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May-Jun 2017

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There's a lot of positivity in the air as summer begins to unfold. It's good to hear that optimism has returned to Northern Ireland's construction sector, despite Brexit, the General Election and the lack of leadership at Stormont.

As the Regional Director of the Quarry Products Association NI noted, it's a completely different environment from where we were four to five years ago, and that confidence is reflected on our news pages throughout this issue of Plant & Civil Engineer.

However, there is a small, but dark cloud on the horizon south of the border that can't be ignored. A recent survey by the Ireland Chapter of the Project Management Institute highlighted fears of a skills shortage. The findings on the potential implications of Brexit for Ireland revealed 60% of those surveyed said there are not enough experienced Irish project and programme managers to fulfil the country's PM needs across a number of sectors, including manufacturing and construction..

But back to more positive events: in this issue, we carry a comprehensive preview of Plantworx 2017. Being held in Leicestershire, it has attracted over 360 exhibitors, more than 140 of them making their show debut. Other shows we cover include CQMS, Vertikal Days and Demo Expo, and we take a look back at a very successful four day Balmoral Show.

We focus, too, on concrete under the theme 'Concrete Built is Better Built,' and we report on what's new in Crushing & Screening and in the world of plant hire, finance and auctions.

In our 'View from the Cab' series, we have been hearing about a Liebherr L576 wheel loader, the first of its kind in Ireland, and we profile a number of successful companies, among them Balloon Hire who are celebrating 30 years in business, and Sleator Plant, whose year has got off to a roaring start.

Preparations continue for this year's Plant & Civil Engineer 'Plant, Construction & Quarry' awards and we have a number of exciting new categories; you'll find all you need to know elsewhere in this issue.

Finally, a reminder about the first ever Plant & Civil Engineer Masters Golf Event at the 5 star Lough Erne Resort on the Fald Course. It is being staged on Wednesday 21st June 2017. Again, you can find all you need to know about how to take part elsewhere in this issue.

Well, that's all for now. In the meantime, you can keep up to date by logging on to our soon to be revamped website at www.plantandcivilengineer.com

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New Hyundai Distributor Makes First Delivery to Distillery

JD Forktrucks, based in Newtownabbey, has recently been appointed as the region's exclusive distributor for Hyundai Heavy Industries forklift trucks and warehouse equipment – and it has already secured its first Hyundai Forklift sale.

The order for a 2.5 tonne diesel powered 25D-9 was placed by the world-renowned state of the art Echlinville Distillery located near Kircubbin, Co. Down.

JD Forktrucks was established in 1980 and specialises in the sales, servicing, long and short term hire of Diesel, LP Gas and Electric forklift trucks.

JD Forklifts Managing Director John Cooke said, "We were looking to expand the business with a recognised quality brand. We knew of Hyundai's excellent reputation for its forklift trucks and warehouse equipment so we contacted the Hyundai's head office in Belgium.

"We met with Hyundai's fork truck divisional sales manager Gino Van de Auwera and discussed the terms of taking on the brand and within a very short time JD Forktrucks was officially announced as Hyundai's exclusive forklift truck distributor for Northern Ireland."

He added, "We were very impressed with not only the whole Hyundai set up, but



Pictured here are Shane Braniff (left) with John Cooke

the quality of the trucks, the vast stock of over 300 machines and a 95% of spare part guaranteed availability within 24 hours delivered to the customer's door."

The 2.5 tonne diesel powered 25D-9 was delivered to Echlinville Distillery just a few weeks ago.

The company is headed up by Managing Director, Shane Braniff, who is no stranger to the Hyundai brand as he used to own and race a Hyundai Accent WRC World Rally Car in 2004 and 2005 with his co-pilot Vincent Fergus.

"We have a very good relationship with JD Forktrucks and have been buying trucks from

the company for over 25-years. They also offer a very good service and keen pricing.

"We chose to purchase Hyundai as the brand in the UK has become synonymous with reliability and quality. The warranty on the machines is also excellent. When John showed me the brochures for the 25D-9 I was impressed - the machine looked very good and very fresh. I particularly liked the digital screen and the substantial tyres on the truck – I can honestly say that these are the biggest tyres on a forklift truck I have come across.

"We chose the 25D-9 because it was slightly bigger than what we needed and it gives us the capacity to lift a heavier load if required. This from a safety and operational perspective is important. The forward vision is excellent – possibly the best out of all the trucks I have looked at.

"The machine also has an electric hand brake system which is combined with an anti-roll back function. This means that if the machine is inclined more than three-degrees and the machine comes to a stop, the handbrake is automatically activated to prevent the machine rolling back – which is an excellent safety aspect. We also specified extra side-shift and fork positioners as I think they are a must – and I am not sure how people can work their machines to their full capacity without them."

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Dan Coen takes up the role of MD with Groundforce UK

Specialist ground engineering and equipment supplier Groundforce UK has appointed Dan Coen as Managing Director.

Dan joins the company, bringing to the business a strong track record of delivering results and senior role expertise in the construction sector, most recently with Tarmac RMX where he was Regional Director for the Northern and Scottish businesses.

Prior to joining Groundforce Dan has worked for 10 years with the Tarmac group in distribution, logistics and commercial positions; roles which his background as an Officer in the Corps of Royal Engineer served him well.

Dan says: "I am very excited to have joined such an industry leading company with an impressive reputation. I'm looking forward to identifying



ways in which we can build on this even further."

David Williams, Managing Director, Groundforce & TPA, added: "I am pleased to be making this appointment, Dan has all the right qualities including, experience, commitment and vision to continue to take our business forward."

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Lagan Construction Group Acquires Major Plant Investment

Lagan Construction Group's Plant Department has welcomed several new state of the art, bored piling rigs to its already substantial inventory of Plant and Machinery.

By further investing in the new Soiltec SF-65 and Soiltec SR-95 bored rigs, Lagan Construction Group has been able to boost its in-house capability and reduce rental costs - leading to even more cost effective solutions being offered to clients.



(L-R) Mark Nelson (Soiltec), Pat McKay (Lagan Construction Group) and Niall Magill (Lagan Construction Group).

With investment in plant and machinery to date surpassing £4.5million, Lagan Construction Group prides itself on being able to provide an 'end-to-end' service that takes into account all provisions necessary to facilitate an effective and competitive service.

The new Soiltec bored rigs will be operated by FK Lowry Piling (part of Lagan Construction Group) and reflect the businesses desire to carry out larger diameter and deeper CFA and Rotary Bored Piling for numerous applications in Ireland, the UK and beyond.

The SR-95 drilling rig is capable of a Rotary Bored drilling depth of 41m with a 4 part x 11.5m long Kelly Bar and 26.5m deep CFA piles in 2-line CFA quick change mode.

Lagan Construction Group's Piling Division continually focuses on developing the most innovative piling schemes, supported by industry knowledge and experience gained over four decades. It is dedicated to providing high quality foundation and infrastructure solutions for projects of all sizes and complexity - from major civil engineering schemes to large commercial contracts and one-off residential developments.



MAN Measures Up For Specialist Drains Service

MAN Truck & Bus UK has provided drain cleaning experts Contract Services Dgn Ltd with a new TGS 26.500.

The new truck will replace an older model and has been fitted out with be-spoke spec equipment to lead the drain cleaning operation of the Dungannon-based firm.

Director Patrick McKenna explained: "We had an MAN that needed replacing and again, when we looked at all the different specs and offerings, it was the MAN that offered the best PTO for the job.

"It has been fitted out in Germany with specialist drain cleaning equipment that allows it to recycle the water from the drains to continue the cleaning process using that.

"The new MAN TGS is an upgraded version of our old vehicle and we are looking forward to getting six or seven years of service from it too."

Brian Beattie, area sales manager for MAN, said: "The truck is very impressive. The specialist equipment has been supplied and built by a German company to meet the specifications required by Contract Services, and it was fantastic that the TGS met the rigorous conditions imposed on it for the drain cleaning service.

"The vehicle is unique and will be leading the way in Contract Services drain clearing operations throughout Northern Ireland."



Irish project management leaders fear skills shortage ahead of Brexit

Project management (PM) leaders fear a Brexit skills shortage, according to a survey by the Ireland Chapter of Project Management Institute (PMI).

The findings on the potential implications of Brexit for Ireland revealed 60% of those surveyed said there are not enough experienced Irish project and programme managers to fulfil the country's PM needs. Concern for this labour gap is mounting,

as almost 70% of respondents expect Brexit to increase the complexity of their projects. Two in three (66.67%) also anticipate a rise in the next 12 months in the resources needed to complete projects. Over 50,000 are employed in PM across Ireland, in sectors such as IT, public sector, financial services, construction, pharmaceuticals and manufacturing.

The results came ahead of the Ireland Chapter of PMI's

annual national conference, with the theme Challenge in Changing Times.

Ireland Chapter of PMI President Niall Murphy said the results of the members' poll highlights a worrying skills deficiency. "With our close economic ties to Britain, we cannot underestimate the effect that triggering Article 50 will have on Irish businesses over the coming two years. At the same time, companies here will be dealing with the implications of an increasingly evident skills shortage in the project management sector.

"Project management will be instrumental in navigating this uncharted territory that is Brexit, from managing a company's future trading relationships with the British market, to working with major financial institutions who are expected to relocate here. Without a sufficient supply of skilled project managers nationwide, there is a concern projects will not be effectively delivered. This shortage needs to be tackled, as it will ultimately effect the Irish economy as a whole."

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CASE G-Series Wheel Loaders Lift Operator Comfort To New Levels

CASE Construction Equipment has developed the quietest, most comfortable wheel loader cab, available across a new seven-model range of G-Series machines. The G-Series wheel loaders deliver the highest possible levels of visibility and control, providing operators with the perfect working environment to maximise productivity.

"Next year will mark the 60th anniversary of CASE Construction Equipment wheel loaders," said Alain de Nanteuil, CASE EMEA Wheel Loader Product Manager. "Through the years every generation has introduced new innovations and capabilities and this all-new G-Series generation of CASE Construction Equipment wheel loaders is the biggest leap forwards."

The cab is the wheel loader operator's home and their office, and it plays a major role in their everyday life. Drivers can spend many hours a day in the machine, making cab comfort and working environment an essential component of a productive machine. CASE Construction Equipment has a history of innovation, pioneered through many generations of wheel loaders, since 1958. The G-Series cab takes comfort and visibility to a new height, delivering a host of improvements.

This includes a full width panoramic windscreen, a colourful Premium Control interface with 8" display, fully adjustable seat-mounted control console, the security of a password-protected ignition and the ease of automatic bucket functions adjustable from within the cab. The operator also benefits from smooth, low effort loader controls, an active suspension seat and the machine features hands-free mobile phone connectivity.

Building upon the popular CASE F-Series cab, which already boasted a best-in-class windscreen size, the G-Series loaders have a one-piece curved front screen that provides an unparalleled view from side to side, from the ground to the sky. Along with a slim engine cover, heated rear window and multiple rear view mirrors, the G-Series wheel loaders deliver a level of front and rear visibility that has never been seen before.

REDUCED NOISE

In-cab noise levels are a full 2dB lower than the previous generation of machines. The 521G to 821G loaders boast just 68dB



in the cab, while the 921G to 1121G have noise levels set at just 69dB, the lowest internal levels yet seen on a CASE loader. The cabs benefit from improved primary and recirculation air filtration, with longer filter replacement intervals. High effectiveness and Active Carbon filters can also be supplied for tough working conditions.

The operator control interface in the G-Series wheel loader cab is easy to use, contributing to improved controllability and productivity. A bright, full colour 8" display is easy to read regardless of external light conditions, delivering intuitive navigation through machine settings and information screens. The display also provides a wide view rear monitor when required.

There is a new control pad for automatic bucket functions to be set and adjusted from within the cab. The seat-mounted console is fully adjustable and features a wide armrest and ergonomic joystick that, combined with

electro-hydraulic controls and the redesigned premium active suspension seat, delivers accurate control in all working conditions.

A joystick steering option provides two equally-sized joysticks with wide armrests on both sides of the seat, like CASE Construction Equipment excavators. Joystick steering features speed proportional sensitivity with three settings that allow the operator to perfectly match the machine to every operation and jobsite requirement.

New features include an integrated microphone that, combined with a Bluetooth connection and automatic answering function, allows operators to answer phone calls safely without taking their eyes off the working area or their hands off the controls. Operators will also welcome the convenience of multiple storage areas for documents and personal effects and a fridge box option that can keep food and drinks fresh and cool all day.



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Six constructors achieve top award from Considerate Constructors Scheme

The UK's very highest performing construction sites, including several located in Northern Ireland, have been awarded the coveted title of 'Most Considerate Site' at the Considerate Constructors Scheme's 2017 National Site Awards.

The Scheme's National Site Awards are one of the most revered accolades within the UK construction industry. They recognise Scheme-registered sites that have demonstrated the very highest level of consideration in respect of the community, environment and workforce.

This year, sites were eligible to win the top accolade of 'Most Considerate Site' within the following six 'project value bands': Under £500k; £500k to <£1m; £1m to <£5m; £5m to <£10m; £10m to <£50m; and £50m and over.

The winning sites are:

- **King Edward Skate Plaza** - Robert Woodhead Ltd (Under £500k) This project involved the construction of a new skate park located in the King Edward Park, Sneinton, a short distance from Nottingham city centre.

- **M&S Dulwich SF** - Wates Smartspace (£500k to <£1m) This work involved the creation of an 800 sq. m. food hall within a retail unit located on a busy high street in Dulwich, South East London.

- **Noah's Ark Children's Hospital for Wales Phase 2** - Post Occupation Works - Interserve Construction Ltd (£1m to <£5m) On the outskirts of Cardiff, this project comprised external works to complement the recently-completed Children's Hospital for Wales.

- **Discovery Academy** - Carillion Construction Ltd (£5m to <£10m) This project involved the construction of a new school in a residential area on the outskirts of Hattersley, near Hyde in Greater Manchester.

- **Foyle College and Ebrington Primary School & Nursery** - Heron Bros Ltd (£10m to <£50m) This ongoing contract involves the construction of a new college, primary school and nursery on the site of a former army barracks in a residential area of Londonderry.

- **Ulster Hospital Phase B2 - General Ward Block** - Graham Bam Healthcare

Partnership (£50m and over) In the grounds of a large operational hospital in Dundonald, near Belfast, this work involves the ongoing construction of a new seven-storey ward building.

Considerate Constructors Scheme Executive Chairman Isabel Martinson said: "Congratulations to all 2017 National Site Award winners. Winning an award with the Considerate Constructors Scheme is a huge achievement, as only the top-performing sites are eligible for such an accolade.

"The successes of award-winning sites demonstrate the importance of embedding the core principles of the Scheme's Code of Considerate Practice, creating a positive long-term legacy for the local community, environment and workforce.

"Special congratulations to the Most Considerate Site award winners, who represent considerate construction at its very best. Each of these sites is a beacon of best practice for the industry, having clearly shown exceptional effort and commitment in pursuit of improving the image and reputation of the construction industry."

MCS Launch New System and Mobile App

MCS experienced a lot of interest in its MCS-rm hire management software application at the recent Executive Hire Show when it launched its new embedded CRM system and new CRM Mobile app. MCS were able to demonstrate how the new functionality could improve communication between a hire company's back office staff and front line sales team.

MCS ran several software demonstrations over the two days taking significant sales leads from the show.

Nick Thomson, Sales Director for MCS, was pleased with how well the new CRM launch was received and goes on to explain, "Using MCS-rm's integrated CRM means that a hire company has a single interface to share all client contact, order and hire data company-wide. The CRM solution is unique to MCS and means that a hire company can now work together as a close-knit team to build stronger customer relationships to consistently meet and exceed their clients' expectations. With the CRM Mobile app, each sales rep is far more productive as they record their activity while on the move and there is no time wasted rekeying data on return to the office."

Twelve months ago, MCS launched their paperless Workshop Mobile solution that tracks real-time updates to works orders from engineers on the move. MCS Workshop Mobile relies on powerful GPS vehicle tracking and resource scheduling software JobWatch in conjunction with their software partners BigChange. To build upon that success, this year MCS shared its stand with BigChange and the combined solution continued to generate a significant amount of new interest.

MCS has exhibited at the Executive Hire Show for the last eleven years and the show has always proven to be the perfect platform to demonstrate their leading hire software solution, MCS-rm.

Adds Nick: "We are passionate and dedicated to all things 'rental' and are keen to learn more about how the industry is changing as well as being able to demonstrate our own software innovations at the show. Our visitors were keen to learn how our MCS-rm hire management software can improve a hire company's efficiency and profitability and by giving them direct hands-on experience of our mobile solutions, they have given us really positive and useful feedback."

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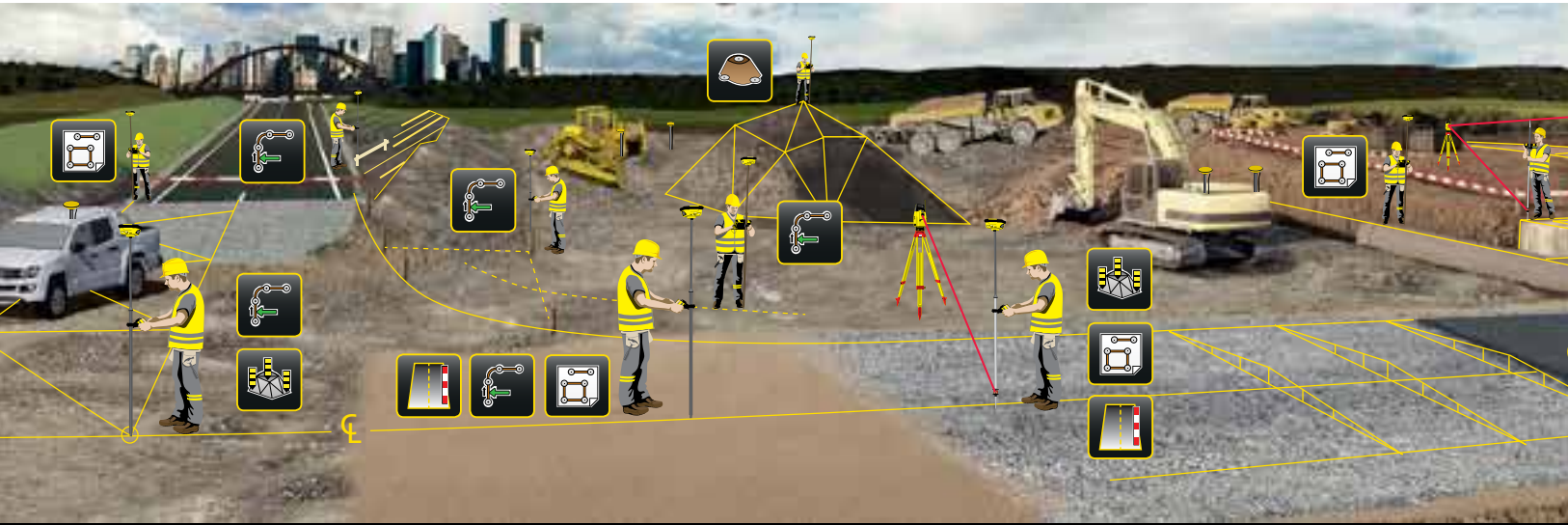
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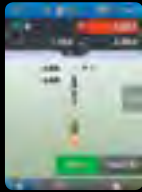
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New virtual-environment risk assessment training launched

CITB NI have created a specialist training partnership with South Eastern Regional College (SERC) to deliver a brand new virtual environment risk assessment training programme to help businesses understand the basic processes involved in making their workplace legally compliant.

And with figures showing many businesses have never carried out a risk assessment in the workplace, it could be welcome news for business and anyone who has responsibility for health and safety.

The course entitled, 'A Beginners Guide to Risk Assessment' has been devised to combine the theory behind why risk assessments are necessary with practical activities that will enhance understanding of the process using an innovative and novel approach.

The training will be delivered over three hours and is designed to be useful to all sectors of industry from SME's that need to be able to produce risk assessments to win or undertake contracts to large multi-national organisations that have a number of individuals responsible for health and safety issues.

The course will be delivered at CITB NI premises using their virtual environment training facility (VET360) to place course



Pictured are David Cooper CITB NI and John Gault South Eastern Regional College getting ready for the new innovative training programme – Beginners Guide to Risk Assessment.

participants in 'virtual' environments to identify potential risks in total safety.

The course will be delivered by SERC head of health and safety John Gault. John explains; "We are delighted to be working with CITB NI on this brand new way of learning. Participants can safely inspect potentially hazardous workplaces to spot hazards, assess risks and suggest solutions in a fun and interactive environment. The course will help participants understand what they need to do to assess and control risks in the workplace and comply with health and safety law. As a result business can improve

their health and safety performance and their reputation amongst customers."

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive of CITB NI commented, "We have been using VET360 to enhance the learning experience of participants on a number of our courses with great success. Being able to display 360 degree video footage that puts the observer in the middle of the work environment really makes the learning and awareness raising much more meaningful than traditional classroom-based learning methods. The development of this generic risk assessment course in partnership with SERC is the first in a series of training and awareness raising projects we are planning to develop which will support many sectors of industry".

Alongside the use of the VET360 facility a number of practical staged scenarios have been incorporated into the training. These activities allow the participants to practice undertaking a Risk Assessment using recommended pro forma templates that they can adopt to use in their own business or organisation.

Training began at the end of April followed by sessions on Friday 26th May and Friday 16th June.

For more information or to enrol please contact Lorraine Fisher email: Lorraine.fisher@citbni.org.uk Tel: 028 9082 4202

Construction apprentices compete to be the best at Skillbuild NI 2017

Over 75 local construction apprentices gathered their tools to compete against each other in the annual Skillbuild NI National Finals which was held recently in Southern Regional College, Portadown.

Skillbuild NI, which is now in its fortieth year, is supported by the Department for the Economy helping to assist with maintaining and raising the status and standards of professional and technical education and training.

The competition is run and governed by CITB NI, is held annually each spring with many winners progressing further to represent Northern Ireland in the Skills Show UK and potentially at WorldSkills.

The Skillbuild NI competition is designed to test skills, technique and ability within tight timeframes in order to win coveted titles in 11 different trades ranging from brickwork to wall and floor tiling.

The competition has the support of local construction employers who sponsor each category.

Maurice Johnston, Chairman CITB NI said: "CITB NI is proud to have been involved in construction skills competitions for 40 years. Skillbuild NI is about raising the status and standards of professional and technical education and training. We have a proud record of success at skills

competitions not only on a local level but also on a regional, national and world level.

"Skillbuild NI gives all the competitors a chance to showcase their skills and we congratulate everyone who has taken part and those who have excelled in their trade. Skillbuild NI couldn't happen without the support of the local sponsors and the training network and we extend our

thanks to all who have helped the apprentices to be able to compete at this competition.

"We would also like to extend our best wishes to the Northern Ireland competitors who will be taking part in UK team selection for WorldSkills Abu Dhabi in October. Our young people are more ambitious now than ever and we hope that Skillbuild NI National Finals will be part of their journey and future careers within the construction industry."

Brian Doran, Chief Executive, Southern Regional College said: "We at Southern Regional College are privileged to have been selected to host this year's prestigious Skillbuild NI National Finals. I congratulate the competitors, many of whom have travelled long distances to participate in this event. For competitors, today is an important stepping stone to future skills competition success throughout the UK and WorldSkills competitions. I wish all the competitors every success in the future and have every confidence that those selected to go forward to UK and WorldSkills competition will continue the proud tradition of success at a national and international level."



Pictured is Richard Shannon Gold winner in Joinery and Skillbuild NI Overall Young Apprentice of the Year 2017 with Sarah Travers.

Plant & Civil Engineer Golf Masters

WEDNESDAY 21st JUNE 2017



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THE LIEBHERR L576: WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

Jim Bolton was so impressed by a Liebherr 507 loader he used on his farm back in the day that he has stuck with the brand ever since.

Now operating a sand and gravel quarry, a business he established in 2002, at Faheyamore in Bridgetown, County Clare, his latest machine is a Liebherr L576, the first of its kind in the country, and not surprisingly it replaces an older 576 model which has served him well over the past 10 years.

With 14,000 hours on the clock, it was time for a change, says Jim, and the new L576, featuring XPower, is living up to his high expectations.

XPower is an innovative machine concept which combines performance, fuel efficiency, robustness and comfort. It brings together the hydrostatic and mechanical drive. The interaction between these two different drives is continuously adjusted automatically to the given application. As a result, XPower offers the optimal level of efficiency during material loading and transport, as well as providing maximum acceleration and performance along all loading cycles – including long routes.

"We are very happy with the machine's performance. It has great digging power and is more fuel efficient than the model it has



replaced," says Jim. "I reckon it is only using about 16 to 17 litres per hour when working.

"We have used other loaders in the quarry, but the Liebherr stands out, not least because of its handling, stability and performance. We work our machines here pretty hard. The Liebherr is operating from seven in the morning until six in the evening, and so far we have had no problems."

The man who's mostly in the cab is Ted O'Halloran, who has been driving machines for almost 40 years, and he is mightily impressed.

"Compared to the older model, this new loader is a lot quieter; you wouldn't hear it

running - and it's a lot smoother and a lot more comfortable. The improved hydrostatic drive systems make a big difference," says Ted.

He adds: "The controls are very easy to master; it is fully automatic. Visibility from the cab is excellent and the air conditioning system copes with all types of working environments, from bad weather to dusty days."

UP CLOSE

So, that's what the owner and the operator think about the new machine. Now let's get more up close and personal with it.

The modern, ergonomic cab design allows the operator to work with high concentration without fatigue – this increases safety and productivity. The displays, controls and operator's seat are carefully coordinated to form an ergonomic unit.

As Ted pointed out, the generous glass surfaces of the cab offer exceptional all-round visibility of the attachment and working area. The design of the engine hood which has been optimised for viewing provides ideal viewing towards the rear as well as monitoring behind the machine from the Liebherr display. This ensures maximum safety



SPECIFICATION

Model: Liebherr L576 wheeled loader
Engine: Liebherr Diesel D936A7, six cylinder, turbo-charged, watercooled
Power: 218kW/296hp
Operating weight: 25,500 kg
Bucket Capacity: 4.70-5.2 cubic metres
Tipping load: 17,500 kg



for people, the machine and the load, while increasing productivity at the same time. Optimum storage areas and stowage spaces and optional cool-box increase operator well-being. With air conditioning as standard, the improved cooling output ensures a pleasant working atmosphere. This gives the operator maximum comfort and high productivity.

ERGONOMIC CONTROLS

The operating and control instruments are well laid out and user-friendly. All operation-relevant data can be viewed quickly and efficiently. The high operating comfort allows the operator to work particularly efficiently and safely.

The Liebherr control lever, which is built into the operator's seat as standard, allows all working and manoeuvring operations to be performed with a high degree of precision and sensitivity. The new electrical-hydraulics system allows the operator to programme the lift arm and bucket positions from the cab. The proportional control of hydraulic attachment is carried out by the Liebherr control lever with mini-joystick. The hydraulic attachment can be controlled with great sensitivity and very ergonomically. The tipping speed for tilting back and dumping can be regulated individually and quickly via the touchscreen display which is height-adjustable and comes as standard, allows all operating-relevant machine data to be viewed and configured quickly. Visual and acoustic warning devices ensure high operational reliability.

SIMPLE MAINTENANCE

A well serviced machine, of course, will mean you get the very best out of it, so thanks to the unique mounting position of the components, maintenance is made simple and easy. All points requiring day-to-day maintenance can be reached comfortably, safely and cleanly, while anti-slip steps and sturdy handrails provide a high degree of safety. The engine hood, which opens up electrically towards the rear, ensures safe, free access to the entire engine compartment. The service points are easy to see and reach. All maintenance work can be carried out comfortably and safely from a level base in the engine hood. This ensures time-saving maintenance and increases productivity. Improved access to the windscreen and cab filter box is provided by the access on the right hand side of the machine. Sturdy hand rails and a fold-out ladder provide a high level of safety during cleaning and maintenance.



Groundforce & MEIC deliver secure solution to sensitive water scheme

Groundforce has supplied an intricate cofferdam solution to allow the construction of a new pumping station on the River Clodiagh near Holycross, County Tipperary.

The new intake works is part of Phase 1 of the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme for Irish Water and will replace existing water supply sources that are vulnerable to contamination.

Main contractor Glan Agua in conjunction with their civil engineering partner MEIC Ltd have built the new intake chamber and pump house on a site directly alongside the river, upstream of the R661 Rathkennan road bridge.

The new facility also includes an underground holding tank with associated pipework, power supply and service ducting, as well as landscaping around the installation.

The site is within a Special Area of Conservation with unusually high numbers of otters, crayfish and lamprey in the river and badgers in the surrounding fields and woodland. Pollution control and habitat preservation were therefore given top priority.

Approximately 50 x 15m-long precast concrete piles were required to support the concrete structures of the pump house, gravity main and intake chamber. These were installed by specialist contractor Taranto Ltd.

Three interlinked cofferdams were required for the construction of the facility with a safe, dry working area inside despite the poor silty ground and the high water table. The excavations reached a depth of 6m with the water table at 1.5m below original ground level.

The cofferdams utilised 7m long Larsen L603 sheet piles to enclose the intake chamber and gravity main. The holding tank – which is located underneath the pump house itself – required 11m-long Larsen L605 sheet piles.

Support for these cofferdams was provided by Groundforce' heavy duty hydraulic frame, Megabrace, with 150-tonne



capacity HSK150 hydraulic props installed as knee-braces across the corners.

In the deep excavation housing the holding tank and pumping station, Groundforce provided three levels of Megabrace and eight knee-braces. "Once the concrete piles had been installed and the base slab cast on top, MEIC Ltd were able to remove the two lower braces, giving a clear opening of almost 13m x 13m," says Groundforce General Manager Joe Lenihan.

The excavation linking the gravity main and the pumping station was also supported with two levels of Megabrace, with four 80-tonne capacity HSK80 hydraulic props used to provide lateral support.

Groundforce also supplied MEIC with EdgeSafe edge protection, LadderSafe access ladders and pile-cropping equipment to trim the concrete piles ready for the base slab to be cast on top.

MEIC Ltd's main concern was to ensure safe working and environmental protection on the small and very confined site. After consulting with Groundforce, it was decided to use sheet piling to create the cofferdams which, in

the end "proved to be the backbone for the safety and success of this project," according to MEIC project manager Eoin Delaney.

"The high water table was factored into the design of the shoring system with water ingress minimised to such an extent that it was much easier to dewater than anticipated," comments Mr Delaney.

He adds: "There was complete confidence in the safe access provided to the excavations themselves due to the strength system. And as the sheet-piles were kept in place for approximately three months it was crucial that workers could confidently work within these underground work-zones productively and safely."

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CQMS'17 HAILED A MAJOR SUCCESS

CQMS'17 has been pronounced a major success by exhibitors and visitors alike. The show which recently took place at Molloy's Quarry near Tullamore, Co. Offaly drew a significant proportion of Ireland's construction and quarry industry on Friday's Trade Day and huge crowds from the trade and the general public on the Saturday.

Visitor numbers were up by over 3,500 on the figures from the 2015 to 7,809 over the two days with 1,668 trade visitors and 6,141 paying at the gate. There were 200 exhibitors at the show, 80 more than at the 2015 event.

Many exhibitors complemented the organisation of the show saying it was a very well run, highly professional event with over €90 million worth of equipment on show from the major plant dealers.

"CQMS rivals the best of its kind internationally. It was a resounding success. It is a must-attend event for

everyone who has anything to do with quarrying and construction. There was serious interest shown by those attending with hardly a track-kicker amongst them," commented Michael McHale, managing director, McHale Plant Sales.

"It was a very successful show. The organisers made a great effort, it was very well run and organized. All the exhibitors put their best foot forward and our 'Dancing Diggers' proved to be a big attraction," said Denis Murray, managing director ECI JCB.

"A good show all round. See you in two years time!" added Barney O'Reilly, sales manager, McSharry Bros Plant Sales (Hitachi).

"It's a good show, we sold four machines. We are very happy with the quality and caliber of the visitors," commented Seamus Flynn, EMS, and added Enda Eiffe, Finning Cat: "We are very happy, we have had a very positive show – all good, no problems. We will be back."



New Optidrive developed by Avant to improve performance

Avant has developed a new, innovative solution for improving the performance of the drive circuit in Avant loaders.

The drive system in Avant loaders consists of a variable displacement hydraulic pump, four hydraulic drive motors and some



valves which are connected together with hydraulic hoses and fittings. This system where the drive power is conveyed from engine (electric motor on Avant e-series) to the wheels using hydraulic oil is often referred to as drive circuit. Instead of mechanical axles Avant uses a design where there are four separate hydraulic drive motors, one on each wheel of the loader. Avant was the first manufacturer to design and utilise such a system in a compact loader. This system has proven to be very effective, offering lots of pushing power and yet enabling a very compact design to the loader while maintaining an extremely low center of

gravity, which is an important part of the great stability of Avant loaders.

Through research and development Avant has now improved this system with an innovative way of rethinking. When hydraulic oil flows at high flow rate in the drive circuit – in hydraulic hoses, fittings, motors and valves – the resistance in these components heats up the hydraulic oil. The more there are hoses and fittings, the quicker the oil heats up, which means that all that unnecessary heat generated in the system uses a part of the engine output in vain. This also results in higher fuel consumption and less engine power is available for the actual job.

In the new system the amount of hydraulic hoses and fittings has been radically reduced and optimised, where the name Optidrive™ derives from as well. The new Optidrive™ is a standard feature first in Avant 700 series, later also in the 500 and 600 series.



Terex Washing Systems Announce Direct Selling In Ireland



Terex Washing Systems (TWS) making their debut at the recent CQMS Show in Co. Offlay announced Direct Selling in Ireland.

Garry Stewart, Ireland Sales Manager, commented: 'The show was a great success and provided the best platform to announce this exciting news. We had the opportunity to meet in person many potential customers who visited the stand to see our AggreSand™ 206 innovative washing solution. We are very excited at what lies ahead and look forward to getting focused in our home ground.'

The decision for TWS to sell direct in Ireland is based on a number of key fundamentals. TWS see the Irish market as buoyant and in a period of growth and with commitment to providing outstanding customer support and expertise TWS are returning to their roots having identified Ireland as the core market to sell their extensive range of solutions directly.

TWS are also committed to getting closer to the customer and this is achieved by TWS strong team of technical experts who will have direct contact with Irish customers to develop bespoke solutions. In addition there is a dedicated team of experienced engineers to develop solutions, assist with installations along with providing the highest level of aftersales support to maximize production and minimize downtime.

Given the location of TWS headquarters, in Ireland, TWS believe they are best placed to serve Irish customers, logistically it is easy to visit customers, provide local service and local parts. This is typical of how TWS distributor network supports customers in other markets around the globe.

TWS 'Showroom'

Oliver Donnelly, TWS Business Line Director, commented: "Direct selling in Ireland present TWS with a fantastic opportunity to get back to our roots and get

close to our customers in our local market. Part of the strategy involves developing customer 'partnerships' to allow us to work closely with customers so they can assist with product development initiatives.

"TWS have witnessed very strong growth across the water in UK and wish to establish and facilitate a similar growth in Ireland. We are keen to develop Ireland as the 'showroom' of the globe, introducing a range of wet processing solutions to our customers, which will invariably also assist our global sales effort."

Finance Solutions

TWS also launched a 'CQMS Show Special Direct Customer Finance Offer', with rates as low as 0%. This financing is offered through Terex Financial Solutions (TFS) which provides tailored finance solutions so you can get the equipment you require, while managing your cash flow.

The offer is valid until 30th June 2017. More information on this

can be obtained by contacting your local Ireland Sales Manager Representative, Garry Stewart

Centre Stage

TWS AggreSand™ 206 took centre stage at CQMS, alongside the Terex Minerals processing MC1150 Cone, which provides a one stop crushing, screening and washing solution. TWS team of technical sales and application experts were on hand to speak with customers and show them firsthand the key features of the AggreSand 206 solution, which has the capability to produce up to 3 aggregates and 2 sands.

It's a highly versatile integrated washing solution with outstanding performance capability across a wide range of materials. Its readily portable format makes it particularly suitable for green-field applications / contractor use / temporary planning permission sites but operators more used to static installations will still appreciate the small footprint and minimal site preparations required. In all cases installation time is significantly less than conventional builds thanks to the high level of factory pre-fitting and connections. The no-compromise design ethos adapted ensures maximum serviceability and performance despite the highly integrated and compact nature of the system with numerous innovative features including easily removed pumps, ready access to screening media and intuitive controls. The range includes numerous modular configurations but all are based around the choice of a 16x5' or 20x6' washing screen and a choice of sand output capacities.

FJS Plant Repairs Ltd showcase their range of machines at CQMS 17

FJS Plant Repairs Ltd had a strong showing at the recent CQMS 2017 exhibition in County Offaly.

Their stand featured a Liugong 915E, Tier 4f machine, equipped with a Cummins QSB 4.5, 90KW, 4 cylinder turbo charged engine.

Its hydraulic system included Kawasaki pumps, motors and control valve with each pump output at 132ltr p.m, main relief pressure of up to 375 bar, which in turn gives exceptional breakout force. The 915E can also be purchased as a demolition spec machine which includes FOPS, ROPS, PTO pump and rotation lines, side protection.

Also on show was a Dressta TD15r, equipped with 37" single grouser track shoes, Cummins QSB 6.7, 220hp (164KW) 6 cylinder turbo charged after cooled engine. The engine boasts 6 forward and 6 reverse speeds.

One of the keys features of the machine is the well proven Dressta 2 speed steering system; this steering system ensures that no extra horse power is drawn from the engine while steering under load, this reduces fuel consumption and increases pushing performance.

Attracting attention on the stand, too, was a Luigong 939E full demolition spec, 39 Ton Excavator, equipped with a Cummins QSL9 Tier 4f, 6 cylinder VGT, 290hp (213KW) engine. It is equipped with Kawasaki hydraulic components and Rexroth boom and arm security valves. It also comes



with a fixed displacement PTO pump, and proportionally controlled rotation lines. The machine is protected by 8mm belly plates and additional side protection guards, FOPS & ROPS systems. The bucket ram is protected by a sliding guard to ensure no

damage while working. This machine can also be purchased in the standard format.

Also on the stand was the NC SW9-12RRV which has been specially manufactured to work as a Rail machine. It includes a new designed skip, two electronically control valves to control rail gear, LED work lamps, modified cab with extra seat and protection grill.

Meanwhile, combined with the Kubota stand the full range of Kubota machines were on display. Kubota excavators needs no introduction as they have been the No. 1 selling mini excavator in Ireland for the past number of years. Adding to that range now are the RT range of loaders and and the KC range of track dumpers which were also on display.

Completing the FJS display was a FRD FXJ375, 2.7 ton hydraulic hammer to suit 25 – 42 ton excavator. This hammer boasts having no through bolts which in turn gives it the lowest lift time costs of any breaker in its class.

And finally, on show, too, was a Robi MP25r multi processor, which can be used for primary, secondary demolition and steel cutting, with its opening jaw width of 439mm. all Robi equipment is manufactured in Finland, and boast a good power to weight ratio.



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Darryl Calls Time on His Career in the Publishing World

Former publisher of our sister magazine Export & Freight and more recently publishing consultant Darryl Magee has retired from the industry, which he has 'served' for over half a century.

At 78, Darryl says he wants to spend more time with his family and grandchildren, but equally he wants to pursue his passion for golf, painting and singing, and who could deny him that after such a successful career in the publishing world.

Having spent much of his life working alongside Darryl, Plant & Civil Engineer editor David Stokes recently met up with him to recall the good old days, and typical of his sense of humour, he cautioned: "I don't want this to sound like an obituary – there's a lot of life left in the old dog yet!"

He adds: "It's been a difficult decision to step down. I love the industry and the people in it and I will miss the buzz and excitement of getting out and about meeting clients, many of whom have become good friends over the years, and remain so."

A qualified HGV driver, Darryl spent many years 'test' driving trucks and vans for Export & Freight magazine, for which he reported from all over Europe and further afield. "I will definitely miss the travelling, although I haven't done so for a few years now."

However, he'll certainly not be putting his feet up. As an active member of Portadown Male Voice choir he has a full schedule of engagements lined up. "Over the coming weeks we will be doing concerts all over the north and south of Ireland, and I also want to take up painting once again and, of course, there'll be the odd holiday abroad, so I don't anticipate being bored."

While Darryl may miss the association of his work colleagues, his work colleagues and business partners will most definitely miss him.

Comments Plant & Civil Engineer publisher Garfield Harrison: "I am proud to say that Darryl has been my mentor for the last 20 years and I have learned so much from him. His energy, passion, desire and publishing skills have been so evident over the years and he will be sorely missed."

"His people skills, whether on the editorial, advertising or HR side, are amazing and the one thing he has always drummed into us that you should always 'treat people the way you would like to be treated yourself and you will never go far wrong'. This is what all of us at Plant & Civil Engineer have tried to adhere too."

"Everyone at Plant & Civil Engineer wish Darryl and his wife Olive a long, happy, healthy and well deserved retirement."

Those sentiments have been echoed by fellow Plant & Civil Engineer publisher and Editor-in-Chief Helen Beggs: "I have known Darryl for almost 30 years and he has always been an absolute gentleman, both in business and in his personal life."

"Our business wouldn't exist today if Darryl hadn't founded Export & Freight some 45 years ago and we owe him a great debt of

gratitude for that. He taught Garfield and I all we know and the standing and respect in which the industry holds him is extensive. He will be sadly missed by all who know him in the industry and we wish him nothing but happiness on the golf course and with his wonderful family and grandchildren."



*Starting out all those years ago
– Darryl with Billy Austin*

Another life-time friend is Billy Austin who grew up with Darryl in Portadown and who, in some ways, was a catalyst for Darryl's long and successful career in the publishing world. Their professional paths first crossed at the Portadown Times, a weekly newspaper that was then part of the Morton Group.

Recalls Billy, an accomplished artist who now runs his own print & design company, Austin Graphics: "As Advertising Manager at the Portadown Times there came a time I needed an assistant, and who better, I thought, than my old mate Darryl. A quick learner, he was soon promoted to Advertising Manager of a sister paper, the Lurgan Mail."

"Along with another advertising colleague, Ivor Smith, sadly now deceased, and a great editorial team behind us, we helped build the Morton Group into a highly respected and very profitable enterprise."

"Darryl and I became Directors in the Morton Group and as new challenges called we

decided to set up our own operations. Darryl founded Export & Freight, along with the late Andrew Crozier, and I started my own company, and as they say, the rest is history."

Not quite! A lot happened along the way. Tales of Darryl's exploits are as boundless as they are endless.

As a salesman he just didn't take 'no' for an answer. Persistence was his middle name. Like the time we were working on the Lurgan Mail, me as Deputy Editor and Darryl as Advertising Manager. He had been striving for over a year to encourage a local fashion retailer to begin advertising in the newspaper again after a 22 year 'break' brought about by an earlier experience when the shop owner had taken out a full page advert, the headline of which should have read in very large and bold letters: 1,000 SHIRTS FOR SALE.

Alas, when the paper was published on that Thursday morning, to everyone's horror, someone had failed to spot that the letter 'R' was missing from the word 'SHIRTS.' The owner didn't quite see the funny side, even though all 1,000 shirts sold out very quickly!

It led to the retailer shunning the newspaper for over two decades before Darryl began appearing on the scene week after week after week. At first, the shopkeeper kept showing him the door, but he finally relented. Darryl got a 'yes' and the retailer was back on the advertising pages. Darryl's perseverance had paid off, a quality that has contributed to his outstanding and prolonged success in the publishing world.

Adds Billy: "There was always a serious side to business, but there's no doubt our early days were filled with fun and laughter. Great times, indeed. I wish Darryl a long and happy retirement."

As we all do here at Plant & Civil Engineer. Our office door will always be open to him.

*Darryl captured
on canvas by his
life long friend
Billy Austin*



Sennebogen Sprint To The Fore

Two new Sennebogen Material Handlers recently passed through the Dublin premises of Pat O'Donnell & Co., en route to two customers in the greater Dublin area. One will operate in the timber industry and the second will function in the scrap metal industry.

Pat O'Donnell & Co has been representing Sennebogen since 2015 and these two machines represent the customers' first Sennebogens. However both customers had previously operated Volvo machines, supported by parts and service from Pat O'Donnell & Co.

Pat O'Donnell, Managing Director of Pat O'Donnell & Co. commented, "We have been working hard to increase Sennebogen's market share in the Irish market. Like all our products we believe that Sennebogen are industry leaders in terms of product design, quality and value.

"We have a long established reputation for excellence in after-sales support and this coupled with the quality of the Sennebogen product range is delivering sales throughout the island of Ireland."



Lyle Cairns, informing the students on good practice employed by Acheson & Glover; Cathy Maguire was on hand to ensure Health and Safety is maintained.

South West College students witness Bio-diverse quarry

South West College Dungannon construction students enjoyed a very successful site visit to Acheson & Glover Quarry in Pomeroy and Fivemiletown.

The Level 3 construction students' visit was arranged to focus on Health & Safety issues, sustainable construction and building technology, to assist with their studies.

Acheson & Glover highlighted how they can address their corporate responsibilities being innovative in their approach to biodiversity.

Demonstrating their care for the local environment, Lyle Cairns (Operations

Manager) and Cathy Maguire (Health & Safety officer) indicated how the functioning quarry can sustain nesting Sand Martins which are migrating from South Africa, and how nesting Peregrine Falcons can remain on site, even when there is blasting in the area.

Furthermore, the company showed the students how the sandpit is reinstated after extraction, to support both local fauna, wildlife and their habitat.

It with is with such a visit that the students can be assessed on site, and remain well informed on current industry practice, all of which help raise the standard of learning.

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For Earth, For Life


Quinn Building Products Increases Productivity With New Renault Trucks

As part of an on-going investment programme that will replenish its full fleet over the next four years, leading construction product manufacturer, Quinn Building Products, is driving productivity and efficiencies across its operation by specifying 50-tonne Range K 8x4s and 39-tonne Range C 10x4s.

Supplied by the Northern Ireland Renault Trucks dealer, Diamond Trucks, the four 13-litre 50-tonne Range K480 Xtrem 8x4s, with Benne Marrel tipping bodies, Optidriver automated gearbox with Optibrake + retarder, are on steel suspension throughout – three leaf on the front and ultra-heavy duty 11-leaf on the 32-tonne bogie. The 34 tonne payload enables each Range K to carry six to eight tonnes more on every load.

The Range Ks are part of a fleet of 26 eight-wheelers that transport 1.4 million tonnes of limestone rocks and crushed stone from the company's Swanlinbar quarry running on an 11 kilometre private road over the Slieve Rushen mountain to its Portland cement production plant at Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan.

Following extensive research to find a road truck that could operate at 50 tonnes, Quinn Building Products' Transport Manager, Gearoid Gilheany, identified the Range K480 Xtrem as the truck that met all his criteria.



Gearoid says: "This is all about productivity. We're already running vehicles at 35 to 42 tonnes, and we wanted to move to 50 tonnes road truck. Most of the equipment on the Range K Xtrem is standard, and payload advantage is fantastic – each truck runs 12 to 14 times a day across the mountain, which amounts to increasing productivity per vehicle by 100 tonnes each day, it's very impressive. We will be replacing more of our fleet shortly, and the improved productivity of the Range Ks will allow us to reduce the number of vehicles to 20."

He continues: "Although it's early days, we're pleased with the performance of the Range

Ks. The Optidriver automated gearbox has been very well received by the drivers, and the trucks are working well on the challenging terrain, both in the quarry and over the mountain road. Fuel is also impressive, too."

Working for Quinn Cement and Quinn Lite, transporting bagged cement and thermal blocks across Ireland, the company's two new 39-tonne Range C380 10x4s provide the flexibility of five axles in the South and reverting to 32 tonnes when operating in Northern Ireland. The trucks, with fifth rear lift and steer axle, Thompson off loader body and Palfinger PK 18001 L crane, handle an increased payload of 4 tonnes over standard 32-tonners.

"The payload difference on the Range C five axles gives us an additional 22.5% every load, which means improved productivity and fewer journeys," comments Gearoid.

All maintenance of Quinn Building Products' total fleet of 150 trucks and 150 trailers is undertaken at the company's in-house workshop. Although located some 90 miles from Belfast and from Dublin, the company enjoys good back-up support from Renault Trucks, with Diamond Trucks holding impress parts for the Range Ks and Range Cs, as well as the existing Kerax, available for same or next day delivery.

Safety Management Must Be A Priority For Construction Industry

As the local construction industry continues to recover specialist risk and insurance law firm BLM says firms here must make health and safety a priority and consider the precedent set by new sentencing guidelines in England and Wales.

Five fatal injuries and 137 major accidents occurred within the construction industry in Northern Ireland between January 2015 and September 2016 and the Department for the Economy reported 510 new jobs within industry sector in the last quarter of 2016, therefore, according to BLM partner Patrick Connolly, prioritising safety management is crucial for employers.

"The emotional and reputational costs of workplace accidents can be very grave, however, they are only part of the story. The financial consequences of health and safety failures have the potential to fold a business," said Patrick Connolly. With new 2016 sentencing guidelines entitled 'Health and Safety Offences, Corporate Manslaughter and Food and Safety and Hygiene Offences' already being introduced in England and Wales, he is urging firms to take heed and ensure their safety systems are fit for purpose and compliant.

"The impact of the new guidelines in England and Wales will mean that many

construction businesses will find themselves incurring significant fines and increased threats of custodial sentences for directors and managers.

"Although not applicable to the Northern Ireland courts, there is a precedent to follow the legal footsteps of our English and Welsh counterparts. For instance the referral to 2010 guidelines by the Belfast Crown Court led to the first major corporate manslaughter case in 2012. It is crucial therefore, that companies recognise the importance of the 2016 Sentencing guidelines in this jurisdiction".

The range of fines vary considerably based on where culpability and harm are pitched

so, for example, a large company with high culpability and harm category 1 can expect a fine between £1.5m-£6m with a starting point of £2.4m, whereas medium culpability and harm category 2 would attract a range between £300k-£1.5m with a starting point of £600k.

These recent changes will put added pressure on construction companies to adopt pre-emptive assessment systems which highlight areas of risk and potential harm. BLM says improving the behavioural safety would be time well spent by any company.

"Despite new sentencing guidelines being a relatively recent development, the message on safety is indisputable – it is the penalty for getting it wrong that has become the real sting in the tail."

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R BUNTON LTD: MORE THAN JUST A PLANT HIRE COMPANY

The family run business R Bunton Ltd has come a long way since it was first established in 1970; today it is one of the country's leading players in the plant and contract services sectors.

Based at Wilsden in Bradford, the team at Buntons have a combined wealth of knowledge and expertise across a range of areas including plant and machinery hire, groundworks and landscaping, excavation contracting, construction and civil engineering, haulage and aggregates.

Their large fleet of plant is available for hire and is constantly being upgraded and expanded to ensure customers have the very latest, specialist equipment to hand; indeed, very little in the hire fleet is more than two years old.

Whatever your needs, Buntons will have it, with a fleet that includes wheeled and tracked excavators, wheeled and tracked dumpers, rollers, dozers, as well as mobile crushing and screening units.

"Our fleet is modern, efficient and reliable as we only buy the most advanced and productive machinery from leading manufacturers such as Volvo, Takeuchi, CASE, Kobelco, Hidromek, Bergmann and Komatsu," says Bunton's Richard Goodyear. "And all our machines are regularly serviced to the manufacturer's specification by our in-house service team."

The company, however, not only hires, but it also sells new and used machines, including those from the entire range



of tracked and wheeled dumpers from German manufacturer Bergmann.

"After running many other makes of tracked dumpers in our own fleet we made the decision to renew our fleet with a machine we believe to be superior in size and manufacturing quality. After adding some Bergmann 4000 and 3000 models to our own fleet we became UK dealers for the entire range."

Buntons is also the UK distributor for Hidromek machines which are manufactured in Turkey and have been established for nearly 40 years. Hidromek's committed investment strategy has enabled the company to gain the position of Turkey's leading production and export firm within its own sector.

"We can supply all Hidromek machines for purchase, whether these are from stock, fleet or shipped over to order. We run a number of Hidromek backhoe loaders and tracked excavators in our own fleet for short or long term hire-receiving excellent feedback from our customers and operators using the machine. We also have machines available for demonstration hire."

With a good 'used sales' reputation, Buntons can supply a broad range of well known machine brands, all of which are modern, of excellent quality and which have been well looked after.

"Due to renewing the majority of our fleet on a rolling two-year cycle most of our plant comes available for sale at a relatively





young stage in its life with a low number of hours on the clock and in extremely good condition. The majority of our machines are hired with our operators and the machines are regularly maintained by our service team.

"We have many customers who return to buy more machines from us and we have an established reputation in the overseas markets for used plant and machinery. We can also organise shipping and delivery arrangements for those buying from outside the UK."

Contract Services

Buntonts, though, is not just a plant hire company, as we mentioned. It also operates in a number of other specialist areas.

Its construction and civil engineering teams are well equipped with both experience and modern plant machinery and over the years have worked on a wide variety of major projects - from sewer and drainage projects, waste disposal sites to flood controls, reservoir spill ways, road building and re-surfacing-working with utility companies and offering a 24 hour/7 day a week call out service for emergency works.

The company also provides site clearance services. From clearing debris and vegetation, to large scale remediation works for site preparation, there is nothing they can't tackle.

Utilising an extensive fleet of tipper wagons, tracked dumpers, dump trucks and earth moving excavators, the skilled workforce at Buntonts can cater for any size of earth moving project.

Their excavation and muck shifting service is available for all sites, from private residential clients to large scale site clearances and site preparation works, while its groundworks

division specialises in landscaping, civil engineering, utilities and drainage.

The company also has 20 years' experience in the construction of excellent equestrian arenas/walkers etc. for the commercial livery yard or leisure rider at home. It can



build arenas to any size or specification with extensive drainage systems and layers and using a top surface of the client's choice.

Haulage Services

In addition, Buntonts operates an extensive fleet of Euro 6 wagons and 80 ton gross vehicle weight low-loaders capable of moving anything from a mini digger to a 50 tonne excavator, or to deliver aggregates and remove spoil from construction sites.

The company hold a National Operator's License and has approval

by the Environmental Agency as an Approved Waste Carrier.

Crushing & Screening

Another avenue Buntonts are active in is Crushing, Screening and Aggregates. It operates a modern fleet of crushing and screening machinery, taking care of the required site permits as part of the package.

"Our crushers are suitable for operation on site, as are our mobile screeners, providing a scalable solution for the recycling of excavated waste material. Once crushed, materials can be screened and sized accordingly ready for re-use as hardcore and cappings.

The company operates a Sandvik QJ341 mobile jaw crusher, as well as an Anaconda DF410 scalper screener, and a Sandvik QE141 mobile screener.

Community Support

As a company with family values, Buntonts also put a lot back into the surrounding communities, sponsoring events, groups and charities. "We are more than delighted to do so to show our support for the community we live and work in," says Richard.

Past sponsorships have been for the Bronte Vintage Gathering show in aid of Sue Ryder, local riding club horse shows, Kudos motorbike racing, Worth Valley Young Farmers, Cameron Jones Racing and the Xtreme Stunt Team.

For more information on the products and services provided by R Buntont Ltd, log on to the website at www.rbuntont.co.uk



A Million Reasons to Appreciate Your Water

There are now a million reasons to appreciate your water as NI Water and Farrans Construction celebrate laying one million metres of watermains on the ongoing £100 million Watermains Improvement Programme.

As NI Water approaches a decade of delivery, investing £1.8 billion in water and wastewater services over the past ten years, this programme of work delivers what matters for customers by replacing watermains across Northern Ireland, dramatically improving the quality, reliability and security of the water supply, while also reducing leakage.

The Farrans team, based at NI Water's Headquarters in Westland House, North Belfast, have been working on this current framework since 2007. As well as installing enough pipe to stretch from Dunmurry to Dusseldorf during this 10 year period, Farrans have also fitted 6,000 valves and hydrants and worked on over 3,500 roads over this phase of the programme. Over 80 staff from Farrans and more than 50 local sub-contractors have been



Pictured here (l-r) are Kevin Corley Farrans Construction, Derek Crabbe, Bill Gowdy, Paul Davison, Paul Harper, Sara Venning (all NI Water) Brian White and Keith Cunningham (Farrans Construction).

involved in the contract bringing a boost to the local economy.

Sara Venning, NI Water's Chief Executive, said: "I congratulate the NI Water team and Farrans on reaching this ambitious "one million" watermains milestone. Our customers throughout Northern Ireland will undoubtedly benefit from

the improved drinking water quality, reliability and security of their water supply, as well as the environmental benefits, such as reducing leakage.

"It's amazing to think that the "million metres" of pipeline has stretched from quiet country roads in South Armagh and Fermanagh to the thriving hub of the city centre in Belfast.

"This milestone proves that great progress has been made in improving the watermain infrastructure throughout Northern Ireland. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the teams involved and look forward to seeing continued progress on this scheme for the next 5 year phase of the ongoing infrastructure improvement programme."

Kevin Corley Operations Director at Farrans added: "Farrans is

delighted to have reached this major milestone working with Northern Ireland Water. The strong and trusting partnership between Farrans and NI Water teams is something which has been established authentically over the past 10 years.

"This partnership has been key to the success of the framework and, ultimately, to the provision of improved quality, reliability and security of drinking water supply for our customers throughout Northern Ireland."

The scale of the water mains project has required extensive work on local roads. However, where possible, contractors use state of the art low-dig technology, which means that many of the mains can be laid without the need to open large trenches.

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Kevin Corley Operations Director, Farrans Construction and Sara Venning Chief Executive of NI Water pictured celebrating the "one million metres" milestone of watermains on NI Water's ongoing Watermains Improvement Programme.

InnovateNI Demonstrate Time Saving Leica Geosystem Tools



'Recreating the Real World' and 'Measuring Anything from Anywhere' were the themes of a recent demonstration and training day held by survey equipment provider InnovateNI, who are the authorised distributor for Leica Geosystems.

The day at the company's Antrim headquarters, focused on the Leica DISTO S910 and DISTO 3D products, with trained staff highlighting the various innovative features and advantages of these invaluable tools.

InnovateNI's Andrew Bovill says those unfamiliar with the products were surprised at how cost effective and time saving the products were, especially the Leica DISTO S910.

The Leica DISTO S910 is the first laser distance measurer that captures multiple, accurate

measurements in three dimensions from a single location, radically improving the efficiency of common measuring tasks.

"It is a hand-held device that can measure quickly and accurately at height from the ground, so makes the process a lot safer as there is no need for access like cherry pickers or ladders," says Andrew.

The DISTO S910, which can also be mounted on a tripod, measures the tie distance between two points, even if you are hundreds of feet from your target. Shoot Point 1 then Point 2 and the DISTO S910 displays the distance between them. Widths, heights, diagonals, gaps, it doesn't matter: Just measure the start and end point and the distance is displayed.

You can shoot the corners of any polygon to determine the area of walls, floors, even complex roof shapes. It also enables you

to shoot three points to measure any angle (including outside angles, which is a first).

The Leica DISTO S910 connects to compatible mobile apps with Bluetooth and exports DXF files over WiFi.

Meanwhile the hand-sized DISTO 3D is also a unique tool. It captures and projects highly accurate three dimensional measurements. Simple and easy to use, it overcomes many of the challenges on a jobsite and eliminates a lot of manual and time consuming work.

The speed and precision of the 3D DISTO brings unprecedented efficiency to applications like creating CAD templates, 3D visualisation and navigation, capturing as-built measurements and Building Information Modelling.

For more information, contact InnovateNI on 028 9590 3535.



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FJS Plant Ltd continues its investment in Kubota

FJS Plant Ltd, one of Ireland's leading construction equipment dealers, is seeing year-on-year growth following significant investment in its fleet of Kubota mini-excavators.

The independent machinery dealer has built up an excellent reputation as a market leader in Ireland in the supply, repair and maintenance of mobile plant and construction machinery. However, in the three years of being Kubota's dealer in the east of Ireland, major success has been achieved.

Fast moving to 2017 and FJS is one of fastest growing construction equipment dealers in Ireland. Frank Smyth, owner of FJS Plant Ltd, commented: "Prior to 2013, we didn't sell excavators in the 0.8t to 8t category as our business was based predominately on service. We had the opportunity to work in partnership with Kubota to sell its market leading range of high performance excavators and the business has flourished."

In its first full year as a Kubota dealer in 2014, Frank and his team sold 38 excavators. In 2015, this had more than doubled to 88 machines. Since then, significant growth has continued with 2017 expected to be a record year.

The growth of the business is a real success story. The quality of FJS' product offering with Kubota and the first class aftersales service it provides is a big hit with its customers.

Frank continued: "It's quite straightforward really, we are providing Kubota machines that our customers love, they never let them down and are the most reliable on the market. This, coupled with the hard work and dedication of our staff, makes it a good formula. The market has also picked up massively in Ireland since 2013, which is fantastic news for our economy."

FJS has doubled its staff in the last three years, now employing 17 people. Recent orders include key deals with a number of Ireland's premier plant hire businesses,



including Tullamore Hire, Wicklow Hire, GK Hire and Hire Here. Along with Kubota, the company is also a main dealer for ROBI Equipment, FRD Furukawa and the agents for FDC Final Drive Centre.

Frank also puts FJS' success down to the fact that people in Ireland like to own their machines as opposed to hiring, with confidence in the reliability and residual value of Kubota a key factor. To expose more potential consumers to FJS, the firm is also a sponsor of Irish rally driver Aaron McCale in partnership with Xcavate Hire, a popular competitor within the sport.

All of this plays a part in Kubota's rise in construction sales across the board, as they solidify their market leading position in compact machinery sales in Ireland.

CDE awarded Best Managed Company status by Deloitte for the 10th consecutive year

CDE was recently confirmed as a Deloitte Best Managed company for the 10th year at the gala awards ceremony in Dublin. The ceremony was attended by over 900 professionals from the Irish business community.

CDE has achieved Best Managed Company status every year since the awards started in Ireland in 2008 and is one of the only eight companies in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to be recognised every year for 10 years in a row.

CDE has been fast growing overseas with projects commissioned and installed in 90 countries around the globe

and this resulted in a significant growth in sales in recent years.

Commenting on the award, Brendan McGurgan, Managing Director, CDE said: "This award reinforces our motivated team working together in a high level of excellence and ethics to deliver innovative projects and achieve our strategic goals, always keeping the CDE values at the core of what we do. We put our people first so consequently they put our customers first making each of our projects unique and this allows our business to be recognised at prestigious awards such as this."

The CDE team has grown significantly over the last 12 months with the addition of 30

new people in the first quarter of 2017. The team is composed of professionals from Northern Ireland and many other countries and the multicultural environment makes CDE a motivating place to work and this has been attracting talents from all over the world.

The company has ambitious expansion plans in 8 regions around the globe and this includes a new headquarters project in Northern Ireland.

The new headquarters will facilitate the further growth that the company expects to achieve in the years ahead according to Managing Director, Brendan McGurgan.

"We are entering the most significant period in the history

of CDE as we continue to build our global presence. The approach we have taken in recent years has allowed us to establish the strong foundations in our key strategic markets that will ensure we are able to continue to meet our ambitious growth plans while maintaining the levels of innovation and engineering excellence upon which the CDE brand is built."

In addition to the plans for the new headquarters in Northern Ireland, CDE has also established offices in Brazil, Australia, India and the USA to better serve the Americas, Australasia and Asia's markets and these will continue to grow over the next few years.



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VERTIKAL DAYS MOVES SOUTH



Vertikal Days, the biggest European crane, access and telehandler event of 2017, will be held at a new venue with more space and facilities.

Moving back to its original May dates, Vertikal Days will take place on May 24th and 25th at Silverstone in Northamptonshire, the home of British Motor Racing. The venue typically handles around 100,000 visitors for the British Formula One and Moto GP, so the 2,000 a day for Vertikal Days will be no problem at all.

There will be a number of new products at Vertikal Days, plus launches from numerous component and ancillary service companies. You will also be able to see several new exhibitors alongside the regulars.

From the crane industry, Liebherr will be giving the first European showing of its new 90 tonne LTM 1090 4.2 All Terrain crane, which features a 60 metre main boom. Also on display will be the 100th 60 tonne LTM 1060 to be delivered in the UK.

Spierings will also show the new four axle SK597-AT4 mobile self-erecting tower crane, and City Lifting will be premiering its new Linden Comansa cab on a 16LC260 tower crane. If you're interested in spider cranes, JT Cranes will be launching the Jekko JF545 on its stand for the first time in the UK.

The access industry will be represented by many companies, including JCB, who will be showcasing a range of models from its brand new scissor range, including the S1930, S2632, S4046 and S4550. Versalift will be showing the first 17 metre VDT170-F platform sold in the UK, mounted on a five tonne Mercedes Sprinter chassis, and for the first time in the UK, Teupen will show its 35 metre Leo35T spider lift.

Skyjack will give the UK launch to its new 85ft SJ85AJ articulating boom, which offers a

working height of 27.91 metres. Leguan will be showing its new 19 metre Leguan 190 spider lift, and Hinowa will be giving the 13.70 spider lift its UK launch at Vertikal Days.

From the telehandler sector, JCB will bring its 540-180 and 525-60 models. Both GT Lifting Solutions and Manitou, with its Magni and Merlo Rotos, have a range of telehandlers available, but from Manitou's access division it will bring its 100VJR vertical mast platform. The 33ft Man'Go 12 platform will also return to the show.

As part of its continuous focus on "Building the Future," at Vertikal Days, Genie will be showcasing innovations that concentrate on industry needs for enhanced operator safety, increased lift capacities and power systems that respond to today's increasingly environment-conscious European.

Genie products on display will include new Genie Xtra Capacity (XC) booms, the hybrid Genie Z-60/37FE fuel-electric articulating boom, among other popular Genie models such as the GS™-4069BE bi-energy scissor lift, GS-4047 electric scissor lift, and accessories and unique services like Genie Service Solutions (GSS) and technical support provided by the expanded Genie UK service support team since the acquisition of Platform Service & Repair Limited (PSR).

Meanwhile JLG has announced some major changes to its European telehandler programme so this will be the ideal opportunity to stop by and catch up.

inspHire will be demonstrating its dynamic hire software. Designed to streamline the entire hire process from start to finish; easily and quickly convert quotes to contracts, deliver and collect equipment, book equipment in for maintenance, servicing or repair, inspHire does it all, providing you with a hub of information in one, feature rich, easy to use system.

Networking

Those who have attended Vertikal Days before know that there are always people there who work in or use lifting and working at height equipment, so it is a great opportunity for everyone to network and discuss topics on the industry.

Exhibitors have plenty of time to stop and talk with visitors on their stands or in the many public areas, so don't be afraid to communicate. The event will hold several seminars and workshops throughout, so make sure you take advantage of these, as you never know what you might learn! If you fancy a break, you can enjoy all day tea and coffee in the marketplace which hosts the main café, along with numerous suppliers including training companies, software manufacturers, safety equipment vendors, parts and other relevant services related to the lifting equipment industry. There will also be a networking event held on the Wednesday evening at 7pm, which will be at the Silverstone Wing above the Formula One pits.

Lunch and all refreshments are included at the event, with lunch being provided each day from 12:30 - 14:30. This includes the famous free range hog roast, a barbecue and a sandwich bar. As usual, parking is free.

Getting There

Silverstone is conveniently situated right in the heart of the UK, approximately 90 minutes north of central London and 60 minutes south of Birmingham. Road access is exceptionally easy along the A43 dual carriageway from either the M40 or M1.

By public transport the nearest stations are Northampton, Banbury or Milton Keynes, all of which offer fast connections to destinations throughout the country. All of this information is available on the Vertikal Days website.



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INVESTMENT IN PEOPLE AND PRODUCT PAYS DIVIDENDS FOR SLEATOR PLANT

As authorised Genie Access dealers for the whole of Ireland, and Terex Trucks and Terex Construction Machinery dealers for Northern Ireland, Sleator Plant's progression since the beginning of 2017 just keeps gaining momentum.

Fresh from a highly successful four days at the recent Balmoral Show, the company reports interest in its product lines continues to grow, with Genie leading the way followed by an equally strong showing for its Terex trucks and construction machinery.

One of the 'stars' of the Balmoral Show was the Rental Product of the Year, the Genie Z60-37FE Hybrid Boom Lift; it was the first Z60 to land in Ireland, with Sleator Plant being the first to showcase it here.

"It and other Genie products got a lot of attention on our stand at the show, and that's been the case since the beginning of the year," commented Jonathan Campbell, Sleator Plant's General Manager. "The Z60

has been in great demand; customers have been queuing up for it."

Also selling well in recent months has been Genie scissor lifts and booms; the Z45 in particular has enjoyed a strong performance.

"We've sold more of them this year already than we ever have in the past; indeed, all in, we have delivered more than a hundred Genie units since January. That speaks volumes for the brand and is indicative of how well our customers and the industry in general are doing.

"Other strong sellers have been the 1932 scissor lift and the 2632 scissor; we have sold multiples of those all over Ireland, especially to hire companies. We recently delivered 24 units, for example, to Briggs Equipment."

So what is the secret to Sleator Plant's success, apart from having a well respected product portfolio? Explains Jonathan: "We been quite bullish in our stock ordering, meaning immediate availability is rarely a problem – for example, we have another 120





units due for delivery into stock in the coming weeks to cope with customer demand.

"We have also secured preferential pricing from Genie, not least because of the high volume of sales we are achieving, so customers know they are getting value for money when they deal with us; our prices are keen and highly competitive."

The Genie product line up includes a wide range of access platforms and lifting equipment, such as material lifts, aerial work platforms, tracked boom lifts, telescopic boom lifts and telescopic telehandlers. Aside from that, Sleator Plant also has an extensive stock of Genie parts and accessories.

"We are also enjoying great success in the Republic where the weakness of the pound against the euro makes our pricing even more competitive."

"Having a long term plan, a definite strategy for growth, has also undoubtedly played a major role in our success; today we – and our customers – are seeing the benefits of that approach."

Service & Support

Significant investment in aftermarket activities, of course, cannot be underestimated as a vital contributory factor in growth, a fact that hasn't gone unnoticed at Sleator Plant.

"We realised from the outset that the aftermarket is as equally as important as our product lines. Our back up service and support is second to none. We have made it our goal to recruit only the very best, and the

team we have around us has an unrivalled wealth of experience and expertise; they are all outstanding in their particular fields."

Terex

Of course, it's not just Genie to which Sleator Plant's success can be attributed because they are also Terex Construction Machinery dealers for Northern Ireland, as was underlined at the Balmoral Show where they

had a beast of a machine on display - the new GEN10 TerexTA300 articulated dump truck, 30 whole tons of pure quality and the first GEN10 truck to be showcased in Northern Ireland.

Other Terex machines on their stand included site dumpers and backhoe loaders.

In addition, as the Terex Trucks dealer for Northern Ireland, Sleator Plant can offer its growing customer base a comprehensive range of articulated and rigid dump trucks.



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



Gordon Best, QPANI

Confidence Returns, But There Are Longer Term Fears

With the local political uncertainty continuing and a general election looming the current positive production levels and market activity masks longer term fears of a drop off in construction activity fuelled by Brexit and absence of Ministers to make decisions to move public sector construction projects from the drawing board to site.

The recent Construction Market Survey indicated that confidence in the 12-month outlook for the NI Construction sector is at a nine-quarter high. Northern Ireland was one of the only areas of the UK to see a pick-up in the pace of output growth in the final quarter of 2016, according to the survey, and the significant majority of respondents expect workloads to rise during the course of this year. Housebuilding remains a key source of workload growth for Northern Ireland construction surveyors, with private housebuilding activity rising particularly strongly. However what is concerning is that infrastructure activity is still lagging behind levels being seen in the rest of GB and the increased activity being seen in Belfast is not being experienced in the rest of NI.

I was recently part of a business delegation that met with both Sinn Féin and the DUP to impress on them the widely held wish that we need to have a working Executive and Assembly up and running again at Stormont. Local Ministers delivering a locally agreed Programme for Government and Industrial Strategy is what most people want.

While funding and start dates have been agreed for a number of flagship projects including the A6, A5 the Belfast Transport Hub there is real concern that the absence of Ministers making decisions to progress much need projects in the education, health and social housing sectors will slow down and possibly reverse the growing momentum within the local construction sector.

In my opinion we urgently need to have a process whereby relevant Permanent Secretaries can bring forward, through the head of the Civil Service, construction ready projects to the local political parties to get support and sign off so that projects can go ahead while political agreement is being sought. By doing this we will ensure jobs are protected, momentum

is maintained in the construction sector recovery and economic growth is sustained.

Brexit Discussions

Recently I travelled to Brussels as part of an NI Business delegation recently to speak with both EU and UK officials who will be directly involved in the Brexit discussions. The intensive round of 12 meetings over the two days enabled the business organisations present to highlight the micro impacts of a hard border and potential introduction of trade tariffs and customs duties on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Britain.

It was good to learn that the Northern Ireland border issue is a top priority in the forthcoming discussions and that no one from the EU or UK delegations we talked to wants a return to the hard borders of the past.

It was also reassuring to hear that the chief negotiators on both the UK and EU side were no strangers to Northern Ireland. Michel Barnier and Guy Verhofstadt were key players in developing and delivering the EU Peace Funds for Northern Ireland. Also one of the leading UK negotiating team is Simon Case who previously worked in the Northern Ireland office.

We did learn, and were impressed by the fact, that the EU are at one when it came to agreeing the negotiating guidelines with all 27 Countries passing them in a matter of minutes. It is worth noting the clear statement within the guidelines recognising the "unique" trading position that Northern Ireland. It states: *"The Union has consistently supported the goal of peace and reconciliation enshrined in the Good Friday Agreement in all its parts, and continuing to support and protect the achievements, benefits and commitments of the Peace Process will remain of paramount importance. In view of the unique circumstances on the island of Ireland, flexible and imaginative solutions will be required, including with the aim of avoiding a hard border, while respecting the integrity of the Union legal order. In this context, the Union should also recognise existing bilateral agreements and arrangements between the United Kingdom and Ireland which are compatible with EU law"*.

To view the EU Guidelines statement (copy and paste): <http://www.consilium.europa>.

eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/04/29-euco-brexit-guidelines/

As a business group we now intend to have further discussions with key players at home and in London over the coming weeks and months to press for solutions that ensure Brexit works for NI Business and our people.

Task & Finish Groups

Since February, the QPANI and industry colleagues have been working with CPD on several Task & Finish Groups to assess current issues within the construction industry and how they can be addressed, as well as proposing solutions. Once complete CPD will be holding an information session to which all the Construction Industry will be invited.

The groups that were formed are:

- Group 1– Methods to improve the procurement of construction works
- Group 2– Methods to improve the procurement of construction services
- Group 3– Development of a construction strategy for Northern Ireland, which identifies the priorities for the sector and Government Clients moving forward.

The Northern Ireland Construction Group and CPD hope to be in a position to publish and circulate agreement reached by these Groups in the very near future.

Safety Appeal

Its that time of year again when our focus turns to safety around operating and disused quarries and the risk of trespass by young people who find playing or swimming in and around quarries an attractive pastime. Unfortunately on many occasions with tragic consequences.

The Association and HSENI have sent a joint letter to all School Principals in Northern Ireland asking them to make all their pupils aware of our Cold Water Safety Strategy and the "Stay Safe Stay Out" message. There has been significant coverage on social media also.

QPANI will again be joining up with NI Water to communicate the Cold Water Safety and Trespass message. Once again the Association will supply a number of Stay Safe Stay Out resources for members on request.

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HANDLING YOUR WORLD

STEELWRIST BROADENS ITS PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

Swedish tiltrotator and work tool manufacturer Steelwrist, which has acquired its UK distributor AgCon UK Ltd., continues to broaden its portfolio; at a recent international event in Sollentuna, Sweden, it launched a number of new products.

They included the OQ Auto Connection, a strategic move in the process of creating a global standard for automatic oil connections for excavators.

The OQ Auto Connection technology will be available first in quick couplers, adaptor plates in various forms, and on the Steelwrist line of tiltrotators. The OQ60-5 and OQ70 versions were seen by the public for the first time at the MaskinExpo fair in Stockholm recently.

With demand for automatic oil connections clearly rising in all major markets, the Steelwrist OQ Auto Connection includes the latest developments in hydraulic coupling technology and an improved dust protection. Still it is 100% compatible with the widespread OilQuick standard.

"We have received requests for full automatic oil connections for a long time and the market have been expecting us to come with a solution. Over the five last years we have benchmarked every available system and we have working on several different concepts. We are therefore extremely happy to finally launch our OQ Auto Connections to the market," says Steelwrist CEO, Stefan Stockhaus.

The Steelwrist OQ Auto Connection couplers follows the internationally growing symmetrical standard, a wedge locked system according to the ISO-13031:2016. In addition to comply with ISO-13031:2016, Steelwrist's OQ-couplers and OQ-tiltrotators also include the patented Front Pin Lock technology which ensures increased safety by preventing the operator to not drop work tools by mistake.



"From a technical point of view two things are important when developing auto connection couplers. First, real high flow capabilities to enable all types of work tools. Secondly a good dust protection to prevent contamination and a coupling procedure that reduce the risk of any particles from the elements to contaminate the flat-face couplings," says Steelwrist CTO, Markus Nilsson.

The market introduction will be done in Sweden and Norway and will initially focus on OQ60-5 and OQ70. Other variants such as OQ65 and OQ70/55 will be introduced during the last quarter of 2017. For tiltrotators the OQ technology is first available on the top side of the tiltrotator allowing it to connect to a machine quick coupler,

whereas the bottom side of the tiltrotator will get the OQ technology later this year.

"One important aspect was to be able to strengthen the symmetrical standard for quick couplers rather than diluting the standard. The world does not need yet another stand alone coupling system but instead excavator owners need cost effective and efficient systems for easy interchange of work tools.

"We are very happy with all the improvements we developed and with this move we join forces with OilQuick in order to work towards a global standard in Auto Connection couplers," adds Stefan Stockhaus.

At the same time High Flow hydraulics for the Steelwrist tiltrotator portfolio is launched and will initially be available for all tiltrotators from X18 (12-18 ton excavators) and upwards.

Deliveries will start in June 2017 with a predefined number of units per month during 2017 in order to be able to support the first hundred customers in the absolute best possible way.

Tiltrotators

Steelwrist has also increased its tiltrotator portfolio, with an X14 size tiltrotator for 10 to 14 ton excavators and backhoe loaders and a range of S30 couplers for mini excavators.

The X14 tiltrotator is aimed at the increasingly important 10-13 ton segment where S50 size couplers can be used. Also the larger articulated back-hoes is the target segment for the new X14 tiltrotator.

Additionally Steelwrist is adding a range of S30 couplers for mini-excavators to its product range.

Deliveries of the new products will start in June 2017.

Powered Work Tools

Steelwrist powered work tools include screening buckets launched 2016





and now also compactors and stone/sorting- and multi-grapples.

The demand for environmentally friendly recycling solutions and work site material handling is growing. Rising fuel costs and landfill fees make it expensive for builders to transport unscreened material out and to bring in fill and topsoil material as replacement.

The screening bucket solves this problem and with the new range of hydraulic compactors the portfolio is expanded to make the compaction job more efficient than ever before. With a Steelwrist OQ-adaptor on top of the work tools the change-over process is done in seconds.

The hydraulic compactors comes in four sizes covering excavators from 2 to 30 ton. Main features include off-center adaptor position for efficient reach, optimized compaction force-distribution, and pressure- and flow rate-control for overload protection.

Simultaneously two ranges of grapples have also been introduced to the market. The Multi grapple (MG-line) is a general purpose construction and log grapple. Application areas include heavy lifting, stone laying and timber handling. Wide opening, Hardox 500 materials, high clamping force and mechanical end stops safeguard a long lifespan.

By choosing high grade steel we reduce the overall weight which in turn increase the lifting capacity and lower the fuel consumption

of the excavator. Four sizes are available from the MG20 for 3-6 ton excavators to the MG55 for 18-26 ton excavators.

The Stone and Sorting grapple (SG-line) will also be a complete product range with four sizes covering excavators from 6 to 32 ton. The SG grapples is a heavy duty sorting grapple that is targeted for the tougher tasks such as handling large stones, timber, recycling, scrap, sorting and medium duty demolition work.

The new powered work tool range all have a 5 degree adaptor plate angle in order to level the rotation function with the tiltrotator rotation plane. Grapples can be delivered with Steelwrist OQ-adaptors and all grapples have load holding valves and accumulators as standard for the highest safety.

Deliveries of the first sizes of grapples will also start in June 2017.

Acquisition

Meanwhile, Steelwrist has revealed it has acquired its UK importer AgCon UK Ltd. The relation with AgCon goes back to 2009 when Pat Bulcock was employed by Steelwrist as the UK sales representative.



Pat later decided to start his own company in 2013, still focusing on Steelwrist tiltrotators. The business has since then grown and today employs a team of six that are now coming back into the Steelwrist family.

Pat Bulcock continues as the Managing Director for Steelwrist UK Ltd. "Pat and his team has done a fantastic job and he is known as Mr. Tiltrotator in the UK market. Thanks to Pat we have a very good position in England, Scotland and Wales with a lot of happy customers," says Stefan Stockhaus, Steelwrist CEO.

Comments Pat: "The trick with the UK market has been to find technically skilled personnel that can install tiltrotators in a professional way. There is huge potential in this market and we now see that the tiltrotator business is taking off. The biggest advantage for coming back into the Steelwrist family is that it will give us a stronger position to set up a network of service partners and dealers in the UK market."



NI Water Awards £100 million Water Improvement contract to Local Companies

NI Water has awarded a major new £100 million water improvement contract to four local companies: Maghera based company, BSG Civil Engineering, Dunmurry based Farrans Construction and Belfast based companies Lagan Construction Group and Meridian Utilities.

The four contractors will be improving the watermain infrastructure throughout Northern Ireland over the next four years, improving the reliability and security of the water supply as well as improving water quality.

As NI Water marks a decade of delivery this month, investing £1.8 billion in water and wastewater services over the past ten years, this programme of work will deliver what matters for our customers by improving



Pictured (l-r) are Terry McCrum Meridian Utilities, Seamus Gillan BSG Civil Engineering, Sara Venning CEO NI Water, Terry McCrum Meridian Utilities, Paddy Harney Lagan Construction Group and John Murphy Farrans Construction.

the water supply network. The project will also assist in supporting a growing economy by boosting employment in

the four companies, as well as local sub-contractors. Sara Venning, NI Water's Chief Executive commented: "This

is one of NI Water's largest contracts, which will deliver major improvements to the watermain infrastructure throughout Northern Ireland. We are confident that the contract will provide excellent value for money for NI Water, while meeting our own ambitious targets of upgrading approximately 150km of watermain per year. The scheme will bring many benefits by improving water quality and security of the water supply, as well as the environmental benefits such as reducing leakage.

"We at NI Water look forward to working successfully with our four partners to deliver a sustainable, robust and reliable water supply network for the future and will continue to deliver an excellent service for our customers."

Northern Ireland Construction Industry On The Rise

Confidence in Northern Ireland's construction sector is optimistic after signs of growth in the last twelve months. The reassuring viewpoint shows an encouraging rise, following the announcement last week that the two year process of Britain leaving the European Union has been triggered.

The recent economic signs have been positive for the construction industry with strong output, after discussions with the Quarry Products Association Northern Ireland (QPANI) and leading building suppliers, RTU and Acheson & Glover revealed.

Dennison Commercials Ltd, Northern Ireland's Volvo Truck and Bus dealership, also indicated very promising figures in the construction sector's Volvo Truck orders since 2015.

The positive assessment was backed up by the Northern Irish Department of Finance who highlighted a third consecutive, quarterly increase in construction output, in its October report. Other projects have also been helping to stabilise the market, such as the recent £250m development of the University of Ulster's Belfast campus and

the multi-million pound 'Belfast Streets Ahead' programme due to start this Spring/Summer.

Gordon Best, Regional Director of the QPANI stated: "It's a completely different environment from where we were four to five years ago. We're seeing a gradual increase in work, nothing sharp or radical like we have seen in the past, and I am hearing words like; steady, more confidence and increased investment."

This positive attitude was echoed by Financial Manager at RTU, Franklin McIlroy who has recently made further business investments by ordering the sixth new Euro 6 FM 8 x 4 Volvo truck from Dennison Commercials Ltd.

Franklin McIlroy stated: "We've seen a significant increase in our mortar and concrete sales since July 2014 and we're more confident about spending. During the recession, companies have been reluctant to replenish their fleet resulting in a much older fleet, but now that everything is stabilising, companies are investing again."

Belfast City Council also recently indicated the need for even more construction to fulfil their bold 'Belfast Agenda' ambitions to make the city home to 70,000

new residents and to support 50,000 new jobs by 2035.

Stephen Acheson, Managing Director of Acheson and Glover, who recently invested in five new Volvo FMX Rigid Brick Trucks, explained how their investments are enabling them to win new opportunities like this.

"For companies like us who choose to continue to invest in our own business, our staff and our product offering – turbulent market conditions actually offer opportunities to do business, secure new clients and keep building a positive reputation as being open for business when many others opt to close down shop."

Dennison Commercials Ltd, a construction industry supplier, also experienced a large shift in the sector.

Rob Ireland, Sales Director of Dennisons stated: "Within the last 18 months we've seen the construction sectors FH and FM Volvo Truck purchases jump from 4.7% to 8.6% of our overall order intake. Although we are not expecting this level of investment to continue, our customers' desire to upgrade their fleets' reliability and overall running costs in order to fulfil

new or potential contracts demonstrates a real confidence growth across the industry. In addition, we're delighted that some of the sectors leading companies, such as FP McCann, Lagan Construction, Creagh Concrete, Patrick Bradley Ltd and long standing customer J Boyd & Sons, are choosing Dennisons and Volvo Trucks."

While construction companies are beginning to invest themselves and as new building opportunities arise, Best believes that without radical investment into Northern Ireland's infrastructure the economy will continue to fall behind the rest of the UK.

Gordon Best said: "One of my key concerns is the level of investment in Northern Ireland's infrastructure; our sewage, waterways, modern energy resources and our roads. In particular we need to give a greater priority to the maintenance of our road network, which means securing three to four year ring fence maintenance budgets at a minimum of one hundred million pounds per year."

The recent Autumn Statement shows a promising future for the construction industry. The additional £250m, awarded to the Northern Ireland Executive to focus on infrastructure spending, has the potential to support future projects and secure more opportunities for growth within the Northern Ireland construction industry.

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SME PLANT SALES

Where the Customer Comes First

Based on the Airways industrial Estate at Cloghran outside Dublin, SME Plant Sales can attribute its continuing success and growth on its business approach that encompasses honesty with integrity.

The customer is at the heart of everything it does, which is why it constantly wins repeat business – that and its superior product portfolio and services.

The company, headed up by Michael O’Leary and Dan Daly, has several main business streams – among them, demolition attachment hire and rock breaker hire, representing leading manufacturers such as Chicago Pneumatic and Hammer.

SME Plant Sales, of course, is a ‘people’ business. Like any business, it depends on its customers and over the years it has built up a loyal customer base, not least because of its attention to detail and its high level of service and support.

“Our relationship with our customers is built on trust, value-for-money and meticulous workmanship. We feel these qualities make SME a team you can trust and return to, time and time again,” comments Michael, who has many years experience in the industry.

Having worked in the mining industry in Western Australia in the past and latterly as a Service Manager in a machinery sales



company here in Ireland, he formed the SME Group in his native Meath in 2006.

Together with Sales Director Dan Daly, who has more than two decades of expertise in the field of construction heavy plant and light mechanical equipment, having represented some of the biggest brand names in Ireland in the construction industry, Michael has built a business that continues to thrive in today’s challenging environment.

With after sales service co-ordinator Eoin Treacy leading the spare parts, hire and service team, SME customers can be assured of the very best.

“One of our main focuses is on the small demolition and recycling sectors,” says Michael. “We can supply a wide range of equipment such as concrete pulverisers for 13 to 25 tonne machines, as well as small mini crushers.”





SME also represent Komplet Recycling Systems here. Komplet are leaders in the world for construction and demolition plants, including jaw crushers, vibrating and trommel screens and shredders.

Future Goal

"Over the years we have progressed from a service based company to a sales based company," adds Michael. "Our ultimate goal is to have the biggest fleet of demolition attachment hire equipment in the country over the next couple of years, including breakers and mini crushers."

It's not a bad strategy in a world where many concentrate on the bigger types of plant and machinery. "We believe there is great potential in concentrating on servicing the needs of smaller operations

and hire shops; demolition and recycling are increasingly important as contractors need to be able to crush on site and re-use on site – that's the market we want to service."

Having excellent connections with OEM's, SME can also meet customers' spare part needs, including replacement parts for crushers, vibrating equipment, filters, conveyors, mobile and portable plants.

GA1 inspections

SME, in association with its service partner inspectec, also offers a full range of onsite six monthly and annual plant and machinery inspections.

As part of this service, it can also provide a machine tagging/tracking system, which offers full safety service and maintenance information on mobile or tablet.



SME Group
Authorised dealers for
Hammer, Chicago Pneumatic
and Komplet Recycling Systems



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Demand soars after replacing sand screw classifier with CDE EvoWash



Following the installation of a CDE EvoWash 72 on their sister company's site Analiza, South African brick and block manufacturer Multi Crete Bricks "just can't keep up with orders," according to its CEO Christo Niemand.

Multi Crete has been supplying the South African construction industry for 16 years, delivering premier quality brick and block products nationwide as well as supplying customers directly at their Brakpan factory. The company not only ensures that the best raw materials are selected but also guarantees the best end product by overseeing production from start to finish.

In 2016, Multi Crete saw an opportunity to upgrade their sand screw washing plant to remedy the substantial loss of valuable fines that was ending up in its quarry's dam and take the lead in the local materials washing market. The company continues to produce its own bricks, blocks, and manufactured washed sands and has just added plaster sand to its offering, which the new EvoWash dual sand plant on the Analiza site has made possible.

DIRECT APPROACH

Christo Niemand is a savvy and practical businessman, who relies on a combination of word of mouth and direct contact with experts who can demonstrate the value of their equipment in a 'seeing is believing' manner. In this spirit, the Multi Crete CEO, who manages 16 employees, as well as quarry staff, visited a close-by quarry with a CDE representative to witness the efficiency of the CDE materials washing equipment in action.

Convinced by the high tech but user-friendly aspect of CDE installations, Mr Niemand took the next step and challenged Nicolan

Govender, CDE Regional Manager for Africa, to find the best-value-for-money washing solution that would significantly reduce the amount of lost fines, increase production levels and sand quality, and crucially allow for multiple sands to be manufactured at the same time, therefore boosting offer and subsequently demand. The CDE EvoWash 72 dual sand washing plant ticked all of these boxes and Christo Niemand says that he is now ready to upgrade his equipment even more to meet the ever increasing demand for Multi Crete products.

Mr Niemand reflects: "The combination of a solid relationship with our local CDE experts and the commissioning of an ultra-performant EvoWash has given Multi Crete's activities a positive boost. Our plaster sand is hands-down the best in the region and being able to produce two products at the same time, including plaster sand, is truly remarkable."

The Analiza quarry treats raw materials including crushed rocks, a mixture of granite, silica, some being heavily clay-bound. It now produces 23 tonnes per hour of plaster sand and 19 tonnes per hour of river sand. The EvoWash allows for two products to be produced at the same time and can also be set to alter the amount of finer sand in the end product, allowing the client to produce two off plus zero products (- 2mm + 0 and - 6 mm + 0).

Mr Niemand continues: "Our return on investment is good and we are already looking towards the future and to expand our range of products. We are considering adding complementary CDE equipment to our installation when we have addressed the issue of limited power and water supply."

Wayne Warren, CDE Business Development Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, looks back on a successful relationship with Multi Crete, based on regular meetings with Mr Niemand and visits to the Multi Crete factory and the Analiza site: "Being based in South Africa means that I am only just a phone call or a short trip away from my customers."

"I have the opportunity to visit Mr Niemand and check on the EvoWash at Analiza regularly. It allows me to iron out any arising issues and keep the conversation going on how CDE can help to reach new performance requirements quickly and efficiently."

"It is very gratifying to witness the steady performance of a piece of equipment year after year. Multi Crete has become one of the best-performing sand washing operators in South Africa due to the upgrading of their installation to the CDE cyclone technology."

"It just makes business sense to improve plants that waste fines and water and ultimately affect a company's performance and ability to compete in a growing market. Multi Crete is proof that adopting our cyclone water-saving technology work."

Mr Niemand concludes: "Swapping the Analiza sand screw classifier for a CDE EvoWash dual sand plant has turned out to be an excellent investment. We are saving water and time whilst increasing and diversifying materials production. We are now able to position ourselves on the local market as the leading suppliers of construction materials."

"As a bonus, we have been able to commit to safer operations as CDE equipment is both high tech systems and simple to use, with well-conceived safety details that guarantee a comfortable working environment."





CONEXPO

CONEXPO 2017 WAS ANOTHER RECORD BREAKER

With initial plans already being formulated for ConExpo 2020, the 2017 showcase continues to produce great results for the thousands of exhibitors who were there, many from this part of the world.

Con-Expo, of course, is the international gathering place every three years for the construction industries; the 2017 event was held recently at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The next event will be staged at the same venue from March 10th to 14th, 2020.

Recognised and supported by construction industries from around the world, it was here that close on 150,000 visitors over the five days in March experienced and learned about the latest equipment trends, technology and product breakthroughs.

With over 2,500 exhibitors, there was plenty to see, including new product launches and demonstrations, as we highlighted in Part One of our review of the show in the last issue.

Max Innovate Join McCloskey Washing Systems Global Dealer Network

Washing equipment specialist McCloskey Washing Systems has appointed West Midlands company Max Innovate as the official distributor of MWS washing equipment in the UK.

The company will also be an authorised service provider for the products, as the MWS brand continues its major expansion worldwide.

The partnership announcement was made following the North America, trade show, CONEXPO 2017 in Las Vegas, where MWS officially launched the immense modular wash plant, SandStorm 620. Max Innovate are a leading provider of material processing & handling equipment, specialising in the waste and aggregates industries. They have proven expertise in delivering best in class products for these industries.

Commenting on their recent appointment as UK dealer, Fintan McKeever, Director at Max Innovate said: "McCloskey have an exceptional reputation in the industry for quality and reliability. We are delighted to add such a significant and respected brand name to our portfolio. It complements the equipment that we currently offer and creates new opportunities for our growing business.

"Washing requires experience, and we are very impressed with the calibre of the team at MWS and in particular,



Shaking hands: Fintan McKeever, Director at Max Innovate, (left) and Sean Loughran, Director, McCloskey Washing Systems (right).

the design engineers knowledge of aggregate washing. We are excited by the innovative designs they are bringing to the market and their can-do attitude."

Sean Loughran, Director of McCloskey Washing Systems said, "We are delighted to welcome Max Innovate to our global dealer network. This is a great opportunity for us to work with this highly experienced business, to expand and strengthen our foothold in the UK as a washing equipment solutions provider.

"Our ambition is to drive industry growth by delivering reliable and sustainable

products and services in the waste, mining and aggregates industries. Our customers' requirements reflect the growing demand for high quality end products from highly productive equipment.

"We will be launching a number of ground breaking products in 2017 to serve the aggregates and recycling sectors. Our new range of washing equipment, including Sandstorm modular range, 516, 620 and 824 can efficiently process feeds up to 550TPH, with up to four grades of aggregate and two grades of classified sand."

McCloskey Washing Systems will host their first of several planned 'open days' in 2017 to showcase the new washing range, helping customers to identify how they will be able to benefit from them. The first event will take place in July 2017 at Crown Quarries Ltd where dealers and customers from Europe will be able to see a recently installed MWS modular wash plant, processing quarry scalplings to produce three aggregates and two sand products.

The programme of events will include a business consultation, live product demonstrations and an end-user open day. During the conference, held at the Marriott hotel in Birmingham, delegates will be introduced to the McCloskey Washing Systems business strategy and key focus areas for growth in the coming years.

EDGE Innovate Takes On Vegas!

The EDGE Innovate team travelled the whopping 4,872 miles from their headquarters in County Tyrone, the world renowned home of crushing and screening to the fabulous Las Vegas to exhibit at the largest construction exhibition in North America, CONEXPO/CON-AGG.

CONEXPO has become a regular in EDGE Innovate's tradeshow calendar, with this year's exhibition being the third time EDGE has exhibited at the popular exhibition since 2010.

A total of 4 machines from the EDGE's Material Handling and Recycling Range were on display; these included the new MC1400 classifier, the EDGE FreeFlow 186 flip flow screen, the TRT622 track trommel and the TS65 track stacker.

MC1400

A huge attraction for visitors at the EDGE stand came from the newly released MC1400 Material Classifier along with the new FreeFlow 186 Flip Flow screen. EDGE Innovate states that the MC1400 provides operators with the ability to extract impurities from highly contaminated material in just one pass by utilizes controlled air flow as a separation medium.

The MC1400 is being offered as the ideal solution for the cleaning of compost and biomass fractions with its ability to separate heavy and mid-weight fractions from lights. The MC1400 will allow operators to separate up to four different fractions as standard; lights (plastic, paper, film) mid-weight (wood) and heavy fractions (aggregate, glass, etc.). Ferrous metal will be extracted via the overband magnet found on the heavy fraction discharge conveyor with the option of attaching an additional magnet to the mid-weight conveyor.

With the capability to accept a large piece size of up to 400mm (16"), EDGE Innovate states that the MC1400 is not only ideal



EDGE Innovate team

for organic recycling and biomass fractions but also extracting valuable commodities from construction and demolition waste.

FreeFlow 186

The EDGE FreeFlow Screen will provide customers with a highly efficient screening solution for sticky, moist materials with a high percentage of fines and is ideal for the processing of compost, wood, skip waste, trommel fines, construction and demolition waste and incinerator ash.

Designed to eliminate the blinding or blockage of the screen media that often occurs with traditional screens when screening wet or sticky material, the EDGE FreeFlow incorporates a heavy duty screen structure has the capability to generate a huge throw therefore preventing screen blinding or pegging. EDGE Innovate boast that the FreeFlow screen range allows for two screening operations in one unit with operators being able to process non-prescreened material via the

FreeFlow's robust scalping screen top deck whilst a fine screening function is facilitated via the flip flow bottom deck.

EDGE Innovate also experienced a tremendously successful show with a large number of enquiries and interest being recorded from their booth. With an exciting atmosphere combined with a wide range of equipment on display, EDGE recorded interest from a mammoth 23 unique countries worldwide.

Adrian Donnelly, EDGE Innovate Marketing Manager, commented: "Although this was our third time exhibiting at CONEXPO, this year's exhibition proved to be an extremely successful show, in fact it was our most successful show to date. We had a prime location, larger exhibition space, our distributor network and brand is now well established in the North American market, all of which when combined allow; EDGE to take a record number of enquiries from a large number of unique countries."



Miller UK Launch New Coupler

Miller UK were at Conexpo supporting their national North American distributor Paladin Attachments with the launch of their new PowerLatch tilt coupler into the North American market.

Miller's new PowerLatch Tilt delivers up to 180 Degree Rotation and features a new innovative lightweight cast shell, engineered on Miller's premium design heritage to offer increase strength capable of withstanding the most challenging working environments.

Miller has integrated their unique approach to attachment design ensuring that it is fully compliant to all the latest global legislations, including AS4772 and ISO 13031 whilst providing added performance without compromising on strength, weight or versatility.

Everything Is Aquaclear For Terex Washing Systems

Terex AquaClear Water Management Solutions Terex Washing Systems (TWS) staged the global launch of Terex AquaClear Water Management Solutions at CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2017.

Oliver Donnelly, TWS business line director, has been highlighting the benefits of the new Water Management Solutions.

"A lot of our customers have a need for water management, which is a growing sector given the way environmental legislation is evolving in certain regions. TWS are delighted to be able to offer an end-to-end solution for washing and water management from a single supplier. We are launching a full range of water management products to include clarifying tanks, flocculent dosing systems, filter presses and all associated equipment to provide a one-stop solution."

Water Management Solutions are typically comprised of three main components; a flocc-

osing plant and thickener tank can be used to recycle up to 80% of the water used in the washing process. This basic method still involves the use of ponds but on a smaller scale as the sludge sent to the ponds is of a much higher specific gravity (1.5sg). The next stage is to incorporate a filter press which hydrates this thickened sludge even further typically down to 25% moisture.

The filter press eliminates the need for ponds as the sludge is hydrated to a material/cake which can be handled by a loading shovel. This cake can be used as a lining or capping material.

RAISING THE BAR

TWS said the brand is committed to continuous expansion of its product offering and this entry into Water Management demonstrates its continued significant investment in product development,

which once again raises the bar in adding value to its customers operations.

Oliver Donnelly added: "TWS are due to begin manufacturing the Terex AquaClear Water Management Solutions in Dungannon later this year, working alongside strategic alliance partners, Valley Equipment Company (VEC), located in Portland, Oregon. We are already handling enquiries for AquaClear from Europe and North America markets, with the first installation being a European one.

"Through our strategic alliance, [for North American customers] we can send a filter press fully built up, rather than in its component parts in containers. With Valley Equipment, we're working with partners who have been in the industry for many years."

TWS is also investing in a focused technical team to support the new Terex AquaClear Water Management offering. The Terex brand is appointing a dedicated team consisting of a product manager, engineers and applications specialists together with a cutting edge new laboratory specifically designed for material testing and sample pressing. This will ensure optimum equipment selection and specification for its customers.

ALLU transforms at CONEXPO/CONAGG

ALLU Group presented at CONEXPO/CONAGG 2017 its new, customer focused technology brand: ALLU TRANSFORMER. This positive and radical change reflects the transformation of ALLU screener crusher products and from world class manufacturer to customer driven communication and solutions.

ALLU has for many years provided an equipment range that has helped businesses across the globe with their material handling, separation and sorting requirements. Even with great global success it has been a challenge to clearly communicate the benefits it delivers to the customers.

"Through the rebranding ALLU is now sending a clear and concise message that our equipment is able to transform the businesses of our customers and improve the profitability and value addition in their businesses," says Mr Ola Ulmala, President of ALLU. "We were able to identify that our equipment not only provides solutions that produce higher levels of profitability, but leads to changes



that totally transform the way businesses are able to operate."

Some applications and benefits include:

- **Landscaping and Agriculture:** The DL Transformer Series makes the perfect attachment for landscaping and agricultural applications. From composting to aerating, top soil screening to waste and debris processing, all can be carried out on site. This truly mobile solution

provides the versatility and flexibility to let you work more efficiently in the most challenging environments.

- **Earth Moving and Demolition:** Through using a Transformer attachment excavated soil and rubble will not need to be transported away and replaced with fresh soil. Not only does this result in substantial savings in material and transport costs, but no time is lost when waiting for replacement

material. Additionally, binders can be mixed if the material handling includes additive requirements or stabilization.

- **Mining processes, Quarrying and Aggregates:** Crushing and loading of raw material (e.g. soft lime stone) can be completed in one cycle. The process change reduces the need for buffer storage and extra material transportation, with capital expenditure being lower than for large stationary processing stations. This speeds up the transportation from one site to another and in some cases even eliminating the need for electricity thus delivering further cost savings and flexibility.

The ALLU Transformer Series comprises of an excavator/loader/ tractor mounted processing bucket which screens, pulverizes, aerates, blends, mixes, separates, even crushes, feeds and loads materials. Catering for applications of all sizes, and capable of processing any material that can be screened and sorted, the ALLU Transformer Series comprises the compact DL & D Series as well as the truly massive M Series.

Concrete Built IS Better Built

Concrete products are essential to our standard of living and quality of life in Northern Ireland. Their use underpins the construction industry which employs 80,000 people and is worth some £2.4 billion for the local economy.

The Concrete products industry is totally committed to reducing its environmental footprint by investing significantly in energy efficiency measures and new innovative sustainable products. Advances in concrete technology will help design and build an "A-Rated" home where in the future, as the energy and carbon efficiency of your home could affect your heating costs, rates, insurance & home re-sale value.

Sustainability has become an increasingly wide-ranging term, as our understanding grows of the many impacts that a project and its materials may have over their lifetime.

Specifiers must consider a long list of factors – embodied impacts, in-use performance, longevity and upfront costs against those of maintaining the building over its lifetime. Environmental impacts and benefits must be weighed with social and economic



issues, all without losing sight of the essential functions that a project needs to perform – for example, providing a comfortable, safe, robust shelter.

Why Concrete is Best:

LOCAL PRODUCTS

Leading concrete products are available from local manufacturers. The energy used in transporting materials to site is therefore very low, helping both the environment and the local economy.

LOW MAINTENANCE

The exceptional durability of concrete ensures it is a very low maintenance material. Most concrete building components are virtually maintenance free as they are difficult to damage and require very little regular maintenance to remain in pristine condition.

SECURITY

High strength and impact resistance allow concrete products to provide exceptional

levels of safety and security. It is very difficult to penetrate a concrete product either accidentally or deliberately.

FIRE PROTECTION

Concrete is not capable of igniting, burning or spreading fire and so is ideal for use in locations where fire protection is required. Concrete requires no additional fire protective coverings, chemical preservatives or paint systems that may release volatile organic compounds affecting internal air quality, and which can require ongoing maintenance.

PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE

Concrete structures have a very long life span. Concrete structures offer long-term construction solutions that do not need additional coverings or coatings for resistance, durability or sound insulation thereby reducing the embodied environment impact of a building still further.

THERMAL MASS

The unrivalled high thermal mass of concrete can be used as an integral part of passive sustainable design solutions which reduce the need for air-conditioning in the summer and the levels of heating required in the winter.

Concrete and Composites: A Powerful Partnership

At the end of 2016, the UK government unveiled a record infrastructure spend pipeline of £500 billion-plus, £300m of which will be invested by 2020/21. Composite materials play a growing role in this, with expected growth in the construction industry of 42-78% by 2020 (to £510-640m) and £1240-1520m by 2030.

Precast concrete trench systems are used extensively in infrastructure to provide protection for and easy access to underground services. As composites adoption grows, many precast trench manufacturers are extending their product lines to offer GRP covering options.

Precast concrete trenches (also known as troughs, ducts or channels) are used extensively to carry cabling and piping, (instead of direct burying) protecting them from external factors like damage and adverse weather conditions; while allowing access for maintenance.

Precast concrete trenches are frequently favoured over concrete cast in-situ to reduce install time and skilled labour required on site.

Historically precast concrete trenches have only been covered with concrete or metal covers. Where high load ratings are required (like road crossings) covers can weigh hundreds of kilograms. Over time environmental factors can cause covers to crack, fracture, crumble or corrode.

As specifications are changing to favour GRP access covers, precast trench and composite cover manufacturers are working together to bring joint offerings to the market.

GRP composite cover pioneer Fibrelite serves as strategic partner on a number of large-scale developments specifying composite covers. Their UK design and manufacturing teams work with contractors, architects and end-users to create custom covering solutions for each trench layout.

Fibrelite covers weigh a fraction of concrete or metal alternatives and offer load ratings up



to F900. This means all trench covers can be safely manually removed by two people no matter what the load rating. The composite material is inert, eliminating deterioration from corrosion and extreme temperatures in service (including freeze-thaw).

Fibrelite has formed a number of strategic partnerships with major precast manufacturers in Europe and the USA to provide a range of covers to fit each company's trench layouts.

Rapid Concrete Mixer Upgrade for Lagan Tile

Rapid International Ltd (County Armagh) has recently supplied Northern Ireland based Lagan Tile with a new RP1000 Rapid Planetary Concrete Mixer.

The mixer was specified due to its high capacity and increased levels of energy efficiency. The new mixer has been installed in Lagan Tile's roof tile production plant located in Lisburn, County Antrim.

Lagan Tile began producing concrete roof tiles in 1995 at a purpose built factory near Lisburn in County Antrim, Northern Ireland. Since then, the company has grown from strength to strength, supplying customers in all sectors of the building industry in the UK and Ireland with quality products.

Lagan Tile is a division of Lagan Products, which manufactures a comprehensive range of high quality building products for the UK and Irish construction industry, including, roof tiles, cement products, readymix concrete and blocks, bricks, sand, chimney and clay products.

As a prior customer of Rapid, Lagan were confident in their decision to purchase the

RP1000 Rapid Planetary Concrete Mixer as a solution to their requirements for higher capacities and increased levels of energy efficiency. The mixer was supplied in partnership with Concrete Batching Systems, who designed, manufactured and carried out the full mechanical installation and integration of the Rapid Mixer, providing Lagan Tile with their specified mixing plant upgrade.

Lagan say they are very happy with it in terms of reliability and production and that it has integrated very well into its manufacturing processes.

"We found the service from Rapid to be excellent, when we have needed support there has always been someone to help us. We had the usual teething issues at the start of the project but Rapid helped us resolve them quickly."

John Pickering, Sales Manager - Rapid, commented, "Reliability was imperative to Lagan in order to support their 24 hour production schedule. Rapid became the clear



choice for Lagan and we were happy to be able to provide a reliable solution that can meet the 24/7 production that they require."

The Rapid RP1000 Planetary mixer is capable of producing output batches of 1.0m3 and is ideal for smaller outputs, precast products and semi-dry coloured concrete. The Rapid Planetary's star mixing action comprises of up to three rotating mixing stars, with each star consisting of two rotating mixer paddles.

This unique mixing action ensures fully homogenised concrete. The RP1000's standard features include: durable chill cast tiles, wear sleeves, paddles and heavy duty discharge door mechanisms. Safety concerns are mitigated with spring tensioned mixing arms. The mixer is complete with an up-rated gearbox, supplied by a specialist gearbox manufacturer.



rapid

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Concrete order boost for MAN

MAN Truck & Bus UK has supplied three new MAN TGS 35.440 8x4s fitted with Liebherr mixers to join the ready-mix fleet at Tracey Concrete.

Tracey Concrete, one of the UK and Ireland's largest precast concrete manufacturers, based in Enniskillen, has turned to MAN to supply the new vehicles as

they were looking for a sturdy and reliable product and MAN ticked both those boxes.

Anton Tracey, said: "We have a fleet of approximately 30 lorries and half of our more recent additions are MAN.

"We opted for the MAN TGS and the 8x4 spec because we were looking for a vehicle with

a strong chassis. They will be delivering Readymix and Flow Screed in to local sites with rough hilly terrain and the 440 engine is ideal for this.

"The trucks have been purchased due to a company expansion and also to replace old fleet."

Brian Beattie, MAN area sales manager, added: "Tracey Concrete

is a prestigious firm and we are delighted that they have recognised MAN for delivering vehicles that can meet their exacting requirements.

"The trucks will certainly be put to the test, but we are confident that they will stand up to the tough challenges and deliver on efficiency and quality."



Evolving Concrete 2017 is taking shape...

Following the success of last year's event, The Concrete Society announces that the third Evolving Concrete seminar will be taking place at the Royal Berkshire Conference Centre on 28 September 2017.

Under the theme of 'Forming Our Future' this one-day CPD-accredited seminar, which includes space for exhibitors and optional

evening dinner, will present industry experts speaking on a selection of diverse topics.

Chris Dulake, a Fellow of both the Royal Academy of Engineering and the Institution of Civil Engineers, will be giving the opening address. With over 30 years' experience in the industry, Chris has held a number of key engineering positions, before joining Mott MacDonald as major projects portfolio director in 2016. Previously, he was engineering director for HS2 Phase 1, having moved from the role of chief engineer for Crossrail.

The programme will include presentations on:

- the Hinckley Point nuclear power station project
- ternary cements, specification and characteristics
- advances in fibre-reinforced tunnel linings
- validation of fibre-only floor design using large-scale testing
- advanced admixture technology for concrete with high clay content sand.

With more topical subjects to be announced, this seminar is already proving to be of particular interest to architects, consultant engineers and contractors.

Kathy Calverley, Managing Director of The Concrete Society, said, "We are proud that as a non-for-profit, independent company we are able to organise a high-level technical seminar with knowledgeable speakers. The focus will be on addressing delegates with the expertise and best practice required to face the constant changes and challenges in our industry. We are looking forward to welcoming members and non-members to this technically inspiring day, which includes exhibitor space alongside the seminar."

Evolving Concrete will be held at the Royal Berkshire Conference Centre near Junction 11 of the M4, Reading. This venue has excellent travel links, free parking and, as well as a 200-bedroom hotel on-site, there is also a range of hotels within a short radius.





Promoting The Use of Concrete

QPANI have established a new Concrete Development Group with the sole aim of raising the market share of concrete in the wider construction industry and making it the construction material of choice.

"We have a very close liaison with our colleagues in the Irish Concrete Federation and wish to 'cement' our relationship and partnership with the Concrete Centre," says QPANI Regional Director Gordon Best.

QPANI recently launched its "Concrete Built IS Better Built" Initiative in Northern Ireland, with a number of its members already carrying the 'Concrete Built' logo on their truck mixers and delivery lorries.

QPANI, RSUA and the Concrete Centre also staged two very well attended Concrete and Masonry

Seminars in March of 2016 and another successful event looking at resilient housing in February 2017. The feedback, from what was an audience made up of architects and engineers, Housing Association Design teams and Construction Students from our two Universities was very positive.

The Concrete Development Group has built a strong partnership with the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations to discuss issues of concern from construction material suppliers.

Among these were the use of quality assured concrete and CE marked materials, promotion of responsible sourcing and environmental best practice, use of competent and qualified concrete layers on housing association sites.

"We have agreed to hold regular quarterly liaison

meetings, direct liaison with key personnel within the Housing Association design teams and procurement teams, facilitate regular engagement between HAs and QPANI members at a local level," says Gordon Best.

"We recently hosted a number of site visits to concrete manufacturing sites in Toomebridge where the Housing Association witnessed and learned about the manufacture and quality assurance testing of concrete products at Creagh Concrete, Acheson and Glover and Northstone."

QPANI have also met with Ulster Farmers Union members to discuss the new "Designated Concretes for Agriculture Guidance" and the importance of using quality assured concrete and contractors who are competent in laying exterior concrete.



In addition, the QPANI Concrete Development Group were consulted on the development of modern concrete specifications that will be applied to farm construction work funded by DAERA through the new Farm Improvement Scheme.

"We would encourage all concrete manufacturers across Northern Ireland to come and join QPANI in our Concrete Built IS Better Built Strategy as we strive to increase market share for concrete products and make concrete the construction material of choice."



Ecocem Ireland Ltd. Appoints Managing Director

High performance, low carbon cement producer Ecocem Ireland Ltd. has appointed Micheál McKittrick as Managing Director, Ireland & UK.

Micheál has been appointed to the Irish firm at a time of expansion both domestically and internationally. His role involves the management of all aspects of the Irish and UK operations.

A Chartered Engineer and graduate of Trinity College Dublin, Micheál previously worked in several senior roles with Atkins Consulting Engineers.

His new position in Ecocem leverages on his experience and knowledge obtained throughout his career to date. An advocate of sustainable construction

Micheál fits very well into the firm where sustainability is at the core of its ethos.

Micheál's appointment comes in the wake of the company's further expansion into the UK market. Speaking from the company's state of the art facility in Dublin Port, Micheál commented, "I look forward to expanding Ecocem's business domestically and internationally, and will continue to develop the Irish markets of both bulk and bagged cement with an increasing focus on innovative products to help deliver value to our customers."

The firm opened its second import terminal in Sheerness in the UK in early April 2017, providing capacity to supply over 450,000 tonnes into the UK market.

NI Business delegation travel to Brussels

QPANI Regional Director Gordon Best was part of a NI Business delegation that travelled to Brussels to meet with EU, UK Government and Irish Government Officials who are involved in Brexit negotiations.

The intensive round of 12 meetings over the two days enabled the business organisations present to highlight the micro impacts of a hard border and potential introduction of trade tariffs and customs duties on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Britain.

It was good to learn that the Northern Ireland border issue is a top priority in the forthcoming discussions and that no one from the EU or UK delegations we talked to wants a return to the hard borders of the past.

"As a business group we now intend to have further discussions with key players at home and in London over the coming weeks and months to press for solutions that ensure Brexit works for NI Business and our people," says Gordon.



Joint Industry Charity Golf Day

A joint industry charity golf day is being held at the Hilton Hotel and Golf Club, Templepatrick, on June 12th.

This year the proceeds are going to two very worthy causes, Asthma UK and CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young).

Along with maintaining the helpline, which offers advice and support to people calling in from Northern Ireland, Asthma UK also have research projects taking place which your donation could help support. One such example is Dr Aurelie Mousnier's research at Queen's University in Belfast, which is

titled "Improving ways to tackle the cold virus and stop this causing asthma attacks."

Since its formation in 1995, Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) has been working to reduce the frequency of young sudden cardiac death (YSCD). CRY supports young people diagnosed with potentially life-threatening cardiac conditions and offers bereavement support to families affected by YSCD.

CRY promotes and develops heart screening programmes and funds medical research. CRY publishes and distributes medical information written by leading cardiologists for the general public. CRY funds fast track

referral, screening and cardiac pathology services at leading UK hospitals.

Apart from helping worthy causes, the Golf Day will include entertainment and good food - and prizes, too. The traditional "shotgun start" is always an attraction, with the 18-hole championship golf course offering the opportunity to show your swing and putting skills! Non-golfers, of course, will be very welcome to Evening Dinner.

The day starts with registration at 10.30 a.m, with tea, coffee and bacon rolls served on arrival. So, if you want to be a part of what promises to be an exciting day, follow the link for more information - http://www.instituteofasphalt.org/index.php?id=book&event_id=889

MPA sales suggest continued impetus in construction in 2017Q1

Construction market demand for mineral products was higher in 2017Q1 compared with the previous quarter, providing some evidence of continued impetus in construction activity at the start of the year, says the Mineral Products Association.

Mineral products such as aggregates and ready-mixed concrete (RMC) are major elements of the construction supply chain, particularly in the earlier stages of projects, so the MPA results point to sustained level of construction activity on the ground.

Sales of aggregates grew by 2.1% in 2017Q1 compared to the previous quarter, and RMC by a positive but more subdued, 0.7%. Mortar sales accelerated further after the strong performance seen at the end of 2016, with volumes up 6.6% in 2017Q1. Mortar

sales are closely linked to housebuilding and the rapid growth of this market since last summer suggest that housing remains the primary driver of construction activity. The volume of asphalt sales by contrast declined by 0.8% in 2017Q1.

Overall, sales volumes for the year finishing in March 2017 revealed healthy rates of growth across all major MPA construction minerals, with asphalt up 5.2% compared to the previous year, 5% for aggregates volumes and 4.3% for RMC. Mortar sales, the strongest market, grew by 6.9% over the period.

Ten months after the outcome of the EU referendum, it is clear that MPA markets and the construction sector have shown more resilience than expected. There remains nonetheless one recurring issue for asphalt producers: whilst the overall annual performance in asphalt sales is positive, the

quarterly profile points to a very uneven level of activity.

Aurelie Delannoy, Chief Economist at MPA, commented, "We welcome the positive results in our markets in the first quarter of the year as a clear indication that construction activity still has some impetus. Whilst mineral products producers remain relatively optimistic, their prospects for growth in the coming months may be dampened by the anticipated slowdown in both the general economy and in private construction activity this year."

"Post-election, Government's policy development and implementation, as well as swift and constructive progress in the Brexit negotiations, will be central to the future health of the UK economy, the construction sector and ultimately, the mineral products sector."

Local Member Forum Dates

Members are warmly invited to attend the Local Member Forums held throughout the year.

These events take place on Thursday's at 7.30pm and are preceded by a fork supper at 6.15pm.

They are an excellent opportunity to network with other industry colleagues and keep up to date with the issues affecting our industry:

Provisional dates for 2017:

Date: 25 May Venue: Armagh City Hotel, Armagh Sponsor: Loughran Rock Industries

Date: 14 September Venue: Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen Sponsor: Quinn Building Products

Date: 30 November Venue: Tullyglass Hotel, Ballymena Sponsor: F P McCann

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CEA
Construction Equipment Association



NEW MACHINERY TAKES CENTRE STAGE AT PLANTWORX

The 3rd biennial Machinery exhibition, hosted by the CEA (Construction Equipment Association), takes place at its established home at Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground in Leicestershire from 6-8th June 2017.

Over 360 exhibitors have signed up for the 'all action' event and of these over 140 exhibitors will be making their show debut.

No matter what equipment you are interested in, you'll find it at Plantworx – earthmoving

equipment, compaction kit, drills and hammers, compressors, attachments and much much more. The 2017 show will also feature a Wi-Fi Hub where visitors can keep up to date with emails and do business whilst doing business!

In terms of size and exhibitors numbers the 2017 show has exceeded the 2015 exhibition event and the Plantworx team is expecting the show to be a 'sell out' - making this event the hottest ticket in town and a spectacular action packed 3-days.

Spanning 140,000 sq mtrs, visitors can see machines and tools being put through their paces on one of the many demonstration areas around the show. Amongst the demonstration stands are 100's of static stands packed with innovative new products - over the next few pages we take a look at what's on offer at this year's construction equipment extravaganza.

Here, Plant & Civil Engineer takes a look at just some of the many new products visitors can expect to see...



JCB

Plantworx 2017 will see two UK firsts from JCB - with British show debuts for the JCB 540-180 HiViz Loadall and the world's first skid steer with a telescopic boom - the JCB Teleskid.

The JCB Teleskid is a revolutionary new product that can reach 60% further forward than any other skid steer on the market and - in an industry first - it is the only skid steer in the world that can dig below its chassis to an unparalleled depth of around one metre. In addition, this innovative new machine can reach 8% higher than any other skid steer.

Plantworx marks a first UK public appearance for the JCB 540-180 HiViz - an 18-metre Loadall which expands what is already the world's biggest range of telescopic handlers. The new Loadall offers a 5% improvement in lift height, 10% greater forward reach, 50% lower SAE serviceability rating, 50% service cost saving over 1,000 hours and 20% faster cycle times.

This year's show will also see the Plantworx debut for the revolutionary



JCB Hydradig 110W which has taken the industry by storm since launch by delivering new levels of digging, lifting, loading and tool-carrying performance to urban construction, highway maintenance and municipal operations. The concept brings unparalleled visibility, stability, manoeuvrability, mobility and serviceability.

Also featuring on the stand or in the demonstration areas will be a full line-up of JCB equipment from its compact excavator, wheeled loading shovel, backhoe loader, Loadall telescopic handler, tracked excavator, site dumper, compaction and generator ranges.

Doosan & Bobcat

New products from the company's Doosan Heavy, Bobcat and Doosan Portable Power ranges will be on view for the first time in the UK on the Doosan Bobcat EMEA stand.

These will include the new Doosan Stage IV compliant DX225LC-5 21 tonne crawler excavator, the new 16.5 tonne DX165W-5 short tail wheeled excavator, the new Bobcat 1.7 tonne E17Z Zero Tail Swing (ZTS) canopy excavator and the T40.180SLP and T36.120SL models from the new range of Bobcat rigid frame telehandlers.

There will also be plenty to see in the working area with Doosan and Bobcat products being put through their paces, including a demonstration of the versatility offered by Bobcat loaders and attachments aimed at a wide range of jobs.

Completing the picture are the latest generators, portable compressors and light towers from Doosan Portable Power including the first showing of the new 7/41TTG compressor-generator incorporating a new on-board 8.5 kVA generator.

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Avant

AVANT UK head to this year's Plantworx with a host of new innovations and developments to showcase over the three days.

The team will be on hand to assist with both practical demonstrations and a show stand so there will be plenty of opportunities to find out more about the new additions to the extensive range of compact loaders.

Avant has recently had plenty to celebrate after being awarded a highly commended in the Plantworx Awards 2017 – for Innovation in the Environment section.

For the first-time in the UK visitors to the stand will be able to learn more about the new Optidrive™ system which is available on the 700-series loaders. In the new system the amount of hydraulic hoses and fittings has been radically reduced and optimized, where the name Optidrive™ derives from as well.

The Optidrive™ reduces the power loss in the system by up to 1.5 kW, which is roughly 10 % of the total power used in the drive circuit. This means lower fuel consumption, less heat in the hydraulic system and more power for the actual job.

The demonstration arena will include the Avant Electric model, machines with hand drive controls system in medium and large loaders and a fleet of attachments showing the variety of systems available today.



Kubota

Kubota will be showcasing its brand new mini excavator, the KX042-4; the 4-tonne machine is the most environmentally friendly excavator in its class and will be unveiled for the first time in the UK and Ireland.

The KX042-4 incorporates a DPF (Diesel Particulate Filter) to ensure a clean exhaust and Kubota's ECO Plus Mode to reduce fuel consumption. The Common Rail System (CRS) electronically controls the fuel injection timing and amount in stages rather than all at once, for optimal combustion. This results in greater efficiency, better fuel economy and less engine noise.

Kubota's high levels of performance match the environmental advantages of the new machine. Certain features of the KX042-4 such as the AUX oil flow with proportional flow control, auto idling, auto-shift and float position, provide the machine with the power and versatility to handle tough jobs with ease and efficiency.

Also being exhibited is the recently launched KX080-4a, an enhanced version of the popular KX080-4, which utilises the latest technological advancements and can feature an optional 2-piece boom to offer expanded working range. The KX027-4 is also set to appear on stand, having made its international debut at the Executive Hire Show earlier this year.

Kubota will also be exhibiting a range of its recently released R series wheel loaders, with all machines boasting a full-suspension seat, multi-function operating lever and tilt steering, to provide the user with greater ease of operation and high levels of comfort.



CASE

Case Construction Equipment will present its new and upgraded machine ranges and will host the UK heat of the CASE Rodeo competition.

Making their first UK appearance since their official launch in January and March respectively, will be models from the new C Series mini excavators, upgraded Tier 4 final backhoe loaders and the new G Series wheel loaders, all of which will feature CASE's new livery.

There will be an impressive display of machines designed for all sectors of the construction, quarrying, rental, and waste and recycling industries, equipped with the latest emissions-compliant engines and fuel-saving technology. These will

include crawler excavators ranging from the midi CX75C and CX80C up to the heavy range D Series CX130D, CX245D SR, and CX290D MH, as well as the 1150M dozer, plus a 690ST backhoe loader and a TR270 compact track loader.

As well as viewing the new machines there will be plenty to see and do at the CASE stand as Plantworx will be the venue for the UK qualifying round of the CASE Rodeo Challenge. Here operators are invited to test their skill and speed to win a place representing the UK at the finals which take place in Paris later in the year. The CASE team will also be available to explain about the latest innovations across all the lines, CASE SiteWatch telematics, plus maintenance programmes and the latest competitive finance options.

Engcon

As part of its expanding range of tiltrotators, Engcon will be exhibiting a new series of entry-level options for those considering joining the UK's growing ranks of tiltrotator converts. A number of UK owner-operators will be on hand to share their experiences of investing in an Engcon system and to offer advice on product selection, job pricing and much more.

Engcon will also be showcasing its full range of tiltrotators and quick-hitch systems in static displays. Headline developments to see at the show include a brand new range of UK-sized Engcon buckets and the company's new universal quick-hitch control system.

Visitors can also discover more about the roll-out of the UK's first NPORS tiltrotator safety scheme. Available for all brands of tiltrotator, the scheme now has over 15 accredited instructors nationwide.

Items from the Engcon's latest range of merchandise will also be available to order, and there will be the opportunity to win some great prizes in competitions running throughout the event.

Thwaites

Dumper specialist Thwaites is launching a brand-new dumper at the show – but is keeping the exact details of the product top-secret. Designed and manufactured here in the UK by the company's expert team in Warwickshire – Thwaites claim to have designed the definitive dumper which will be unveiled at the show.

Thwaites say that this dumper is what the market has been waiting for and will provide a new level of safety for contractors and clients across the UK, whilst offering the very best in operator safety and comfort.





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Hill Engineering

Hill Engineering will be showing its TEFRA Tilt Hitch, the award winning TEFRA Coupler and its Hill Titan Buckets alongside the TITAN Thumb attachment.

The TEFRA Tilt Coupler takes all the advantages of the award-winning TEFRA coupler but provides the added benefit of increased productivity and versatility in multiple applications. The attachment



is available for machines sizes ranging from 3 to 20 tonnes and, like the TEFRA coupler, has been specifically designed to be almost maintenance free. This tilt system allows operators greater flexibility in the way they use their machines and turns each and every attachment into one that can be used at up to 180 degrees.

The TEFRA Tilt coupler boasts advance technology from German manufacturers HKS. The magic behind Hill's new attachment is said to be the XtraTilt power actuator to achieve the 180-degree tilt function.

The Hill Titan Thumb was launched last year and can be manufactured for machines up to 20T – it can also be rotated from the pin or mounted on the dipper as a more basic option. When not in use the Thumb retracts so the machine can be used as normal - when in use the Thumb can be used like a grab.

Hanix

Hanix Europe's new 8.5-tonne midi-excavator will be seen by the public for the first time at Plantworx.

The Hanix N085uj, which replaces the much-loved H75C, is the first of a new generation of Hanix 'urban' mini- and midi-excavators.

A high-performance 2615cc Kubota V2607 engine provides 43kW of power for this 8315kg machine, and its relatively low capacity promises excellent fuel economy, with emissions in line with EU Stage IIIB regulations.

The machine specifications also confirm that this model is available with an option of either short or long dipper arm – the longer option adds 200mm to both maximum digging depth and ground level reach; at 4505mm and 7135mm respectively.

The company's range of excavators will be joined by a pair of crawler-mounted aerial work platforms; the articulating boom platforms are manufactured in Japan by Hanix Europe's parent company, Nagano Industry, and Hanix plan to introduce these machines to the UK during 2017.

On display will be the smallest model in the range, the NUL070R-2, along with the company's latest addition, the NUL13Suj which, weighing in at just over 8 tonnes, tops the range with a maximum platform height of 13 metres, and a working radius of almost 12 metres.



Mecalac Construction

Mecalac Construction Equipment UK Ltd (formerly Terex GB), will showcase its latest compact machinery portfolio – including the brand new TLB870 backhoe loader and the market-leading TA9SP site dumper.

The event will also see Mecalac introduce a suite of new model technologies, including the roll-out of site dumper telematics and hazard detection capability, as well as showcasing other products from Mecalac, including the award-winning MWR wheeled excavator.

Joining the MWR on-stand, Mecalac's all-new TLB870 has been specifically developed for the rental marketplace, offering superior productivity and an intelligent hydraulic system to reduce power consumption and improve fuel economy. The model's modern design also features an all-new loader arm, bespoke roof canopy and LED lights for improved operator experience. Customers with correct PPE and valid operating licences can book their experience in advance.



Bergmann

At Plantworx, Bergmann will showcase its latest wheel and track dumpers for safe and efficient transport of loads up to 12 tons.

At Bergmann, product development always focuses on driver comfort, safety and transport capacity. It comes therefore as no surprise that the 180° swivelling driver stand has for many years been one of the most praised features of the dumpers from Bergmann. The swivelling driver stand allows for a much better view during manoeuvring, so that the dumper can be driven backwards at higher speeds.

The Bergmann 3012 Rplus, a 12t wheel dumper of the latest generation, and the new Bergmann 4010 10t track dumper come with a Comfort Line cab known for its exceptional equipment. In addition, the two models offer excellent traction and off-road mobility.

Strickland MFG

Attachment specialists Strickland MFG will be showing their S-Lock Coupler at this year's Show.

Visitors to the stand can see the 8 ton Twin Locking S-Lock Coupler, which according to Strickland, is the only one currently on the market to be able to pick up 45mm through to 60mm pins.

Strickland MFG will also be exhibiting a selection of other attachments. Strickland also offer on-site repair and fabrication services to provide a full and responsive service for your construction needs.

Garic

Garic, a UK manufacturer and supplier of construction site welfare facilities, will be launching the latest in its range of eco-efficient solar powered products. Garic claim that the new drying room is a 'world first' and say that the welfare unit looks set to save up to 86% in energy costs.

According to Garic the design-patented, 10'x8' drying unit is the only stand alone, self-contained solar powered unit on the market. Its launch follows successful onsite trials by client InterServe who was impressed to find an alternative to existing costly to run mobile drying room products.

Strickland

This year has started with a bang for Strickland MFG, who will be exhibiting at Plantworx.

The company say the first quarter of the year has been truly outstanding, with orders coming in thick and fast. Both the UK and Irish markets are buoyant and there doesn't appear to be any immediate let up. Strickland MFG are more than happy to take on the challenges that are being thrown at them this year, with order volumes and market share increasing for the company. More and more National Accounts are specifying Strickland Buckets & Couplers when purchasing their machines from the OEM & OED. This is down to the hard work put in by the dedicated Sales Team at Strickland MFG, coupled with a quality product, competitive pricing and excellent availability. As an Irish owned company, Strickland MFG has always had a presence in Ireland. Pre recession, there were weekly lorries heading across the water to service their Irish customer base. When the construction market declined during the recession period, Strickland MFG concentrated their time in perfecting their

products and bringing on board their own hydraulic coupler, the S-LOCK. Since the market started to take an upwards turn, Strickland MFG has seen a rapid increase in Irish demand, re-establishing old relationships & building new ones.



April saw Strickland MFG exhibit at the CQMS show in Tullamore. They enjoyed two days showing their wide range of attachments, generating great interest in all their products; in particular their Heavy Duty Grapples & Rippers. Strickland's were lucky enough to show off their ever popular S-LOCK Coupler's on a KX080 & Lui Gong 922 machine. These were kindly lent to Strickland's for the show by FJS Plant Repairs Ltd of Donadea, Naas. FJS are dealers for

both Kubota & Lui Gong and have been working in partnership with Strickland MFG for a number of years, supplying couplers & buckets for their range of machines. "Availability, competitive pricing and a quality product make Strickland MFG an easy choice," says Frank Smyth, Director for FJS. "We need quick turnaround times in order to meet our customers' demands. We know we can depend on Strickland's to meet these demands." Another advocate for the Strickland product in Ireland is ECI JCB. Their relationship has spanned in excess of 10 years. Having weathered the storm of the recession, ECI JCB are back on the up with regular orders being placed with Strickland MFG. "I am delighted to have re-established our partnership with ECI," says Nicola Troy, National Key Account Manager for Strickland MFG. Hailing from Dublin herself, Nicola has a natural affinity for the Irish Market and is very pleased to be back supplying old and new customers alike. Strickland MFG will be at Plantworx in force with their experienced Sales Team on hand to offer advice & information on best fits for customers needs.



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GAP

GAP will be showcasing a range of new products on the company's stand this year which include the new Brendon Power Super Silent Pressure Washer, a new Silent Night Inverter on 12ft Eco Welfare Unit, a new Echo Barrier Acoustic Enclosure, a Weinold Glass and Material Lift, and the PipeHawk E-Safe GPR Unit alongside the new 3.0t KX27-4 Kubota Excavator.

GAP will also be displaying a selection of tools and accessories from market leading supply partners including Hilti, Stihl and Wacker Neuson.



Niftylift

UK based, Niftylift is one of the largest manufacturers of mobile elevating work platforms in Europe – the company will be making its show debut.

One of the highlights on the Niftylift stand will be the new Nifty 120T. The Nifty 120T is a compact and manoeuvrable trailer-mount that can be towed easily by a small commercial vehicle or 4-by-4. With a 12.2m working height and 6.1m outreach, it utilises a telescopic upper boom to give up-and-over access to hard-to-reach locations, as well as low-level outreach where it's often needed most.

A&Y

A&Y will be showing a number of key products for their Ammann, Yanmar and Cormidi ranges. A variety of Yanmar excavators from 1 through to 10 tonne are being exhibited, both zero tail swing (ViO) and semi zero (SV).

It will be the first time for many to see the new and improved 5 tonne, ViO50-6. Its new cab design, along with increases in power and stability, have made it a popular seller in 2017.

The micro that debuted at the Executive Hire Show, the ViO12, will also be on the stand, since its first appearance a number of these have been sold with one user telling us they treat it like a 1.5 tonne machine but with the compactness of a 1 tonner.

A machine that always turns heads and gets a lot of interest on social media and on sites is the SV100-2 piece boom. This 10 tonne Yanmar uses the traditional boom configuration from wheeled excavators to make it an incredibly versatile digger.

On the compaction side the Ammann ASC130 roller will stand out due to its size. This 13 tonne single drum roller will be joined by light tandem ARX rollers, including the ever popular ARX26 (120cm drum width) and ARX12 (80 cm drum width).

Three models of Cormidi tracked dumper will complete A&Y's presence at the show. These incredibly popular dumpers are custom built as tracked dumpers, with features such as rocking rollers and hydrostatic drive making them high performers over all manner of terrains.



Hydrema

The latest machines from Hydrema address the current health and safety challenges facing front tip dumpers on many UK sites, where front tip visibility is seen to be too restrictive for the dumper operators.

At Plantworx Hydrema will show its new 912F ADT which achieves

maximum all round visibility with a front positioned operator cab and maximum operator functionality.

The machine is fitted with a reversing camera for added visibility and a reversing alarm provides added onsite safety. Operators have both entry and foot step lighting.

The 912F also has a safer working radius and the machine does not need to constantly reposition - it also has a Multi-Tip function where the operator can tip the unloaded material directly behind the machine or anywhere between 90° to the right or left side.

The machine is also fitted with the well proven unique pivot steering system with anti-roll properties for maximum wheel ground contact, so that the vertical rear wheel movement is +/- 450mm.



RDS Technology

RDS Technology is showing the LOADMASTER a50, LOADEX 100, LOADMASTER a100, ISOSYNC and WEIGHLOG a10.

The LOADMASTER a50, the enhanced colour touchscreen replacement for the LOADMASTER 8kiX, is an on-board weighing system for larger loaders designed to help increase loading efficiency, cut vehicle movements on site and ensure lorries are correctly loaded first time.

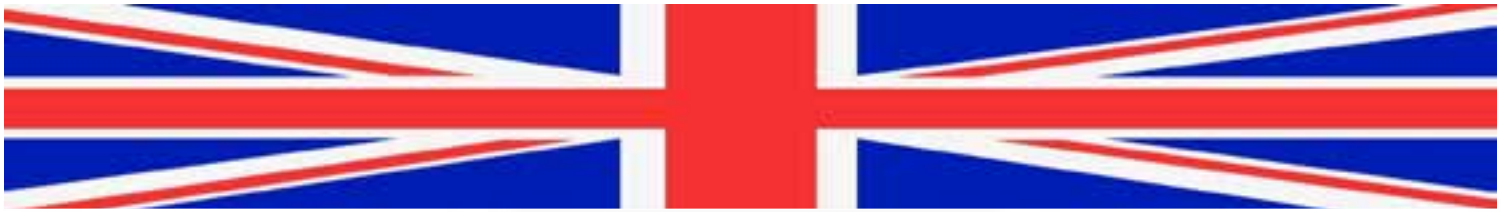
The LOADEX 100 is a retrofittable scale installed on both tracked and wheeled 360 degree excavators and material handling machines to weigh the amount of material in the bucket, grab or clamshell.

LOADMASTER a100 is an on-board weighing scale for wheeled loaders. A CAN based system combining cutting edge sensor technology and signal processing techniques

its designed to provide precise and consistent bucket weight information and to emphasise the gains in productivity and profitability that can be achieved with such technology.

ISOSYNC enables control of the loadout operation and inventory, productivity and traceability management. The software can be used with either LOADMASTER a100 or LOADEX 100 and allows the rapid transfer of job information from a central computer to the loader or excavator and the resultant load information is sent back to the PC upon completion.





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MCS

MCS, the leading hire software expert, is to demonstrate the latest enhancements to its MCS-rm hire management software which includes its recently launched embedded CRM system and CRM Mobile app.

MCS-rm combines Customer Relationship Management with hire management in a single rental software solution, helping hire companies to nurture their most valued client relationships whilst generating and maximising all sales opportunities. Communication is further enhanced between back office staff using MCS-rm and the remote sales team using the refreshed MCS CRM Mobile app.

The most recent enhancements to its CRM includes full Outlook integration



which ensures that all customer email conversations can be recorded within MCS-rm ensuring that nothing is ever missed. Each user has an 'action' list which can be synchronised according to their own preferences with their Outlook calendar.

inspHire

inspHire will be exhibiting the latest developments and new features of its market leading hire management software.

Developed specifically for hire businesses, inspHire helps streamline processes, maximising equipment utilisation, operational efficiency, customer service and profitability. Over 2200 businesses across the globe are already reaping the rewards of implementing inspHire software. Whether you're a single depot operation or multinational, global powerhouse, inspHire has a solution to suit your needs.

inspHire will also be demonstrating inspHire Mobile, allowing users to work away from the office on a mobile or tablet device, bringing further operational efficiencies. As well as, inspHire CRM, helping to improve customer and prospect management, increasing sales and loyalty. Also, the re-launched WebPortal, providing hire businesses customers with the ability to self-serve 24/7. And, Route Planning Functionality, making it easy to plan, schedule and execute fully optimised service runs.

Managing Director, Graham Dobbs says "Plantworx is an event in the calendar we always look forward to. It's the perfect platform for us to introduce our latest developments to the plant, tool and construction industries. We are constantly developing our software, using the latest technologies, ensuring our customers stay ahead of their competition. Be sure to stop by our stand and discover exactly what inspHire can offer to your business".



Husqvarna

Husqvarna will be showing a range of products including the new Husqvarna K 1270 which comes with the patented X-Torq engine that contributes to lower emissions and low fuel consumption.

This without losing its power among petrol driven power cutters is what Husqvarna say is an unbeatable combination. At the same time, Husqvarna introduces the Husqvarna K 1270 Rail, with the same benefits. Husqvarna K 1270 and K 1270 Rail will eventually replace all Husqvarna K 1260 power cutters.



Montracon

Montracon has taken a leaf from the car industry when designing its new MT45 machinery carrier by engineering a standard specification base line common platform, with a range of optional modules, which at the ultimate level provide a trailer with unrivalled load versatility and its owner with optimum operational flexibility.

The MT45 is plated for operation at up to 45t gross trailer weight; the latest developments include a low-profile trailer neck coupled with a reduced incline air operated neck ramp, the two features combining to ease the approach angle for equipment such as access platforms right down to small electric scissors and smaller fork lifts to power up onto the neck ready to be secured for onward transport.

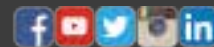
CompAir Gardner Denver

CompAir Gardner Denver is returning to Plantworx to launch its brand new DLT1304 range of compressors, filling the gap from 300 to 500cfm. The new range includes eight models, all of which have the option of a diesel particulate filter and have the latest Stage IIIB engine from Deutz.

The company say its new range continues the strategy of a compact, lightweight design from its previous models, but also now fulfils Stage IIIB compliancy throughout the UK, including Low Emission Zones. By partnering again with Deutz on the new models, it could keep the weight, size and shape of the new compressor almost identical to the extremely successful DLT1303 range.

As well as launching this new machine, CompAir Gardner Denver will be showing prototypes of some other new developments coming out of CompAir Compressors and Air Tools.





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UK North Sales Manager Jennifer Dollan cutting the ribbon on the new distribution hub

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PLANTWORX INNOVATION AWARDS WINNERS 2017

The Plantworx Innovation Award winners were announced at a ceremony held at 10-11 Carlton Terrace House in central London, the former home of Prime Minister William Gladstone.

Hosted by CEA (Construction Equipment Association)'s chief executive, Rob Oliver, more than 45 guests gathered to celebrate the winners of the 2017 Innovation Awards, which recognise and celebrate those innovative companies, products and services that have made a major impact in the construction equipment industry.

Judged by a panel of independent experts including journalist and engineer - Margo Cole, CPA's training manager - Haydn Steele, Earthmovers Magazine Editor - Graham Black, Bam Nuttalls head of innovation - Colin Evison, Leonardo's - Dr Carol Marsh, Clancy Docwra's head of security - Ian Elliott and Hugh Edeleanu - chairman of HE Services, the standard and volume of entries this year indicates an industry full of innovative ideas for the construction sector.



The winners of the various categories are as follows:

SECURITY

Datatag / MicroCESAR

The MicroCESAR security marking system developed by the Construction Equipment Association (CEA) and Datatag was first announced at the Combined Industries Theft Solutions (CITS) conference at the end of 2015, and has been in development ever since. It has been designed to protect small power tools from theft in the same way that the original CESAR System has proved to be a powerful theft deterrent and an invaluable aid in recovery of both compact and larger construction equipment.

COMMITMENT TO SKILLS AND TRAINING

Hire Association Europe

Hire Association Europe won the category with its innovative use of gaming technology for health and safety training, including 360o video, 3D animation, virtual and augmented reality (VR and AR). The judges said the HAE's approach is genuinely innovative, and an important step change in trying to ensure health and safety training reaches a wider audience.

ENVIRONMENT

Red Rhino Crushers

Small is beautiful as far as the overall winner is concerned. It is the Red Rhino RR5000 Electric Tracked Crusher, which was initially developed as a bespoke machine for an underground mine in France, but has proved so popular that Red Rhino has taken it into full production. The crusher is powered from mains electricity, and only uses 24kW of power, when a comparable sized diesel-powered machine would use more than 60 litres of fuel per day, with the resulting exhaust and noise emissions.

ENGINEERING

JCB Hydradig

The stand-out engineering innovation this year is JCB's new Hydradig wheeled excavator. The company has taken what has traditionally been a problematic machine class and redesigned it from the ground up, starting with the decision to relocate all the major components to the lower chassis. The result is an excavator that has much better visibility, stability, mobility, manoeuvrability and serviceability than anything in this class before.

EFFICIENCY

Marubeni-Komatsu - PC210LCi

The winner in this category is Komatsu's PC210LCi-11 intelligent Machine Control Crawler Excavator. This is way more than a simple upgrade of the previous award-winning model; Komatsu has created a hydraulic excavator that comes out of the factory with intelligent machine control and the capability for semi-automatic operation.

The combination of the machine control system and a tilt bucket that is automatically limited from digging beyond the target surface should lead to significant efficiency savings on various levels. The bucket cannot dig beyond the target depth, so there can be no over-digging; and complex surface designs can be achieved without having to keep changing the position of the machine.

NON-OPERATED PLANT AND SUPPORT PRODUCTS

Securi-Cabin - Smart Pick Welfare Unit

The winner in this category is a product that prompted absolute delight among the judges: Securi-Cabin's Smart Pick Welfare Unit. The units are designed to be placed on site without a Hiab-type crane. They sit flat on a trailer during transport; once on site, the trailer is manoeuvred into position, hydraulic legs extend from the base of the unit to the ground and then raise the unit off the trailer so the trailer can pull away. The Welfare Unit can then be lowered to the ground.

All of this is done by an operator using a wireless remote control system, so at no stage does anyone have to climb onto the unit to fix chains, or operate any kind of crane or lifting gear.

SAFETY

Husqvarna - DXR Dust Reduction Kit

The winner is a product that addresses the serious health risks caused by breathing in dust from demolition and breaking activities. It is a brand-new dust reduction accessory designed by Husqvarna for all its DXR robots for use with a range of Atlas Copco breakers. The accessory supplies water to the tool that binds any airborne dust, causing it to fall to the ground rather than risking an operator breathing in harmful dust particles.

It also has environmental benefits, and improves efficiency on site, as no-one has to be designated specifically just to damp down dust.



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Engcon

Engcon continues to push the boundaries with its ongoing investment in R&D. The latest development is the EC233, a completely new tiltrotator for excavators up to 33 tonnes. The EC233 is an Engcon Generation 2 tiltrotator, built using the very latest technology.

The EC233, which will make its debut at Plantworx, includes a central lubrication system for easy maintenance, a 45-degree tilt angle for best access and flexibility, a robust design with a cast body and heavy-duty shaft journals for extended service life.

And that's not all, says Fredrik Jonsson, Head of R&D at Engcon, who stacks up even more innovative features and benefits of the new addition to the range:

"The EC233 comes ready for ePS – engcon Positioning System – which means it will be able to sync with various excavator guidance systems for maximum efficiency. Standard equipment includes tilt cylinders fitted with load-holding valves and a Q-Safe quick hitch for maximum safety," says Fredrik Jonsson.

"In short, this is Engcon's most powerful tiltrotator yet. It uses the latest technology and we have great confidence in the model as it was tested to the limit on big machines during the Swedish winter of 2016/2017."

The first of the pilot models will begin deliveries during the autumn with series roll out anticipated for New Year, 2018.



Manitou

With many pre-launch orders already received for its forthcoming MT420H Buggy,

Manitou will use Plantworx for the UK construction industry launch of the new ultra-compact telehandler. The newcomer is the baby brother to the extremely popular Manitou MT625 and hire industry buyers will appreciate the many similarities between the two models.

On the new MT420H Buggy, Manitou has cleverly utilised the same size spacious cab and controls as found on the bigger MT625 whilst providing a physically smaller machine with an even tighter turning circle (less than 3.0m turning radius). The new MT420H provides a maximum lift capacity of 2,000kg and a maximum lift height of 4.3m. The useful load chart also allows 800kg to be extended out to the maximum forward reach of 2.60m.

Complete with a very controllable two-speed hydrostatic transmission, the rough terrain MT420H Buggy is powered by a popular 36.5kW (49hp) Kubota diesel engine that is Stage IIIA emissions compliant without the need for a DPF or AdBlue. The machine also scores by being only 1.9m high (when fitted with compact beacon) and its narrow width of 1.49m, combined with three-mode steering, allows it to be driven into very confined spaces.

The MT420H comes complete with 4WD, Manitou's popular JSM joystick control, and the latest Manitou EN15000 compliant LMI (Load Moment Indicator) with new Active Mode Regulation. The stylish design incorporates a very low boom pivot point to provide excellent all round visibility from the comfortable cloth covered seat. Bulk deliveries of the new telehandler will begin in September.



Hidromek

TJC Sales Ltd, a UK dealer for Hidromek is showcasing the HMK 102B SUPRA and the award-winning HMK 140LC and HMK 220LC GEN Series.

First time exhibitor at Plantworx, TJC Sales Ltd, is hoping to make a big impression with the Turkish manufactured range of machinery which offers high efficiency, comfort, and performance. Visitors will be able to see for themselves the smooth precision of the Hidromek with live demonstrations of the HMK 102B SUPRA and the HMK 220LC GEN Series in action. The HMK 140LC GEN Series will be on show on the stand.

Licensed operators will have a chance to experience the outstanding performance of the cutting-edge machinery in the demonstration area. There will also be an opportunity to take part in a fun competition using one of the Hidromek machines with prizes to be won.

The award-winning HMK 140LC and HMK 220LC GEN Series provides increased performance, ease of control and reliability. These innovative models are highly responsive, efficient and have been designed to give a high level of operator comfort. The low fuel consumption and easy maintenance of these machines add to the sustainable qualities of the GEN Series range - a leader in its class.

One of the characteristics that make the SUPRA Series (HMK 102B SUPRA will be on display) different is the superior performance of the front loader. Thanks to the bucket and arm breakout force of the SUPRA Series, the machine drives the load without being stressed. The durable Boom construction is intended for heavy conditions and has been designed to last for many years.



Wacker Neuson

For the third time, Wacker Neuson will be at Plantworx, with highlights like the cabbed dumper DW90 with the new optional safety system OPS+ and the ET90 excavator with excellent engine and hydraulic performance as well as the award-winning electric wheel loader WL20e.

"We are looking forward to Plantworx as we will have the opportunity to show our products and service solutions to a professional audience there", said Richard Harrison, Managing Director Wacker Neuson UK. "A highlight at the Wacker Neuson booths will be the electric wheel loader WL20e which has been awarded "Highly Commended" in the Environmental Innovation category of the Plantworx Innovation Awards 2017. We are very happy about this honor, as it is a confirmation by industry experts that Wacker Neuson is taking the right steps towards the future with its zero emissions line."

With two electric motors, one for the drive system and one for the operating hydraulics, the wheel loader WL20e works purely electrically. The two electric motors ensure that the performance

features of the wheel loader with a bucket capacity of 0.2 cubic meters match those of the conventional machine.

Contractors who opt for the compact battery-powered wheel loader therefore do not need to compromise in terms of performance, but can benefit from the advantage of zero emissions. This saves costs, ensures higher machine utilization and expands the application areas of the wheel loader considerably. Zero emissions is becoming increasingly important, for example on construction sites in urban areas, and when working indoors, such as in greenhouses, during building restorations or in parking garages.

Another big topic at the Wacker Neuson booths: The new cabbed dumpers can be equipped with OPS+ – OPS stands for additional operator protection system. An additional protection frame can be fitted to all cabbed Wacker Neuson dumpers, which will offer the operator greater protection in the event of machine overturn or frontal machine impact.

Also on display: The 10-ton track excavator ET90 with excellent

engine and hydraulic performance. The fuel consumption of the ET90 is up to 30 percent lower than with comparable models, which reduces the operating costs significantly. This efficient combination provides for first-class digging power with up to 20 percent more bucket breakaway force. Conversely, the economical load sensing hydraulic system allows for finely controllable lifting arm movements with a full performance at the same time. Whether power or precision – the ET90 is the right excavator for any application, even for highly demanding jobs. Some models from the comprehensive range of tandem rollers from 1.8 to 4.5 tonnes will also be exhibited at Plantworx.



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Construction industry beats post-Brexit expectations

Activity in the construction industry is rising at a faster pace following the EU referendum than initially expected according to the latest forecasts by the Construction Products Association (CPA). Construction output is expected to rise each year between 2017-2019, by 1.3% in 2017, 1.2% in 2018 and 2.3% in 2019.

While the figures may fuel hope of a resilient UK construction industry amid Brexit-related anxieties and rising costs, the growth masks a considerable difference in activity across the key construction sectors. Infrastructure projects are expected to be the industry's main growth engine, driven by a strong National Infrastructure

and Construction Pipeline valued at £300 billion over the next four years.

In particular, growth to 2019 is expected to be primarily driven by a 34.5% increase in infrastructure activity due to major projects in the energy, rail and water sub-sectors, which would offset expected falls in commercial and industrial construction.

House building is also expected to remain a key source of growth, with private house building starts rising by 7.2% between 2017 and 2019, underpinned by a continued upward trend in house prices, demand from first-time buyers and the Help to Buy equity loans. In 2016, Help to Buy accounted for 39.8% of new home sales in Q4 and has been a significant government policy for supporting building activity.

Noble Francis, Economics Director at the Construction Products Association said:

"Construction output has been sustained post-referendum, primarily due to projects signed up to before June 2016. Activity is expected to remain strong in the first half of this year in all the key construction sectors: private housing, commercial, industrial and infrastructure. Looking further forward, a fall in contract awards during the second half of last year, is likely to impact greatest where Brexit uncertainty affects sectors requiring high investment up front for a long term rate of return, such as commercial offices and industrial factories.

"We forecast that output in commercial offices will fall 1.0% this year and a further 12.0% in 2018. Industrial factories

construction is expected to fall 5.0% in 2017 and 4.0% in 2018. However, this is expected to be offset by strong growth in infrastructure and private housing. Infrastructure construction is expected to increase by 7.3% in 2017 and 11.1% in 2018, primarily driven by major projects such as main works at Hinkley Point C and High-Speed 2. Private housing starts are forecast to rise 3.0% in 2017 and 2.0% in both 2018 and 2019.

"Looking forward, given the dependence of construction industry growth on activity in the infrastructure and private housing sectors, it is essential that government focuses on delivery of infrastructure projects in its National Infrastructure and Construction Pipeline. In addition, as major house builders are reliant upon Help to Buy equity loans, which are due to end in 2021, it is vital that government outlines its plans early to support house building growth as we approach the end of the scheme."

CASE celebrates 175 years of serving construction businesses

CASE Construction Equipment celebrates the 175th Anniversary of the Racine Threshing Machine Works, opened by Jerome Increase Case in Wisconsin, USA.

What began with J.I. Case in 1842 is a story of ingenuity, practicality and entrepreneurship that remain as strong today in the CASE teams around the world. Right from the early days of steam-powered machines, CASE has pioneered equipment and technologies that profoundly influenced construction businesses. The innovations developed by CASE throughout its history have provided practical solutions to everyday challenges of the construction jobsite.

The introduction of the first portable steam engine in 1869, which led to the birth of



road construction, and the launch in 1957 of the industry's first factory-integrated tractor loader backhoe are just two of CASE's pioneering developments that have changed the construction world.

Many milestones punctuate CASE's history: from the 500,000th backhoe loader that rolled off its production line in 2005 to almost sixty years of wheel loader excellence, and close to five decades of skid steer loader development – all these landmarks are testament to the expertise CASE has to offer today's construction businesses across the world.

This rich heritage of innovation comes with a passion for serving the customer and helping them solve their technical and business challenges. J.I. Case believed in doing what's right and going the extra mile for the customer. This belief remains just as true today and drives CASE's 360-degree approach to supporting construction businesses with products and services, and its teams' ability to build long-lasting relationships with customers.

Countdown to Marine & Coastal Expo

The Marine & Coastal Civil Engineering Expo (M&CCE Expo) is the UK's largest exhibition and conference dedicated to showcasing the latest equipment and solutions for marine, coastal and other challenging civil engineering projects with unique landscape features.

It takes place on the 27th & 28th of September at ExCel in London, and tickets are free from the M&CCE Expo website.

This year's event will have a huge emphasis on civil engineering projects in challenging landscapes or with unique physical features.

The show attracts over 1,500 influential figures including the most relied upon project managers, lead engineers, business development officers, and large construction company directors to discuss the most cutting-edge solutions and purchase the latest products that aid in the completion of Europe's most challenging projects.

What's more, with the world's most innovative industry suppliers staking their claim to the growing floorplan, every major buyer, decision maker, and civil engineer in Europe will be there!

The show features over 150 specialist suppliers, 80 hours of CPD-accredited seminars, interactive debates, live demonstrations, one-to-one advice from industry experts, unparalleled networking opportunities, and much more.

Guests can also filter between the neighbouring Flood Expo 2017 and the Contamination Expo Series 2017 next door. To book your FREE ticket and take advantage of everything the M&CCE Expo has to offer, register on the M&CCE Expo website.

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Entries and nominations are invited from individuals or companies connected with the plant, construction & quarry industry, to enter in any or all of the categories listed

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CIHT: Chartered Institute of Highways & Transportation • CITB NI: Construction Industry Training Board
QPANI: Quarry Products Association Northern Ireland • IMQS: Irish Mining & Quarrying Society • HAE: Hire Association Europe
IOQ: Institute of Quarrying • CPA: Construction Plant-Hire Association

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2017

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Plant Hire Company of the Year

This Award will be presented to the organisation which offers an extensive portfolio of high quality products, flexible hire options, and respected customer service policies. Entrants should outline how their company provides a level of plant hire expertise that puts them ahead of the competition, eg: product knowledge, distribution network, prompt delivery and collection, equipment options, cost effective hiring and any unique services available. Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

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Innovation of the Year

This category is open to all civil engineering, construction and quarrying companies who have introduced, created or invested within their operations innovative solutions that make their activities more efficient, more profitable and more successful. The innovation can range from the latest equipment and facilities to cutting edge technology or environmental solutions.

sponsor to be confirmed



Excellence in Customer Service

This category is open to all companies in the construction, quarrying, and plant & machinery sectors, including dealers, equipment suppliers, service and maintenance agents and other associated businesses. Entrants need to demonstrate a high level of customer care and support. Customer testimonies will be accepted.

Close Brothers
Commercial Finance

sponsored by



Construction Company of the Year

This Award will be presented to the company or organisation who has demonstrated over the past year involvement with major or specialist projects throughout the island of Ireland, Great Britain or worldwide which illustrate high levels of skill within project management, innovation, specialist projects.

Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

SCANIA

sponsored by



Construction Fleet of the Year

This award will be presented to the company operating an outstanding fleet of vehicles ranging from tippers to readymix trucks. Judging criteria will be based on appearance, quality, maintenance programmes, driver or operator efficiency, skill and professionalism. The category is open to all those involved in the construction, quarrying and associated sectors.

DAF

sponsored by



Special Recognition Award

This award, for which nominations are now open, will be presented to the individual who has been outstanding in his or her service to the industry, whose personal achievements, accomplishments or initiatives in the construction, quarrying or plant & machinery sectors deserve recognition.

TEREX | **FINLAY** **ORMONDE**
machinery

sponsored by



Quarry of the Year

This category is open to individual working quarries, whether hardrock, sand or gravel, where the operator demonstrates safe working practices, the highest levels of pollution control, sustainability, biodiversity, and operational efficiency, while offering a strong portfolio of products and services. Customer testimonies can be submitted.

sponsor to be confirmed



Apprentice of the Year

Now open for nominations, this category is for all apprentices who have shown their dedication and commitment to employers and businesses operating in any area of activity in the quarrying and construction sectors, including service and maintenance workshops, onsite or roadside servicing and repairs. The winning apprentice should also demonstrate a desire to improve the skills and knowledge needed for a rewarding long term career in the industry.

SO HOW DO YOU ENTER?

IT'S NOT AS COMPLICATED AS YOU MIGHT THINK. IN FACT, OUR ADVICE AS ALWAYS IS: KEEP IT SIMPLE

Here are some points to consider:

The Award categories require short entries stating why you believe your company should win.

Your entry will not be judged on presentation, but make sure it is easy for the judges to readily locate the necessary information.

Any factual information, such as operational, service, financial or personal details, to back up any claims expressed in your entry should be clearly and concisely laid out.

You don't have to be a big concern to enter. You could be an individual, a company with less than 10 employees or a large national/international outfit. You will be judged on merit, not size.

The judges are looking for excellence, outstanding qualities or contributions, unrivalled service and innovation, individuals and organisations who have gone the extra mile – so demonstrate all of that in your entry; make it stand out from the rest!

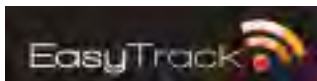
If you have faced any difficulties or obstacles in achieving your goals, make sure you note it on your entry.

If you need to provide any additional information to support your entry, keep it as brief and to the point as possible. Feel free to send customer testimonies to support your entries.

ALL ENTRIES/NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY 15th SEPTEMBER 2017

THE CATEGORIES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Tick the categories you wish to enter

sponsor to be confirmed



Fleet Management Company of the Year

This award is open to contractors operating any size of plant, machinery or truck fleet, plant hire outlets or other fleet focused businesses within the construction sector. Entrants should be able to demonstrate how they have employed telematics systems or other technologies to efficiently manage, monitor and protect their assets and operators, both on and off site.

sponsor to be confirmed



Plant / Machinery Manufacturer / Supplier of the Year

This award is for the plant or machinery manufacturer or supplier who can demonstrate their products are of an exceptional quality. Judging criteria will include performance and reliability, driver or operator safety and comfort, fuel efficiency and after-sales support. Customer testimonies can accompany any submission.

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Student of the Year

This category is open to students working in a civil engineering environment or other associated activities within the construction sector. The winning student must demonstrate a high degree of dedication and commitment to the industry, outlining why he or she chose this particular career path and detailing their current and future goals. Employer references can be included in this entry.

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Civil Engineering Company of the Year

This Award will be presented to the organisation who can report on successful involvement within a wide variety of civil engineering projects including planning, construction and maintenance of fixed structures or public works throughout the island of Ireland, Great Britain, or worldwide. The information provided should demonstrate high levels of skill within project management, procurement, innovation and specialist projects. Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

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Health & Safety Award

This Award will be presented to the company who demonstrates best health and safety management practices in the plant, quarry and construction industries. The company must have implemented detailed health and safety measures that incorporate a high level of management and workforce involvement. The company must demonstrate how it assigns H&S responsibilities and maintains competence across its organisation. Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

sponsored by



Specialist Contractor of the Year

This category is open to contractors involved in any sector of the industry, including Civil Engineering, Highways, Quarrying, Utilities, Construction and Groundworks.

The award will be presented to the contractor who has successfully demonstrated or employed specialist, individual, unique, and/or innovative skills on any project or scheme within the last 12 months.

sponsored by



High Achiever of the Year

This category is for the individual or company that has achieved outstanding success such as in sales, contract wins, company expansion / development or other areas of business over the past 12 months.

It is open to any individual or company currently active in the construction, civil engineering, quarrying and plant & machinery sectors. The winner must highlight the area in which they operate, level and type of achievement, and outline any relevant factors or reasons that contributed to that success.

ENTRY FORM

HOW TO ENTER:

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.plantandcivilengineer.com

AND FILL IN YOUR DETAILS & SEND ENTRY ONLINE

You can also submit supporting corporate material – brochures etc, including photographs of projects, services or products. You can enter any number of categories but bear in mind, it is left to the judges opinion to reallocate any entry which may be more suitable to another category or an additional category.

The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. All entries are private & confidential. The winner will remain confidential until the event.

All entries/nominations should be received by 15th September 2017 via online submission at www.plantandcivilengineer.com or email to justin@4squaremedia.net or post to 4 SM (NI) Ltd, 12 Main Street, Hillsborough, Co Down, BT26 6AE.

**PLANT & CIVIL
engineer**
**PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2017**

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2017

You can't win if you're not in. The Plant, Construction & Quarry Awards, hosted by Plant & Civil Engineer, is set to be the biggest event in the Irish industry's calendar.

Book your table
immediately
to avoid
disappointment

Held in Belfast's luxury Crowne Plaza on November 23rd 2017 the awards ceremony starts with a superb Gala Dinner.

Start preparing your entries. You simply cannot afford to miss it!

All inclusive tickets cost just £95 each – a table of 10 works out at £850. Anticipated demand is likely to be brisk, so act now to ensure your presence at the event of the year!

For further information, telephone
Plant & Civil Engineer on 028 9268 8888

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Please Reserve seats @£95 or tables(s) of ten places @£850

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Invoice Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Contact Name: _____ Tel: _____

Dress Code: Gentlemen - Lounge Suit. Ladies - Cocktail Dress

The above prices are plus VAT and will be shown as such on the official receipt.

THIS PRIORITY BOOKING FORM TO BE POSTED TO: **Plant & Civil Engineer**, 12 Main Street, Hillsborough, Co. Down BT26 6AE or email table or seating requirements to justin@4squaremedia.net



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For more information on the event
visit **www.demoexpo2017.com**



/demoexpo2017



/demoexpo2017

NEW LOCATION AND MORE TIME FOR DEMO EXPO

The third Demo Expo event, hosted jointly by the National Federation of Demolition Contractors and the Institute of Demolition Engineers, will be staged on June 22nd through to the 24th in Hertfordshire.

Following on from the success of 2015's event, the show has now gained an extra day on the Thursday and has moved to a new location, this year at the picturesque Herts Showground in Hertfordshire.

This year's event has seen an increase in exhibitor enquiries with many large names in the demolition, recycling earthmoving industries already having signed up for the event. The first two days of the event will be aimed specifically at the business side of the industry with the NFDC and IDE hosting business meetings whilst Saturday will be a family

oriented day with fun and games for children of all ages.

Various demonstration areas will see attachment manufacturers able to show off the abilities of their products whether it will be processing concrete or cutting steel.

Inmalo will again be present at the show displaying a wide range of attachments on static display and in the demonstration area.

The Winchester based company will have examples from their very popular and highly effective dust suppression range of MotoFog and Dust Boss on display. Demolition attachments from the Mantovanibenne range and Montabert hydraulic hammer range will also be on display with the team available to offer their expert advice to visitors over the three days.

Worsley Plant will also be back for the third time showing off their range of demolition attachments.

The Dutch manufactured range of Rotar attachments will be at the show on the static and demonstration stands along with the new, Generation 2 Lehnhoff fully automatic hydraulic coupler.

The Generation 2 Lehnhoff will be shown on a customer machine along with a static display model.

Worsley will also have the Lehnhoff Lehmatic safety control system on display. Examples of the popular and productive Remu and MB crushing and screening buckets will also be present on the stand.

BPH Attachments will be displaying their range of Prodem demolition attachments including a new range of shears and wood waste rotating grabs.

In the demonstration area, BPH will be displaying their

ProQuick fully hydraulic hitch system. Capable of picking up standard attachments thanks to the cleverly designed valve blocks, the ProQuick cuts the cost of adapting attachments to suit specific hitch types.

JCB Sales will be on hand over the three days to show visitors their range of heavy duty demolition and recycling equipment.

Examples of their XD range of excavators will be on show along with the popular wheeled loader range in full material handling guise.

Of particular interest will be the latest innovation of their compact skid steer range; the Teleskid. With more than a 60% increase in forward reach and 8% lift height increase over its nearest competitor, the Teleskid will certainly expand the possibilities of this type of popular machine within the demolition industry.



Sandvik compact crushing and screening duo on display at Demo Expo

Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology will be taking the opportunity of this year's Demo Expo to showcase two of the smaller members of their mobile crushing and screening range, with the QJ241 jaw crusher and QE241 scalping screen on display.

Demo Expo is a demolition show, organised in conjunction with the National Federation of Demolition Contractors (NFDC) and takes place from Thursday 22nd until Saturday 24th June at the Hertfordshire Showground.

Developed from customer feedback the Sandvik QJ241 jaw crusher and QE241 scalper have been designed for your smaller operation. Their small footprint means they are easy and economical to transport, which combined with low operating costs and maximum productivity, they offer the ideal combined crushing and screening duo for your recycling needs.

QJ241 Reliability

The Sandvik QJ241 features the reliability and performance of a powerful 1000 x 650 mm jaw, with hydraulically adjustable jaw setting to maximise your output and a 168kW / 225 hp engine for optimum efficiency. It comes fitted with a number of features specifically designed for recycling.

These include:

- Reverse crushing action to crush sticky material or relieve blockages



- Hydraulic drive enabling the crusher to start under load, minimising downtime
- Raise/lower facility on the main conveyor, ideal for your recycling operations
- Automatic central lubrication system for reducing maintenance time

QE241 Compact

The Sandvik QE241 features a massive 11' x 4' / 3.5 x 1.24m double deck screenbox, the largest in its class, to increase screening efficiency and maximize your throughput. Compact in design and easy to transport, our QE241 offers a highly productive, versatile and user-friendly scalping solution like no other. It comes with the following features:

- Interchangeable side conveyors and compatible for 2-way or 3-way split configurations
- Wide oversize conveyor with variable speed to handle more oversize product
- Screenbox jack up facility for easy access to bottom deck media
- Choice of different screen media available for different applications

Demo Expo will take place over three days with a family day on the last day of the event. Sandvik look forward to welcoming visitors to its booth, which will be located at Stand E1.



Sun Shines on Balmoral Show

The four-day Balmoral Show has been hailed a resounding success, with a record 115,000 visitors, packing into Balmoral Park – including Prime Minister Theresa May, and the Earl of Wessex, Prince Edward.

Mrs May, on a brief visit to Northern Ireland ahead of the General Election next month, surprised visitors on the last day of the show.

Accompanied by Northern Ireland Secretary of State James Brokenshire, she spent some time around the various stalls, chatting to exhibitors and visitors alike.

Earlier in the week, the show entertained a Royal visitor. Prince Edward, who is patron of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, also met with exhibitors as he went on a walk-about.

Apart from all the traditional features at the show, this year saw a brand new addition – a Health & Fitness Village, organised and staged by the publishers of Plant & Civil Engineer magazine, Hillsborough based 4SM NI Ltd.

The 'village' was housed in a large marquee in a prime position at the showgrounds and provided a health focused platform filled with products and services on how to be more active and live a more healthy and fulfilling lifestyle.

Also featured were all the regulars such as Balmoral food village, Craft village, a wide variety of the best livestock, parades of prize



Colin McDonald, RUAS Chief Executive with representatives from the five platinum sponsors, SPAR, M&S, ABP, Tesco and Lidl.

winning animals, sheep shearing competitions, top international riders from home and abroad competing in seven International competitions, plus the ever popular children's farm and displays of vintage machinery.

As for Plant & Civil Engineer readers, their main focus was on the plant and machinery

section where exhibitors included McSharry Bros, Glendun Plant, Northern Lift Trucks, Sleator Plant, TBF Thompson, Northern Excavators, Pat O'Donnell, D A Forgie, WAC McCandless, Spence Engineering, Alan Milne Tractors, Ashfield & Wilson, Johnson Gilpin and Cowan Bros.

Terex Trucks' Gen10 TA300 makes debut at Balmoral Show



The epitome of 65 years of manufacturing, Terex Trucks' Generation 10 TA300, made its Northern Ireland debut at the recent Balmoral Show.

Visitors at the four-day event were among the first in Northern Ireland to see the machine 'in the iron' following its Bauma debut last year.

Built in Motherwell, Scotland, the Gen10 TA300 is fit for purpose in a number of applications ranging from commercial construction projects, infrastructure developments and quarries.

Made to work harder for longer in the toughest terrain, the innovative proven concept conveys performance upgrades with an enriched operator environment and sophisticated engine enhancements. The

fuel efficient off-highway truck offers durability and quality to ensure that customers benefit from lower operating costs and maximum productivity.

The Gen10 TA300 was showcased at Balmoral courtesy of Terex Trucks' official dealer in Northern Ireland, Sleator Plant.

Demonstrating the close working relationship between the distributor and the manufacturer, Sleator Plant's experts were present alongside Terex Trucks' specialists for the duration of the event to explain how both companies are focusing investments in areas that have a positive impact on customers' ability to maximise uptime.

Commented General Manager at Sleator Plant, Jonathan Campbell: "It was the first time the Gen10 28-tonne beast of a truck was in Northern Ireland and it proved to be a massive crowd-pleaser; we reckon it was one of the most impressive machines showcased by anyone at Balmoral!"



Kubota Out in Force With Incentive Scheme

Visitors to Kubota UK's stand at this year's Balmoral Show were able to take advantage of the machinery manufacturer's enticing spring cash back incentive scheme.

The company is offering a £300 cashback on the purchase of its powerful GR2120 ride-on mower and £200 cashback on the economic and versatile GR1600.

Also on the stand was Kubota's high performance range of groundcare machinery, including its prestigious domestic lawncare products and solutions for the professional groundcare market.

Kubota's recently launched L1361 Tractor was a highlight too as its made its debut appearance at the show.

This 36.6 HP compact utility tractor features a powerful three cylinder Kubota D1803-M-E2 engine, manual or three range speed hydrostatic transmission and a 38 litre capacity fuel tank to enable operators to get their tasks done more efficiently, all with greater comfort, performance and ease.

Two of Kubota's leading independent dealers in Northern Ireland, DA Forge and Laird Grass Machinery, were also displaying Kubota machines on their own stands at the show.

DA Forge showcased a number of Kubota's agricultural tractors including the new M5001 Series, alongside its KX and U Series mini-excavators, whilst Laird Grass Machinery displayed a range of Kubota construction equipment and machinery solutions for turf professionals.





UFU 2017 Annual Dinner



The UFU Armagh Down Group was awarded the Mary Wilson Trophy for the best overall UFU group performance in 2016. Pictured accepting the trophy is Howard Quin, Chris Donaldson and Paul Bennett of the UFU Armagh Down Group with Barclay Bell, UFU President.

Ulster Farmers' Union President Barclay Bell has said that he was delighted to welcome over 280 guests, including UFU members, key representatives from the agriculture industry and politicians to the UFU's Annual Dinner which was held in The Slieve Donard Hotel recently.

Notable attendees included the Secretary of State, Councillor Stan Phillips of Agricultural Affairs from the US Embassy, MLA's, Northern Ireland's three MEP's and the presidents of the National Farmers' Union, NFU Scotland, NFU Cymru, and the Irish Farmers' Association.

"For us the UFU annual dinner is not only an opportunity to celebrate Northern Ireland's farming industry but also a chance to show our appreciation to the huge network of industry, partners, policy makers and politicians that we work with on an ongoing basis," said Mr Bell. "We are facing an uncertain time due to Brexit negotiations but at the same time, it is extremely important that we come together as an industry and celebrate all that's good with Northern Ireland food and farming."

Following the president's address, the prestigious Belfast Telegraph Cup for outstanding agricultural achievement was awarded to Anne Morrison, Secretary and Non-exec Director of Aberdeen Angus Quality Beef Ltd (AAQB).

Barclay Bell continued, "For over 20 years Anne has been a driving force behind the promotion and marketing of Aberdeen Angus beef in Northern Ireland. Since 1998, she has been the non-exec director and secretary of the Aberdeen Angus Quality beef Ltd (AAQB). Anne has worked hard to build relationships with meat processors and retailers, such as Foyle Meats and Tesco, on behalf of the co-operative and has been instrumental in recruiting AAQB members. As a result of Anne's hard work and clever marketing, the AAQB has gone from strength to strength."

The UFU also presented two other awards on the night. The Mary Wilson Trophy for best overall UFU group performance in 2016 was presented to the Armagh Down Group. This award recognises the Armagh Down Group's outstanding performance in membership recruitment; securing subscription income; and their successful delivery of group meetings and social events throughout the year.

The Cuthbert Trophy was awarded to the West Antrim Group for retaining the highest percentage of their members in 2016. The dedication and commitment shown by the group managers and their staff over the years have enabled them to achieve a retention rate of over 96%.



This year the Cuthbert Trophy was awarded to the West Antrim Group for retaining the highest percentage of their members in 2016. Pictured receiving the trophy is Ivan Johnston with Barclay Bell, UFU President.



Anne Morrison was awarded the prestigious Belfast Telegraph Cup this year for outstanding agricultural achievement. Pictured accepting the trophy is Anne Morrison, with Barclay Bell, UFU President.

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Meet Ritchie Bros. at Plantworx

After an action-packed 2016 with seven big machinery auctions in Donington Park, auctioneer Ritchie Bros. has already sold thousands of lots at recent auctions in 2017.

Bidders from all over the UK (and 60+ more countries) join these machinery events, hoping to get a good bargain on one or more lots they find among the wide choice of gear.

In the Donington Park auction yard, long rows of machinery, trucks and more are lined up for each sale, making up a colourful blend of brands, models and ages.

Some of the higher value pieces sold at recent Donington Park auctions include a Powerscreen 1150 Maxtrak that sold for GBP 242,500, two Hitachi ZX290LC-5B diggers that sold for GBP 69,000 each and a Kleemann MC110R jaw crusher that sold for GBP 179,000. But there's more to these venues than just the bigger 'toys for boys'.

In Donington Park, it turns out, there's a great deal of smaller



pieces of machinery as well, such as buckets, tool kits and other attachments. These smaller lots are usually sold in 'ebay-like' online Timed Auctions, without a live auctioneer.

Ritchie Bros.' UK team will be attending the Plantworx show in Leicestershire. Anyone interested to learn more about selling

and buying at an auction is welcome at stand number E14.

Next auction

Ritchie Bros.' UK team keeps the pace up and is currently putting together its July sale in Donington Park. Businesses in construction are currently adding items they no longer need to the auction



inventory, which is steadily growing up to auction day.

On auction day, everything is guaranteed to sell: there are no reserve prices at Ritchie Bros. auctions. Visit www.rbauction.co.uk or phone the UK office at (+44) 01332.819700 for more details on selling and buying at the auction. The auctions are open to the public, everyone is welcome to come and have a look on auction day.



Whether you're gearing up for a new project or selling machines from your fleet, you can count on Ritchie Bros. We're the world's largest industrial auctioneer for one reason – we do auctions right.

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Years of experience and professional marketing in television, radio, internet, print media and much more is paying off. 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.

Just one piece of machinery or an entire fleet. Sell what you no longer need to the highest bidders at Ritchie Bros.' next auction in Donington Park.

Tuesday, 11 July

rbauction.co.uk

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Visit us at Plantworx Stand E14

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EURO AUCTIONS DELIVERS MULTI-RECORD BREAKING HEWDEN CRANE DISPOSAL SALE

Multiple world records were achieved at the unique one day Hewden crane disposal sale organised by Euro Auctions, Europe's largest auctioneers of industrial plant, construction machinery and agricultural equipment, on behalf of Joint Administrators from Ernst & Young LLP, at the Newark showground.

Already recognised as the world's largest single one day mobile crane sale, this was a truly impressive spectacle, with the 127 cranes lined up either side of a 300m+ long stretch of the disused runway at the Newark showground, all with their boom arms raised. The auctioneers proceeded down the runway during the course of the day, moving to each lot in turn; with the final hammer price exceeding €32m (£27.4m).

Despite the wet and blustery conditions on the day an over 500 interested bidders turned out to participate and witness the auction with close to 1500 additional bidders registering and taking part via the internet with 15% of all winning bids going to online bidders.

While 36 cranes were snapped up by UK based companies, many of which are likely to continue to be used on UK based contracts and projects, bidders from over 30 countries were represented and brought the rest and these are expected to now be shipped around the globe.

One bidder from Holland, for example, but representing a Kuwait customer purchased a package of eight cranes. Other notable bidders came from the Netherlands, Finland, Oman, Australia, Chile and Japan.

"Bidders had a wide selection of cranes to choose from at this auction so they could select something that exactly met their requirements. Both 220 ton all terrain Tadano cranes went for £725,000 each while one of the versatile 2002 Terex Demag 30 ton City cranes went for just £39,000," commented Euro Auctions' Jonnie Keys. "All of the Hewden equipment we have auctioned to date has proved to be of exceptional

quality, well maintained and providing real value for money for its new owners."

Topping the list of items auctioned were two 220 ton all terrain Tadano cranes only registered in 2016 which feature a 68m main boom, an 11.1m boom extension, and a 76m maximum lift height and these went for €877,500 / £725,000 each. Then there were 23 other 100+ ton Tadano and Terex cranes most of which are only a few years old, with low hours and offering various radius and maximum lift heights. Then there were 57 cranes in the 50-100 ton bracket and 45+ units in the versatile and highly sort after 30-50 ton general purpose category.



There was also a host of associated accessories and smaller lots, such as ballast, test weights, slings, mats, chains and shackles included in the one-day crane sale.

General Sale

Euro Auctions also held a general construction equipment disposal sale at the Newark showground site where over 500 equipment lots sold with a total hammer price of just over €5.6m / £4.8m. Bidders were able to acquire many exceptionally well maintained, low hours pieces of equipment, some less than 12 months old.

These included a good choice of Thwaites 9-ton, 6-ton swivel skip, 3-ton and 1-ton hi-tip dumpers; wheeled forks and telehandlers including a selection of CAT TH414C, JCB531-

70 and JCB 535-95 models; plus a choice of JCB 3CX wheeled diggers along with various other tracked excavators from a choice of JCB JS130's through to JCB 8025, 8014 and 8008 tracked mini diggers. Again prices remained strong for these and a number of the pieces will be being shipped to customers across Europe and further afield.

Unique Day

It was a unique day for Euro Auctions with the company achieving several firsts:

- At €32m (£27.4m) this was the biggest single one-day sale delivered by Euro Auctions in revenue terms – ever!
- With all 127 cranes being sold in just four hours this equates to revenue generation of around €133k / £114k per minute – again the fastest ever achieved.
- The two 220 tonnes cranes each went for €877,500 / £725,000, the single largest ticket item price ever achieved at a Euro Auctions sale for used pieces of equipment.

"This unique record breaking sale, the likes of which will never be seen again, attracted massive global interest and generated some really impressive records," added Jonnie Keys.

Euro Auctions was appointed in late 2016 by S.J. Woodward and C.P. Dempster of Ernst & Young LLP, the Joint Administrators, to dispose of the cranes and general construction equipment assets of HS Realisations Ltd (previously known as Hewden Stuart Ltd) the hire company that entered administration on 22nd November 2016.

Sam Woodward, Joint Administrator concluded: "We are delighted with the effort put in by Euro Auctions and the results achieved in respect to the disposal of the mobile crane and construction machinery assets of Hewden. This has maximised the return for creditors and resulted in this equipment returning to the market to meet ongoing customer requirements."



EURO AUCTIONS

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LEEDS - UK

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Wednesday 31st May - Friday 2nd June 2017 @ 8.30am



Unused Hyundai
R220LC-9S c/w Long
Reach Boom & Dipper



2014 Hitachi ZX210LC-5B
- choice of 2



2012 Doosan DX420LC



2005 Terex Atlas 1804MI



Unused Doosan
DX140LCR-5 - choice of 5



11-12 Komatsu
PC138USR-8 - choice of 5



2015 Hitachi ZX85USB-5A



2015 Hyundai R60CR-9A
- choice of 4



2010 Bobcat 425



Unused JCB 8008CTS



2012 Volvo A40F



Unused JCB 456ZX



2011 Volvo L120F - choice



2007 JCB 3CX P21
- choice of 2



2015 Genie GTH5012R



2014 JCB 535-95
- choice of 2



2012 New Holland LM732



2014 Bobcat T590
- choice of 3



2015 Ausa D1000AP
- choice of 2



2013 Terex 6 Ton Swivel
Skip



2006 JCB VM132D



2008 Bomag BW120AD-4



2003 Extec C12



Soosan SD-1000E Tracked
Drilling Rig



2006 New Holland TM140

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finance

Close Brothers expand operations in Ireland

Close Brothers Commercial Finance has opened a new office in Cork as part of its continued expansion in Ireland.

Specialising in asset finance, invoice finance and asset based lending (ABL); the team will be enabling businesses to access alternative sources of funding.

Close Brothers' "Modern Merchant Banking" approach means an empowered team with expert knowledge will be able to make fast decisions for Irish SMEs.

A commitment to delivering service excellence and expertise will be applied with a focus on building strong relationships.

Regional Director for the Munster region, Stephen McCarthy, comments: "We are

delighted to move into our new office in the centre of Cork city where SMEs across all sectors warrant a serious alternative funding provider. Timeless values and modern thinking has been the cornerstone of Close Brothers' success since 1878 and our team of funding experts are delighted to continue this tradition at a local level in Cork. Supported by a FTSE 250 parent, Close Brothers Commercial Finance is leading the way in providing fast decisions, flexible funding and easier access to more working capital for all SMEs."

In conjunction with the Munster CPA society, Close Brothers Commercial Finance hosted a recent seminar evening titled "Brexit: It's your business". The event attracted over

200 guests from Cork's business sector and included talks on the challenges facing local businesses alongside discussions on the impact of Brexit on Irish SME's.

Close Brothers Commercial Finance is a leading independent provider of asset and invoice finance to both SMEs and large businesses, offering a range of products that help firms with cash flow and working capital demands. Close Brothers has extensive coverage throughout Ireland, with further offices in Belfast, Dublin and Galway, providing easy access to local teams who can make quick decisions on funding.

The new office is located at IFG House, 82 South Mall.



Stephen McCarthy (left) with Chris Guilfoyle, Adrian Madden, Ciaran McAreavey, Paul Stephens and Willie John Manley.



Pictured here (L-R) are Chris Guilfoyle, Willie John Manley and Stephen McCarthy.

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We offer a suite of tailored asset and invoice finance products from refinancing to asset based lending (ABL); enabling you to release vital working capital back into your business.

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Flexible funding from JCB Finance – Putting customers first

Finance provider JCB Finance have been providing Hire Purchase and Leasing solutions to the UK construction industry for over 45 years.

Lending to small and large entities alike they have a dedicated team of asset finance specialists who are familiar with the needs and challenges of the industry and are knowledgeable on the plant, machinery and vehicles you operate.

Their dedicated relationship managers are passionate about finding the right finance solution to meet your needs. Throughout the company's time working across a range of sectors JCB Finance have supported numerous businesses to invest in new and used machinery to help grow and expand.

One of the company's valued customers, J C Balls & Sons was faced with a challenge as a result of their vision to continue developing the business.

In order to achieve this, the business looked to invest in



an aggregate plant washer which recycles used aggregate. This new machine enables the company to tap into new markets, opening another line of revenue for the business

"We've been recycling hardcore material for about 12 years and as soon as we saw the washing plant in action we could see the value it added so we made arrangements to proceed with the purchase. The finance facility is tailored to our needs and

gives us scope to manage our money – we can pay off lump sums to reduce the length of term," commented Chris Balls, Director, J C Balls & Sons.

Meeting Your Needs

JCB Finance offer a range of ownership and leasing solutions. These have been designed to support different businesses with differing requirements as the company understands one size certainly does not fit all.

Ownership solutions

They offer a range of fixed rate and variable rate Hire Purchase options – including their unique HP Plus facility, a variation on traditional fixed rate HP which combines the best features of both fixed and variable rates plus offers the ability to take payment holidays with the 'Take a Break' option.

Leasing solutions

The full range of leasing solutions cover many assets including the JCB range of mini and large excavators, dumpers and generators. Although ownership never passes to the customer, there are other cash flow and tax related benefits to leasing, for example the cost of the instalments can be offset against your taxable profits during the lease term and VAT is spread over the length of the term.

Looking for a quote for your next purchase? JCB Finance could help fund your next purchase whether it be new JCB, used, non JCB machinery or a commercial vehicle.

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New Terex | Finlay Cone Crusher from Ormonde Machinery



John McCabe, McCabe Earthworks with Raymond Murphy, Ormonde Machinery at the Balmoral Show.

TEREX | FINLAY



Ormonde Machinery is a leading provider of quality equipment for construction, quarrying, mining and recycling in Ireland.

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MAIN DEALERS FOR TEREX® | FINLAY IN IRELAND

Ormonde Machinery featured the new Terex Finlay C-1540 Direct Drive Cone Crusher on its stand at the recent Balmoral show.

This latest addition to the Terex|Finlay portfolio of tracked mobile cone crushers should satisfy the needs of those seeking a high output capacity machine.

It comes with the well proven Terex 1000 cone crusher, world-renowned for its flexibility, versatility and outstanding performance. It features a direct variable speed clutch drive and an hydraulic closed side setting adjustment.

Noteworthy, too, is the chamber with an overload protection system and an automatic reset that allows uncrushable material to be effectively discharged from the machine.

The feed-in box to the chamber is fitted with an ultrasonic level

sensor that is calibrated to the feeder to ensure that the chamber is consistently choked for maximising throughput and minimising crusher wear.

A key feature of the hopper is the standard automated metal detection and a purge system that has been designed to protect the cone chamber and reduce downtime by removing metal contaminants via the purge chute.

This new model builds upon the success of Terex|Finlay's C-1540 prescreen model, C-1545/C-1545P and C-1554 cone crushers.

Terex|Finlay product development manager Alan Witherow tells us that customer feed has all be positive and adds that with the introduction of this new model they now have one of the most comprehensive range of tracked cone crushers in the market place.





A Busy Show Schedule for Tesab

Following on from a busy 2016 for Tesab, 2017 looks set to continue the trend! Tesab are currently concluding a busy show schedule which has consisted of five shows in the first five months of the year in five different countries around the world, including CONEXPO in Las Vegas & CQMS in Ireland.

The participation in these shows has led to a full order book for the year to date and for the months ahead with a healthy combination of local and export markets being represented.

The re-emergence of the Irish market in the past 12 months has really complimented the export markets Tesab

are currently active in, especially with the newly launched 700i Jaw Crusher proving to be extremely popular across a number of markets since its inception.

Sales & Marketing Manager Cathal Rodgers claimed that the organisation's key strength was in its exclusivity.

"In a highly competitive market where the majority of companies mass produce their products, Tesab is one of only a few privately owned businesses left in the industry. This niche position in the market allows us the advantage of offering a flexible, bespoke service to customers where they can find added value.

"Tesab has been able to continuously adapt in a competitive marketplace with a challenging and continuously changing world environment, which we believe has given us the impetus to maintain a strong worldwide market presence and improve upon this in the future.

"Our aim going forward is to continue to provide a high quality solution through innovation and attention to detail, giving the customer added value and performance. We will also be looking at growing our existing markets and expanding our dealer network into new markets; we even have a number of product developments coming to our Crusher range later in 2017."

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Terex | Finlay To Showcase New Machines At International Open Days

Terex | Finlay will showcase seven new models at their 2017 international open days in Edinburgh on 15th & 16th June, 2017.

In total 21 machines, including seven brand new crushing, screening and conveying models will be presented working in both quarrying and recycling applications.

The event and product demonstrations are being hosted at Alex Brewster & Sons Ltd, Edinburgh. The new models being presented at the event are as follows:

1. J-1170 (direct drive) jaw crusher (in action)
2. J-1160 jaw crusher
3. I-120RS impact crusher (in action)
4. TC-80 conveyor (in action)

5. TC-100 conveyor
6. High level stacker
7. 684 3-deck inclined screen

"We look forward to showcasing the latest machines to our range, developed as part of our ongoing and aggressive new product development strategy. We place a lot of emphasis on listening 'to the voice of our customers' and these latest models reflect the feedback and extensive ongoing conversations we have with them.

"We are particularly pleased that we have been able to partner with Alex Brewster & Sons Ltd for this event. In conjunction with them we have the unique opportunity to showcase this exciting line up of machines in both quarry and recycling applications" said Nigel Irvine, Sales Director.



TEREX FINLAY OPENDAYS

Thursday 15th June 2017 and Friday 16th June 2017

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND



Be Part of the Action as Terex Finlay Showcase 8 Brand **NEW** Machines!!!

Terex Finlay invites you to our exclusive Open Days on 15th and 16th June in Edinburgh, Scotland. We will be showcasing 8 highly anticipated **NEW** products working in quarry and recycling applications. In total there will be 21 machines on display at the event.

For further information or to register contact:

brian.pauley@terex.com or 07766 417 602



terexfinlay.com

MB Crusher's Smallest Model Gets An Upgrade

The theme of autonomy has always been a priority for many building companies. Being able to be independent in terms of fleet and operators allows for increased competitiveness in a sector in continuous evolution, that of recycling and construction. This means not having to hire equipment or depend on special skills brought in from outside the company, thus optimising costs and increasing competitiveness.

These are exactly the positive features underlined by the owner of the German company Schäuble Hoch- und Tiefbau GmbH in a recent interview.

"After having purchased a BF60.1 crusher bucket in September 2016, something finally changed. I began to think freely about my business, free to programme my work and earn more.

"I was already aware of the advantages of MB in terms of cost reduction. Advantages resulting from the possibility to recycle materials on-site without having to dispose of them in a dump, with the opportunity of selling the same materials as new aggregates for the building industry," stressed the company owner.

"We mainly deal with materials from demolitions, which we then re-use for other kinds of work, such as filling excavations

or for road beds. However, I would never have imagined that such a small bucket (the BF60.1) applied to my 12-ton Komatsu PC118 excavator would also allow for such highly efficient crushing of basalt. I am very satisfied with the reliability and productivity of this piece of equipment, just as I am satisfied with the after-sales service".

New series 4

Suitable for heavy equipment from 8 tons upwards, MB's smallest model is now presented in the new S4 version: the fourth generation of crusher buckets. This is an updated and strengthened

version, both in terms of structure and in a number of important technical details.

First of all, a restyling of the structural layout which allows for more agile movement and increased speed during crushing operations, facilitating its use on the excavator; the reinforcing of parts which are subject to particular stress, the new options for regulation, widening the range of the dimension of the crushed material, and lastly a new centralised greasing system that simplifies and speeds up on-site maintenance operations.

"A continuous challenge for improvement," underlined Diego Azzolin, head of MB Crusher design and production, on presenting the latest innovations. "All our products undergo continuous testing and experimentation in order to improve them and render them more efficient in the various types of work sites that our clients deal with every day".



High performing mobile scalping solution developed for fines separation

Sandvik Construction Mobile Crushers and Screens has a new addition to its scalper range with the introduction of the new QE441 Free Flow, a versatile and highly efficient solution for processing difficult to screen materials and products with high moisture contents.

The new QE441 Free Flow provides a versatile and highly efficient mobile solution for handling sticky, moist and wet materials with a high percentage of fines. It is an ideal solution for processing materials such as soils, aggregates, ores, waste, biomass and other waste derived fuels including products with high moisture contents.

"We have designed this unit based on the sturdy crusher-style chassis of our class leading



QE441, combined with a highly productive and aggressive double deck Free Flow screen."

The heavy duty scalping screen allows you to process large un-screened material on the rigid scalping top deck, whilst providing a fine screening solution on the dual motion lower deck. The powerful snapping

of the bottom deck media generates an active "flip-flow" movement which generates a huge throw that propels material upwards and outwards separating material as it does so and thereby eliminates any plugging and blockages. This results in the processing of more sellable products and less waste.

The QE441 Free Flow has been designed with the same user-friendly features of the 1-Series screens. These include Sandvik's easy to use control system and user interface with sequential start, whilst two speed tracking will help to reduce travel time between jobsites. The QE441 Free Flow offers increased plant durability and operator comfort, without sacrificing on performance.

With a large choice of screen media and a wide range of adjustable throws and speeds available, this enables the QE441 Free Flow to be configured to suit the specific requirements of the application. It compliments our Premium jaw crushers and QI341 Prisec™ impact crusher and can also work as a stand-alone unit.



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We have expanded our range of heavy duty scalpers to provide a wider offering for all your scalping needs.

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CREAGH CONCRETE TACKLES CONGLOMERATE WITH NEW CDE PLANT

Creagh Concrete, a CDE long-term customer from Northern Ireland, has added a CDE R2500 feeding and screening system and an additional AggMax log washer to their existing installation at Draperstown in order to tackle conglomerate even more efficiently and rapidly than before.

The combination of the new plant arrangements means that the minimum amount of mobile equipment and manpower are required and that expensive double handling is eliminated.

A percentage of Creagh's products are generated from a challenging raw feed made up of conglomerated aggregate, sand and silts in equal proportions. This conglomerate requires high tech equipment to recover good quality sand and aggregates. In 2013, Creagh decided to handle this

body of difficult material which underlies their main sand and gravel deposit.

The difficulty of recovering this material, which contained in excess of 30% unusable material, was overcome with the installation of a CDE AggMax modular logwasher, which recovered approximately 70% of the material including top quality natural sand containing no crushed material.

The challenge

After three years of successful production Creagh decided to take their capacity further by tackling additional issues.

Willie Doherty, Director responsible for Ireland for Creagh Concrete, explains: "Whilst we were very happy with this outcome there remained some issues which we felt we wanted to address to further improve our production facility.

"Some extensive areas of the pit contained what is effectively a compacted conglomerate which actually has to be ripped with an excavator from the face. The original feed hopper was specifically designed by CDE to handle sticky material when wet. This was fed by a loading shovel from material that had been pre-screened and crushed in the pit.

"It proved necessary to crush the conglomerate to reduce it to a size suitable for processing, therefore preventing large oversize from blocking the hopper. Originally this was done at the face but the process required the use of a mobile crusher followed by a mobile screener. We also wanted to avoid double handling and use dumpers to feed the plant and increase efficiency."

The solution

The introduction of a CDE R2500 feeding and screening system made the use of 40-tonne dumpers possible and did away with the





need to use shovels for transport from the pit. The R2500's apron feeder can handle even the most difficult of feed materials and the heavy duty P2-75 Infinity screen that forms part of the R2500 removed the need for a mobile screener at the face. Additionally, after consulting with CDE, it was agreed that the plant layout would be redesigned so that Creagh's existing jaw crusher could be incorporated into the feeding arrangement in order to preclude the need for a mobile jaw crusher at the face. Crucially, double handling has been taken out of the equation. A second AggMax 251 was incorporated into the washing circuit and is now used to break up the conglomerate and release

the sand, which is then removed before the aggregates are sent to the original log washer for even more efficient scrubbing.

Best use of resources

With the new upgrade in place, Creagh currently processes up to 150 tonnes per hour of raw feed. A VSD unit has been fitted to the first AggMax log washer to accommodate variations in the feed rate.

The company produces high quality concrete sand and aggregates which are transferred to the existing crushing circuit to enhance production of 20mm and 10mm aggregates and add to the overall sand production.

Des Crawford, NI Ireland Area Sales Manager for CDE, comments on Creagh's decision to tackle all available feed material more efficiently. "With planning permission for new deposits of sand and gravel being so difficult to attain, it is extremely important to gain maximum production from existing resources."

Quarry Manager Colm Scullion advises: "these latest innovations should extend the life of the quarry by at least 10 years."

Creagh's installation is a landmark for CDE in terms of engineering innovation and design solutions, leaving them able to tackle the most challenging materials to produce high quality products with minimum waste."



McCloskey International Invests in Response to Worldwide Growth

Screening and crushing industry leader McCloskey International has continued its expansion over the past three years.

This has resulted with in close to 35% growth overall, increased market share, major investments in its manufacturing facilities, and the introduction of a new division. In lockstep with this growth was the addition of over 30 dealers to the global distribution network.

A new Manufacturing Centre of Excellence has just opened its doors at the Granville Industrial Estates in Dungannon, in County Tyrone to house additional production for the McCloskey range.

The new site will deliver increased assembly and production space for the crushers, screeners and stackers, as well as the new washing systems range. The new 120,000 sq. ft. building and site represent a £7.0 million investment into the business, and is expected to deliver 50% increase in production over the next 3 years.

The new site will also house the production for new business division McCloskey Washing Systems (MWS), focused on washing and classifying across multiple applications. The new unit designs and manufactures a full range of mobile, modular and static material and mineral washing equipment.

New Parts Hub

Also contributing to the company's growth has been its commitment to after sales service and support. Two new Parts Hubs have recently opened their doors to serve customers around the world, one in the United States, and the other in Northern Ireland.

The Milwaukee, Wisconsin 43,000 sq. ft. parts and service depot offers same day air or ground dispatch throughout the Americas, while the 10,000 sq. ft. facility in Coalisland, Co. Tyrone serves Europe and an expanding worldwide market. The dedicated sites allow for expedited delivery of parts regardless of physical location.

Milwaukee Crusher

McCloskey has also expanded to support its growing crusher business with the



acquisition of Milwaukee Crusher, based in Wisconsin. The site serves as a dedicated crusher repair facility, with the ability to rebuild and repair all makes of crusher, portable and stationary, as well as provide expert crushing system analysis and advice. "Accelerating sales of our equipment show that the quality, reliability and durability of McCloskey products is increasingly recognized around the world, and important to our customers," said John O'Neill, VP, Sales for McCloskey International. "As important for McCloskey is the relationship after the deal is done, and the opening of facilities to continue to support our customers with parts and service allows us to provide both quickly and effectively."

Between 2008 and 2012, the footprint of the facilities increased by over 50%, with five new buildings and production areas in Canada alone. 2017-2020 will see more expansion to accommodate demand, including the new Manufacturing Centre of Excellence in Dungannon.

In addition to its physical expansion, the company has continued to add new international dealers across all regions to represent the number of new products that were added to the company's portfolio. The

over 30% growth has resulted in a network of close to 100 dealers in virtually every region of the world from South America to South Korea, Alaska to Australia.

Reflecting back, Paschal McCloskey, President and CEO of McCloskey International noted: "Three years ago we had 65 dealers, and our goal was to grow to close to 100. We have achieved that goal, and continue to work to expand our reach, and our markets, worldwide. There have been many contributors to our success, but one of the greatest is the loyalty of our customers worldwide. Their commitment to our products is the engine behind our growth."

About Us

McCloskey International Limited designs and manufactures innovative crushers, impactors, trommel screeners, vibrating screeners, feeders, stacking conveyors and picking stations. Since 1985, McCloskey International has been exceeding customer expectations with reliable, durable and high performing products.

McCloskey equipment is used around the world by aggregate, mining, construction and demolition, landscaping and compost, waste management and recycling operations to help achieve profitable volumes.



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INDEPENDENT AND NATIONAL HIRERS AMONGST HIRE AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

The Hire Awards of Excellence were held within the newly refurbished Ballroom of the luxurious Grosvenor House Hotel in London's prestigious Park Lane recently.

Organised by Hire Association Europe and Event Hire Association (HAE EHA), the awards represent the best in the industry for plant, tool, hire and event equipment. Both national and independent companies and individuals were recognised for their outstanding contribution to the hire industry.

The evening began with an opening speech from HAE EHA managing director Graham Arundell who announced that the association had recently received an award of its own - The Innovation Award for commitment to Skills and Training.

Presented by Plantworx it recognised HAE EHA's commitment to innovation, following the development of Virtual Reality for Health & Safety training. The state-of-the-art technology opens a host of opportunities for the hire industry and its client base. Richard Whiting, HAE EHA's commercial manager who has been driving the project with partners UWE was welcomed to the stage and presented with the award.

Once the guests had enjoyed a sumptuous three course banquet and fine wines, HAE EHA chairman and managing director of Martin Plant Hire, Andy Martin delivered a rousing speech on the evening. Commenting on how delighted he was that HAE EHA,

as an association, is a good news story even in uncertain times, citing its recent award win, once again, and the highly successful roll-out of SafeHire as two items that had brought particular cheer.

He then went on to mention that the HAE EHA Convention, as a key date on the calendar, was something else to look forward with its theme 'Connect, Discover, Learn'.

He also presented the HAE EHA Chairman's Award to Rob Worrell, CEO of Jelf Insurance and the brains behind HireGuard, an insurance scheme that protects HAE EHA members and paid out over £6m since 2001.

Well-known broadcaster and journalist Steph McGovern, best known for her work as business presenter on BBC Breakfast then took to the stage to host the awards presentation. Winners on the night included many of the UK's leading hire companies, along with several independents from the construction and event industry with 16 awards presented in total. With a record number of entries in most categories this year, the judges once again faced some difficult decisions when pulling the evidence together and selecting the winners.

The full list of the Hire Awards of Excellence 2017 winners:

- HAE EHA Chairman's Award, Winner – Rob Worrell




Richard Whiting, HAE EHA commercial manager and Graham Arundell, HAE EHA managing director onstage with their Innovation Award for commitment to Skills and Training.

- Catalogue of the Year - Hard Copy – Hire Station
- Catalogue of the Year - Electronic Version – Smiths Hire
- Website of the Year – Smiths Hire
- Best Use of New Media – Morris Site Machinery
- Construction Industry Product of the Year – Datatag ID for MicroCESAR
- Event Industry Product of the Year – Site Equip for Shabby Chic
- Supplier of the Year – Seddon Plant & Engineers Ltd
- Plant, Tool & Equipment Hire Company of the Year (up to £10m turnover) – Miles Hire
- Plant, Tool & Equipment Hire Company of the Year (over £10m turnover) – A-Plant
- Event Equipment Hire Company of the Year – Plato Catering Hire
- SafeHire Company of the Year – PSM Plant & Tool Hire Centres
- Apprentice of the Year – Kieran McCreery, GAP Hire Solutions
- Workshop Manager of the Year – Chris Ball, GAP Hire Solutions
- Hire Manager of the Year – Billy-Jo Davies, AFI Uplift
- Hire Achiever of the Year – Chris Ball, GAP Hire Solutions



Hire Awards of Excellence 2017 winners and highly commended recipients onstage.

Commenting on the success of the awards Graham Arundell, managing director of HAE EHA said: "Once again, the Hire Awards of Excellence proved to be a fantastic evening and gave us the opportunity to come together as an association and an industry to applaud our collective success. As always, we were delighted with the support we received from our membership. The return to the venue after 5 years was a great success, the newly refurbished Ballroom at the Grosvenor House Hotel, with its square proportions, gave us the perfect space. The awards were established to recognise best practice in the hire and event industry and it was particularly pleasing to see some of the industry's independent hirers amongst the winners on the night."



Michael Killeen, Managing Director Laois Hire Group,
Raymond Kelly, Group Services Director KN Group,
Damien Delaney, National Key Account Manager Laois
Hire Group, Alan Shevlin, Group Plant Manager KN Group

Laois Hire Group / KN Group Expand Supplier Partnership

Laois Hire Group expands their preferred supplier partnership with KN Group to now supply a wide range of specialised equipment across the UK

The Laois Hire Group, one of Ireland's largest plant and tool hire company's, has reached an agreement with specialist services giant KN Group.

The deal extends the existing successful partnership developed over several years, and the partnership now expands to the supply of equipment to KN Group projects across the UK.

Speaking about the arrangement, Laois Hire Group Managing Director Michael Killeen commented "We are delighted that we have been able to maintain and build on our successful partnership with KN Group.

"As a market leader in the plant and tool hire sector, we understand the importance of efficiency and transparency for successful partnerships to flourish, like the partnership we have been able to build with KN Group over the last number of years."

Adding to this, Alan Shevlin, Group Plant Manager at KN Group, highlighted the importance of the relationship KN Group have been able to build with Laois Hire.

"With the scale and importance of KN Group projects, it is necessary to have a partner we know we can rely on. Laois Hire have continued to meet our specialist equipment demands which includes everything from large machinery including plant equipment and powered access equipment, to an extensive range of small tools.

"Laois Hire's ability to offer a 24/7 nationwide support service, made possible by their nationwide branch network, along with knowledgeable staff and competitive rates, means that KN Group can continue to meet the changing needs of all our clients."

LAOIS HIRE
PLANT & TOOL

About Laois Hire Group

Laois Hire Group, the nationwide plant and tool hire company, was established over 25 years ago and is now Ireland's leading plant and tool hire company.

They currently have branches nationwide and a line of over 2,500 products for sale or hire. Laois Hire service the construction, utilities, civil and industrial sectors.

To learn more about Laois Hire, check out laoishire.com.

About KN Group

KN Group was founded in 1975 and are leading service providers to the Telecommunications, Civil Engineering, Rail and Power sectors in Ireland, UK and internationally. They currently employ over 2,000 people throughout their group.

To learn more about KN Group, head to kngroup.com.

Balloon Hire Centres Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Since it was founded in 1987, Balloon Hire Centres has grown to become one of the largest plant, tool and equipment hire companies in Northern Ireland.

Celebrating 30 years in business, it is not just a hire company. Its diverse customer base covers every industry within Northern Ireland including construction, facilities management, events, utilities, sports, government, marine, industrial, mechanical and DIY markets to name a few.

Over the years, its hire fleet has grown to more than 6,000 units across a product range that extends to over 600 items, making it one of the largest and most versatile in the industry. This has all come from the founder Dan Mc Caffery's vision, having only started with 3 pieces of equipment and a van.

Continuing growth and investment means Balloon Hire Centres now operates from an integrated network of five central locations throughout Northern Ireland – Belfast, Bangor, Lisburn, Ballyclare and Glenavy. They are also now moving into the Republic of Ireland market – with quality and value at the heart of everything it does.

"Whether the job is big or small, our team of highly trained, dedicated, customer focused experts can provide customers with sound professional knowledge and advice. We passionately believe that our people, our products and our service can make a real difference to our clients' business. We are committed to providing a first class service, whatever their needs."

It's a strategy that clearly works. In addition to plant hire throughout Northern Ireland, its depots also stock a large range of consumable items for sale, available in all its showrooms.

Balloon Hire Centres also carry a huge selection of hand tools and, for keeping safe on site, all the safety equipment and PPE that a customer could ever need.

Balloon Hire takes quality and health and safety seriously as demonstrated by the fact that it has held the internationally recognised accreditations of ISO 18001 and ISO 9001 since August 2012.

It is also a member of Hire Association Europe and is one of only two hire companies in Northern Ireland to have attained the prestigious IPAF Rental+ quality mark - clear evidence of its continued commitment to quality.



Its strong position in the Northern Ireland markets has been endorsed by invaluable trade partnerships with industry giants such as Arco, Gunnebo Lifting and Polygon. These esteemed partnerships enable Balloon Hire Centres to continually provide the best quality equipment and a service that is second to none.

Brands such as JCB, Scania, Manitou, Weidemann, JLG, Genie, Bomag and more are maintained by factory-trained technicians, tested and inspected before each hire for safe operating condition.

Help at Hand

"We are fully committed to meeting our customers' requirements and sometimes that means offering a helping hand.

Whilst we provide safety manuals and operations training for the machinery we hire, we can also offer a dedicated operated rental service to carry out tasks to help customers get the job done.

"All our operators are fully trained to industry leading standards whilst fully complying with health & safety and government legislation."

Balloon Hire Centres is an approved training centre for IPAF, courses. It can also arrange various other courses through its network of associate training providers. Courses include the following:

IPAF Operator: This course instructs an operator to prepare and safely operate various types of mobile elevated work platform including scissor, boom, trailer-mounted and push-around types.

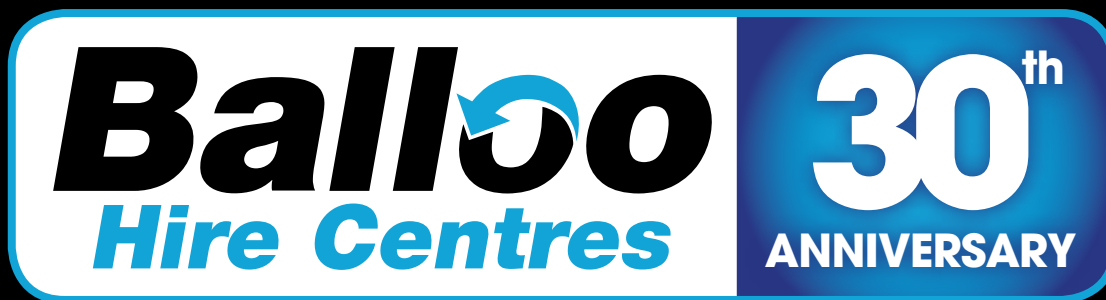
IPAF Demonstrator: This course trains a demonstrator to familiarise operators with their responsibilities and demonstrate pre-operational and safe operating procedures on various types of work platforms.

IPAF Harness Use & Inspection: This course instructs a user to select, inspect and use a harness and associated equipment safely when using a MEWP.

Event Management

Balloon Hire offers a bespoke event management service, aimed at providing customers with all the event resources they need to create a great event. It provides an extensive range of top quality equipment suitable for hosting every event. So whether clients are hosting a sporting event, concert, show, ice rink, festival or private function, they can rest assured that Balloon Hire is the perfect partner.





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CPA Congratulate the Construction Plant Industry's Most Promising Apprentices

Preparations are well underway for the Construction Plant-hire Association's (CPA) Stars of the Future event which is taking place on Tuesday 6th June 2017 to reward some of the construction plant industry's most talented and hard-working apprentices.

The event is being held in association with headline sponsor A-Plant which has over 150 apprentices working throughout its business.

Stars of the Future is a national awards scheme for apprentices in the plant hire industry, organised by the CPA, the UK's leading trade association for the plant hire sector. The CPA has over 1,600 members who supply 85% of hired plant to the construction industry. The awards scheme is run in conjunction with all the UK colleges offering plant mechanic apprentice training and is supported by CITB.



Pictured from left to right are last year's national winners Jason Standen (Level 3) and Sion Cooper (Level 2) of the CPA Stars of the Future Awards.

Being held on the first day of PLANTWORX, the UK's dedicated working construction event taking place at Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground in Leicestershire, Stars of the Future will be attended by around 150 plant mechanic apprentices from colleges and

employers nationwide who could be in the running for an accolade. Apprentices are assessed throughout the academic year on their work in college and their work environment and there are separate prize schemes for Level 2 and Level 3 apprentices, at

both regional and national level. The event is being held in the Hangar-42 Events Centre adjacent to the PLANTWORX showground.

Kevin Minton, Director of the CPA said: "This will be the fifth consecutive year of hosting Stars of the Future and each year it has grown in stature. This year's event promises to be our best yet, with a greater emphasis on participation and involvement by the apprentices, whereby sponsoring organisations have the opportunity to hold interactive sessions and showcase their company to future stars of the construction plant sector. This is a fantastic event whereby we have the opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate some of the industry's most promising apprentices."

Snap-on is the tool kit sponsor and will be providing tool kits to be given out as regional and national prizes at the event.

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GAP Hire Solutions renew three-year deal with Wacker Neuson

GAP Hire Solutions has confirmed a new three-year supply agreement with Wacker Neuson for light compaction equipment.

The new agreement for plates and rammers, breakers, floor saws and trench rollers will run until March 2020.

GAP's Head of Procurement Ken Stewart said: "We have a long and successful relationship with Wacker Neuson. I'm delighted to have concluded commercial negotiations for a further three years which will deliver significant benefits for both parties."

"We've experienced a steady increase in turnover with Wacker Neuson over the past few years. This has been driven by GAP's continuing growth and increasing our scope of supply with the company. The product range offered is well designed and robust to stand the rigours of the hire industry."

Continuous investment in new products from market leading supply partners ensures GAP continue to offer the widest range of equipment available for hire in the industry.



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Crane Hire Ltd takes delivery of Ireland's first Liebherr MK 140

Dublin-based Crane Hire Ltd has added to its fleet of mobile cranes with Ireland's first MK 140 mobile construction crane from Liebherr.

The MK 140 is only the second of this model that is the true UK and Ireland version. This means that it has the ballast carrier at the rear, which enables it to transport the additional 3 tonnes of ballast, the luffing jib extension

and also features 2.1 m alloy mats and a mat rigging device.

In standard trolley jib mode, the MK 140's lifting capacity at the tip is 1,900 kg with a radius of 58.5 m and the maximum lifting capacity is 8,000 kg. In luffing mode the MK 140 also has full luffing duties and the raised luffing jib position can be adjusted infinitely when loaded between 20° and +70°. In this mode the maximum hook height is 94.4 m and this is unique for a mobile tower crane.

Commented Jarleth O Leary, Director of Crane Hire Ltd: "This is our first mobile tower crane and for an investment like this we wanted to make sure we were purchasing the right product. With the Liebherr MK 140 there was no doubt.

"Its operational flexibility is just what we need to be able to offer our existing and potential customers increased versatility on site with up to 94 meters height under hook and a maximum

reach of up to 65 meters coupled with the manoeuvrability offered by the all axle steering and 5 steering programs to get the crane positioned in extremely restricted conditions.

"We particularly like the infinity positioning of the elevating operators cab with the ground level rescue procedure for the added on-site safety and operator wellbeing.

"Our experience of backup from Liebherr has been extremely positive to date, the fact that the Liebherr engineers are factory trained in the mobile tower crane range gives us the peace of mind that we can continue to run a first-class service to our clients."

£4m Ammann Deal Secured by Ardent Hire Solutions

Ardent Hire Solutions, one of the largest providers of self-drive plant in the UK and A&Y Equipment Ltd, the UK & Ireland importer for Ammann compaction machinery, have just signed a new deal to supply over 100 new Ammann rollers in a deal worth upwards of £4 million.

These machines will update and compliment an existing fleet of Ammann rollers located throughout Ardent's 14 national depots.

This particular deal is made up with a range of compaction machines, including trench rollers, light tandem rollers and single drum self-propelled rollers.

The trench rollers will be the latest model of Rammax 1575, completely remote controlled with an articulating and oscillating central joint, which gives permanent ground contact and much better stability. In fact this machine won the prestigious Red Dot award for design in 2016 and is a consistent high performer on jobsites across the world.

Three versions of ARX tandem rollers are included in this order. Ranging from the smallest 80 cm drum width ARX12, 120 cm ARX26 up to the ARX45 with a 138 cm drum width and compaction output of 55 kN.

All of the ARX rollers give the operator excellent, unobstructed views to the drums, with two frequency settings and centrifugal forces available. An electronic drive lever allows for smooth starts and stops, which is ideal for working on asphalt. These tandem rollers are built with high quality and long lasting components. They're widely known to be reliable, economical, safe and fuel efficient, with the lowest Hand Arm Vibration figures of tandem rollers this size.

The largest machines in the order are the 17 tonne ASC170, which deliver industry leading compaction outputs via its advanced vibratory and amplitude systems. In fact this model out performs most machines from heavier weight categories. Despite the size and weight of these rollers exceptional traction and climbing ability is still achieved through Ammann's no rear wheel axle concept. This lowers the centre of gravity for the machine and also makes it more stable as well as improving manoeuvrability and service access.

The same concept is found of the remaining rollers Ardent have purchased, the ASC110 and ASC70. Like all Ammann rollers these are created with the operator's comfort at the forefront of thinking. Not only is optimal visibility gained but also the work



stations are; comfortable, vibration and sound reduced, on top of having an easy to use multifunctional display providing essential operating information.

The ASC70 rollers will be the first in the UK to have the very latest in Tier4 final engine technology. Making this 7 tonne roller even more efficient whilst not affecting its high compaction outputs and work speed.

Ardent's Commercial Director, Tom Gleeson said "We chose Ammann due to their market leading products driven by innovative design. For example, by Ammann introducing their articulating and oscillating central joint on the trench roller, we are able to provide our customers with greater safety specification and a solution to machine stability and control. Their product offering aligned to our customer demand which made this partnership a perfect fit."



LIVE IT.
DIG IT.

VOLVO STAGE NEW LIVE-DEMO EVENT FORMAT FOR OPERATORS

For the first time, Volvo Construction Equipment have invited operators and customers to test-drive their popular machines and trucks at two ground-breaking live-demo events in the UK. Called 'Live it. Dig it', the events took place across two recent weekends.

Explains David Munns, Sales Director of Volvo: "We wanted to give companies, customers and operators a unique way of experiencing the full range of machines we produce – from excavators to haulers and also Volvo trucks, and also showcase our largest excavator, the EC750E. It's an opportunity for them to speak to the experts, share experiences and just have a great day out. Over 400 people attended across the four days – and what was unique was that most people stayed for the whole day for the opportunity of driving every machine they could."

The Live It. Dig It events were the largest ever demonstration days Volvo CE has



held to date with visitors driving a broad range of Volvo products in real-life working environments. A wide range of Volvo excavators, along with the A45G articulated hauler and L150H wheeled loader were

featured, and Volvo Trucks also took part with their latest FM and FMX vehicles.

Volvo demonstrator at the show, Ian Kennedy, says: "Of course, the EC750E





was the star attraction with visitors who came to try the latest, and largest, addition to the Volvo excavator range, but there were also queues for the EWR150E and EW60E which were available to try for the first time in Great Britain."

Scott Hastings, operator for Volvo customer, A&V Squires and who has been featured in the Live it. Dig it. campaign since the end of 2016, was invited to be part of the demonstrator team on the EC220E.

"Operators mentioned it was not always possible to get on machines at plant shows to check things like balance and sturdiness in various substrate conditions, and that it was helpful to get proper advice on attachments and buckets, as well as operating issues. We even had some hauler drivers try excavators, and vice versa."

Ag-Con was also represented at the event showcasing the Steelwrist tilt-rotator which was fitted to the EW60E, EW160E and EC140E excavators, proving popular with those new to the product wanting to give it a try, as

well as seasoned users who enjoyed talking with like-minded people about the benefits of this increasingly popular equipment.

David Munns gives credit to hosts and Volvo customers, Owens Illinois in Alloa, and Armac Group in Birmingham, saying: "Offering their sites to us was absolutely key to the overall success of the events as they carried out all the ground preparation and their staff were absolutely brilliant in their support, putting in a lot of voluntary support behind our staff's effort on the day."



Annual CIHT Dinner 2017



Karl Mpnteith (Guest Speaker), Willie & Hazel McKeown (guests), Rona McRobert, Liz Rowsell, Steven Rowsell, John McRobert and Peter May (Permanent Secretary Dept for Infrastructure)



Northern Ireland Past Presidents with current President - Geoff Allister, Billy McCoubrey, Steve Rowsell, Ronnie Porter.



Liz Rowsell, Steven Rowsell (CIHT President), Rona McRobert and John McRobert (CIHT Northern Ireland Regional Chairman)



David Hughes (QUB), Kevin Michie (IAT) and Kevin McShane (CIHT NI Senior Vice Chairman).



Stephen Heaney (ICE) and John McRobert



CIHT Northern Ireland Committee Representatives)



Steven Rowsell



Peter May (Permanent Secretary Department for Infrastructure)



John McRobert (CIHT NI Chairman)



CIHT Northern Ireland Committee Representatives)



Geoff Allister (Past President CIHT & Chief Executive HTMI, Jane Allister, Keith Willet, Nick McCullough (CILT) and Stephen Bradshaw (CIHT NI Treasurer).



Louise Dougan receives Certificate of Merit for service to CIHT from President Steven Rowsell).



Peter Collen (Best Student in Highways UU receives award from CIHT President Steve Rowsell).



Georgia Cope (Best Student in Highways QUB receives award from CIHT President Steve Rowsell).



Stephen Wood (Transport Planning Society), Richard Nicholl (IstrutE), Stephen Heaney (ICE), Georgia Cope (QUB), Carolyn Rollo (CIHT Scotland), Chris Conway (Chief Executive Translink), Mathew Foy (CIHT Rep of Ireland), Andrew Murray (Deputy Secretary Department for Infrastructure), Andrew Hugill (CIHT HQ) and Roisin Wilson (CIHT NI Region Hon Secretary).

CIHT Charity Cheque



The CIHT's John McRobert presents Michael Nugent with a generous cheque for £2,190 in aid of the NI Children's Hospice. The money was raised at the CIHT's recent Annual Dinner.

Bobcat Launches New E17Z Zero Tail Swing Excavator

Bobcat has launched the new 1.7 tonne E17Z Zero Tail Swing (ZTS) canopy model, completing the company's 1-2 tonne range of compact excavators.

The E17Z provides an unmatched combination of features for a machine of this size, from ZTS and the roomy and comfortable operator area to the ease of transport thanks to a shipping weight close to 1.6 tonne; its impressive digging forces and working range; the smoothness of the workgroup functions; the fast hydraulic performance in terms of low cycle times and its reliability, durability and easy service access.

In the new E17Z, the ZTS functionality is taken a level further using Bobcat's Zero House Swing (ZHS) design, in which the front upper structure is also fully protected by ensuring the front corners are kept within the swing circle when the tracks are in the fully expanded position. As a result, the ZHS functionality on the E17Z provides the peace-of-mind of 320° of free rotation when working close to walls and other obstructions, without sacrificing on operator comfort or performance.



The E17Z is built around the operator, providing optimal ergonomics for operators of all sizes with easy access to the pedals and controls. The large canopy and entry/exit space provide the driver with plenty of room to get into and out of the operator's seat and this is further helped by the left hand control console lifting completely out of the way. In addition, when not in use, the pedals can be folded away to increase room for the operator's feet, leaving a large flat floor area that is easy to clean.

The E17Z has a standard operating weight of 1749 kg and a maximum digging depth of 2249 mm. Many of the well accepted features in the current 1-2 tonne range such as the retractable undercarriage, upper-structure tie-down points and advanced diagnostics are available as standard on the E17Z. The compact size combined with great stability and a transport weight close to 1.6 tonne makes this machine the perfect choice for applications in confined areas. The impressive dump height on the E17Z allows it to load trucks

easily, while the reach at ground level means the machine does not need to be repositioned as often when digging. When fully retracted, the undercarriage allows the excavator to go through narrow spaces; and when fully expanded, provides optimum stability for the excavator, especially when working over the side. Expansion/retraction is a simple process via an electric switch on the control panel.

Stability is essential for making maximum use of the digging forces and lifting capacities. Optimum stability is achieved by fully expanding the retractable undercarriage and using the optional long dozer blade. As well as helping in dustpanning work, the long dozer blade significantly improves the front stability enabling the operator to use the full breakout forces the machine can deliver. As standard, the E17Z has easy-to-operate durable blade extensions.

With stability on a par with other ZTS machines in this class, the E17Z is ideally suited to picking up and placing heavy items with safety. In addition, the E17Z can be supplied with an optional certified 'object handling device', which consists of: a boom load holding valve, arm load holding valve, hooking device and overload warning device.

New Leica iCON construction software version improves design experience

Leica Geosystems has launched the new version 3.5 of Leica iCON site and iCON build construction software with significant updates to more easily manage design data in the field.

Whether working in the heavy construction or building construction industry, the new software versions simplify the design to build process by providing more intuitive navigation.

While Leica iCON site 3.5 is for use within the heavy construction industry around earth moving and infrastructure applications and Leica iCON build 3.5 is for building construction applications such as stakeouts and as-built checks, both can be used with tablets, GNSS instruments and total stations.

With the new version of iCON site, navigation in the software has become easier, data flows are now seamless, and workflows are optimised. Background images can be directly imported for georeferenced files, enabling a better navigation of plan to reality.

Along with a new stakeout line workflow, simulator and data prep tool, the software also features an entry machine guidance system for earthmoving machines. This

provides an affordable and flexible means for non-surveying site professionals to enter into machine guidance. KOF, an ASCII file format, and L3D, a road line file format, are now supported in the software, resulting in no need for format conversion and a smooth flow from the machine to the office.

"Now we have one solution for bulk earthworks plus the ability to take the rover out of the machine and use it to grade check," said Peter Andrew, Hick Group contracts manager who was able to try the software in beta. "With 3D



visualisation and great after sales support, it's an outstanding combination."

CONSTRUCTION LAYOUT

A new Layout Objects App is available in the updated iCON build software. Enabling an object-driven construction layout process, users can now import Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) data directly from Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing design software as well as load complete BIM data to immediately begin a layout. With its unique Zlider Bar, the App allows for the vertical cut-out of building model elements for the best map visualisation. With colour coding, users can also easily distinguish individual trade's data sub-sets.

"The new release of iCON build is impressive. Users now have the ability to leverage IFC models for layout," said Josh Bone, JBKnowledge, Inc. BIM/VDC specialist who was able to try the software out earlier this year. "This new interface makes it easy to hide layers and isolate the vertical cut of the model so that the user can focus on the task at hand. The software is intuitive and simple enough that any contractor can pick it up quickly."



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SEARCH
WORKSHOP SUPPLIES

Foundry Steels makes first purchase from Liebherr

Foundry Steels has purchased its first machine from Liebherr-Great Britain after being in operation for over 30 years. The company has purchased a LH 24 M material handler to work at its compact Clyde Street yard.

Established over 30 years ago, Foundry Steels is still in the ownership of the Morton family and continues to grow year on year. Based in Grangemouth, a largely industrialised area on the east coast of Scotland, the company has focused its activities on the handling of waste metals for the last three decades. Offering a personal service to all customers, large or small, the company provides a first-class service to its private, commercial and council clients.

To manage incoming and outgoing material, Foundry Steels has long been an exponent of French-made material handlers from Case Poclain. Foundry Steels operates a very compact yard on Clyde Street in Grangemouth with its material handler sitting on one spot for the majority of its working life. With the company's existing machine ready to be replaced, Dick Morton began detailed discussions with Liebherr-Great Britain about a replacement material handler. Liebherr was not a company that Foundry Steels had purchased from previously.

"The Liebherr brand was always seen as the expensive end of the market," commented Dick Morton. Initial discussions with Brian McGrane from Liebherr's Bathgate depot resulted in the two companies meeting to agree a comprehensive machine specification.

With the details ironed out, Liebherr-Great Britain supplied the Clyde Street yard with a new LH 24 M mobile material handler. With an operating weight of 24 tonnes, the Liebherr machine has a GA10 configuration that offers a potential maximum reach of 10 m at ground level and a discharge height of 9 m to the underside of the GM65 / 0.6m³ grab.

The Liebherr machine has been designed solely as a material handler. Each end of the robust chassis houses a pair of hydraulic stabilisers with maintenance-free cylinders to ensure the machine retains its stability even at full reach. The Liebherr-manufactured heavy-duty slew ring is centrally

mounted in the chassis to provide optimum weight distribution and hot-galvanised steps and grab rails provide slip-free access to the hydraulically-elevating Liebherr cabin. Offering a maximum working height of almost 6 m allows the operator to see into the back of bulk tippers being loaded at the premises. The interior of the Liebherr cabin is described by the Foundry Steels' team as being far removed from that of its previous 13-year-old machine.

"It is so comfortable and the controls are well laid out and easy to use," said Alec Dillon, Dick Morton's son-in-law. Particular praise is given to the smoothness and precision of the Liebherr controls, which allows the operator to be extremely delicate when sorting materials.

The LH 24 M is powered by a Liebherr D924 four-cylinder diesel engine. Delivering 150 HP, the 4.5 litre engine meets stage 3B emissions regulations and therefore does away with SCR and EGR technology. One of four operating modes can be selected and these adjust the engine and hydraulic performance. Sensitive, Eco, Power and Power-Plus offer differing performance ratios, although the company reports that to date only Eco mode has been used as the machine has done everything that has been asked of it in that mode. Fuel figures are reported to be extremely positive compared to the company's previous machine.

Although the LH 24 M has been purchased mounted on a wheeled chassis, it will not be required to travel around the confined yard. The reason that Foundry Steels chose the wheeled option rather than a pedestal- or track-mounted machine is because of the greater potential resale value when the company decides to trade the machine in. Liebherr's Bathgate depot will undertake all machine maintenance and servicing with a dedicated R&M contract to ensure that the LH 24 M performs at an optimum level throughout its working life.

Early indications are that the new Liebherr has surpassed all expectations with Dick Morton commenting that the initial purchase price was comparable with other manufacturers yet the build quality and engineering of the Liebherr product far outweigh those of the competition.



Phillip Wild, Duomo (UK) Ltd's Technical Director

Duomo (UK) Ltd Appointed SenseAir Distribution Partner

Duomo (UK) Ltd's Technical Director, Phillip Wild and Business Development Director, Shirley Wild recently visited SenseAir manufacturing site in Delsbo, Sweden to formally sign a document officially confirming Duomo as their Distribution Partner in the UK and Ireland.

Duomo (UK) Ltd have been their Distributor for many years, and as a result of this became their 'Worldwide Distributor of the Year' recently. The achievement and acknowledgement of their excellent relationship was celebrated with the signature ceremony.

Robert Janssen, SenseAir VP Operations, had already confirmed that Duomo had grown their business in the UK substantially warranting the handing over of a specially made trophy confirming their achievements last year.

SenseAir have over 20 years' experience and are one of the world's leading manufacturer of cost effective IR gas sensors. They specialise in infrared carbon dioxide (CO₂) sensors and controllers. SenseAir's Quality Management System is certified with ISO 9001:2008 and the Environmental Management System is certified with ISO 14001:2004.



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A Safe Dig Bucket That Cuts Potential for Utility Strikes

Contractors appreciate the importance of not damaging buried utilities while undertaking construction work, but the fact remains avoiding accidental strikes of underground utility lines can be challenging.

Suction or vacuum excavators, which can be expensive to acquire, are considered the most effective in preventing utility strikes – but there's a new innovation on the market which is currently creating plenty of interest, and rightly so.

The Safe-Dig Non-Conductive Excavator Bucket is produced by SafeDig Limited. The concept has been spearheaded by Ruairi O'Neill and Brendan McIntyre, two men with a wealth of experience in the industry.

The design provides a safer excavator bucket that compliments the safe digging practices that are demanded by many utility companies – and significantly, it costs

substantially less than a suction system and can operate in ground conditions which may not be suitable for a suction excavator.

Safedig excavator buckets, distributed by Mammoth Equipment MTS based in Cambridgeshire, are fabricated from hard wearing HDPE. The bucket features a non-aggressive design. It is strong enough to excavate in the majority of ground conditions whilst maintaining flexibility and impact absorbing properties not possible with steel buckets, reducing the potential for the damages associated with traditional steel buckets.

The use of non-conductive materials in construction also greatly reduces the risk of electrocution in the case of a live strike on an unmarked or unknown cable.

We at Plant & Civil Engineer recently went along to see for ourselves how the bucket performed. It's attracted a

lot of interest from contractors here including NI Water and Farrans.

We also spoke to operator Brian Quinn who works for Harrison Contracts. At first, Brian was rather sceptical about the bucket, but not anymore.

"I always have my doubts when something new arrives on the market, but I have to admit I was very surprised and impressed with the bucket's performance," he says.

"I was able to dig around and along small cables, watermains, BT and NIE ducts at ease and doing it damage free, so it definitely will have its uses."

The Safedig bucket is available in a wide range of sizes and can be fitted to excavators up to 13t. Ruairi O'Neill added: "There is no product like this bucket on the market. We believe it has global potential."



Machinery-User.com Tops for For Buyers & Sellers



Danielle McSorley, Managing Director

Machinery-User has attracted a lot of interest in the States since Managing Director Danielle McSorley and her team exhibited there in March at CONEXPO-CON/AGG, the international trade show for the construction industries.

The online strategy has been highly successful drawing customers from all over the globe. The site's unique vision allows companies to network with similar businesses around the world within seconds.

"I am delighted with the feedback from customers and investors in Las Vegas, the website is definitely on the right track," said Danielle. "Since the show there have even been some interested parties enquiring to purchase the business."

Machinery-User is a one stop shop to buying/selling and shipping machinery worldwide. The site allows users to submit enquiries for wanted machinery,



advertise machinery for sale as well as submit requests for shipping and transportation.

What gives them the edge are the email alerts so that customer's enquiries and listings will automatically get emailed to other customers worldwide. They have very competitive pricing, giving you a lot of value for your money.

With the site's ease of use, number of contacts and success in buying, selling and sourcing of machinery it is no wonder why there is a continuous growth in interest.

The site now attracts over 2,500 weekly views and is increasing its traffic daily which is a key factor in the company's overall growth



Machinery-User Ltd.

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New units update popular Genie S-105 and S-125 models

Updating the legacy Genie® S™-105 and S-125 telescopic boom lifts, the new Genie SX-105 XC™ and SX-125 XC booms are engineered to work in more applications that require higher capacities. With industry-leading dual lift capacity - 300 kg (660-lb) / 454 kg (1,000-lb) - and a smooth operating envelope, these new XC boom lifts are a perfect fit for heavy lifting in the construction and maintenance of stadium and sports arenas, gas and oil refineries, industrial and telecommunications applications.

"Priced right and offering a third more lift capacity than standard, these new Genie SX-105 XC and SX-125 XC booms will be competitive in local markets while increasing customers' ability to get more work done on every project. We also updated these machines' user interface to focus on simplicity and ease of use for operators. Both models are engineered for productivity to deliver higher rental returns on invested capital (RIOC) to support



our customers' business," says Adam Hailey, Genie Director of Product Marketing, Terex AWP.

"The XC nomenclature also lets customers know that these new booms comply with the overload restriction guidelines in the current European EN280 and Australian AS 1418.10 standards as well as in the

proposed ANSI A92 and CSA B354 industry standards in North America," adds Hailey.

The new Genie SX-105 XC and SX-125 XC booms say goodbye to the saw tooth working envelope of their predecessors. The operator's experience is enhanced by these booms' ability to automatically retract as they

reach their operating envelope, giving the new SX-105 XC and SX-125 XC models a smooth full range of motion throughout their entire working envelope — up to 34 m (111 ft 2 in) and 40.1 m (131 ft 2 in) working height, and a horizontal outreach from 22.86 (75ft) to 24.38 m (80 ft) with 135° of vertical jib rotation and the ability to work 2.69 m (8 ft 10 in) below grade.

Their Genie Mini XChassis axle system is also a new feature that combines jobsite stability, and a footprint of 3.94 m (12 ft 11 in) x 4.11 m (13 ft 6 in), with axles that extend and retract to and from the stowed position 2.49 m (8 ft 2 in) retracted or 3.94 m (12 ft 11 in) extended to offer a narrow profile for transport as well as offering easy access for low-effort maintenance.

Both booms are equipped with a powerful emissions-compliant 74-hp (55 kW) Tier 4F/Stage IIIB diesel engine and a redesigned heavy-duty generator. These features deliver consistent, reliable power to the machines' drive and platform functions.

Diamond Trucks Deliver Whole Package to McKinstry Skip Hire

McKinstry Skip Hire Ltd has turned to Mallusk-based Renault Trucks dealer, Diamond Trucks for its latest vehicles - two 18-tonne Range D High 4x2 R 250 E6 with VDL skip loaders.

Joining McKinstry's 50-strong mixed fleet, the Range Ds will work across Belfast, Greater Belfast and most of Northern Ireland,

supplying skips for both large construction contracts and private customers.

For McKinstry's Transport Manager, James Crossett, Diamond Trucks was seen as a key partner in the deal: "A truck dealer that could deliver the whole package was extremely important to us. We've had very encouraging experiences with Renault trucks over the last few years, so when we

were looking for new vehicles we knew that Diamond Trucks would deliver.

"Availability and performance of the Range D was great and the aftersales package was impressive. Diamond Trucks is on our doorstep, and we have a really good working relationship with the team there; they are really on the ball, and any servicing or parts requirements are dealt with efficiently and promptly so we minimise vehicle downtime."

Fitted with Renault Trucks' advanced 6 cylinder in-line DTI 8 litre engine, the Range D's low environmental impact was also crucial, supporting McKinstry's business ambition to achieve a resource efficient Northern Ireland, with zero waste to landfill and the development of a sustainable and circular economy.

James explains: "Just over a decade ago, over 90% of all the waste we collected across Northern Ireland went straight into landfill. That figure has been reversed with over 90% of waste now being recycled and reused. As well as assisting in this important role, the Range D is greener with lower emissions and the fuel economy has noticeably improved."

He adds: "As for the Range D itself, the quality of the build and reliability are excellent and our drivers really like them - especially the vehicle's manoeuvrability which is crucial in alleyways in city centres and on building sites. The quietness of the vehicle is also significant, particularly when they are delivering skips to private customers early in the morning. The drivers are big fans of the cab, too."



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A Takeuchi TB210 being delivered to Macroon Plant Hire in Co Cork by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Rotair MDVN81 Compressor being delivered to Mcmillian Commercial spraying - Crumlin Plant Sales



2 new Yanmar SV08'S For dromad hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



SK350LC-10 enroute to Liam Whelan Plant Hire, Co. Waterford from McSharry Bros.



5 x Genie Scissors Lifts & 1 Genie Z45 Boom Lift sold to Kilkenny based hire company by Sleator Plant.



Barry Read & his driver Jeffery taking delivery of their new Manitou MLT 634-120 LSU PS - Northern Lift Trucks.



D61-15 out the gate supplied by FJS Plant Repairs.



2 x Genie Z62 Boom Lifts sold to local NI hire company by Sleator Plant.



Desmond Middleton of Westdove Ltd Mayobridge with his new Dieci Zeus 37.8 at Dieci Ltd Newry.



2 ammann APR2620'S AND 2 Ammann 1033 Plates for Dromad Hire - Crumlin Plant Sales.



CP Hire - Brian Moore taking delivery of another Skyjack SJ6832RT diesel scissor supplied by Glendun Plant.



4 x Genie 1932 Scissor Lifts sold to Co Dublin hire company by Sleator Plant.



A Truxta B450-G Mini Dumper for Mourne Heritage Trust, from Ballyward Plant Services.

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John Ward, Dungannon with his new Gehl R165 skidsteer.



A Truxta B300-G Mini Dumper for CP Hire, from Ballyward Plant Services.



Stelco 350s supplied to Owens contracts Omagh brings to 6 new stelcos in the company's fleet - DS Hammers.



John Ward, Dungannon with his new Gehl R165 skidsteer.



New Case CX210D supplied by Cowan Bros to PRH Construction, Portlengone.



Takeuchi TB235 ready to be delivered to Moss Construction in Seaghan Co Armagh by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Maher Plant Hire take delivery of their new Giant D332SWT Xtra from Ballyward Plant Services.



John Houston with his new 313FL working on site near Mallusk - Finning.



New Rotair MDVN37 Supplied to serviced Annacloy from Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Yanmar SV18 delivered to PRO Hire Omagh From Crumlin Plant Sales.



Paul O'Prey with his New Manitou MLT629.



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New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to DA Murphy Contracts, Armagh.



A Giant Tendo 4548T HD for M Corbett, from Ballyward Plant Services.



A used MF 8480 sold to Beattie Farms Ontario Canada by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



A TB240 and TB216 Takeuchi being delivered to ME Plant in Clondalkin, Dublin by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



One of two Lumag BSF 15 Stump Grinders for Bann Hire, from Ballyward Plant Services.



Dessie Carson and John Moffett from Balmoral Furniture with their new Manitou ML25D.



Gary Mills, Moneymore Manitou MLT625 classic - Northern Lift Trucks.



6 Ton Nc Dumper sold to Fraher Plant Hire by FJS Plant.



Takeuchi TB216 collected by MacBlair Belfast from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



1 of 2 New Rotair MDVN53K SOLD TO Monaghan Plant Hire From Crumlin Plant Sales.



6 x TA1EH Dumpers sold to CP Hire Ltd by Sleator Plant.



New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to Kelly New Homes, Newry.

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Genie 2632 Scissor Lift sold to Translink by Sleator Plant.



A Takeuchi TB153fr ready to be delivered to RM Cleary in Ratoath Co Meath from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



3 New Yanmar SV08'S AND New Yanmar SV26 delivered to PRO Londonderry From Crumlin Plant Sales..



Bann Hire collecting their new Giant D332SWT from Ballyward Plant Services.



Mark Killen and Paul McGettigan from McGettigan Homes with their new Manitou MT1840a.



New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to KR Muldoon Contracts, Castlederg.



Kevin McCommon of McCommon Construction Ardee Co Louth receiving a new TB230 from Matt Hogg of Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



A new Dieci Agri Farmer 32.6 ready to be delivered to Richard Mowbray in Newtownstewart by Dieci limited Newry - Alan Milne Tractors.



Charles Stewart, Co. Down with his new SK28SR from McSharry Bros.



6 x Genie 2646 scissor lifts sold to Co Wicklow company by Sleator Plant.



3 x Terex TAGS sold to local NI hire company by Sleator Plant.



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Dressta TD15R & Liugong CLG930 working away supplied by FJs Plant Repairs.



Takeuchi TB230 going to Clerk Fencing in Rostrevor sold by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



SK270SRLC-5 going to Ward & Burke Construction Ltd., Co. Galway from McSharry Bros.



New 305E2 CR for J&G Contracts - Finning.



EJC Contracts - Eddie and Daniel taking their 2 new Wacker Neuson EZ28 excavators and light equipment from Glendun Plant.



New Ausa D100AHA ready to be delivered to Donegal Tool Hire From Crumlin Plant Sales.



A new Hanix N085UJ for AG Wilson, from Ballyward Plant Services .



Conor McSharry of McSharry Bros with David Martin and Pat Martin of Bishopstown Constuction receiving their SK210LC-10.



1 of 2 New Messersi TCH07 high tip dumpers and New YANMAR SV08-1AS Sold to WT Plant Hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



Terex TLB890 Backhoe sold to TG Eakin & Sons by Sleator Plant.



A new Dieci 40.17 Icarus delivered to O'Leary International in Newross , Wexford by Dieci Ltd Newry.



Clarke Thompson of CT Construction with their New Hyundai R27-9.

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New Schaffer 8610T delivered to G&W Wilson in Dromara Co. Down by Alan Milne Tractor Newry.



SK140SRLC-5 Off-Set to Ward & Burke Construction Ltd., Co. Galway from McSharry Bros.



New Case SV185 supplied by Cowan Bros to Thompsons of Kilcatten, Killaloo.



Enda McAleer from McAleer Agri, Dromore taking delivery of the First Manitou MLT737-130+ in Northern Ireland from Richard Sloan.



Nenagh Plant Hire taking delivery of a new 3 Ton Swivel dumper and a new Kubota RT100 loader supplied by FJS Plant Repairs.



New Dieci Apollo 25.6 R delivered to Cecil Hoddock in Drumbo Co. Antrim by Dieci Ltd Newry.



A new Takeuchi TB290 being collected by Uprichard, Portadown from Alan Milne Tractors, Newry.



Check out the awesome Manitou MT1335 delivered to Garrett Dynes from Dynes Bros.



SK28SR-SK140SRLC enroute to Rowlands Civils, Co Meath by McSharry Bros.



New Case CX350D supplied by Cowan Bros to John Fitzpatrick, Dromara.



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New 308E2 for Balloo Hire Centres - Finning.



Takeuchi TB153fr delivered to PC Plant in Warrenpoint by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to J & G Plant Hire, Ballyclare.



Ryan from Gelvin Construction takes delivery of New Yanmar VI025 From Crumlin Plant Sales.



Genie S45 Boom Lift sold to A&P Structural Engineering by Sleator Plant.



New 336FLME XE for James Stevenson (Quarries) Ltd of Ballymena - Finning.



New Case CX37C supplied by Cowan Bros to Alastair of A Peacock Site Services, Rasharkin.



New Takeuchi TB153fr being delivered to PC Plant in Warrenpoint Co Down by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Cyril Johnston Hire - Ian from CJ Hire taking delivery of another Wacker Neuson 803 dual power micro digger and powerpack supplied by Glendun Plant.



Takeuchi TB210R collected by MacBlair Belfast from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



MFL Plant Hire - John McGilligan taking delivery of his new Skyjack SJ3219 from Glendun Plant.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to Creative Earth, Moira.

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Schaffer 8610 delivered to D Allen in Cookstown and a Dieci T70 going on demo from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



McCarroll Plant Hire, Cloughmills - New Wacker Neuson TH412 telehandler supplied by Glendun Plant.



New 352FLME for MW Johnston & Son - Finning.



New Messerssi TCH2500 swivel track dumper ready to be delivered TO Conwell Contracts From Crumlin Plant Sales.



JB Plant Hire - Matt taking delivery of their Kaeser M43 150cfm compressor from Glendun Plant.



New Yanmar V1033 ready to be delivered to North Wet Electronics From Crumlin Plant Sales.



Michael Healy, Co. Wicklow with his new SK35SR from McSharry Bros.

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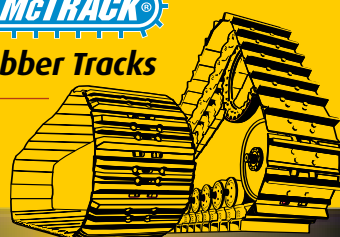
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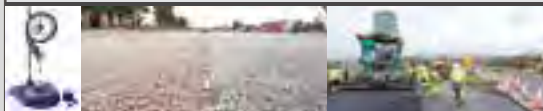


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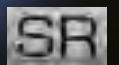
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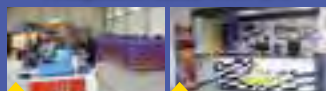
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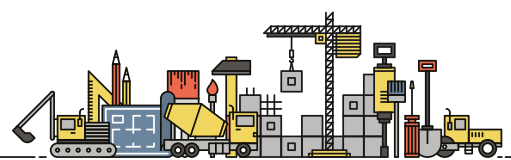
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