



Voted Truck of the Year for 2015, Scania's award winning range includes the UK's best selling eight-wheel tipper chassis.

That vehicle, together with all other models in the Scania range, is marketed in Northern Ireland via Scania's long-standing dealer for the Province, Road Trucks Limited, who themselves were winners of the Export and Freight

Excellence in Customer Service Award 2015.

Scania also has its own UK finance-provider, Scania Finance Great Britain Limited.

This company's team of in-house industry specialists provide support to the UK Scania dealer network to ensure operators are able to acquire their vehicles in the most cost-effective manner in every case.



Robert Deane and Oliver Hughes of First Trust.



Harry McQuillan, Roadtrucks; Art McNally and Marie McNally; and Ian and Lloyd Hayes of Ian Hayes Haulage.



Mark Little, Leo McAleer and Shane McKenna, of Grahams Construction.



Cecil Doherty, Gary Coburn, Adrian Madden, Ciaran McAreavey and Tony O'Neill, of Close Brothers, with Helen Beggs of Plant & Civil Engineer.



John Kerrigan and Martin Graham of Leica Geosystems.



Lloyd Walker, David Williams, Paul Castle and Jason Hill, of Lloyds Driving School.



Andy Magowan MBE with his Special Recognition Award and Helen Beggs, Plant & Civil Engineer.



Sonya and Tim Martin of Martrain.



Alastair Alexander, Cowan Brothers; John Hilton, Case Construction; Lyn Campbell and Oliver Young of Cowan Brothers; and Rick Morris of Case New Holland.

SAND & GRAVEL QUARRY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

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WINNER:

COLM SCULLION
CREAGH CONCRETE PRODUCTS LTD

**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

L-R: Adrian Logan, Colm Scullion and Alan Espie, TBF Thompson

The FINALISTS: William Paul, Tobermore Concrete and Colm Scullion, Creagh Concrete Products Ltd

Colm Scullion's has worked as Quarry Manager at Brackagh Pit since it was acquired by Creagh Concrete in 1992, having previously been employed as a lorry driver and then as a plant operator.

He is a qualified internal auditor, has an IOSHH Managing Safely qualification and is an enthusiastic member of the Institute Of Quarrying.

What really impressed the awards judges was Colm's commitment to safety and environmental best practice. "The site safety record, his focus on regular maintenance of plant and machinery, carrying out safety inspections, delivering tool box talks, including some he has developed himself, are all testament to Colm's leadership at Brackagh Pit"

However, Colm's commitment extends much wider into the local community. He is a keen country sports participant and has small collection of rare breed animals that he takes and

shows around the community. His hosting of Church groups, his involvement in the Moyola Angling Club, and his management of trespassing issues at the quarry with young people have improved the company's and the industry's image in the locality.

Established in 1976, Creagh Concrete has grown to become one of the largest and most innovative producers of concrete products for a diverse range of market sectors throughout Ireland and the UK including construction, civil engineering, house building, gardening and agricultural.

The company operates from its head office in Toomebridge, with bases in Ardboe, Dunloy, Draperstown and Magheraglass and also at Nottingham, England and Edinburgh, Scotland.

Under Colm's management, the Brackagh sand and gravel quarry, which supplies most of the virgin aggregate that goes into its concrete products, has hosted a number of QPANI events including this year's RSPB Restore Project, as well as this year's QPANI / Northern Ireland Environment Agency Pollution Prevention Workshops.

SPONSORS

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Reliable solutions



Hitachi Construction Machinery (UK) Limited is a key player in the UK excavator market, leading the way in product and service innovation. Its headquarters based in Hebburn, South Tyneside, operate on a seven-acre site on the Monkton Business Park, with a nationwide support network of branches across England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

With over 30 years at the forefront of the plant industry, its machinery and customer relationships are built to stand the test of time.

Hitachi, considered to be the inventor of the 360 degree excavator, is represented here by TBF Thompson and together work to bring you one of the most extensive ranges of excavators on offer.

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HARDROCK QUARRY OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by



**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNERS:
**WHITEMOUNTAIN
CAM QUARRY
AND
KEEGAN GROUP
TRAMMON QUARRY**

L-R: Adrian Logan, Damien Quinn and Gordon Best on behalf of Keegan Group and Whitemountain and Joe Cassidy, Powerscreen

The FINALISTS: Whitemountain - Cam Quarry, Robinson Quarry Masters - Glenwherry Quarry, Boville-Mcmullan Ltd - Tully Quarry and Keegan Group - Trammon Quarry

The awards judges say that arriving at a winner in this category was challenging given the high standard of entries, so for the very first time this was jointly awarded to two companies that shone through and could not be separated.

Whitemountain was recognised for its operations at its Cam Quarry outside Coleraine in Co Antrim, while the Keegan Group received similar honours for its Trammon Quarry in Co. Meath. Commenting on Whitemountain's

winning quarry, the awards judges said: "Professionalism is the key word to be used in all of the activities at Cam quarry where a third party integrated management system covers quality, Health & Safety, and Environmental Management. "Of particular note was the significant investment at Cam, not just on revenue creating plant, but on improving the facilities and working environment there for both employees and contractors." Whitemountain is an established and experienced civil engineering contractor, having completed an extensive range of projects in the UK and Ireland including roads, airfields and construction site works sectors.

Part of the Lagan Group, one of Ireland's most successful and diverse construction and civil engineering companies, Whitemountain's original quarrying operations date back over fifty years, and today the company, apart from supplying its own needs, exports superior quality aggregates and surfacing products to major UK and European-based contractors.

KEEGAN QUARRY

Meanwhile, the award judges praised the family run Keeganb Groups for its 'great determination and passion to succeed and innovate.' And they added: "Adopting an attitude of keeping it simple and safe, while producing the highest quality products and services, has seen this operation through challenging times."

With over 20 years' experience in the construction industry, the Keegan Group has two successful divisions – Keegan Quarries and Keegan Precast. Headquartered in Co. Meath, the Keegan Group manufactures and supplies a wide range of products including concrete, aggregates, fill products, sand, gravel and blocks for distribution to commercial and domestic customers. Its Precast Division designs, manufactures and erects precast concrete walls, filigree floor slabs and tanks for customers in the UK and Ireland. Its commitment to customers is evident in its continuous investment in plant and equipment ensuring best practice remains in place.

SPONSORS



Powerscreen is a global leader in the design and manufacture of highly efficient and highly reliable equipment for the quarrying, mining and recycling industries. Headquartered in Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, Powerscreen is Northern Ireland's largest crushing and screening equipment manufacturer with hundreds of machine

sales per year. A passionate team and dealer network worldwide hold safety and customer support as number one goals. In 2016 the company celebrates 50 years of power in this competitive but rewarding industry and looks forward to the next 50 successful years.



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WINNER:

DARREN McMILLAN
LAGAN CEMENT PRODUCTS

**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

L-R: Adrian Logan, Darren McMillan, Paul McPherson, Terex and Jonathan Campbell, Sleator Plant

The FINALISTS: Andrew Hutchinson - CP Hire Ltd, Ruairi O'Neill - Groundforce Ireland, Darren McMillan - Lagan Cement Products and Whitemountain

Darren McMillan has worked in the concrete industry for 25 years and has developed strong relationships with both customers and industry peers, which has been invaluable in achieving both business and personal development.

The awards judges praised him for his personal drive, passion and leadership skills which are well known across the industry.

"His work as a team member within the QPANI Concrete

Development Group, as former chairman of the QPANI Concrete Technical Committee and work within the Concrete Society has greatly improved the image of the concrete sector and changed opinions of architects and designers to make concrete the construction material of choice."

They also referred to his charitable works. In 2014, Darren identified an opportunity for his company, Lagan Cement Products, and the industry to promote cancer awareness by painting two mixer trucks, one pink and the other powder blue, to highlight 'Action Man' cancer and 'Breast Cancer' campaigns.

With the support of his company and colleagues, they raised much needed funds for the local charity through many fund raising events which included marathon running, coffee mornings, bag packing, head shaving and this year their biggest event so far, a Concrete Truck Pull which took place in September at the former Maze Prison site in Lisburn. To date they have raised approx. £20,000 for Action Cancer.

Lagan Cement Products Ltd. is a subsidiary of Lagan Cement Group and has four divisions involved in the supply of construction materials: Lagan Cement, Roadmix Concrete, Lagan Sand and Lagan Tile.

Lagan Cement manufactures various type of bulk and bagged cement in their own ultra-modern facility on a 500 acre site located at Kinnegad, County Westmeath that produces sustainable cement by using a range of fuels including those derived from waste.

Roadmix Concrete has four modern ready-mixed concrete depots strategically placed to service the Greater Belfast area and produces a range of quality certified concrete and concrete blocks including specifically designed concrete mixes to the requirements for specific applications.

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HARDROCK QUARRY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

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MATERIAL PROCESSING SYSTEMS



WINNER:

ALEX ROBINSON
ROBINSON QUARRY MASTERS LTD

PLANT & CIVIL
engineer
PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

L-R: Adrian Logan, Alex Robinson and Conal Mullan, Ormonde Machinery

**The FINALISTS: Alex Robinson - Robinson Quarry Masters Ltd,
Stanley McFall - Whitemountain and Jimmy McClean - Boville McMullan**

The awards judges were full of praise for Alex Robinson, describing him as a manager with 'passion, leadership and a hand-on approach.'

They added: "In the modern business world where many managers appear to be 'wedded' to their laptops, Alex seems to be able to spend significant time in and around the business.

"Alex has instilled a very positive

attitude amongst his colleagues and we have no doubt that this approach has been a key part of the life span and success of the business. It's impossible to have a conversation with Alex or a trip around the quarry with him without picking up on his passion not only for the family business but for the industry as a whole.

"It is such that somehow in a world of severe time pressures Alex has been able to pass his passion for quarrying onto other industry members through his regular attendance at Institute meetings, and more importantly

he has made time to impart both his knowledge and love of the industry to schoolchildren and other members of the public visiting the quarry - important as the industry seeks to recover from recession and recruit new people."

Robinson Quarry Masters are based at Glenwherry in County Antrim where basalt is extracted and processed into a wide range of high quality stone grades. The company operates a major production facility on a 150 acre site serviced by its own modern transport fleet.

The company has a proud tradition

in understanding and embracing its social responsibilities: Robinson Quarry Masters are highly committed active members of the Quarry Products Association NI, participating fully in initiatives to deliver ever better safety and environmental management throughout the whole industry.

Ensuring staff are highly skilled and competent is the best defence against accidents, so the company works closely with the Health and Safety Executive to ensure the latest working practises are correctly adopted.

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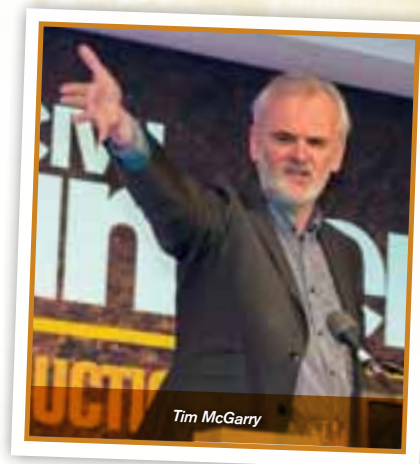
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Karol Friel and John Paul McLernon of Topcon, and Karen Fitzmaurice and Tim Connolly of Reencon Development Services.



Tim McGarry



Graham Construction Winners



Colin McNeely, Briggs Equipment; Dennis Troughton, BC Plant; Rod Hawkins, Roadtrucks; and Andrew Neill, Briggs Equipment.



Steve Manger and Dympna O'Kane of Topaz, with Mark Herron and Gary Rea of Herron Contractors.



Les Walker and Willie McCoy of Bank of Ireland.

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PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2015

WINNER:

ANDY MAGOWAN MBE

L-R: Adrian Logan, Andy Magowan MBE, Helen Beggs and Justin Carrigan

Recognised for his services to the plant, construction and quarrying sectors, TBF Thompson's long serving Managing Director Andy Magowan received a standing ovation at the awards gala night from the 400 plus gathering.

On being presented with the award by Plant & Civil Engineer's General Manager Justin Carrigan and publisher Helen Beggs, Andy declared: "It has been a pleasure working for TBF Thompson for the past 45 years and, yes, I am delighted to receive this award. I have made many friends in this

industry over the years and I wish them every success for the future."

Also voted 'Transport Personality of the Year' at the 2015 Export & Freight magazine's 'Transport & Logistics' Awards, Andy began his career more than half a century ago as an accountant, but that role didn't figure too long in his life as his employers soon recognised his skills and his shrewd approach to business.

Rapidly rising through the ranks he eventually ended up in the Managing Director's chair and today he has the distinction of being one of the longest-serving members of the company.

Well past the time when others would have taken retirement, he remains a driving force behind its continued success, having been awarded many franchises along

the way. Those franchises include well known names such as DAF, Hitachi, Bomag and Terex.

"Our after sales service is the envy of our competitors and we are always investing in the future. We have state-of-the-art IT systems to increase efficiency and provide our customers with the best back-up in the business.

"But regardless of new technology we will never lose sight of the strong service values that have driven our success. We will continue to invest in our greatest asset, our people, and will remain with an open ear for our customers to ensure that we respond to their needs and requirements."

Still actively involved in local trade, education, agriculture and sports, Andy has held prestigious positions in many areas over the years, demonstrating a deep-seated interest

in Northern Ireland's economic future.

A native of Ballynahinch and a father of three, he was earlier this year recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List with an MBE for his service to economic development and his influential role in Northern Ireland commerce.

His secret for success? "There's no substitute for hard work. Be first in every morning and last out every evening – and work Saturdays!"

In his acceptance speech, he did, however, hint that he was finally considering retirement. "I think it's time I stepped aside to give some of the younger members of the team an opportunity." If he does, he will certainly be missed by many in the industry.

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Plant & Civil Engineer is the leading magazine of its kind in Ireland, focusing on the Construction, Quarrying and Civil Engineering industries.

Now in its 24th year, it is published in association with the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (NI) and the Quarry Products Association in Northern Ireland.

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WorldSkills Construction winners recognised at Stormont Reception

Employment and Learning Minister Dr Stephen Farry hosted a reception at Stormont to honour Northern Ireland's outstanding success at the recent WorldSkills competition in Sao Paulo, Brazil.



Pictured are Gary Doyle, SRC, Adrian Canning, NWRC, Minister Farry, Maurice Johnston, Chairman CITB NI, Chris Bailie, SERC and Jonathon Gill CAFRE at the WorldSkills Stormont reception hosted by Minister Farry.

The Minister congratulated the seven Northern Ireland competitors, four of which represented construction sectors who achieved Northern Ireland's best ever WorldSkills result winning a gold medal, two silver medals, a bronze medal and a medallion for excellence representing over forty per cent of the overall UK medal haul.

Representing construction Gary Doyle, Southern Regional College, won a gold medal in

plumbing. Chris Bailie, South Eastern Regional College, won a silver medal in refrigeration. Jonathan Gill, formerly of the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise, won a silver medal in landscape gardening and Adrian Canning, formerly of North West Regional College, won a medallion for excellence in electrical installation.

Speaking about their success the Minister said, "These young people deserve the highest

praise for being selected to represent the UK in their particular skill on the world stage. They have proven that they are world class at what they do and should be rightly proud of themselves for competing against the best of the best from across the globe. This is an outstanding achievement not only for the young people, but also for their families, employers and trainers who have supported them

throughout their training and during WorldSkills. Without your commitment to these young people we wouldn't see success on the scale we are celebrating."

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive of CITB NI said, "I would like to extend our congratulations to the Northern Ireland representation in WorldSkills Team UK in particular those representing construction trades all of which have come through the Skillbuild NI competition and have won medals showcasing their skills in their trade on both a regional and national level. This level of training through the college network and recognition through Skillbuild NI has allowed the competitors to further their skills in order to compete at World level. Skills are a key driver of growth, performance and prosperity and even more important now as the construction industry is finally experiencing shoots of growth after several tough years in economic decline. We at CITB NI are proud that through our Skillbuild NI competition we have helped train our young people to not only be the best in their trade but also the best in the world."

More Qualifications & Essential Skills Training Needed in Local Construction Industry

Less than half of local construction workers have construction related qualifications and almost 1.5 of them feel they would benefit from training in Essential Skills (Numeracy, Literacy & IT).

These shocking results highlighted in recent research of 100 NI workers by CITB NI (Workforce Mobility and Skills Survey 2015).

These facts highlight that training is more and more relevant in developing the people that work within the construction industry and with only 2% qualified to Level 1 and 12% qualified to a Level 4 there is a lot scope to get the industry qualified or upskilled to a higher level.

It has been widely cited that construction has an ageing

workforce and it is significant that in this survey 17% of workers surveyed had no more than 5 years construction experience in comparison to 36% who had excess of 20 years' experience. Promoting construction as a career choice to younger people is more important now than ever as Northern Ireland is beginning to show signs of a levelling out of the economic decline with a return to very modest growth forecast and employers are already citing skills shortages as a major concern.

It is significant to note that whilst we are aware of a large number of contractors working on construction projects in Great Britain a high proportion of the workforce surveyed (77%) had worked in Northern Ireland for their entire construction career which was higher than the UK average of 61% with only 1% of the local workforce being imported from other nations or regions.

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive CITB NI said, "Training is good for business and good for the construction industry. The results of this survey illustrate

that training and qualifications are important for the future development of the industry as skills are a key driver of growth, performance and prosperity. Our aim is to develop a qualified and competent workforce within the NI construction industry and to help encourage and support training to ensure the right skills are in place for the opportunities growth in the industry will bring. We are looking forward to the future with a confident and more capable workforce able to embrace the opportunities arising as our industry regenerates."

From the desk of:
Gordon Best, Regional Director, QPANI

Changing Times – But More Changes Needed!

As we come to the end of 2015 I am sure like me you continue to be exasperated by the unfulfilled potential of Northern Ireland. This past year has been a bit like groundhog day, nothing much changes in Northern Ireland I hear you say.

However, despite the repetitive political hand bags at 40 paces up on the hill and in some of our Council chambers this past year has seen significant change in local Government with Planning Powers being given to the newly established 11 local Councils, the prospect of 12 Government Departments reducing to nine in April 2016, the voluntary exit scheme that has seen thousands of civil servants take early redundancy, the continuing budget concerns within NI Government, the forthcoming Assembly elections in May 2016 and a new First Minister in the form of Arlene Foster. Yes, it certainly could be described as changing times!

QPANI have published our Agenda 2016-2020 that sets out very clearly what Politicians need to do to enable our Industry to contribute to economic growth. Other partner organisations such as CEF, FMB, ICE and Manufacturing NI have also, or are in the process of, publishing their own manifestos and we will be working closely with them to ensure a united voice on the key economic drivers and that Industries interests are reflected in the political parties manifestos. I have been doing the rounds of Political Party Policy teams with our Agenda Paper in my hand to make sure our interests are recognised in their manifestos.

The announcement that the corporation tax rate in Northern Ireland will be cut to 12.5% in 2018 has been widely welcomed by most in Northern Ireland, apart from of course the usual gang of economically illiterate idealists. It's understood that Stormont officials believe that the first full year of the 12.5% rate will knock £80m off the block grant. That cost will rise to £160m in the second year before reaching a 'steady state' of £240m.

The major parties at Stormont believe that cutting the tax will help tackle long-term problems in the Northern Ireland economy. However estimates by leading economists and experience in other lower CT economies indicate the medium to long term secondary benefits more than compensate for this cost. Let's hope that the setting of a date and rate will unleash an unprecedented wave of investment and growth. However, a word of caution! CT is not the silver bullet and unless we address our infrastructure and skills deficit the benefits of a lower CT will not be maximised.

Meanwhile, as a result of the Autumn statement from the Chancellor recently Northern Ireland departments will see a cumulative decline of 5% over the next four years in their resource budget. In terms of capital spending, funding available for infrastructure investment via the block grant through to 2020-21 will rise by 12% in real terms, meaning over £600 million more than if it had been held at 2015-16 levels. So some light ahead, as long as we can get the projects delivered!!

Hopeful Signs

As we look ahead I believe we have reason to be hopeful. The continuing dependency on the GB Construction market has its positives and negatives, the growing economy in the Republic is great news for our Industry here in the North, on the ongoing development work on the A6 and potential start date of 2017 on a major section of the A5, development at Desertcreat, improved delivery of health and education infrastructure, growing housing market, the launch of Farm Enhancement Scheme in early 2016 and the start of an exciting Apprenticeship Framework for the Aggregates and Minerals Industry here in Northern Ireland in partnership with South West College and Southern Regional College all points us in a more positive trajectory for next year.

Awards Success

Keeping the positive theme the recent Plant and Civil Engineer Plant, Quarry and Construction Awards was a great success with the event showcasing all that is good about our Industry. QPANI will certainly be encouraging our members to step onto the catwalk in 2016 and showcase the

excellent work that goes on and how we positively contribute to the Northern Ireland Economy.

On the Safety front our Industry continues to face challenges on a daily basis as we strive to ensure zero harm to our employees and all those who visit our sites. The QPANI member lost time incident reporting is improving as companies see the benefit of benchmarking themselves against national MPA KPIs. Everyone in the Industry must strengthen our efforts to improve health and safety and participate in the LTI reporting. We now have 76% reporting based on employee numbers. Lets try and get to 100% by the end of 2016.

We trust you have had a very happy Christmas and will enjoy a successful and healthy 2016, and in closing I would like to list in true '12 days of Christmas form' just some of the successes of QPANI in 2015.

Our Achievements

Day 1 – QPANI work with South West College, Southern Regional College and 16 Member companies to develop a Pilot Apprenticeship Framework for the Mineral and Extractives processing sector in Northern Ireland. Due for launch in February 2016.

Day 2 – QPANI Age Profiling Survey highlights need to make our Industry more attractive to young people.

Day 3 – QPANI Launch Communications strategy with new 11 Councils highlighting importance of our Industry in their areas, the value of the Industry and the number of employees. QPANI also in discussions with Senior Planners to have the New Institute of Quarrying Mineral Planning Qualification adopted in NI.

Day 4 – QPANI publish our Agenda Paper 2016 – 2020 setting out our needs to the Political Parties in preparation for the May 2016 Assembly Election .

Day 5 – QPANI a key player in developing and communicating the Cold Water Safety Strategy that was launched by the DOENI and DOJ Ministers in May 2015. QPANI also develop a partnership with NI Water to communicate dangers of trespass and swimming in cold water.

Day 6 – QPANI partnerships with RSPB, Woodland Trust and NIEA sees restoration best practice



Gordon Best QPANI

adopted, significant hectares of natural woodland planted and companies sign up to the All Island Pollinator Plan..

Day 7 - QPANI Concrete Development Group Launch "Concrete Built IS Better Built" campaign to promote concrete as the construction material of choice. QPANI also form alliances and regular communication with the Ulster Farmers Union , Housing Associations and The Royal Society of Ulster Architects.

Day 8 – QPANI continue to work with Industry Partners on the Construction Industry Group and All Party Working on Construction to highlight the big ticket issues on skills, access to finance and delivery pipeline of construction projects.

Day 9 – QPANI and NIEA relaunch "Wise Use of Water Guidance". QPANI and NIEA hold 6 pollution prevention on site workshops to promote environmental best practice.

Day 10 – QPANI and HSENI stage 6 on site Safety Workshops attended by 117 employees from 36 companies.

Day 11 – QPANI Publish "60 Days to Save Our Roads Network" highlight the gross underspend in structural roads maintenance and its consequences for the economy, our roads network and road safety.

Day 12 – QPANI lobbying and support from MLAs, MPs, MEPs continues the fight to secure a sustainable solution to the problems created by the Aggregates Levy in Northern Ireland. QPANI also ask the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Treasury Select Committee to investigate the operation of the Aggregates Levy in Northern Ireland and across the UK.

Annual CPA Conference Attracts Record Attendance

The Construction Plant-hire Association's 2015 conference was a huge success, with record numbers of delegates attending to hear a wide range of speakers from a broad spectrum of industry sectors.

Welcoming visitors to the event, CPA director Kevin Minton outlined the importance to the UK of the construction plant industry, which currently has a capital value of more than £2bn. Introducing this year's main topic – The Future of Construction Plant Hire – he added that the plant and equipment business makes a £4bn contribution to the UK economy and it remains a catalyst for economic growth. "However, the industry cannot afford to be complacent," said Mr Minton. "The industry needs to look to the future."

On the subject of 'intelligent machines,' Martin Frank, Research Engineer at Volvo Construction Equipment, told



the gathering: "Much has been said about the rise of intelligent machinery, where automation or autonomous operation has been designed to aid operators and improve on-site performance and efficiency.

"Volvo has taken a step back from this however, to examine the benefits of automation and to assess exactly what its customers require. Working with colleges and universities, to gain a fresh perspective on machine operation, the company has asked customers exactly how operator assistance could benefit their individual jobsites and to look at need-driven design.

"Manufacturers gather data from a host of machine components, sub-systems and sensors, to build a comprehensive picture of machine operation. By combining this with site and fleet information, it is possible to provide communication between multiple machines on site.

"While Volvo has been trialling futuristic equipment, including autonomous wheeled loaders, there are benefits to be had from much less forward-looking technology. This includes systems such as Smart View 360° cameras, to give the operator a view all around the machine for safer operation."

However, he said that it is vital that the operator trusts both the benefits and the actual operation of the automation. He also claimed that operators will need to adapt to new ways of working, trusting intelligent functions to carry out some of the tasks.

"We are working to develop a system that is tailored towards an application, and the ability to perform efficient tasks with the operator," said Mr Frank.

Other speakers included Glyn Matthews, Head of Transformation at Speedy Services, who addressed the conference on the subject, 'Technology Enabled Transformation, Improving The Customer Experience.'

"We've got a generation of customers who want online ordering and up to date information. That's what the customer is asking for, but how many hire companies are delivering it?"

While there are numerous technologies available, Speedy is clear that it should only adopt role-specific applications and devices. There is no point equipping a delivery driver with a huge tablet capable of numerous functions, when all they require is delivery-sign-off, communication with the depot and back-office data transmission for instance.

One of the leading technologies for the plant hire business according to Mr Matthews is the radio frequency identification (RFID) tag. This low cost device, which requires no power or maintenance, allows Speedy to rapidly locate and track its inventory.

'Preventing Unintentional Movement Of Plant,' was the topic of an address by Tim Watson, Technical Consultant to the CPA.

While much of the conference was looking to new technology and bringing new workers into the industry, the CPA remains dedicated to ensuring that the highest levels of safety are maintained on site. To that end the Association has been working on preventing unintentional movement of plant.

Unintentional movement can be caused by mistake, if the operator pulls the wrong lever for example, or by accident, where loose clothing catches a control lever as the operator moves in the cab. The CPA has included almost all plant types in the study, though not MEWPS, as there are already a number of organisations working in that sector.

"Our role is to provide guidance to owners and users," said Mr Watson. "But we are also feeding back to international standard setting bodies. There are three important contributing factors; planning and management; machine design; operator competence."

The study has examined 11 accidents that have been caused by unintentional movement of the machine. In four cases operator competence was a major factor, 10 were down to lack of supervisions, while all 11 involved poor planning and 10 had people within the working arc of the machines.

"One thing that people can do is make sure that people are not in the working zone of the machine," said Mr Watson. "But also, communication is vitally important."

So far the CPA has held two meetings of a guidance working group and one meeting looking at standards. The aim is to develop guidance for operators, site managers and domestic users of plant and equipment.

Introducing a mower that reaches where others can't!

M Large has introduced the revolutionary Ferri iCut 4 radio controlled mower designed to easily cut sloped areas quickly and safely.

The machine thrives in the toughest terrain, making it easy to work on busy highway embankments, railway sidings, steep-slopes, riverbanks, farmland, open park spaces and site clearance areas.

This amazingly reliable and robust radio control slope mower offers optimal grip and traction thanks to its cutting edge design and attention to detail and allows you work in perfect safety, with maximum performance.

It has a working range of up to 150 m and features an easy-to-learn remote control console, which means the operator doesn't have to go too close to dangerous and difficult to reach areas.

It can work on slopes of up to 55 degrees in each direction, while its low centre of gravity prevents hazards of overturning – and it is up to 25 times faster than

manual cutting, as well as being more fuel and cost efficient than a three-man strimming team!

Other features include:

- Reliable 4-cylinder engine ISUZU49hp More power to tackle deep slopes and difficult terrains.
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Also New...

M Large is now also offering alongside the Ferri iCut 4 a range of Ferri excavator flail / mulching heads for grass, hedge



,brash and heavy duty mulching, suitable for 1.5ton to 20ton plus. Most models are available from stock, along with an extensive range of spare and wearing parts.

Also new from M Large is the Austrian manufactured range of KGD tractor three point linkage skidding winch, ideal for forestry work.

All winches are of clear robust design made from high tensile steel, and fully powered coated for maximum corrosion resistance. Each winch is assembled and undergoes a 100% pulling/brake force test. They are also fully documented and traceable according to the latest industrial quality standard.



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hire news

Sandvik mobile crushers and screeners popular with Rental Market

Sandvik Construction Mobile Crushing and Screening machines are proving to be a highly popular choice in the rental market.

One such company that has taken advantage of this to provide an enhanced solution for its customers is Preston based Lancashire Crushers, which has since 1980 delivered a rental solution throughout the UK of the highest quality.

Presently earth moving equipment represents the largest equipment sector, accounting for around 23% of hire value, with the top four companies accounting for around a quarter of the market.

Increasingly companies such as Lancashire Crushers are now offering services in addition to the pure hire of equipment as a way to differentiate themselves from competitors. This also reflects the changing requirements of the market, with customers often requiring additional services in the form of back-up, and expertise.

Regional growth opportunities are also likely to continue to drive certain rental sectors, for example new road construction,



SANDVIK QJ241

coastal defence work and wind turbines, etc. Adverse influences do have a bearing on the UK hire market. These include cyclical trends within the construction industry that are likely to impact on different sectors of the hire market, and include the underlying long term growth in off-site manufacturing, rising fuel and energy costs and so forth.

Notwithstanding the market conditions mentioned above, and the highly competitive nature of the rental market itself,

Lancashire Crushers has done well. With an annual turnover of £2.7 million, the company has been able to recognise the opportunities in the market for its plant hire services, and work to its strengths. The company, and its 27 employees, possesses an active fleet of 32 rental machines: these include crushers, screens, excavators, loading shovels, shredders and low loaders which can carry up to 150 tons. Currently the company boasts one QH331 and QH441 cone crusher,

two QJ241 jaw crushers, as well as three QJ341 jaw crushers, with the latest model being delivered in July of last year.

The reasons for using the Sandvik Construction's mobile crushers are best explained by company founder Peter Slater himself. "We use Sandvik as the equipment is reliable and flexible. The machines have performed fantastically, production rates and fuel economy are good and the reliability is very good. We are very happy with the product."

This has meant that Lancashire Crushers can now be found operating nationwide, from quarries to demolition sites to recycling operations; in fact wherever they are required. The QH441 cone crusher for example is currently working in a quarry in Cornwall - a long way from Preston - with other machines working in various locations all over the UK.

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Novatron - 25 Years of Machine Control Systems

Established in 1991 Novatron was the first Nordic manufacturer of excavator measuring systems and began using GPS technology in positioning constructions machines in 1999. Few would of guessed then how important GPS would become in Machine Control Systems in today's market.

Novatron's primary products are excavator control systems and related software solutions. Together with a partner company MOBA Mobile Automation AG of Germany, Novatron is able to provide a wide variety of machine control systems to meet the needs of the user.

Machine Control Systems are fast becoming part of a modern earthwork process and a key factor in increasing productivity in this line of work.

Xsite® Machine Control systems are designed to be open and compatible, both in terms of components and software.

"This is why we are able to use the industry's best positioning equipment, third party site management systems and different file formats in our systems without additional conversions or compatibility issues. As our customer, you never need to be tied to solutions of one system provider. In this way we ensure that our customers have a genuine competitive edge in an increasingly competitive market."

Save time and effort by importing your 3D models wirelessly straight from the designer into the system. Xsite PRO® supports most common data formats without conversion or optimisation. See the whole jobsite at a glance. The system is powerful enough to handle large models without performance issues, but also easy to use when working with several smaller models at the same time. Seeing all the construction layers and pipes simultaneously in the cross section view makes working easier. Changing the active model is simple and easy with quick selection buttons.

Is productivity increased?

For any earthwork contractor, it is important to perform work with quality, precision, and on schedule. Utilising machine control in work machines enables optimising the different phases in the earthwork process. The



excavator's machine control system guides the machine operator in attaining the target plane quickly and easily. When the job is carried out properly the first time, you can save time, materials, and fuel. The increased productivity gained thereby shows in improved work profitability, which in turn enables setting stricter contract prices and increased competitiveness.

Is work safety improved?

By using Machine Control Systems dangerous situation are avoided, there is no need to have a man in the trench whilst digging or holding stakes. It also becomes safer for the driver, not having to exit the cab necessarily several times a day.

Benefits of Machine Control Systems

- The work gets done more efficiently and quickly as the

operator can concentrate on productive work. Less time spent on the job means cost savings in employee, fuel, and machinery expenses.

- The accurate measurement device enables tighter tolerances. No excess cutting or filling. Material and transportation costs decrease as the use and transportation of extra materials are no longer needed.
- Higher accuracy leads to more uniform work quality throughout the contract. Machine control turns a good machine operator into a great one!
- Improved job site safety, as surveying close to the machinery at work or in the excavations is reduced.
- The system guides the operator in all weather conditions and, therefore, making the work easier especially under poor conditions, such as rain or darkness.

- The location information of the machine is based on RTK-GNSS positioning, so there is no need for staking out. Working becomes independent and fluent as you don't have to rely on surveyors or stakes – or the lack of them.
- As-built data can be saved by using a bucket as the surveying tool. The completed work gets documented and the documents sent to the office for further processing.

Easy to Use

Xsite® EASY is an easy-to-use machine control system that saves time and money for the contractor. When the bucket level is known with an accuracy of one centimetre, there is no need for level-checking pauses in excavation work. Whether you are working with laser or without, the Xsite® EASY is a great partner for earthworks! Easy to use and upgradeable to 3D.



Topcon Makes The Grade For The Shannon Valley Group

GPS technology is having an astounding effect on the construction industry, especially when it comes to refining workflows and minimising waste. 20 per cent of construction expense can be avoided – whether it's due to unnecessary mistakes, ineffective planning, excess materials or poor communication.

Incorporating GPS technology can massively cut down this percentage, so it's no surprise that we're seeing contractors embrace it in new ways of working.

One area that's having a particularly noticeable effect in the construction industry is machine control, a system which uses GPS data and 3D models to accurately deliver earthworks. Satellite positioning data communicates with a predetermined 3D model to give the driver an accurate view of the machine's current position compared to the desired result. This means that operators can make decisions based on very specific data, as opposed to relying on human judgement alone – which has a huge impact on surveying and material costs on any job.

One company that is successfully integrating GPS technology into its projects is Irish-based specialist civil engineering & site development contractor, Shannon Valley.

Established in 1991, Shannon Valley is one of Ireland's leading

civil engineering, ground works and plant hire groups, and is involved in projects from all sectors of the industry. It was also one of the first contractors in Ireland to adopt Topcon machine control and has GPS machine mounted systems on several of its dozers and excavators, with the latest currently being installed.

Shannon Valley was originally attracted to Topcon's machine control technology when working on a large scale motorway upgrade project.

Evident Benefits

Stephen McManmon, Contracts Manager at Shannon Valley, commented: "The use of the latest technology has always been part of Shannon Valley's ethos, something that is driven not only by the engineering department but by the directors themselves. The benefits of 3D machine control were evident to us from the very first system Topcon Ireland provided. At the time we were undertaking a demanding motorway upgrade

project with an aggressive works programme. We demoed a 3D dozer kit and within no time had purchased several fully integrated 3D machine control units for our Komatsu dozers. The benefits were evident straight away.

"With 3D machine control, the setting out engineer had moved from the field into the cab and the driver could work independently and at speed. Embankments and carriage ways were being delivered accurately and on time. Utilising the auto-topo function of 3D machine control meant that our survey time in the field was also significantly reduced.

"A few years later this would be further advanced by SiteLink3D, which currently allows us not only to download design files to the field from the office, but upload survey information in real time. This allows for better programming of works and monitoring of productivity through volume analysis, in Topcon's Magnet Office, of daily excavations and fill quantities."

Stephen continued: "Our early 3D dozer systems transformed Shannon Valley's work methodology, so much so that when the first 3D excavator kit became available we installed one on a Kobelco 350 to grade high embankment batters on the same motorway upgrade project. Again, removing the engineer from the field has a significant safety benefit as well as reducing setting out and surveying costs."

Challenges Overcome

Shannon Valley works on a range of projects, from infrastructure and coastal defence, to site development works and deep basement excavations. More recently, the contractor has been putting Topcon machine control to the test on a particularly challenging project in Dublin.

The site in question has varied contamination hotspots and hence varied waste classification, requiring different disposal destinations. This needed special consideration before the excavation could begin.

Stephen explained: "Contaminated ground presents challenges. Excavating and disposing the contaminated soil in a controlled manner is paramount. It's essential both environmentally and commercially to ensure that the classified hotspots are excavated as per the environmental engineer's analysis. The correct material must be disposed to the correct landfill facility, something that is difficult to gauge without the right technology."

Shannon Valley decided to use Topcon's X63i GPS excavator system with Sitelink3D software on the project, due to its ability to eliminate over-excavation and costly material overruns. With its 360° tilt sensors and GPS technology, the X63i calculates the position of the bucket and gives the driver real-time position information via a touch-screen control display.

Stephen said: "Using this technology meant we could create complex 3D models in Magnet Office for the different areas and ground levels. This information is then sent to the X63i via SiteLink3D where the driver uses it to excavate accurately. Different contaminated areas are excavated to the predetermined levels, removing the risk of error and providing the landfill with an identified method of maintaining the strict chains of



custody for the differing waste material types."

Topcon's Sitelink3D software connects users to a project remotely from anywhere in the world. The programme makes it possible to view the location, activity and the files that are in use on a project at any given time. It also means that site managers can analyse progress and give feedback on the work being done, remotely.

Stephen added: "One of the main benefits of using Sitelink3D on our projects has been reducing the number of people needed on site. Previously if we needed to send information to drivers or update a design file we'd have to physically send someone out. Now this can all be done from the office straight to the machine, which not only helps increase productivity



but also streamlines any communication between office and field."

Efficiency Boosted

By incorporating new GPS technology, contractors can massively cut down the percentage of waste on their projects, leading to greater efficiency on site, shorter construction times and, inevitably, wider profits.

Stephen concluded: "We now have Topcon's GPS systems on several of our excavators and dozers and the benefits have been huge. Topcon 3D machine control has served us well with the day of the profile and pin most definitely behind us and further advancements in full automation ahead. We look forward to increasing our Topcon 3D control systems in 2016 and our continued and valued partnership with Topcon Ireland."



Irish Infrastructure Projects Boost Investment In Machine Control

Since it first started fitting Trimble machine control systems to its mobile plant fleet in early 2007, Galway based Civil engineering earthworks specialist, Maveric Contractors, has used the technology to drive business growth.

Having recently been awarded work on the N84 alignment in Galway, the business has expanded its machine control fleet to two Cat D6 dozers and four Cat 336FL excavators, all fitted with Trimble solutions from SITECH UK and Ireland.

Commenting on its expansion and use of machine control, Piotr Wojtusik, Survey Manager for Maveric Contractors said: "Our recent project wins have been with contractors that have specifically highlighted a preference for the use of machine control, as its safety and productivity benefits are now well and truly understood. "This has allowed us to continue to develop a much more customer centric way of quoting for jobs, as they understand how we can deliver a safer environment that is more productive and efficient. Equally, they value the data we provide for all of our work across the site. Probably the most important part of this is the collection of as-built data as the machine cuts to grade, and how this can be translated into keeping the material costs to a minimum in order to reduce costs.



"We see this enhancement of our relationship with clients as key to our business growth and ongoing investment, particularly as our engineering teams are able to share information in a much more collaborative way. For example, even though we have been using machine control since 2007, probably the most important innovation we

have adopted is the combination of the Trimble GCS900 3D grade control and VRS network solutions, which we introduced at the beginning of this year.

"Previously, for each project we would have setup a field base station to help transmit and receive data to and from our machines. With the new VRS system we are now able to

use the GPS network to send and receive information. This means we can quickly design the earthworks elements of a project from either 3D BIM style models issued by the client, or information gathered from site surveys.

"By being able to develop these designs in-house using the Trimble business centre (TBC) software, we have dramatically reduced our design to site operation pathway, which in turn allows us to be more flexible. For example, if a customer needs us to move to a different section of the job, due to other site constraints, we can send the new GPS location and required earthworks model straight to any of our machines in a matter of minutes, maintaining the high levels of jobsite productivity expected.

"Looking more closely at productivity, even when we were using 2D grade control, there would be corrections that needed to be made or additional passes done, particularly when looking at achieving the finished grade to the millimetre accuracy required. Now with 3D grade control,



we can already see that this process can be achieved with fewer passes, more accurately and in a shorter time period, which obviously has its economic benefits.

"Having recently invested in a new Cat D6T dozer, which joins its Cat D6R model and four new Cat 336FL model excavators from Caterpillar dealer, Finning and engineers from SITECH have been busy fitting the Trimble MS992 and MS972 systems to the upgraded fleet."

Commenting on the new Trimble system integration work, Ireland based SITECH Applications Engineer Kevin Kinahan, said: "With the new equipment, Maveric opted for the units to be fitted with the Trimble systems in our new state of the art workshop facilities in Dublin. This made the installation process quicker, but as they know we could have equally fitted the systems onsite or at their site in Galway. "From a technical perspective, having all of the excavators on the smaller MS972 Smart antenna with its integrated global navigation satellite system, GNSS receiver, means



that Maveric now has a set standard across its excavator fleet. On a practical level, because of the reduced size, operators can simply install, remove and store the units once they have finished work for the day. This is particularly important when machines have to be left exposed onsite.

"Because the MS972 and MS992, which is used on the dozers, both feature the Trimble Maxwell™ 6 GPS Chip, Maveric

are now able to use the new Trimble RTZ engine, which in-turn supports the newest GNSS signals. Put simply, this means Maveric now benefit from increased machine productivity and utilisation in areas that were previously difficult to use GPS machine control.

"With Maveric also having Trimble ready Cat 320EL and Cat 345C LME units, it is very simple for the team to swap out a MS972 unit from the

Cat 336FL's or hire additional kit from SITECH to increase the active 3D excavator fleet. So the overall solution is very flexible and cost effective."

For more information on Trimble machine control systems from SITECH UK and Ireland visit www.sitechukandireland.com

For more information on Maveric Contractors visit www.mavericcontractors.com

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- Calculate the volume of a stockpile or pit to know the amount of truck loadings
- Compare constructed vs. designed model by using the As-built app



SP Technology

Contractors can now boost their productivity and performance even more while benefiting from new ways to use existing equipment. The innovative SP Technology opens new opportunities for dozers:

- Combining ease-of-use and unrivalled flexibility
- Highest precision at the fastest speed
- Faster results without losing accuracy



Bulk Earthworks

The flexibility of the iCONtroll solution provides a high return on investment in **typical applications** such as:

- Site development
- Construction of embankments
- Land recontouring
- Cut & Fill operations

Leica iCON grade 32/42 offer guided as well as automated solutions and Leica iCON excavate 31/41 offer guided solutions.



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Leica iCON excavate 31
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Leica iCON excavate 41
3D Excavating solution Full visual guidance of the bucket – see the job as you want. Menu keys give the operator an easy overview of functions.



Leica iCON grade 32
2D Grading solution Easy monitoring of the blade position. Main function keys for easy operation.

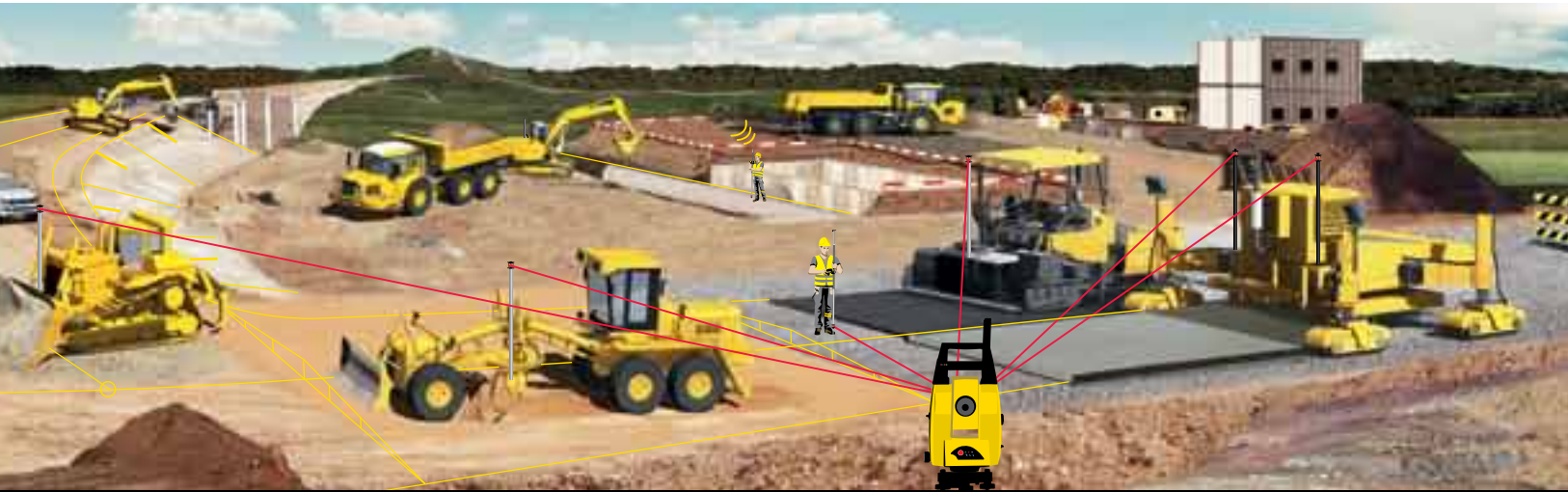


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The iCON grade

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Benefits with iCON grade 32 & 42

- Flexibility to work with 2D or 3D
- Support for multiple data formats
- Consistent user interface between dozers and graders



Trenching & Residential Trenching – a standard application

- Any application where there is a buried utility or a need for controlled water flow (water and sewage, electricity, gas, communications)

Basement – a standard application

- Applications where depth and slope can be controlled from a laser or a reference point
- Setting up a housing project without having to depend on traditional set-out processes
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Leica iCON excavate 31 & iCON grade 32 offer flexible configurable solutions for these typical applications.



Finishing layers

The Leica iCON grade 42 3D grading solution provides highest precision and flexibility for fast, high quality results.

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For paving applications with high precision and productivity use Leica PaveSmart 3D.

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- Precise 3D machine control saves material and improves your paving results



Leica iCON telematics

The perfect tool for office to field communication. You can manage your fleet remotely via the iCON telematics web portal. Having the latest design data in the field is essential for site performance.



Leica iCON grade 42
3D Grading solution Fully customisable 3D views of your machine and job site. Auto/manual information is presented on the screen.



- when it has to be **right**

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Award Winning App Boosts Customer Service at Lagan Cement Products Ltd

Lagan Cement Products Ltd, in association with Command Alkon, has won the Innovation/Technology Award for its MOBILEcommerce App that is making life easier for its customers.

The company picked up the award at the recent Concrete Society NI Awards Dinner in the Ramada Hotel in Belfast.

Launched earlier this year, the App is the first of its kind employed in the UK concrete industry and seamlessly integrates with the IT systems at Lagan Cement Products' Roadmix division to give customers total transparency of their account information when they want it, where they want it.

More importantly, the App allows customers to submit orders for concrete deliveries and then monitor the delivery with live truck tracking and live data while pouring. Customers can also use it to verify orders for accuracy or necessary changes, and are able to ensure they comply with concrete mix design.

The introduction of the award winning system is part of the Lagan Group's ongoing investment programme which recently saw the addition of four new trucks to the Roadmix fleet to serve the Greater Belfast area.



Damian Curran of Lafarge presenting the Concrete society Award for innovation to Paul Adamson of Lagan Cement Products at the recent concrete society annual dinner and awards evening at the Ramada Shawsbridge.

Roadmix has also opened its Blackmountain plant on the Upper Springfield Road in Belfast to complement its other three facilities at Whitemountain, Glengormley and Comber.

Compatible across all platforms, including PC and Mac, iPad or tablet, and iPhone or android smartphone, the App allows customers to receive e-mails confirming orders and delivery

status - and they can also utilise a suite of exportable reports that will be useful for site and office personnel.

For example, the Ticket Detail Report includes actual batch-weights and variances, as well as time on site and off site – all of which is easily exported to Excel.

Explains Darren McMillan, Commercial Manager at Lagan Cement Products: "Gone are the days when site managers have to spend time calling about orders or delivery times and a business has to check on delivery dates and quantities. Thanks to our ground-breaking app, all this information is now available at the touch of a button."

And added Paul Adamson, Operations Manager at Lagan Cement Products: "Our success is built on the quality of our products and the trust and service we offer customers - this system offers customers total transparency of information relating to their accounts and orders."

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MANITOU
GROUP

DA Forgie Expands Into Greater Belfast Area

After four decades operating one of the country's leading machinery dealerships in Limavady, DA Forgie has expanded into the Greater Belfast area with the opening of a new modern depot in Lisburn.



Based on the Blaris Industrial Estate, the new DA Forgie facility is well positioned to serve existing customers in the County Down and Antrim areas as well as substantially grow its business.

Over the 40 plus years the company has operated in Limavady it has built up a considerable and loyal customer base, providing both leading brand agricultural machinery and construction equipment, including Kubota tractors and excavators, Merlo telehandlers, Comet aerial platforms and Ifor Williams trailers, which are supplied through Lamont Trailers. Those same top brands are now available from the new Lisburn depot which also carries a stock of quality used machinery.

"The expansion into Lisburn has been essentially customer driven," says office manager Ria Forgie. "We have established a solid customer base in this area

so it made sense to position ourselves to be able to better serve their needs. It means customers in the Greater Belfast area will no longer have to travel all the way to Limavady."

The Lisburn depot is already well stocked with parts and spares for the various machinery and equipment ranges on offer, but if a particular part is not readily available over the counter it can be quickly sourced from the Limavady branch or direct from the manufacturer.

"With our customers in both agricultural and construction sectors increasingly busy, we believe this is a timely move for us; the new depot has great potential," says Ria, who now divides her time between the two locations.

New Team

The team in Lisburn – parts manager Trevor Malcolmson, together with Harry Marks; Andrew McMullan in sales; and mobile service engineer Raymond Cairns – are already well established and will be working hard, as we approach another New Year, to further build the business.

The Limavady depot will remain DA Forgie's main headquarters, with the new facility in Lisburn serving as a satellite depot.

A Kubota dealer for almost two decades, DA Forgie recently restructured its operations to concentrate more on the brand and its range of products, but not at the expense of its other equipment and machinery offerings, such as Merlo, which remain key to the business as it goes forward.

"We are delighted that both Merlo and Kubota have been very supportive of our new Lisburn

facility and, indeed, we already have had visits by representatives from the manufacturers," says Ria, who adds that the initial response from customers 'couldn't be better.'

To complement its sales activities, DA Forgie offers a comprehensive range of services such as workshop advice, parts, after sales service and repairs at both depots. It also buys and sells a large range of second-user equipment covering agricultural, gardening and construction equipment.

All new products, of course, are accompanied by the manufacturer's warranty and adds Ria: "Our highly trained and experienced staff will be glad to offer assistance and provide detailed information to assist customers in their purchasing decisions. We are also happy to provide demonstrations of equipment and offer advice based on our longstanding experience in the trade."

DA Forgie's new Lisburn depot can be contacted on 028 9267 7736, while the Limavady depot number is 028 7772 2375.



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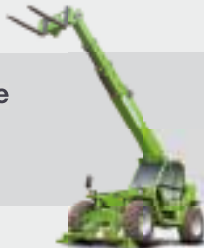
Panoramic Range

- Lift capacity 3.4 to 3.9 tonne
- Lift height 7m to 10.5m



Panoramic High Lift Range

- Lift capacity 3.8 to 6.4 tonne
- Lift height 12m to 18m



Panoramic High Capacity Range

- Lift capacity up to 12 tonne
- Lift height up to 18m



ROTO RANGE

- Lift capacity 3.8 to 6 tonne
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Magni RTH range - the next generation in safety and innovation

The RTH range from Magni SRL represents the next generation in rotating telescopic handlers. They were designed to be the safest, most productive, most technical and most operator focused machines on the market.

The first thing to be designed was the cab. Telehandler cabs are normally like Swiss cheese with lots of holes where various wires and pipes come through. Magni took their inspiration from excavators and wanted the cab to be different to the norm.

The cab is fully sealed, air conditioned and pressurised to ensure a very clean and comfortable working environment for the operator. The cab also has 100% filtration of the air before it enters the cab and the operator can select different filters (forestry, asbestos etc.) to match the conditions they are working in.

Magni wanted to cut down on the amount of electric wires so the machine is fitted with a Can Bus circuit.



The wiring that is on the machine is all IP 67 and 24V working through the latest SIL 2 safety valves. This means that it is fully sealed to the elements. Using this system reduces the wiring going through the turret by 40%.

The main criteria for the operators was visibility and safety. Magni removed all of the switchgear (up to 42 different switches) associated with this type of product and replaced it with a single touch pad MCTS (Magni Combi Touch System) operator system. Removal of the switchgear allowed Magni to fit the machine with floor to ceiling glass at the front of the cab giving visibility not experienced on this type of machine before. This means that there are very few blind spots and the operator can



see the load clearly when picking up from the ground. The MCTS system is a new concept that allows the driver access to 5 different pages using either a control wheel or touch screen. These pages consist of driving, stabilization, load chart, command and customization. All Magni machines are fitted as standard with attachment recognition chips which allow the machine to know what it has attached. The really clever thing is that machine selects the correct load chart for the attachment and then it the operator is presented with the first ever dynamic load chart on the machine. This means unlike other machines on the market that only show the weight and angles etc, Magni shows the load moving within the designated load chart so that the operator can see when he is reaching his limit without having to look at additional books and charts.

Fast Set-Up

The machine also changes the page dependant on the operation it is performing i.e. if the operator starts to push out the stabilisers the screen, changes to the stabiliser page. Then when the operator lifts the boom it changes to the load chart page. This really eliminates driver error and makes the Magni incredibly fast to set up on site.

The RTH 5.35 was designed with a new type of boom using high tensile steel to avoid any deflection. The machines are fitted with only one ram, instead they use a double chain system and the hoses all run inside the boom to avoid damage. The hoses have been attached together in a patented mono block section so that there is no chance of the hoses getting caught or tangled inside the boom, meaning less breaks and less downtime.

Unlike the majority of the machines available that only have load charts for the machine in 3 positions, stabilisers fully retracted, 50% and 100% extended) because



the Magni works with multiple potentiometers taking readings of weight, turret

position, length of boom, angle of boom and stabiliser position, the machine has load charts from 0 - 100% not just 3 positions. The stabilisers don't even need to be in the same configuration and can be set at individual lengths if required.

The RTH range has been very well received by the industry as many of the features on the machines have not been experienced before. The customers understand that the machines have years of experience behind them

even though Magni are a relatively new company.

Demonstrations

Magni Industries UK are planning a number of Demonstration Roadshows throughout the UK and Ireland, so if you are interested in more information or want to see how the Magni range of products can give your business a lift, please call 08442 645900 or email awhite@magni-industries.co.uk



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Manitou MT1840 Impresses Chambers Homes

House builders Chambers Homes recently acquired their very first Manitou on the recommendation of a business friend, so has it been living up to expectations? Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the view from the cab.

The Manitou MT 1840 is currently earning its keep on a new housing development in Moneyreagh in County Down where it's been attracting plenty of attention from the workforce as the 18 metre reach telehandler clearly stands out from the rest of the machinery fleet.

A family run business, Chambers Homes was established back in the early Seventies by Eric Chambers and having survived the

ravages of the recession when many others didn't, the company is becoming increasingly busy once more; it is currently working on a private development of 50 high quality detached and semi detached two storey homes, with another development taking shape in nearby Saintfield.

'Hands on' company director Robin Phillips can often be found behind the wheel of the Manitou and he's clearly delighted with it.

"A good business friend of mine, Cecil Pearson from Northland

Developments, bought a 14 metre Manitou a year or so ago and he was highly impressed with it, so on his recommendation we took a closer look – and it's been a good decision."

The machine was supplied by Lisburn based dealers Northern Lift Trucks whose after sales support and workshop service facilities are second to none, and adds Robin: "We traded in a Merlo for the new Manitou and got a very competitive deal. The team at Northern Lift Trucks are very friendly, their facilities are first class and they are easy to do business with. We also acquired a three tonne mini Hyundai digger from them, too,

and we are very pleased with that as well.

"Being based in Lisburn, Northern Lift Trucks are only a short drive to us here in Moneyreagh, so if we do have any problems, we know and have every confidence that help will be quickly on hand, thus minimising the potential for any unnecessary downtime."

Great Reach

Robin tells us that he has been operating the machine quite a lot recently. "It really is superb. I've been using it to put up roof trusses. It has a great reach and that's important to house builders because with scaffolding now you have to sit well back when placing roof trusses, so the 18 metre reach is ideal for the task and makes life a lot easier because you don't have to get in so close."





The MT 1840 is a true heavy duty, high performing telescopic handler. Designed to handle all terrains, it can be relied on for even the toughest of jobs. The wide stabiliser legs, which are easily deployed, provide excellent lateral and frontal stability, allowing loads to be quickly and safely placed, as Robin explained, adding that the machine's simple controls have also been easy to master.

And comments site foreman Graham McConnell, who has also been putting the Manitou through its paces: "Some of the other machine brands we have been using can have up to five different levers, but with the Manitou all the functions are operated on the one stick, and once you remember what each movement accomplishes it is much more efficient."

Excellent Safety

Both he and Robin have also been impressed by the machine's safety features. "I really like the handbrake



system, for example; if the cab door is not closed, the handbrake can't be released, so that obviously contributes to operator safety," says Robin.

Other safety features include an automatic parking brake, hill start assistance and a tilt lock facility, as well as an easy connect system allowing the depressurisation of the hydraulic attachment line without turning off the engine and a digicode for security and immobilisation.

And adds Graham: "It has a very comfortable and well designed cab that is easy to get in and out of – and all round visibility from the operator's seat is excellent, important when we are working on busy sites."

Highly Versatile

With its lifting capacity of up to four tonnes, its permanent 4 wheel drive, powerful braking on both axles and good ground clearance of up to 42 cm, the superbly

manoeuvrable and versatile Manitou can be easily and productively utilised on a variety of tasks – from load placement, distribution of materials in confined areas to loading loose material and positioning suspended loads.

Thanks to its innovative attachment system, you can also easily equip the handler with numerous attachments such as forks, buckets and baskets within seconds; the machine is also simple to service and maintain.



Selling plant with Ritchie Bros. in Donington Park

More than fifty years ago, when brothers Dave, John and Ken Ritchie started holding auctions in a small town near Vancouver, they decided every auction would be unreserved, and open to the public. Fifty years and thousands of auctions later, that's still the way it is at Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers.

As one Ritchie Bros. customer says: "Having no reserves is the most important thing at an auction, whether you're buying or selling."

Ritchie Bros. conducts hundreds of industrial auctions around the world every year, and every auction is 100% unreserved. That means there are no minimum bids or reserve prices, and every item is sold to the highest bidder on auction day. Why does the company have so much faith in the unreserved public auction model? Because it's fair for buyers and it gets great results for sellers.

Ritchie Bros., the world's largest industrial auctioneer, holds hundreds of unreserved public auctions around the world every year. Tens of thousands of businesses of all sorts and sizes use the auctions to sell surplus equipment and trucks, sometimes just for one item, sometimes an entire fleet.

In April 2012, Ritchie Bros. started holding auctions at its Donington Park site, which is located next to the famous motorsport circuit in Derby. Several heavy equipment auctions are held in Donington Park throughout

the year, each sale attracting hundreds of bidders from all over the world. Bidders join the auctions in person at the auction site and live online, which expands the reach of potential buyers for the equipment seller.

Unreserved public auctions attract bigger crowds of on-site and online bidders. About 80% of the buyers at the auctions are end-users with specific equipment needs. Buyers come to Ritchie Bros. auctions because they know that if they place the highest bid on auction day, they're the new owner and they can put that new equipment to work right away.

Because Ritchie Bros. auctions are strictly unreserved, buyers know that every bid is legitimate – sellers aren't allowed to bid on or buy back their own equipment so there's no artificial price manipulation. Buyers need to be confident in the process before they will bid – which is why unreserved auctions attract the biggest crowds and deliver great results.

It's a simple concept, but it works. More bidders create more competition for a

seller's equipment. And when interested buyers have been able to test, inspect and compare equipment in person at a Ritchie Bros. auction site as well as online at rbauction.com, they're confident in the items they're bidding on and willing to bid higher to get the gear they want.

With hundreds of bidders participating in person and online from around the world at every Ritchie Bros. auction, sellers get access to motivated buyers from far outside their local market. More bidders from more places, more confidence, and more competition. It all adds up to better results when selling equipment and trucks. Every year Ritchie Bros. sells for several billions of USD worth of plant equipment and trucks for tens of thousands of customers around the world.

The beauty of an unreserved auction also lies in its ability to deliver certainty of sale – no waiting around for potential buyers, no haggling or negotiations. Sellers enjoy time and money-saving all-inclusive service, every item is sold to the highest bidder on auction day, and have cash in hand within 21 days.

Next Auction

Ritchie Bros.' next auction in the UK will be held on February 23, 2016 in Donington Park (East Midlands). Anyone interested in buying or selling equipment at an upcoming auction should contact the UK office at (+44) 133.281.9700. Get more details and equipment listings at www.rbauction.co.uk and follow the company at facebook.com/ritchiebrosuk.



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Ritchie Bros. is the world's largest industrial auctioneer. From humble beginnings we've grown to serve equipment buyers and sellers all over the world.



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Christopher Everett
Central United Kingdom

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+44.7827.965.159



Ryan Duffy
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+44.7717.492461



Paul Dolan
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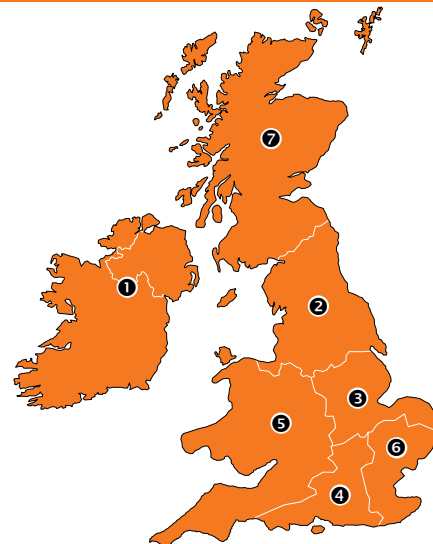
Steve Speed
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Highlights from Euro Auctions' Latest Event

The appetite for good quality plant and machinery at auction certainly hasn't diminished, with the latest Euro Auctions event at their Dromore headquarters attracting plenty of buyers.

More than 1200 lots were snapped up over the two day auction, with some 24% being bought by online customers.

The auction attracted over 550 bidders from more than 25 countries including UK, Ireland, France, Netherlands, Belgium, Russia, Japan, Germany, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Finland, USA, and New Zealand.

There was a vast range of items sold including

excavators, telehandlers, rollers, backhoes, cars, vans, commercial, forklifts, site dumpers, and wheeled loaders.

Some of the notable pieces of plant and machinery included a 2012 Scania G440, a 2015 Toyota Avensis, a 2011 Volvo L180G, a 2008 New Holland LM1745, and a choice of fourteen 2011 JCB 8014s, as well as a 2014 Hitachi ZX330 and a 2014 Hitachi ZX200LC.

Euro Auctions continuing success can be attributed to many things, not least the fact that knowing its customers' wants and needs is viewed by the company as being crucial to what it does.

"At Euro Auctions everyone is not just a bidding number, but a name. Euro Auctions is focused on customer satisfaction. In the tradition of a family-run business, we value the importance

of building long term relationships with our customers. Both Buyers and Sellers are dealt with on a personal level and we pride ourselves on the number of customers who return auction after auction."

Euro Auctions will have a full schedule of events throughout the New Year; not to be missed, so watch this space!



EURO AUCTIONS**LEEDS - UK****T. +44 (0) 1977 662 255****Roall Lane, Kellington, Nr Goole, Leeds, DN14 0NY****27th, 28th & 29th January 2016 @ 8.30am****2007 Case CX460LC****Unused New Holland
E385CLC - choice****2003 CAT 330CL****2006 JCB JS220LC****2011 JCB JS145LC
- choice****2008 Hitachi
ZX130LCN-3****2010 CAT 312D
- choice****2010 CAT M316D****2014 CAT 308E2CR****2009 JCB 8080ZTS****2014 CAT 302.7DCR****2012 Hitachi ZX29U-3
- choice****2011 Volvo A30F****2007 Volvo A30D
- choice****Unused Volvo L180G****2012 Case 821F
- choice****2009 JCB 3CX P21****2007 Terex 860****2010 Manitou
MLT741-120****2007 JCB 550-170
- choice****2007 JCB 540-170
- choice****2007 Bomag
BW219DH-4 - choice****2007 JCB VM166D****2008 Bomag BW135AD****2013 Fiat Doblo
1.3 TDI****2008 Genie S-65****2012 Pop up Wheeled
Access Platform****2011 FG Wilson
XD100P2****2005 Atlas Copco****2008 Atlas Copco****www.euroauctions.com**

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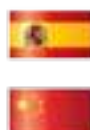
Handling - Lifting



Trucks



Attachments
& Spare Parts



350,000 adverts of used equipment from 80 countries

Construction - Mining - Handling-lifting - Trucks - Attachments & Spare Parts



Hitachi ZX85US

2009 - Ireland
Price on request



Hitachi 100-1

1995 - United Kingdom
Price : 10,900 £



Caterpillar 311

1997 - United Kingdom
Price : 9,750 £



Volvo ECR 145 DL

2013 - United Kingdom
Price : 71,000 £



JCB 416

2003 - United Kingdom
Price : 32,000 £



Volvo L150E

2004 - Ireland
Price on request



Doosan DL400

2005 - Ireland
Price on request



Komatsu WA500-3

1997 - United Kingdom
Price : 28,500 £



Daewoo D 25 S

2001 - United Kingdom
Price on request



Hyster H4

1995 - United Kingdom
Price : 3,500 £



Volvo A30E

2010 - United Kingdom
Price on request



Volvo A25F

2011 - United Kingdom
Price : 105,000 £



Bomag BW120AD-3

2003 - Ireland
Price on request



Hamm DV 90 VV

2006 - United Kingdom
Price : 18,500 £



Scania 114

2004 - Ireland
Price on request



MAN TGL 12.180

2005 - United Kingdom
Price on request



Grove AT422E

1995 - United Kingdom
Price on request



Tadano GR300EX

2005 - Ireland
Price on request



JLG 450AJ 45ft

2000 - United Kingdom
Price : 7,950 £



Manitou 160ATJ O/A

2015 - United Kingdom
Price : 37,000 £

MachineryZone.eu

Construction equipment online



The Advantages of Asset Finance

The construction industry is steadily growing year-on-year and with the ever-increasing demand for new machinery and equipment, business owners are looking at how they can finance their expansion.

Cash flow still remains a major challenge for many businesses in the industry and it is important that they have access to appropriate finance to fulfil their plans.

Traditionally companies would turn to their bank for a loan or overdraft, but these are not the only - or necessarily the best options - for every business. There are other finance solutions available and Close Brothers offers an alternative through asset finance and invoice finance. Close Brothers Commercial Finance has vast experience in providing flexible finance solutions to businesses across a variety of sectors throughout Ireland.

"Our expertise in the construction industry, combined with a variety

of products, such as refinancing and hire purchase, allows us to create bespoke solutions that are tailored for each individual customer. With the backing of Close Brothers Group plc, a FTSE 250 financial services company, our facilities help thousands of customers put their assets straight to work and keep working capital intact."

Asset finance is ideal for the construction industry, offering higher lending volumes and a sustainable funding method that allows a business to purchase equipment and machinery with a low capital outlay. It also offers a range of other benefits including tax breaks and flexible repayment schedules. It has evolved over the years and is now an increasingly

popular source of valuable funding for Irish businesses.

Benefits

These are just some of the great benefits of using asset finance to fund your business:

- Flexible – the loan is generally secured against the asset you are purchasing so there is a good deal of flexibility in terms of the asset you acquire, helping to free up your working capital.
- Unrestrictive – finance from Close Brothers does not impact on existing bank borrowing facilities.
- Predictable and stable – traditional funding solutions such as overdrafts and loans can be reduced or withdrawn at the bank's discretion. Asset

finance avoids this problem by agreeing monthly repayment profiles at the outset, giving you certainty around your financial commitments.

- Refinancing - an excellent means of raising funds against unencumbered company assets and an effective way of releasing capital. When banks are becoming increasingly reluctant to provide overdrafts and other alternatives may not be suitable for your business, refinancing is a great way to release funds.

To find out more about finance for the construction industry and how Close Brothers can help your business, contact the team on 02890 995 950, or visit www.closecommercialfinance.com



Specialist finance

Supporting the construction industry

Close Brothers Commercial Finance has vast experience in providing flexible finance solutions to businesses across multiple sectors.

The products we offer, such as asset finance, are ideal for the construction industry, offering higher lending volumes to support the purchase of equipment and machinery with a low capital outlay. It also offers a range of other benefits including tax breaks and flexible repayment schedules.

Here are just three examples of how we have recently supported construction firms across Ireland.



Product: Hire purchase

Facility size: £220,000

Description: A company specialising in all types of ground works had a requirement for a brand new excavator and a dump truck but lacked working capital.

A £220,000 hire purchase agreement was put in place meaning they could buy the equipment immediately, and spread the cost over the lifetime of each asset.

The speed of decision on the finance agreement was crucial and the firm was able to start increasing production and take on new contracts immediately.



Product: Leasing and hire purchase

Facility size: £725,000

Description: This customer specialises in road surfacing, transport management and ironworks and is a key partner to many of the major construction players in both the Irish and UK markets.

The firm urgently needed to upgrade their equipment having agreed a substantial long-term contract. Leasing and hire purchase enabled the provision of funds in excess of £700,000 to acquire the assets. The new equipment will ensure that the company can continue to deliver on its commitments to the highest possible standard.



Product: Refinance

Facility size: £300,000

Description: A crane hire and structural developments company required a new crane in order to service new contracts within the private sector.

The asset was sourced and purchased by the customer from Europe and once back in Ireland, Close Brothers was able to put in place a refinance agreement, releasing funds back to the business. This meant the company owners were able to enjoy the use of the crane immediately, whilst spreading the cost over an agreed period. They are now moving forward with new business plans which includes hiring out the crane to third parties.

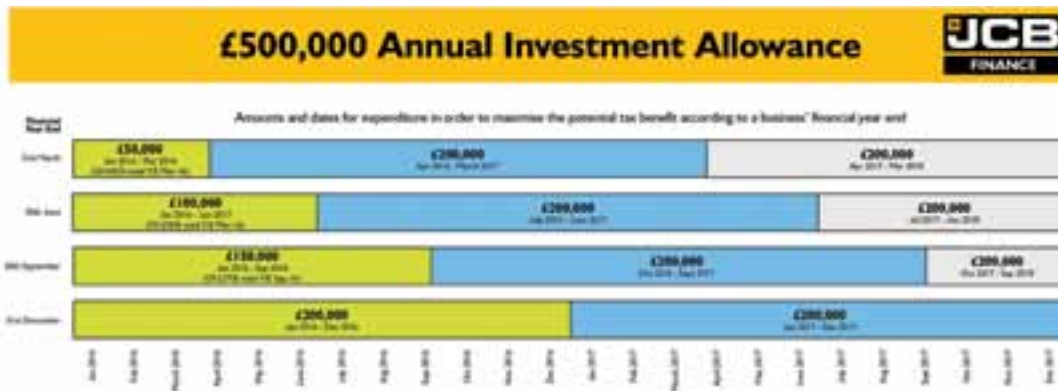
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JCB Finance

Impact of timing when it comes to plant purchases and maximising tax saving opportunities



Jcb Finance Provides Asset Finance Including Hire Purchase Facilities For Uk Businesses But Is Not A Tax Or Financial Advisor - Always Seek Advice From Your Accountant Or Tax Advisor Because Every Business' Circumstances Are Different.

After a period of uncertainty the Annual Investment Allowance settles at £200,000 from 1st January 2016, allowing for careful planning.

The Annual Investment Allowance (AIA) is a type of capital tax allowance that offers 100% tax relief on qualifying capital expenditure in the year of purchase. In the 2015 Summer Budget the Chancellor announced his plans to reduce the allowance

to £200,000 from 1st January 2016 (a lower reduction than predicted) and committed to maintain the allowance at this level for the rest of this parliament. A welcome sign of stability, following 3 years of uncertainty which made it difficult for long term tax planning.

How does the AIA work? From 1st January 2016 the first £200,000 of expenditure on business assets (e.g. plant

and commercial vehicles) per year is 100% allowable against taxable profits of a business, deductible in the year that you buy them. This accelerates the tax relief rather than the reducing writing down allowances (WDA) normally applied over several years. You can claim the AIA against qualifying assets placed on Hire Purchase (HP) – just as if you had paid cash.

What difference will timing make?

The chart below illustrates the maximum amounts available by showing four different financial year end companies and how vital it is to spend the right amount within the right periods in order to maximise the tax benefits.

Given the lead times for some machinery, from order to delivery, this also needs to be carefully factored in to your buying plans. Get the timing and /or the amounts wrong and your business could either miss out on available tax relief or worst still, end up paying far more tax than is required.

Other factors being equal, if your business is contemplating purchasing eligible plant or commercial vehicles in the near future, there are some strong tax-based and cash flow arguments to carefully plan the timing of your purchases so that you maximise on any available tax relief.



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CRJ Services add an Anaconda FTR to their hire fleet

CRJ Services recently took delivery of an Anaconda FTR150 tracked feeder conveyor, which they bought from Matpro Machinery who were appointed the exclusive Anaconda distributor for the North of England and Scotland late last year.

Cheshire (Knutsford) based CRJ Services is a leading hirer of mobile recycling equipment used to shred, screen and sort waste. From green waste to commercial, industrial and household waste, their equipment solutions help significantly reduce waste to landfill and create saleable products. Since 1999, CRJ have been building a reputation for providing the right equipment to their UK customers. It's their hands-on, can-do approach that's built such a solid reputation.

The FTR150 tracked feeder proved an excellent solution for CRJ's hire fleet. Ben McQuaid, Managing Director of Matpro Machinery, commented: "CRJ were very impressed with the FTR's ability to efficiently convey and stockpile a wide range of materials.



Ben McQuaid from Matpro Machinery is pictured handing over an Anaconda FTR150 to Rob Symons from CRJ Services.

"The FTR suited CRJ's requirements; where the user needs to control the flow of material output. Both the (feeder and main) conveyors on the Anaconda are fitted with variable speed controls

to ensure the operator has full control of the scalping/feeding process. The FTR is excellent at holding material within the hopper then allowing a regulated flow of material to travel up the main conveyor belt.

This particular function means that the FTR can be used to feed material onto screening and crushing equipment."

Rob Symons from CRJ Services adds: "We are happy with the FTR's application flexibility and it's excellent mobility which is ideal for any hire job. We know we can count on Ben's after sales support if and when we need it."

The FTR150 is available with an open feeder to accept all materials into the feed hopper or can be fitted with a remote reject grid to scalp off any oversize material present. There is also the option of fitting a vibrating grid to help separate/remove any unwanted large material that may be more difficult to scalp with the standard reject grid. This vibrating grid is available as a double deck where a further product can be removed and stockpiled.

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Work Progresses on A31 Magherafelt Bypass Scheme

The A31 Magherafelt by-pass is a strategically important route which links the West Tyrone and Mid Ulster areas to the M2, Belfast and the north east. It passes through Magherafelt town which suffers from significant traffic congestion, particularly during peak periods with parts of the existing road network within the town centre carrying around 17,500 vehicles per day.



Loves Road



Looking westwards towards Ballymoghlan drain and Killyfaddy Road



Ballymoghlan Drain

The bypass scheme aims to improve road safety, reduce congestion and thereby improve the town centre environment and improve journey times.

The six kilometre scheme represents an investment of £35million and entails the construction of a single carriageway, with sections of 2+1 overtaking lanes, through a largely green field site between the A31 Moneymore Road just south of Magherafelt and the A6 Castledawson roundabout to the north.

The bypass will commence with a new roundabout at the A31 Moneymore / Coolshinnny Road junction and will pass to the east of the town to connect directly with the existing A6 Castledawson roundabout. New roundabouts will be provided where the new road bisects the Ballyronan and Aughrim roads; all other side roads will be bridged over. Those sections of new carriageway between the Moneymore Road and the Ballyronan roads and between the Aughrim Road and Castledawson roundabout will be

constructed as 2+1 carriageways to facilitate overtaking and further improve on journey times.

The design and build contract was awarded to BAM/McCann consortium in February 2015 and they started work on the ground in May 2015. Construction is programmed across a period of 18 months, with completion expected in late 2016. Advance works including temporary fencing, ground investigation and archaeological investigations had already been completed which helped expedite the commencement of the main contract works.

The bulk earthworks has been helped by the dry spell during October and this element of the work is now well advanced. There is a good cut-fill balance on the scheme aided by a borrow pit near the Castledawson Roundabout.

The watercourse diversionary works and culvert installations have also now been completed and the accommodation farm underpasses and parallel lanes to facilitate adjoining landowners are also progressing well. The under bridges at Loves Road, Killyneese Road and Killyfaddy Road are also under construction; these comprise reinforced earth abutments and pre-stressed concrete beams.

On the opening of the bypass to traffic, TransportNI will monitor traffic movement within Magherafelt town to seek to optimise traffic progression and the sharing of town centre space.

The construction contract for this scheme has helped to secure jobs in the local construction industry and will contribute towards the continued economic development of the Mid-Ulster area.



LED lighting Pilot Project in Banbridge and Craigavon

Transport NI has let two contracts in the Banbridge and Craigavon area to replace conventional street lights with new LED technology.

Whitemountain Quarries Ltd and Braham Electrical staff are currently working through a replacement programme to retrofit around 20000 lights.

There are considerable savings to be made in energy and maintenance costs from LED fittings. The LED street lighting units last longer and consume less energy than conventional high and low pressure sodium lanterns. Whilst relatively large

sums of capital investment are required initially, immediate returns on running costs are achieved with a pay back on the investment in around 8 years.

Over the last number of years small pockets of LED street lighting have been introduced across Northern Ireland, and TransportNI will continue to introduce them as budgets permit.

Coleraine to Derry / Londonderry Renewals Project

McLaughlin & Harvey is well advanced with Stage 1 of its two stage Coleraine to Derry / Londonderry Renewals Project contract.

The contractor has been on site nightly since June 2015 and will complete Stage 1 by January 2016. Stage 2 commences in July 2016 and runs until December 2016.

During October and November 2015, McLaughlin & Harvey completed the relay of approximately 1400 metres of track at Bellarena during five week-end blockades. This included the installation of two new turn outs for the new passing loop at Bellarena.

The turnouts are cast manganese crossings on concrete bearers. This is the first occasion that this type of crossing has been used on Translink's network. It offers advantages in terms of durability, reduced levels of maintenance and in terms of sustainability, when compared to the traditional plain steel on timber sleepers used everywhere else on Translink's network.

Through the use of night time possessions, McLaughlin & Harvey Ltd has also built an 85metre long platform extension in Castlerock. The extended platform was brought into operation for passenger services on Saturday 21st November 2015.

Signalling Up-date

Meanwhile, Babcock Rail is making good progress with its Design & Build signalling and telecoms contract. It is currently in the second half of the design stage and will commence construction in January 2016. Construction will take 12 months and the project will be completed in December 2016.

Aerial view of the platform extension at Castlerock



Aerial view of site at Bellarena taken on 7th November 2015

The existing old Signalling & Telecomms system dates back to 1920's and 1930's. It will be replaced with a modern Signalling & Telecomms System.

Scope of Renewals

Scope of Renewals within the Project can be broken down to:-

- The new Signalling System between Coleraine & Derry~Londonderry based on Route Relay Technology
- A new Fixed Telecoms Network to form the backbone

for the Signalling System and support services

- An 800 metre passing loop at Bellarena
- Two new 145metre long platforms at Bellarena to accommodate trains which are 6 carriages in length.
- Provision of a Full Barrier Road Level Crossing at Bellarena
- Removal of the existing passing loop at Castlerock.
- Provision of a Full Barrier Road Level Crossing

at Castlerock remotely monitored from Coleraine

- Construction of an 85metre long platform extension on Platform No.1 in Castlerock.
- Improvement of Safety arrangements at 20 User Worked Crossings
- Rationalization from 3 Signal Boxes to one new Signal Control Centre in Coleraine.
- Installation of 270 km of new Copper and Fibre cables.
- Installation of 3 new Relocatable Equipment Buildings
- Installation of 3 Containerised Secure Power Supplies
- Construction of foundations for all Signal Posts, Relay rooms, Secure Power Rooms and Location Cases.
- Testing & Commissioning of a new Signalling & Telecoms system by the end of December 2016

A26 Dualling: Glarryford to A44 (Drones Road) Junction

Work is progressing on the A26 dualling in County Antrim. The £55m contract is being undertaken by BAM McCann JV.

This scheme consists of upgrading 7km of single carriageway to create a new dual carriageway which will closely follow the existing route corridor, and is expected to be completed by summer 2017.

The scheme will improve road safety along this length of the A26 for the 18,000 vehicles that use it each day, reduce traffic congestion at peak times and improve journey times.

So far, two-thirds of the earthworks

have been completed representing the movement of approximately one million tonnes of material. In addition, the realignment of a section of the River Clogh and the demolition of the

Crankhill bridge have been completed.

The construction of two reinforced concrete bridges are also underway and ten culverts have been installed. Utility diversions are also progressing.



Irish Mining And Quarrying Society Annual Dinner Dance 2015

The always enjoyable annual black-tie dinner took place in Dublin city centre on Saturday, the 28th of November 2015, at the Ballsbridge Hotel.



Sean Finlay, Siobhán Tinnelly (IMQS President), John Kearney (Guest Speaker), Katherina Kearney and Danesh K.Varma



Mr & Mrs Malcolm Morgan



Brendan Kieran, Siobhan Tinnelly, Carol Sanderson and Roy Sanderson



Céline Francois, Peter Lowther, Karen Lowther, Mike Lowther, Mary Griffin and Pat Griffin



Patricia Scanlon, Ray Scanlon, Professor Chris Bean and Dr. Aoife Braiden



Joan Morris, Brendan Morris and Dr. Eibhlín Doyle



Olive Magee, Darryl Magee, Maureen Harrison, Gordon Best and Yvonne Best



Brendan Kieran, Frances Tinnelly, Siobhán Tinnelly, Pat Tinnelly, Roisin Tinnelly and Niall Martin



Jane Braniff, John Braniff, Siobhán Tinnelly and Robert Tobin

Powerscreen Unveils Machines At South African & Australian Open Days

Powerscreen recently hosted an exclusive Open Day in Johannesburg, South Africa, in conjunction with local distributor ELB Equipment, following on the heels of a similar event at Perth, Western Australia, in conjunction with distributor there, Lincom Group.

The South African event was a huge success with over 200 customers arriving to view the vast array of Powerscreen machines.

The event showcased a total of 14 Powerscreen machines including the official African launch of the Powerscreen® Warrior™ 600 screen, and Powerscreen® Trakpactor™ 260 impact crusher. Customers had the opportunity to watch live demonstrations of the newly launched machines and were provided with an overview of all Powerscreen equipment.

There were two types of material used in the demonstrations on the Open Day, to show the versatility of the machines - a quartzite dump rock and decomposed sand stone. For the demonstration with the quartzite dump rock, the feed material to the Trakpactor 260 was 0 to 300mm which was then fed to the Warrior 600 screen. The Trakpactor 260 was configured with 60mm on the top apron and 30mm on the bottom. The material for the second demonstration was decomposed sand stone. The feed material was 0 to 100mm, however the settings on the Trakpactor 260 were changed to 40mm for the top apron and 20mm for the bottom to produce a smaller sized final product.



Visitor from across Australia and New Zealand attend the event in Perth

Commenting during the event, Stephen McCartney, Powerscreen International Sales Director said, "The Open Day was a huge success. Powerscreen has worked with ELB Equipment for more than 20 years and I believe that with ELB's wealth of knowledge of Powerscreen equipment and their commitment to customer support, our customers are in safe hands."

Australia

In Australia, Powerscreen the open event featured a working display of new Powerscreen crushers including the giant

Powerscreen® Premiertrak™ 600 jaw crusher and the versatile Powerscreen® 1150 Maxtrak™ Pre-Screen cone crusher. The crushing and screening train was completed with the established and well-respected Powerscreen® Chieftain™ 2100X incline screen.

Customers from across Australia and New Zealand watched live working demonstrations of the recently launched crushers and commented on their "seriously impressive performance."

Technical representatives from Powerscreen and Lincom presented the features of each of the

machines while the machine's productivity spoke for itself.

The major benefits of these machines include ease of operation and excellent serviceability and maintenance derived from design features. Both aspects of owning heavy equipment are crucial in countries such as Australia and New Zealand where customer sites can be remote and the closest service centre can be hundreds of kilometres away.

Commenting during the event, Stephen McCartney said, "We are very excited to host the Australian launch of our new Premiertrak 600 jaw, a machine which some customers have nicknamed 'the beast' due to its size and performance - even in hard rock applications. With the flexibility of two possible configurations of diesel-hydraulic and diesel-electric, it has a high output capability of up to 600 tonnes per hour."

"Here in Perth the Premiertrak 600 jaw, along with the 1150 Maxtrak cone, have pushed the boundaries of machine efficiency, delivering high capacity at an attractively low cost per tonne of quality finished material."



The open day in South Africa

excavators

A Powerful New Crawler Excavator from Hyundai

The new heavy line HX260 L, 26 tonne, crawler excavator is the latest heavy line machine from South Korean manufacturer Hyundai. The new powerful machine sits alongside its larger stable mate, the 30 tonne HX300 L.



The new HX excavator range has been designed by leading HHIE engineers and offers a big step forward in design and refinement over the previous 9A series of machines. The

machines are more energy efficient and feature a state-of-the-art 360-degree camera system. Hyundai has shown considerable initiative by making this integrated camera

system part of the standard specification on HX models.

Hyundai's new 'Advanced Around View Monitoring' (AAVM) camera system informs the operator when people or dangerous objects are detected, offering the operator hi-precision control over the machine and the surroundings. The camera system, which displays on the 8-inch cluster-monitor, comprises two major features: AVM (Around View Monitoring) and IMOD (Intelligent Moving Object Detection). Four cameras film at each side of the machine which means the AVM system offers a 360° overview of the field. The IMOD indicates all movements around the machine. Movement is shown on the monitor by

putting a rectangle around the moving object or by indicating the side at which there is movement by arrows.

Powering the HX260 L is the latest 142 kW Cummins QSB6.7 engine which complies with the latest emission standards Stage IV for the reduction of particles and NOX in exhaust gasses. Hyundai report that compared to the 9A series of machines, the HX range boasts a 90% reduction in PM and NOX. This results in a reduction of fuel consumption of up to 14%, depending on the type of operation, in comparison to Hyundai's 9A series of machines.

Economic

The HX260 L is fitted with an ECO Gauge which enables the

Better results are now



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excavators

economic operation of the machine. The gauge level and colour displays engine torque and fuel efficiency level. On top of that, it indicates the status of fuel consumption such as average rate and the total amount of fuel consumed.

The HX Series provides higher productivity onsite by faster operation: the HX260 L can load trucks up to 6% faster and levels up to 5% faster than the 9A-Series. In order to achieve efficient grading, the HX series can apply boom floating control using arm-in and arm-out operation only, allowing stable operation even in high-load work.

With the new engine technology, the side vent openings have been made bigger to ensure better air flow to the engine. The rear working lights have also been repositioned for a better view which is safer for the operator. A new machine guard has been installed and the air filters are now more accessible for maintenance.



The cabin has also been re-designed – a new larger front screen has been incorporated and the driver's door is now easier to open from the inside with an additional handrail. The interior of the HX-cab offers 13% more space for the operator (compared to 9A-series). A newly developed

air conditioning system provides better air circulation in the cab.

With improved air conditioning and heating, the HX Series increases the APTC capacity by 15% to provide a 'comfortable' working environment all-year round.

One of the most important innovations on the new HX series is the new and larger

8 inch touchscreen monitor.

It's also easy to read and the main view of the screen can be adjusted according to the preferences of the driver. It can be controlled via touch control and/or new haptic control switch, which is common in high-end passenger cars. Connecting to a mobile phone is easier than ever.

Hi-mate

The machine is also fitted with Hi-Mate, which is a remote management system, developed by HHIE. Through its satellite powered technology, customers can now enjoy an unmatched level of service and product support. With one press of the button, users are able to remotely evaluate machine performance, access diagnostic information and verify machine locations. It's even possible to program a virtual 'geo-fence' to prevent the machine from leaving a specific area.

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New Doosan Excavator for Confined Space Work

Building on advances from the company's previous 'LC-3' generation machines, the new Doosan DX235NLC-5 Stage IV compliant crawler excavator offers a narrow width design that is ideal for transportation and for work in confined spaces.

Featuring a distinctive new machine styling scheme common to all new Doosan 'LC-5' generation excavators, the DX235NLC-5 offers enhanced comfort and controllability with new features to boost fuel efficiency, uptime and return on investment, with a focus on increased power, robustness and agility.

The all-round performance of the DX235NLC-5 has been increased significantly compared to the previous model and includes 10% and 13% increases in engine power and torque, respectively. With lifting capacities that are similar or superior (on average 5%) than the previous machine, the new DX235NLC-5 also provides 10% more traction force and an 8% rise in bucket force. The noise level in the cab has also been significantly reduced by 3 dBA from 72 to 69 dBA.

The DX235NLC-5 is factory-installed with the new CoreTMS state-of-the-art wireless fleet monitoring system, a feature not previously available as standard on Doosan excavators and now incorporated in all new LC-5 generation machines above 14 tonne.

The DX235NLC-5 is powered by the well-proven 6-cylinder,



turbocharged Doosan DL06P water-cooled diesel engine which offers convenience and lower costs by meeting Stage IV emission regulations without the need for a diesel particulate filter (DPF), through the use of cooled exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) and selective catalyst reduction (SCR) after-treatment technologies. The DL06P engine provides an output of 121 kW

(162 HP) at 1800 rpm, an increase of 10% in engine power.

As well as the DL06P engine, which is one of the most reliable and fuel efficient ever produced by Doosan, new innovative and exclusive features have been introduced providing an overall 9% increase in fuel efficiency. Among these features is the new 'Trip Meter Setting' screen which allows operators to check fuel consumption daily (or over

a desired period) directly from the control panel and to save even more fuel, there is a special Doosan-developed system, Smart Power Control (SPC), to optimise the balance between the pumps' output and the diesel engine.

Increased Comfort

The new cab in the DX235NLC-5 is bigger than that in the previous model and has been further refined for outstanding operator comfort and ease of operation. The cab offers super controllability with a new system that enables attachments to be operated from either the joystick or a two-way pedal. Users also have the unique jog shuttle switch which remains a feature exclusive to Doosan excavators worldwide.

The joysticks have also been shortened to reduce the effort required to operate them and an additional pedal for straight travel has now been installed on the left of the main travel pedals, a very useful feature when travelling straight over longer distances. The operator console has been moved onto the seat suspension to reduce vibrations. This gives the operator much better control with the joystick in rough operation.