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With a continuing lack of leadership at Stormont, and no hope of any imminent breakthrough, our industry, like many others, faces an uncertain future, with more cautious predictions for the economic outlook, following a period of optimism earlier in the year.

Even so, the industry still needs skilled workers and therein lies some concern. Skill shortages in some areas mean that employers simply may not have sufficient numbers with the right qualifications to deliver future construction projects.

But there is light at the end of the tunnel, with the launch of a new National Construction Skills Academy to be based at Industry Training Services facilities in County Armagh. It will provide tuition across several trades including groundworks, joinery, bricklaying, plastering, tiling, structural steel erection and steel-fixing. (You can read more about it in this issue).

Also encouraging is seeing local employers such as Acheson & Glover, F P McCann, McQuillan Companies, Northstone, Quinn Group, Patrick Bradley Quarries and Tracey Concrete forming a partnership with the QPANI, South West College and Northern Regional College to develop a Construction Products Engineering Apprenticeship, an initiative to offer young people a unique opportunity to build a successful career in the industry. (More on this too in this issue)

So, the future is potentially bright: we just need to get the folks up on the hill to play their part, and to do it without any further delay.

To other matters now, and we have a comprehensive review of what was a very successful Plantworx 2017 which attracted over 360 exhibitors, more than 140 of them making their show debut. We also report from what was the third DemoExpo which was extended by another day at the request of many of the major manufacturers who attended the show, and we look forward to SteinExpo 2017, Europe's largest demonstration exhibition for the building materials industry.

Meanwhile, congratulations are in order to the Institute of Quarrying which nationally is celebrating its centenary year. Numerous events have been arranged by each of the 13 branches, including the Northern Ireland branch, to celebrate this milestone.

In our 'View from the Cab' series, we report on a Kobelco SK350, a specially modified NC Engineering SW9 Dumper, and a Case CX26C mini excavator, all of which are earning their keep on various projects across the island of Ireland.

Finally, 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.

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

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Titan containers choose SDC's tri-axle platform trailers to tackle tight spots

Global container giant Titan has received a new batch of extending platform trailers, which joined their Irish fleet for transporting containers to local wind farms.

Headquartered in Denmark with over 200 offices worldwide, Titan has a long history of working with land based and more recently the offshore wind segment. While their core business is ISO container rental and sales, the privately owned company has expanded to include worldwide deliveries of DNV containers to the offshore industry, temperature controlled storage solutions, self-storage solutions and crane services.

The extending platform trailers from SDC have a front lift axle and two hydraulically-operated steering axles for maximum manoeuvrability when transporting ISO containers and specialist wind farm equipment in off road environments. A high 5th wheel height of 1300mm and short kingpin to



the front of the trailer allow a truck mounted crane to be used for efficient loading and off-loading of containers, while bespoke features including fitted toolboxes and ladder storage provide maximum usage of the trailer while in operation.

The 10.5m platform trailers extend to 15.5m for compatibility with 4x10', 2x20', 1x40' or 1x45' ISO containers, while the customised design can also be used for various other load types such as pallets, steel pipes and construction equipment.

SDC have incorporated seven different locking positions to allow the trailers to be configured exactly to suit the load being carried. Load security is provided with multiple lashing options, including lashing rings at deck level and to the underside of socket bolsters to allow lashing of differing load types.

The cobalt blue chassis carries Titan's eye-catching yellow branding on the side skirts and rear, which coincide seamlessly with their Volvo FH 540 globetrotter XL tandem drive units, fitted with a 75 t/m cormach crane. The operator currently has 15 Volvo, DAF and Mercedes trucks in use across Europe.

Brendan O'Malley, Titan Containers Country Manager for Ireland & Northern Ireland said: "I am very pleased with the new extending platform

trailers from SDC which have gone straight into service on the development of a wind farm in Galway. In the past we have used SDC's skeletal trailers for container transport, which have also served us well, however we have been looking for ways to improve the efficiency of our operations with a more bespoke trailer that could be adapted to both the land and wind sectors.

"When I contacted SDC they were very helpful and knowledgeable - I am delighted with the finished product, as are our drivers. The trailer spec incorporates various 'add on's', which allow us to be flexible in our operations while delivering a very high standard of specialist services to our customers throughout Ireland."

SDC's Sales Manager for Ireland, Jimmy McKernan said: "I am pleased Titan chose SDC Trailers again having seen the robust nature and very high quality of products that we deliver. We are continuously looking for ways to innovate and enhance our trailer offering by listening carefully to what our customers require for their transport operations. Titan's new extending tri-axle platform trailers are the perfect example of how SDC can draw on our 39 years of engineering expertise to develop world class transport solutions for local operators."

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Goodyear Drives Construction of World's Largest Airport

Goodyear is supplying tyres and support to more than 3,000 construction vehicles currently building the world's largest airport.

In the last year, almost 8,000 Goodyear Omnitrac II range truck tyres for mixed service applications (on and off-road) have been supplied to the trucks working on the 76.5 million square meter site in Turkey, where the Istanbul New Airport is being built.

Support is an essential part of the service to ensure the tyres provide maximum operational life and reliability, so that the vehicles work unhindered in the hot and rugged conditions. This support is provided by a dedicated Goodyear tyre technician, who is based on site.

Part of his function is to ensure the performance of the tyres and optimise the cost per km on the project, and in addition superior key account management is provided by the Goodyear FleetFirst team.

When all phases complete the new airport, which will cost in excess of 10 billion euros, will be the world's largest airport serving 200 million passengers with more than 22,000 employees.

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Considerate Constructors Scheme launches in Ireland

The Considerate Constructors Scheme - the organisation established to improve the image of the construction industry - is now international, having launched its first registered site in Ireland.

The Scheme is delighted to welcome its first contractor to register projects in Ireland - family owned John Sisk & Son - a member of the international construction company, SISK Group.

The first registered Irish site is located at The Exchange, which forms part of the International Financial Services Centre at the heart of Dublin's financial district. This

project involves the construction of a six-storey office block with a basement car park and two retail units at street level.

The Scheme – which introduced site registration in the UK in 1997 – has received increasing interest from contractors with sites in Ireland asking to register construction activity. All are keen to improve the image and reputation of the construction industry, in line with the Scheme's Code of Considerate Practice, which commits those registered to care about appearance, respect the community, protect the environment, secure everyone's safety and value their workforce.

Sisk led the pilot of site registration to help ensure that this model of registration within the Irish construction industry was appropriate and fully tried and tested, before making it available to all construction activity in Ireland.

Considerate Constructors Scheme Chief Executive Edward Hardy said: "The opportunity for contractors to now register sites in Ireland is a huge step forward for the Considerate Constructors Scheme. With over 18,000 monitoring visits to UK-based sites, companies, and suppliers every year, the Scheme is highly regarded across the construction industry as a central part of instigating positive long-lasting change, for the benefit of the workforce, local communities and the environment.

"We are delighted to now be able to provide monitoring and support services to Irish-based construction sites to help raise their standards beyond statutory requirements – pushing the bar of considerate construction to a new level in Ireland."

Brian Handcock, Head of Sustainability at Sisk commented: "We are proud to have worked with the Considerate Constructors Scheme to deliver the first project registered in Ireland. Indeed, Sisk was one of the early supporters of the Scheme, and has attained the highest standards possible on its projects on numerous occasions.

"As a business that is over 158 years old and with over 1300 staff employed, it is important to all of us to be recognised for the good work our industry does for the communities, workforce and environment that we live in, are a part of and care for. Being part of the Considerate Constructors Scheme gives us an objective viewpoint of our performance, helping us and the wider industry to improve our image and reputation. We look forward to seeing the Scheme being taken up by our peers across Ireland so that the whole industry benefits."



From left to right: Ken Lynch, Contracts Manager, The Exchange, Sisk; Paul Hackett, MD Ireland East, Sisk; Edward Hardy, Chief Executive of the Considerate Constructors Scheme; Brian Handcock, Head of Sustainability, Sisk.

UK Exports and Imports of Construction and Earthmoving equipment grows

UK exports of construction and earthmoving equipment showed further growth in Q1 2017, reaching £700 million, the highest level since Apr/Jun quarter 2015.

This can be attributed to both improving demand in some of the major overseas markets, as well as the benefit of the weaker £ exchange rate since the middle of 2016, following the Brexit referendum.

UK exports of construction and earthmoving equipment showed further growth in Q1 2017, increasing by 6.1% in weight terms (tonnage of machines)

compared with Q4 2016, and 13.2% in value terms (£ million). On a quarterly basis, Q1 saw the highest level of exports since Apr/Jun 2015, at £700 million. This increase can be attributed to both improving demand in some of the major overseas markets, as well as the benefit of the weaker £ exchange rate since the middle of 2016, following the Brexit referendum.

The USA remained the top destination for exports in Q1 2017, accounting for 19% of total exports on a weight basis, and 23% on a £ value basis. Collectively, exports to EU28 countries accounted for 48% of

total weight of machines exported in Q1, and 44% of £ value. These were similar proportions to the 2016 annual levels.

Imports of equipment also showed significant increases in Q1, and are following the same seasonal pattern as the last two years, when imports "peaked" in Apr/Jun quarter, and "bottomed" in Oct/Dec (see the graphs following). In Q1, imports showed a 34.1% increase on Q4 2016 in weight terms, and a 39.1% increase on a £ value basis, reaching £388 million. In both cases, imports were also higher than Q1 2016 levels.

Japan remained the highest single country source of imports in Q1, accounting for 21% of total imports of equipment in weight terms. On a £ value basis, Sweden edged ahead of Japan as the largest single import source, accounting for 19% of total imports in Q1.

The UK remains a net exporter of construction and earthmoving equipment, measured in both weight and value terms. In Q1, the trade surplus reduced to £312 million, from £340 million in Q4 2016, but after this, was still the highest quarterly surplus since Q4 2015.

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Sun Shines on Emerson Charity Truck Run

A charity truck run organised by the Norman Emerson Group to raise funds for the asthma unit at Craigavon Area Hospital was an overwhelming success; even the weather played its part.

It was held following the death of 20 year old Tiernan Green who suffered an asthma attack; his father Stephen works as a truck driver for the Emerson Group.

"Stephen and his wife Donna were keen to raise money to buy resuscitation equipment for the hospital as a 'thank you' for trying

to save their son and we came up with the idea of a truck run," says Colin Emerson.

A small team comprising Stephen, Colin and George Emerson and Emma Kerr from the company's dispatch department, quickly went to work to organise the 'run.'

"We had planned for around 60 trucks to support the event, and were overwhelmed when 130 turned up on the day to help us raise an estimated £15,000," says Colin.

The truck run began at Emerson's yard in Ardmore and travelled down the M1 motorway to the Moira roundabout and

back towards Ardmore, via Derrymacash where Tiernan was buried.

The day was rounded off with a barbecue and an evening of entertainment, hosted by local singer Pat Christie. There was also a raffle and an auction, thanks to the generous contributions of local businesses.

At the time of Tiernan's death, his father Stephen, speaking on U105's radio phone-in show, commented: "It's great to have people like that around you in times of need. They've been a great comfort to me and Donna, and our family. They've been so good, and the local community too; they've just been great."

Adds Colin: "We can't thank everyone enough for their participation, their support and their generous contributions. It turned out to be a really wonderful community day, which was truly appreciated by the Green family."

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Hyundai Expands Wheeled Loader Range

Hyundai has recently added yet another new model to the company's wheeled loader range – the HL965.

With an operating weight of 20,100 kg (44,313 lb), it is powered by the very latest Stage IV Cummins QSL9 electronically controlled diesel engine with a gross power of 272 HP (200 kw) / 2,100 rpm.

Silent, safe and comfortable, the 10% larger (compared to -9a series) ROPS/ FOPS cabin with fully adjustable seat provides an ergonomic working environment that offers the ultimate in comfort for the operator.

The new cabin is fully sound-proofed using state-of-the-art noise reduction technology which ensures maximum silence when working in noisy environments such as quarries or waste handling depots. The new air conditioning system maximises heating and cooling performance by optimising air flow through the cabin.

The electro-hydraulic integrated control lever allows operators to operate attachments with ease which in turn enables greater productivity and minimises operator fatigue.

The HL965 has improved visibility which has been achieved by revising the mirror position. There is also the option of LED front lights, LED working lights and LED rear combination lights.

The new HL965 has joystick controls for boom, bucket and 3rd hydraulic line as standard – fingertip control is available as an option. All the models in the HL Series can also be fitted with joystick steering as an option.



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view from the cab

KOBELCO SK350LC-10: POWER MEETS EFFICIENCY

Fitted with a Miller Scoop 7 MB600 Heavy Duty Bucket, Allman Contracts' Kobelco SK350LC-10 excavator has been earning its keep on a variety of projects in County Kerry and elsewhere. Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the view from the cab.

to operate, it's smooth and precise, and it is fuel efficient. With over 1,000 hours on the clock, we are very happy with its performance and reliability," says Tim, "as we are with our other five Kobelco machines."

Kobelco only make excavators and thereby claim to be the excavator experts. The hydraulic system is key; they offer a highly efficient hydraulic system that minimises fuel consumption while maximising power. With nimble movement and ample digging power, this excavator improves job productivity.

Allman's say "smooth and precise". Kobelco also say that the new arm interflow system more efficiently controls hydraulic fluid flow, and the significant reduction of in-line resistance and pressure loss boosts fuel efficiency by about 10%. The increase in productivity delivers the "Power". So Generation 10 from Kobelco means "Power Meets Efficiency".

Supplied by McSharry Bros., the exclusive Kobelco dealer for the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, the Kobelco SK350LC-10 is presently involved in muck shifting on a roads contract, loading up to 10 trucks a day. The machine operates in H mode and so far average fuel consumption is 20.4 L/H. This is confirmed by Kobelco's KOMEX system, which monitors the performance of the machine and can be accessed through the monitor in the cabin or remotely.

Heavy Duty Bucket

Fitted with a Miller Scoop 7 MB600 Heavy Duty Bucket, together with an SK350 PowerLatch Coupler, the combination not only makes life a lot less demanding for the operator, but also more productive. The operating weight of this SK350LC-10 with hitch and bucket is an impressive 40,000kg. Kobelco promise a 5% increase on digging volume per hour with digging force of up to 244kN.

The bucket's revolutionary patented high strength design helps optimise the machine's performance and provides lower operating costs, delivering a consistently higher fill factor than conventional buckets. Indeed, the Scoop self load design allows you to carry more material and load up to an additional eight payloads per day, as well as dig faster and more effectively.



Kobelco's SK series has been described by the manufacturer as 'an entirely new kind of excavator that beautifully balances all the demands of today's construction industry. Lean and efficient with capacity to spare, these sleek powerhouses bring a whole new style to the worksite while setting new standards for environmental responsibility.'

But what is the reality? We've travelled to Camp Village outside Tralee to see the machine in action and discover if it has been meeting those high expectations.

Allman Contracts was established in the early 1960s by David Allman and today is headed up by his sons Tim and Brendan. Operating from its base at Listowel in Co Kerry, it has an impressive portfolio of services ranging from the construction and maintenance of sports grounds and farm work to road works, plant hire and haulage.

With such a variety of projects on the go, the company depends greatly on its men and its machinery, and only the best will do, so not surprisingly perhaps the Kobelco name figures prominently.

So, does Kobelco's promise of increased power and even greater fuel economy bring higher efficiency to the project?

"We've been running it for a few months now. It's a lovely machine

Its compact design, when installed with the Miller coupler, improves machine breakout in most applications over conventional buckets, too. In addition, its cutting edge angle reduces the ground engaging areas, which ensures less resistance during the digging cycle over a conventional bucket.

More Durable

Kobelco's SK350 machines are more durable than ever and able to withstand the rigors of the toughest job sites. This adds up to new levels of value that are a step ahead of the times. While focusing on the global environment of the future, Kobelco offers next-generation productivity to meet the need for lower life cycle costs and exceed expectations of customers.

Serviceability

Tim tells us that when it comes to routine servicing of the machine, everything is at hand. Indeed, the SK350 layout was designed with easy inspection and

maintenance in mind, little innovations that all add up to make an impact. For example, the fuel filter with built-in water separator functions in two ways by removing large contaminants and separating out water.

A quick drain valve, which requires no tools, is provided as standard equipment. To facilitate fuel tank cleaning, the fuel drain valve was made larger and fitted with a flange on the bottom.

Even inside the cab, there are notable features that aid service and maintenance tasks. The detachable two-piece floor mat comes with handles for easy removal, with

a floor drain located under the mat. The air conditioner filter can be easily removed without tools for cleaning, and the hour meter can be checked while standing on the ground.

The support and back-up from distributors McSharry Bros is also a vital factor. "We have a great working relationship with McSharry Bros and have been dealing with them for a long time; it's all good," comments Tim.

So, does the Kobelco SK350 live up to expectations? Everything we saw and heard about it leads us to conclude that it certainly does – and the people at Allman Contracts agree.



Operator Comfort

The cabin is designed to put the operator first, providing a quiet and comfortable working environment. "There's nothing complicated by the machine," says Tim who adds that he is impressed with its 'big cab' which provides a roomy operating space with plenty of legroom, and the door opens wide for easy entry and exit. As well as giving a wide, open view to the front, the cab has increased window areas on both sides and to the rear, for improved visibility in all directions.

All the controls and instruments in the cab are logically positioned and conveniently accessible from the 7-way adjustable suspension seat. The multi-display monitor

provides information that's easy to read, regardless of the operating environment.

The driver also has other 'home' comforts, including a powerful automatic air conditioner, two-speaker AM/FM radio with station select, one-touch lock release which simplifies opening and closing the front window – and even a large cup holder and a spacious luggage tray.

The operator's working environment is also improved by the electronically controlled common-rail engine which has a unique fuel injection system that runs quietly. Also, the hydraulic pumps have been redesigned to produce a more pleasant sound during pressure relief.



Industry shows support for CITB NI despite tough political and economic times

What a difference a year makes. As we approach the last remaining months of CITB NI's training year it is poignant that the political landscape has changed and future uncertainty affects industry, growth and skills.

At this current time we do not have a local Assembly in Government and whilst this is disappointing, the wheels of industry have to keep turning. It is reassuring to see construction work continuing and the development of city centre hotels and offices which is great for the local workforce and the economy.

However a lot has also happened on a wider political scale and with Brexit and the apprenticeship levy, things are changing that will impact on the future of the local construction industry, leading to more cautious predictions for the economic outlook.

Our January 2017 forecast for the construction industry in Northern Ireland was for an annual average grow of 1.6% over the five years to 2021 and an average annual recruitment requirement of 710.

With the ongoing changing situation future forecasts may not be as buoyant as previously

forecast. However, the industry will still be facing potential skills shortages in some occupations such as bricklayers and roofers. CITB NI will continue to work alongside the industry to ensure that sufficient numbers of people are trained to meet the demand and that those already working in the industry have the right skills and qualifications to deliver upcoming construction projects.

Recent surveys completed by CITB NI show that the NI construction industry still wants to train and 70% of all NI employers had funded or arranged training for staff in the last 12 months. [1] This is reassuring as skills are continually needed. CITB NI is working with the sector to improve their capabilities in strategic planning and performance improvement at senior management level and is also working to develop a qualified workforce at craft level where almost 1800 existing employees have achieved a free NVQ Level 2 qualification.

The local construction industry has strongly shown their support for CITB NI as an organisation as 73% of respondents thought that both training within the industry and progress towards a qualified

workforce would both worsen if there was no statutory body such as CITB NI.

Skills are a key driver of growth, performance and prosperity. CITB NI aim is to develop a qualified and competent workforce within the NI construction industry and to help encourage and support training to ensure the right skills in the right place at the right time.

The CITB NI training grant scheme offers support for a wide range of training and qualifications from apprentices through to the existing workforce including management and administration and employers shown they value the scheme with 72% believing that it should continue.

CITB NI also provides direct training to the industry via the Mobile Training Unit, Virtual Environment Training – VET360, Scaffolding and Business Improvement Seminars to name a few.

CITB NI will continue to focus on providing the support and services needed to ensure local businesses have the right skills. Through a mix of Grant funding and Direct Training Interventions CITB NI will help develop the workforce to meet client needs and grow their business.

news

Initiative to support mental health agenda in Construction Sector

The Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity and the Considerate Constructors Scheme have launched a new initiative to help support the mental health agenda in the construction industry.

Considerate Constructors Scheme registered sites, companies and suppliers can now provide their workforce with handy wallet-sized Construction Industry Helpline cards, as well as displaying posters to advertise the services.

The Construction Industry Helpline provides a free 24x7 confidential employee assistance programme for all of the construction workforce and their families in the UK. From highway and railway construction to office buildings and homes, from steel fixer, plant operator and ground worker to architect and surveyor - the Helpline is there to deliver mental health and wellbeing, financial assistance, legal advice and support on education and training.



www.constructionindustryhelpline.com

The Helpline is operated by the Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity (also known as the Lighthouse Club) and is funded by the charitable generosity of the construction industry.

With the crucial support of the Considerate Constructors Scheme, the Helpline has launched a new range of packs which are available to purchase. Each pack contains wallet sized Helpline cards for distribution to the workforce and A2 posters to promote the Helpline on site. There are nine packs in total, which are suitable for sites, companies and suppliers of different contract values and annual turnover.

By purchasing a pack, the site, company or supplier is also making a commitment to undertake a "Lighthouse Day", which can be any day in the calendar year where anything can be done to raise much-needed funds for the Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity.

Considerate Constructors Scheme Chief Executive Edward Hardy said: "The Scheme is keen to take its on-going support for the Construction Industry Helpline to the next level which is why we have launched these essential packs for the benefit of the entire workforce.

"The Helpline provides invaluable support for workers and their families during times of difficulty

and hardship and has already made a huge difference to the lives of many people.

The Scheme would like to see this important industry asset go from strength to strength which is why we are urging as many sites and businesses to purchase the packs and pledge to hold a "Lighthouse Day" to raise funds for the charity. There is no pressure to raise a target amount – just as much as you can on the day to make a difference."

The Scheme has been supporting the Construction Industry Helpline ever since it officially partnered with the Lighthouse Construction Industry Charity in 2014, when the Helpline was launched.

The Helpline is not publicly funded and relies entirely on the generosity and support of industry organisations, fundraising groups and individuals.

To access the Helpline's team of experts, call the Construction Industry Helpline on 0345 605 1956 or visit www.constructionindustryhelpline.com



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CLUSTER HOLDINGS RECOVERS VALUABLE PLASTER SAND FINES FROM PONDS WITH CDE EVOWASH

CDE customer Cluster Holdings in West Rand, South Africa, had given up on ever recovering fines their sand screw classifier system had discharged into ponds. With the introduction of the CDE EvoWash 71 sand washing plant to their operations, they are now producing high quality plaster sand from waste pond material. With CDE technology, fines are fully recovered and turned into profit and a very competitive return on investment.

Cluster Holdings is a family business like no other: not only does the company wash materials for the construction industry, but it also runs a farming business. Cattle graze and crops grow in fields adjacent



to the family's quarry located half way between Carletonville and Randfontein. Rich in decomposed granite, the farm and its surrounding presented an ideal terrain to develop a materials processing

business to supply local construction companies with washed plaster sand.

At the start of its washing operations in 1986, the company opted for sand screw classifiers to wash the granite, a cheap and popular choice in South Africa, but also an option that creates a lot of waste to ponds and loss of potential profits. The subsequent switch to a cyclone tower resulted from identifying the potential in the plaster sand market in the area, but did not achieve the desired results in quality and led to wet stockpiles.

Wayne Warren, Business Development Manager for sub-Saharan Africa at CDE, noticed Cluster Holdings operations while on the road to visit a client and stopped by. He said: "Being in a reasonably remote



area, the road past Cluster Holdings' mining area allows you to get an overview of their operations. I could see that where issues might be and knew that CDE had solutions that could up most current washing plants. I stopped in and introduced myself.

"Little did I realise that this site had such extreme potential in what up until then was called waste. In effect, unknown to our customer plaster sand was laying in abundance, hidden at the bottom of ponds, and with adapted CDE technology could be recovered and processed into a valuable product.

Kobus Jv Rensburg of Cluster Holdings, provided samples for tests. It turned out that the waste sand had one of the best plaster sand grading I had come across in some time and it became Cluster Holdings' priority to recover it."

CDE having a solid footprint in South Africa, the customer had the opportunity to visit a few sites showcasing the CDE EvoWash in action. Having witnessed the efficiency of the EvoWash that produced a sand dry enough to be handled and loaded as it came off the stockpile conveyor, Cluster Holdings opted for CDE technology as the perfect solution to their issue.

EvoWash 71 materials washing plant was commissioned and installed to process the raw decomposed granite feed. The EvoWash removes the -75µ from the sand slurry feed and dewateres it to produce up to 50 tonnes per hour within specification for plaster sand that will be used by the local construction sector to plaster buildings.

Kobus Jv Rensburg comments: "After years of trial and error, we are delighted with our choice. We had two plants that were not efficient enough for our purposes and replacing them with a single plant and process was beneficial in terms of footprint, value for money and efficiency.

"The CDE EvoWash is a very neat plant that we are exceptionally happy with. It is compact, efficient and economical. But crucially, it has allowed us to recover a high quality plaster sand that had been lying unnoticed in ponds and make it a very profitable product.



Wayne Warren, Business Development Manager for sub-Saharan Africa at CDE, and Cluster Holdings Kobus Jv Rensburg.

"I was going to say – Who knew? But then again, CDE knew. It only took a visit from Wayne and some testing at the CDE labs to make us realise we were literally sitting on a high value quantity of quality plaster sand. All we needed to turn it into a profitable material was the right technology. The CDE EvoWash was the answer."

Wayne Warren, Business Development Manager for sub-Saharan Africa at CDE concludes: "The thing that stands out most when watching the plant go up was to see how each member of the family has an expertise that is used like one well-oiled

machine. Whether there are requirements for electrical, mechanical, fitting, welding, operational, or accounting expertise, there is a family member on top of their game.

"It is always a pleasure to help a client make the most of the resources available to them, in the most economical and environmental friendly manner.

The EvoWash has long been a favourite of South African quarries. It is modular and compact, and can fit in the most challenging spaces, but also very economical to run and consistent in producing sands in quality and quantities required by the customer."



new range

MECALAC'S NEW MWR RANGE OFFERS OPERATORS BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

Fans of wheeled excavators and crawler excavators generally fall into two opposing camps, and Mecalac certainly knows the arguments used by both because it has successfully designed and manufactured both types of machine, with its range of wheeled undercarriages and crawler undercarriages. Plant & Civil Engineer's Justin Carrigan recently travelled to the South of France to find out more.

Mecalac, whose UK base is located in Coventry, has long helped shape the wheeled excavator sector, yet it also has a long history of working with crawler excavators. This is what inspired the company to take the best of both worlds and develop a unique solution that brings together their advantages and eliminates their disadvantages, to greatly boost the potential of the new MWR wheeled excavators.

Combining the advantages of wheeled and crawler excavators has resulted in a unique Mecalac solution that incorporates mobility, versatility, stability, safety, accessibility, easy operation, lifting force and profitability.

MWRs are the end result of a new vehicle concept and the fruit of Mecalac's combined expertise in wheeled and crawler excavators, aided by in-depth discussions with other wheeled excavator and crawler excavator professionals.

Its design was conceived to meet the demanding specifications for a versatile and compact machine that blends the best features of Mecalac's wheeled and crawler excavators. The outcome?



Versatile and ultra-stable machines with XS dimensions and XL lifting force, benefiting from the latest internal and external technology patented by Mecalac - including boom with integrated offset, cylinder coupling, central control selector, and speed control function.

Also noteworthy is CONNECT, Mecalac's patented quick coupler noted for its lightness, integration, ease of use and perfect safety. Controlled from the cab, there is zero risk of it

detaching from the tool either while it is being connected or while in operation. It is equipped with a detection system that alerts the driver if the tool is improperly secured (with visual and audible signals). Not only that, but it is also reversible and has an automatic clearance compensation function.

By having a lower centre of gravity than the competition, machines in Mecalac's MWR range are easier to get in and drive than ever before.

This has an impact on all levels - from stability and accessibility to safety and "all-terrain" mobility - meaning the machine has greater balance and strength without sacrificing its original qualities

The unique architecture of the new MWRs creates powerful and precise handling machines capable of lifting 50% of their own weight!

The offset articulated arm (which fits into the machine's profile perfectly) forms a positive mass and a natural counterweight, thus optimising its lifting power and ensuring greater freedom to handle and turn

with heavy loads. Which can come in pretty handy on construction sites.

The new MWRs transform worksite logistics thanks to their incredible stability in any position and on any terrain. Whatever the conditions, they stay balanced both when travelling





in transfer operations between sites as well as during work phases. This gives them 360° lifting performance - an extraordinary feat.

Because the cab is 20% lower compared to rival products on the market, entering and exiting the vehicle requires much less effort, and is further eased by the addition of a step that has been perfectly incorporated into the machine's design.

The fuel tank on the new MWR is extremely easy to access, too, because it is now located in the undercarriage, level with the step that leads straight to the cab.

Besides helping lower the centre of gravity, the lower-down position of the tank and its increased capacity also mean that the driver or fleet manager no longer has to carry out any operations at height, nor is there anything in the way when driving the vehicle. With the majority of other excavators still mounting the fuel tank in the upper carriage, filling up an MWR is as simple as it is safe.

Panoramic Vision

Overall visibility has been redesigned to optimise the driver's direct line of sight. At the rear, the shape of the hood has been reworked and the round window is now one uninterrupted piece (on the 15MWR) to give an unobstructed view.

The boom of the Mecalac arm folds away, improving lateral visibility. The two-part retractable windshield and windows on opening doors mean the driver can be in direct contact with the worksite. With rear view mirrors and an optional and perfectly integrated side camera, the driver can enjoy a whole new range of visibility of the site environment while operating their vehicle.

Thanks to the unique central selector, the driver can switch between road and parking mode in a single movement, instead of the 7-10 operations usually required in other excavators.

With this unique, worldwide exclusive, everything can be done instantly by selecting the desired configuration. This guarantees faultless and ultra-safe driving on construction sites, leaving the driver free to calmly focus on the tasks at hand and take full control of the machine.

High Security

What is at the forefront of Mecalac specifications? Optimising operator safety, as well as that of everybody else working on urban and suburban construction sites.

That is why the MWR has a lot of innovative equipment as standard. In addition to 'boots on the ground' maintenance, automatic locking of axle oscillation now makes it easier to secure the machine while the driver is concentrating on their work. These comprehensive safety features are further boosted by the lower centre of gravity and cab height. Integrated cameras may also be added as optional extras, and they interface perfectly with the 7" screen that provides you with views of the worksite as soon as you start reversing the vehicle.



Adaptable

The MWR comes with a wide range of standard equipment, but that's not to say it can't be adapted

to different types of customer, such as landscapers, diggers, public works professionals, or local authorities.

So whether you want to change the colour of the paintjob, choose different tyres, or add air conditioning or cameras (without forgetting the numerous accessories, buckets and hydraulic tools), there are dozens of ways to tailor the new MWR to your brand and your business.

MECALAC FACT FILE

- More than 50 products in the new range
- More than 60 years of experience and know-how in research and development, design, manufacturing and distribution of compact urban machinery
- Five production sites in four countries: France (2), Germany, England And Turkey.
- Headquarters based at Annency in the heart of the French Alps
- Seven Sales Offices
- An average of three patents per machine
- Total workforce of 800 people
- More than 200 dealers in the worldwide network



Blue Central Supply Machinery to Assist with £192m Bypass

Blue Machinery Central have recently sold a Powerscreen Premiertrak 400 mobile jaw crusher and Warrior 1400X screen to Northbank Demolition, which have both been working on the new A556 bypass project in Manchester, connecting the M56 and M6 motorways.

Northbank Demolition offer a range of services in addition to demolition, including asbestos removal, plant hire and earthworks. Northbank were brought in on the £192 million bypass project by Costain, the main contractor to undertake a number of tasks.

One such task was dealing with the material which was removed from the ground to build the bypass as well as remediate surrounding land used in the construction process. This contract meant Northbank required additional equipment to their existing fleet to crush extracted tarmac, concrete and stone, plus screen this material so it can be reused in



the project and be recycled for other construction developments. The Premiertrak R400 mobile jaw crusher was ideal for Northbank Demolition as it can not only move easily around site due to its umbilical remote and track mobility, but also be effortlessly transported to different sites for

the various contracts the company is undertaking at any one time. For this particular application, where the machine is cleaning up and recycling various materials, one of the key benefits is the excellent under crusher access, with the raising and lowering of

the conveyor, to assist with the removal of any wire and rebar. The Warrior 1400X again perfectly suits Northbank's business model due to its versatility, processing power and exceptional build quality. It has been designed with economy in mind, with reduced fuel consumption being achieved through a lower engine running speed of 1800rpm and enhanced hydraulics. While the screen media on the Northbank machine is Top Deck 50mm Fingers and 40mm Mesh on the Bottom Deck to provide a <40mm, 40-75mm and >75mm product, a variety of media solutions can be fitted meaning that the Warrior 1400X is extremely efficient in a range of applications. The crusher and screen are working together processing the material that was both reused within the A556 project and hence saving costs, as well as being taken to a variety of other projects throughout the North West. Product created from the crushing and screening include a MOT Type 1, 6F2 and drainage stone. It is estimated that the new bypass stretches four miles and will carry more than 51,000 vehicles every day.

Engcon tilts automatically with Leica Geosystems

In collaboration with world-leading tiltrotator manufacturer Engcon, Leica Geosystems has developed iXE CoPilot, an auto-tilt function.

Used in combination with a 2D or 3D excavator guidance system, Engcon's DC2 control system and ePS (engcon Positioning System) this revolutionary development enables the tilt function on a tiltrotator to be handled automatically.

"We are proud to collaborate with Engcon to deliver an automatic tilt function", says Nick Guadagnoli, Program Manager, Earth Moving Solutions at Leica Geosystems.

"Our new Leica iXE CoPilot auto tilt system together with an Engcon tiltrotator offer the best of both worlds when it comes to streamlining excavator operation."

In simple terms, an excavator guidance system creates a digital and three-dimensional drawing of an area that needs to be dug. The drawing is then displayed on a large screen in the cab where the excavator operator can also see the bucket position, where to dig and what depths and slopes are to be achieved.

"Automated excavator functions are becoming more common and as the leading manufacturer of tiltrotators we believe it makes sense for us to contribute with our technology to increase profitability still further," says Fredrik Jonsson, head of development at the Engcon Group.

For safety purposes, the operator can regain manual control of the digging system and tiltrotator at any time. A video showing iXE CoPilot and Engcon in action can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/DnGP8fcRhtc>



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Commerical Drone Training Programme For Construction Trade

Leading Drone and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) retailer, DronesDirect.co.uk, has launched a training course for businesses within the construction industry wishing to operate drones for commercial use.

The three-day course gives drone pilots full Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Permission for Commercial Operations (PfCO) accreditation, which will allow construction workers who take the course, to fly drones on site.

Being able to operate a drone at work can have numerous benefits for those in the surveying and construction trade, who can use them to measure stockpiles, collect aerial photographs, and to assist them with inspections.

The specially designed course will guide participants through practical applications of drones for commercial use, including still photography, elaborate topographical surveys, 3D point cloud scanning, orthomosaics, utility inspections and thermal imaging.

Run by an ex-military and commercial drone pilot with expert knowledge, the course allows ample time for construction employees to pass their practical assessment, and to compile their operations manual records ready for submission to the CAA.



It also provides detailed training in air law and regulations, meteorology and weather operation, navigation and air space, map exercises, aircraft knowledge, airmanship and safety, human factors and operating procedure, which will equip construction workers with the knowledge to use their equipment safely and confidently in their work setting.

The Yorkshire-based course includes two nights' accommodation and also offers a no-resit fee deal, which means those who require more air time aren't penalised. The course costs £1100+ VAT, and includes access to a Drone Academy Members Club.

Tim Morley, business unit manager at DronesDirect.co.uk said, "As with the recreational use of drones, the commercial use of drones and unmanned aerial vehicles, in particular within the construction industry, has become more commonplace. For safety and legal reasons, it is vital that employees using drones on site are qualified and their use is considered and responsible.

"Compliance with the CAA rules and holding PfCO accreditation is written into UK law and therefore anyone wishing to incorporate a drone and its technologies into their workings on site are required to hold this accreditation. For us at DronesDirect.co.uk, as an advocate of safe drone usage, providing a course for use in construction projects was a no-brainer and this is an extension of our commitment to the responsible use of drones."

The largest UK drones retailer operates a 'try before you buy' service on the latest drones within its dedicated in-store Drone Zone.

DronesDirect.co.uk has previously pledged its commitment to helping ensure safe and responsible drone usage via its Customer Charter, and has called on other major retailers to follow its lead.

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Blue London Appoint Danny Morgan as Sales Director

Blue Group has appointed Danny Morgan as Sales Director of the Crushing and Screening Division at the Blue London Office, following outstanding success in developing the 'Blue Used Equipment' part of the business over the last 18 months.

Danny brings with him a wealth of experience having joined the industry back in 1998, and has a proven track record in not only growing sales, but also overseeing long term strategic development. Over the years Danny has worked for numerous machinery brands, developing long-lasting customer relations within the market.

Having worked in the States as well as Europe throughout his distinguished career, it has

meant that Danny has not only built considerable product knowledge but also acquired a strong understanding of the crushing and screening industry in general. His achievements for Blue within the 'Used' sector have been quite remarkable, selling over £7million worth of equipment to customers across the globe in 2016.

"I'm very excited to be taking this next step in my career with Blue Machinery. We have a great customer base in London who know the value of high quality, reliable machinery to their businesses, which gives me confidence that we can meet our ambitious plans for the future. I am looking forward to getting started, speaking to customers old and new to ensure we continue to deliver valuable, ongoing solutions to our clients."

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view from the cab

BREFFNI GROUP ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH MODIFIED NC ENGINEERING DUMPER



The Breffni Group has gained unrivalled expertise in rail development, having worked at the forefront of Irish rail construction and upgrading since the 1980's. As such, the company utilises a fleet of specialist machinery – like an innovatively adapted NC Engineering 5.1 cube SW9 dumper. Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out more.

Based at Kilsallaghan in Co.Dublin, Breffni's fleet of rail plant includes rail roaders, rail dumpers, teleporters and mobile cranes, all of which are fitted with high specification safety requirement features such as height limiters, slew limiters, ongoing valve checks and reversing cameras.

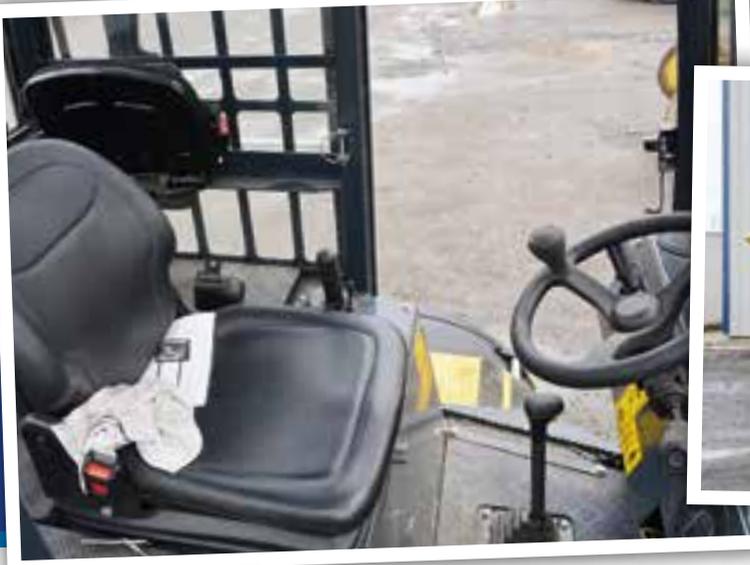
Add to that, artic and tipper trucks, track and mobile excavators, dozers and dump trucks, crushing and screening machinery and a number of smaller plant items, and you can appreciate this is a company that employs only the very best machines that are fit for purpose.

Supplied by County Kildare based FJS Plant, the latest addition includes an NC Engineering's SW9-12RRV which has been specially adapted to work on the railways; the Breffni Group now has four of these dumpers.

"It was a challenging modification," says NC Engineering's senior design engineer David Wilson. "For example, we had to produce a bigger skip to provide more capacity. It had to accommodate more than five cubic metres; a normal SW9 holds less. In addition, control mechanisms for lowering the railway gear had to be incorporated into the dumper which was also fitted with a cab, front and rear cameras and LED lighting."



view from the cab



The dumper has been earning its keep on a variety of railway contracts in the Irish Republic – from excavations to track renewals.

The Breffni Group's Kenny Conlon is full of praise for both NC Engineering and dealers FJS Plant for their cooperation and understanding in meeting the company's specific requirements.

"We are very happy with the finished product," he says. "The team at NC Engineering – and at FJS Plant - worked closely with us throughout the process to provide exactly what we needed; any changes we asked for were readily made.

High Visibility

"The cab is of a much higher spec than you might get on other dumpers. It's the best cab we have come across. Because much of our work on the railways has to be completed overnight, and right throughout the seasons, it has to offer a comfortable and safe environment for the operator.

"It provides the operator with all the creature comforts he needs, and vitally important he has an excellent all round view, thanks to the addition of front and rear cameras. By its very nature, railway work means crews have to operate in extremely limited and potentially dangerous

spaces, unlike in normal construction or roads projects, so safety is paramount.

"With that in mind, we also required extra lighting for night work and opted for LEDs as opposed to the traditional halogen lights – four at the front and four at the rear. An extra seat was also fitted to accommodate a railway inspector, so yes, there was a lot of modifications, which, of course, also included the railway gear fitted by Peter Hanlon Engineering in Kildare."

Other Features

Other features include adjustable suspension seat accessible from both sides, clear access across dumper via galvanised steps, an extra wide brake pedal, anti-slip floor, super bright warning lights & fuel gauge and a steel constructed centre console for extra leg protection, while the operator level gear selection lever comes with an integrated clutch button.

The hydraulically operated tipping skip, operated by a multi axis joystick for increased performance, swivels past 180° for easy placement when driving along trenches and there's a safety lock to hold the skip in a central position when travelling.

There's easy access for service & maintenance, with lockable hinged side panels and a battery that is mounted securely in the chassis.

"We can't fault the SW9-12RRV dumper; since acquired, it has been performing really well and there have been no issues with it," says Kenny.

SPECIFICATION

Capacity: Max Safe Load 9000kg; Heaped 5100L; Struck: 4145L; Water: 2475L

Engine: Deutz TCD 3.6; Displacement: 3.6L

Max. power: 74.4kW @ 2200rpm

Max. torque: 410Nm @ 1600rpm

Fuel: Diesel

Emissions: 97/68/EC

Transmission: Torque Converter c/w 4 speed forward and reverse power shuttle transmission and permanent 4 wheel drive

Steering: Priority load sensing hydrostatic centre pivot

Working brakes: Multi-plate oil immersed discs mounted on both axles

Park brake: Hand operated, locking on dry disc acting on gearbox



EDGE Innovate Voted 'Exporter of the Year'

EDGE Innovate, a County Tyrone based heavy equipment manufacturer that serves the quarrying and recycling industries, has been named as "Exporter of the year" at the recent Insider Media's "Made in the UK" awards.

EDGE Innovate made the shortlist of companies after picking up the "Made in NI" Exporter award at a ceremony held at the iconic Europa Hotel, Belfast on the 12th May 2017.

The Exporter award is presented to manufacturing companies based in United Kingdom that are deemed by the judges to be the best exporter, in terms of both international presence and percentage of total sales of products in the region.

The judging panel were impressed with the scale of ambition that EDGE Innovate has shown in its exporting strategies and its ability to take its products into challenging markets through a network of global distributors. The judges described the company as agile with a clear vision, and said exporting was in its DNA.

Established in 2009, EDGE Innovate design, manufacture and export world leading; material



The winning EDGE Innovate team receive their award

handling and recycling equipment throughout the world. Operating from their 150,000ft², state of the art, manufacturing facility, EDGE Innovate have quickly gained a competitive foothold into the material handling and recycling sector by offering an extensive product range. With innovation being a core ethos of the business, EDGE Innovate are frequently bringing new products to the market to meet the ever-changing demands of their customer base. EDGE Innovate currently offer a total of 24 innovative products from their material handling and recycling ranges.

Exceptional growth in exports for EDGE has been facilitated mainly by the introduction of their diverse recycling range launched in 2014. Currently exporting to 49 countries throughout the world, EDGE Innovate have unlocked a number of new markets over the past 12 months. In addition to this success, an increase demand for EDGE products in already established markets such as Australia, USA and Europe and see export figures rising. Turnover figures for the family run engineering firm have increased by 57% over the past 12 months.

To meet these growing demands on the business, EDGE Innovate has launched an ambitious 2020 strategic business strategy. Plans are in place for the upgrading and expansion of their existing assembly production facilities along with a new Customer Welcome Centre to house their ever expanding sales, marketing and aftersales departments, new staff welfare facilities, a Research and Development unit along with a new Quality Control Centre at their Dungannon headquarters.

The new, improved, larger manufacturing facilities and office space will enable EDGE Innovate to increase its production capacity and allow for the introduction of new production lines for the latest product innovations in an efficient manner. To support the rising demand for the EDGE brand of equipment and to minimise lead time; EDGE Innovate have expanded their workforce within their Dungannon headquarters by 15% with further plans for future expansion of their workforce in 2017.

£55 million A26 Frosses Road dualling scheme opens

The new £55 million A26 Frosses dual-carriageway from Glarryford to A44 Drones has opened; the new 8 kilometre road, which is used by 18,000 motorists daily, includes a new roundabout at the Drones Road and three flyover junctions.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Divisional Roads Manager Deidre Mackle

said: "The upgrade, which has retained the iconic Frosses Trees, will also have knock on impacts for the local economy and contribute to wider economic development for the region both in the short and in the long term."

Construction of the scheme by the Joint Venture of BAM McCann, commenced in early 2015 and provided employment

opportunities to seven people through the DEL Steps to Work programme in addition to five student placements over 40 weeks during construction.

Since construction began in January 2015, around 27 kilometres of drainage pipe has been laid, 32 kilometres of fencing erected, 24,000 tonnes of concrete poured and 280,000 tonnes of material laid in the pavement construction. In addition, 225,000 cubic meters of peat was excavated, some of which was utilised in a local bog regeneration initiative.

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OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF UK CONSTRUCTION WEEK 2017

A unique show designed to bring together the leading voices of the construction industry.

UK Construction Week, the largest gathering of the UK's built environment community announces its return to Birmingham NEC from 10 – 12 October 2017, where it will host the most popular event in the construction calendar.

Set to be its biggest yet with nine specialist shows under one roof, the show already has a stellar line up of speakers secured from Urban Splash, NHS, Heathrow, Cast Consultancy, Kier and Network Rail.

In the face of change and political uncertainty, UK Construction Week's main stage will host debates on the industry's leading issues and trends, including the housing shortage, diversity, how to tackle the skills crisis, building in a pre and post Brexit Britain, and adopting modern methods of construction. Commanding audiences of more than 300, the panel discussions will be anchored by leading journalists and industry commentators including architect and TV star George Clarke, award winning broadcaster Steph McGovern and renowned architecture critic Tom Dyckhoff, while the individual shows will explore sector-specific issues and solutions.

Offsite construction will be a major theme, with a new dedicated offsite theatre and awards programme supported by Modular and Portable Building Association (MPBA) and Structural Timber Association (STA). As the industry continues to embrace the

latest technologies that allow it to build quicker, more efficiently and at a quality not achievable before, the show will feature hundreds of exhibitors specialising in offsite, including Portakabin, Containex, and Wernick Group, making it the perfect opportunity for visitors to find out why offsite construction will become the way to build in the future.

Nathan Garnett, Event Director at Media 10, which runs the show, said: "The UK's construction industry is more topical than ever. Not only is it at the forefront of political debate and public opinion, it's also clear that we're moving towards a new age of innovation and change with topics such as off-site construction, modular and BIM driving so many conversations. This will be our biggest event to date, and we're looking forward to bringing the industry together to debate, learn and do business, as well as showcase a diverse range of products and services."

Innovation

One of UK Construction Week's main aims is to act as a showcase for innovation in the industry, whether it's new ways of working, sustainable products or evolving technologies. The Innovation Trail will bring visitors the latest products, services and innovations that are changing the way we build and have never previously been showcased in the UK. Companies can apply for their product to feature on the Innovation Trail by visiting the website.

A number of new, specialist awards will also feature at this year's event. These include: Low

Carbon Vehicles Awards, BIM Awards, Offsite Awards and the WAN Transport, Concrete in Architecture and Adaptive Reuse Awards. The UK's best companies in the industry will also be recognised at the Construction Enquirer Awards on the opening night of the show.

Consisting of Build Show, Timber Expo, Civils Expo, Plant & Machinery Live, Energy 2017, Smart Buildings 2017, Surface & Materials Show (featuring Kitchens & Bathrooms Live), HVAC 2017 and Grand Designs Live, UK Construction Week caters for the entire spectrum of the industry from builders, architects, innovators and consultants, each show provides exhibitors with the opportunity to network alongside decision makers and purchasers while showcasing their services and products to thousands of visitors.

Running into the evening, entertainment will include a casino night at the Genting International Casino with exclusive discounts for exhibitors and visitors, a dodgeball tournament and the return of the popular beer and ale festival.

As one of the leading voices of the construction industry, UK Construction Week 2017 will deliver its most comprehensive and diverse show to date with support from leading associations including The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Construction Products Association (CPA) and Builders Merchants Federation (BMF).

For more information and free registration visit www.ukconstructionweek.com



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sleator plant

Sleator Plant Gets a First Time Fix with V20



Graham Construction purchased Generac V20 lighting towers from Sleator Plant

Sleator Plant has bolstered its lighting tower portfolio with secured orders for the new V20 mobile lighting tower from Generac Tower Light.

Launched in February, the V20 tower light was designed to celebrate Generac Tower Light's 20th anniversary in the industry, and this recent order also marks Sleator Plant's 20 years in selling plant throughout Northern Ireland.

Jonathan Campbell, General Manager, Sleator Plant said: "We have a reputation for supplying top quality brands and following an initial enquiry from a customer, we researched the market to gauge whether there was appetite and demand for mobile lighting in Northern Ireland.

"We found that many of our customers were looking to reinvest in their fleets with state of the art and efficient products. This demand coupled with new government initiatives to support infrastructure and construction projects, presented us with enough market intelligence and we felt it was an ideal time to invest and introduce new products, which would also complement our existing brand portfolio."

The V20 from Generac Tower Light blends sleek, contemporary Italian design with powerful performance, and robust structure.

During the product design and production process the Generac Tower Light team focused on creating and manufacturing

a product with extremely low fuel consumption and low carbon emissions, improved visibility and access for service.

The gull-winged doors, not only give this lighting tower an iconic and exclusive look but are practical, to give compactness, allowing 14 machines to be transported to site, and provide complete 360 access to the engine for easy maintenance, whilst the back door provides access to the control panel.

The V20 is an ideal machine suited to infrastructure projects and urban construction as its one of the quietest lighting towers on the market, with just 58 db(A) at 7-metres noise level. The V20 can also offer up to 180 hours of operation by harnessing fuel efficiency from the Kubota engine and efficient LED lamp heads.

Brian Frizzell, Sales Representative at Sleator Plant continues: "After reviewing a number of companies and products on the market, we felt the V20 offered us a leading edge. It looks different; it's highly powerful with strong and instant LED lamps, and efficient on fuel."

Based in Mallusk, Sleator Plant currently employs 13 people of which eight are in the aftermarket team focused on delivering first rate customer service, technical advice and maintenance.

Ensuring a strong and knowledgeable after-sales service is also one of the core objectives of Generac Tower Light. Through its OEM relationships, it is committed to developing a

hands-on and efficient global service network via its local service centres which offer first rate and professional care to customers.

Jonathan Campbell continued: "Through our network and product sourcing, we want to offer our customers cost effective and contemporary products so they can have access to the latest kit, benefit from good return on investment and receive excellent aftercare from us. But we also look at how easy it is to maintain and upkeep the products for our service engineers who are measured on customer response times and first-time fix.

"The V20 is competitively priced for such an advanced and quality focused mobile lighting tower but importantly it was the ethos and passion for immediate and responsive service which attracted us to work with Generac Tower Light."

The V20 lighting towers arrived at Sleator Plant in June and have been sold to Graham Construction.

David Gray, Area Sales Manager, Generac tower light said: "When we met with Sleator Plant we were impressed by the company's energy to promote quality service and product design across its customer base. We are very much looking forward to growing our reputations to mutual benefit and are delighted to introduce the new V20 to their range."

The new V20 tower light is available now from Generac and is available for demo.



Graham Construction branded V20 lighting towers from Generac.

SME PLANT SALES: Expanding Its Hire Business

SME Plant Sales is stepping up its activities in the hire market, with a focus on demolition and recycling attachments.

Based on the Airways Industrial Estate at Cloghran outside Dublin, SME Plant Sales has built up a loyal customer base over the years, not least because of its high level of service and support.

As a distributor of the Hammer range of demolition equipment and Komplet Recycling Systems, the company, which is headed up by Michael O’Leary and sales directors Dan Daly and Eoin Treacy, has already has a firm footing in the hire market across the island of Ireland and is currently building up its stocks of attachments as it continues to expand in the rental sector.

The company’s aim is to have the largest fleet of demolition attachments for hire in the country over the next couple of years.

“We believe there is great potential for growth in both the north and south of Ireland, especially among the smaller operators in

the demolition and recycling sectors,” says Michael. “We already have good customers right across the country - from Antrim and Monaghan to Cork and Donegal.”

The company’s expanding attachment stocks for hire include crushing and screening buckets, breakers for micro diggers, grabs for three tonne mini excavators upwards, and hydraulic compactor plates for 10 to 45 tonne, as well as pulverisers and mobile crushers and recycling systems to target a broad range of customers such as small builders, landscaping contractors and even utility companies.

“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.

“We have good availability and if we haven’t any particular item in stock we can quickly source it for the customer,” says Michael.

“Everything that leaves our depot will be fully serviced and maintained, and we can also arrange for delivery and collection of the equipment on a country-wide basis.”



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AB2000 double production with the Sandvik QJ341+ jaw crusher

Scottish company AB2000 Ltd visited Hillhead last year and were so impressed with the QJ341+ on display that they decided to purchase this latest addition to the Sandvik range of jaw crushers there and then. Since it was delivered they have seen a marked increase in production, almost doubling capacity over their previous model.

AB2000 Ltd in Scotland specialise in the supply of both operated and self-drive machinery, including crushing and screening equipment, for the construction industry. Incorporated in 1995 by Adam Bruce, who has over 50 years' experience of the operated plant hire industry, the company is now Scotland's largest privately owned hirer of operated plant and equipment.

A longstanding customer of Sandvik, AB2000's relationship started with the mobile crushing and screening manufacturer almost fifteen years ago with the Extec brand. Over the years they have purchased a number of machines for their expanding fleet and now own five crushers; one QJ241, three QJ341s, and a QJ341+ . Already familiar with the Sandvik QJ341 mobile jaw crusher, Chris Brown, General Manager for AB2000 visited Hillhead in June 2016 and was interested to see the latest addition to the range, the QJ341+ on display. This new model encompasses the same characteristics as the QJ341 but is fitted with a double deck

pre-screen and a number of additional benefits for improved efficiency, safety and operation. Chris describes the advantages of the pre-screen and why he was impressed with the new model. "I liked the idea of the screen and the improved production. In a recycling environment it gives us the option to produce a graded stone, a Type 1 material, which

QJ341+. We are actually running somewhere in the region of 300-350 tonnes per hour in comparison to the QJ341 which was doing 150-200 tonne per hour, so production's well up as far as I'm concerned and I'm more than happy with it." AB2000 are currently using the QJ341+ for a crushing contract at a limestone quarry to process

are mobility, quick set-up and ease of operation. "After arrival on site, the machine can be tracked into position, hopper wings folded up, jacking legs down, adjust your jaw and away you go. It's very, very straightforward," says Chris. One new feature which AB2000 particularly like on the QJ341+ is the self-locking hopper. The hydraulically folding design eliminates the need for an operator to climb onto the machine. It is therefore easier, quicker and safer to set-up as this can all be done from ground level.

Another feature they like is the control system which is common across the Sandvik Premium range of crushers. The machine is fitted with a PLC control system and a colour screen which allows visual data output of all plant operating parameters. This is simple to operate and all their fitters are well versed in the running of their fleet making the progression from one model to the next an easy transition.

Over the years AB2000 has built up a reputation as a leading plant hire company in Scotland and therefore need a reliable equipment supplier. The aftermarket support is therefore an essential aspect to their business. Chris concludes: "The backup and aftersales support of the machines is pretty good. Generally any problems that we have on site, we phone in and there's a fitter sent to site tout suite, so we are quite happy and have no complaints on that side."



Chris Brown, General Manager

is popular with our customers. In a quarry environment we can scalp out the material and be a bit more accurate so we're not wasting as much of the raw product to put forward into the secondary process" says Chris. AB2000 have been very pleased with the increased production with the QJ341+ jaw crusher and cost per tonne is looking very good says Chris. "At Hillhead Sandvik were stating an increase in production of 30% with the

25,000 tonnes of crushed stone for a blend in the concrete plant. The -500mm raw material is fed into the QJ341+ which is then crushed down to 4" and fed into a cone crusher with a CSS set at approx. 25-28mm. The crushed limestone is then fed into a double deck screen and reduced to a clean 20-25mm product.

Simple and safer

For a plant hire company, key benefits of the Sandvik QJ341+

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TEREX | FINLAY 'ROCK' EDINBURGH WITH SPECTACULAR MODEL LAUNCHES AT CUSTOMER OPEN DAYS

Terex | Finlay recently hosted an international open day in Edinburgh, Scotland, an event that had a very international feel with dealers and end-user customers in attendance from North and South America, Europe, Russia, Japan and South Africa.

In total over 350 dealers and customers visited the site over the two days during which time there were products demonstration hosted by Alex Brewster & Sons, Craigpark Quarry, Edinburgh.

At the event Terex|Finlay unveiled three brand new models: J-1160 and J-1170 (direct drive) jaw crushers and I-120RS impact crusher.

In addition of the prototype model 684 3-deck inclined screener that will be launched in Q4, 2017, was also showcased.

The onsite demonstrations featured nine Terex|Finlay machines in five working demonstration zones as well as nine machines on static display.

The headline act in Demonstration Area 1 featured the new J-1160 jaw crusher, C-1540 cone crusher and new 684 3-deck prototype working in a train.

The J-1160 jaw crusher builds upon the success of its predecessor, with the proven and aggressive Terex 1000 x 600mm (40" x 24") jaw chamber integrated onto the plant. The chamber is driven by a Bosch Rexroth hydrostatic system for variable speed and functionality of being able to crush in reverse in certain applications such as recycling 'black top' and C&D waste.

The second generation new Terex Finlay 684 screener, meanwhile, has been designed with the customer and operator in mind.

There are a number of important design updates that set this machine apart from its predecessor. For ease of onsite movement and rapid setup and tear down times the overall machine and conveyor folding design has been simplified and reconfigured to give rapid on site deployment. Retained is the original screenbox that features three large 4.3 x 1.7m (14' x 5' 7") inclined screens giving a large screening area of 236 square ft to provide efficient screening and high capacity.

Direct Drive

The second Demonstration Area featured the new J-1170 (direct drive) jaw crusher working alongside the recently launched TC-80 tracked conveyor.

The J-1170DD builds on the legacy created by the original J-1170 Jaw Crusher. Terex|Finlay have taken all the great features from the original machine and added additional



features. The direct drive arrangement between the powerunit and chamber enables operators to maximise fuel economy. On site comparisons have been completed with excellent results achieved so far. To further reduce fuel consumption they have installed an efficient load sensing Danfoss PVG hydraulic system. This ensures only the oil that is required is utilised.

Demonstration Area 3 featured the Terex|Finlay 883+ Spaleck recycling screen working in a contaminated and sticky soil application, while in Demonstration Area 4 was the recently launched Terex | Finlay I-140 impact crusher working in a C&D recycling application.

Impact Crusher

Meanwhile, Demonstration Area 5 saw the new I-120RS impact crusher with recently launched 674 inclined screen at work.

The I-120RS impact crusher has been developed to replace the current I-110RS model. As a response to market led feedback Terex|Finlay have integrated the enhanced material flow process through the plant that was initially proven in their recently introduced I-140 and I-140RS models. Terex|Finlay have proven increased productivity from the plant through extensive field testing in a range of recycling and mineral processing applications.

In addition to the working machine displays the following machines were also on static display: 863 & 883+ heavy duty scalpers, 595 heavy duty grid, 693+ inclined screen, J-960 Jaw Crusher, J-1170 Jaw Crusher and C-1545 Cone Crusher.



Busy Year

Nigel Irvine, Sales Director, commented on the event: "It was a huge pleasure to welcome so many international dealers and end-user customers to yet another successful Terex|Finlay open day. Innovation is at the heart of Terex|Finlay mission and vision.

"We've had yet another busy year of new product developments and its gratifying to receive such positive feedback on our efforts. We place a lot of emphasis on listening to what our customers' tell us they want and

need from their equipment day in day out and judging by the feedback that we have received on the new product launches we are definitely on the right track with our new product development initiatives.

"To our hosts, Alex and Scott Brewster, "We owe you a huge debt of gratitude! Working with you was a pleasure from start to finish, and we feel so honored to have had access to such a great site. Thank you for making our open days, the success of the event was in large part due to you guys and your committed colleagues!"



Pirtek Belfast Appoint Centre Manager

Pirtek Belfast's new Centre Manager Don Gawley brings with him a wealth of experience having served his time as an electrical engineer before moving into avionics working for Bombardier, initially as an Avionics Technician and finishing his time there as a Quality Control Manager.

Don then moved into the plant industry in 1994 joining Northern Group as a Service Manager where he was responsible for the day to day running of the busy workshop and mobile service engineers. He then gained over 18 years with JCB representatives in Northern Ireland, BC Plant, as Aftermarket Manager where Don was responsible for the service and parts operations.

Don is keen to get 'stuck in' at Pirtek stating: "I have extensive experience in electro-hydraulic systems and in the plant industry in general and am looking forward to putting this experience to good use within Pirtek.

"From what I have seen so far, Pirtek is a progressive company that very much put their customer needs first and customers would be hard pressed to find the level of

service and quality from any other supplier in Northern Ireland."

Don will be responsible for the general day to day running of the busy Belfast depot as well as looking after and providing technical back up to the growing team of Mobile Service Technicians.

Commented Managing Director David Adams: "Having Don on board boosts our knowledge and experience of the Plant industry and coupled with the additional Mobile Service Technicians and Mobile Workshops we have recently secured strengthens our position and ability to provide our customers with the best and most reliable Onsite Hose Replacement Service, anywhere in Northern Ireland and, as part of the wider Pirtek network, through UK, Ireland and Europe.

"We are also delighted to welcome back to the fold one of our Mobile Technicians, Alan Craig, who had left us a few years ago to pursue another career but missed the buzz of the job and is back with us bringing our numbers to six mobile technicians! Popular with staff and customers alike, it's great to see Alan back!"



Pirtek Belfast's new Centre Manager Don Gawley.

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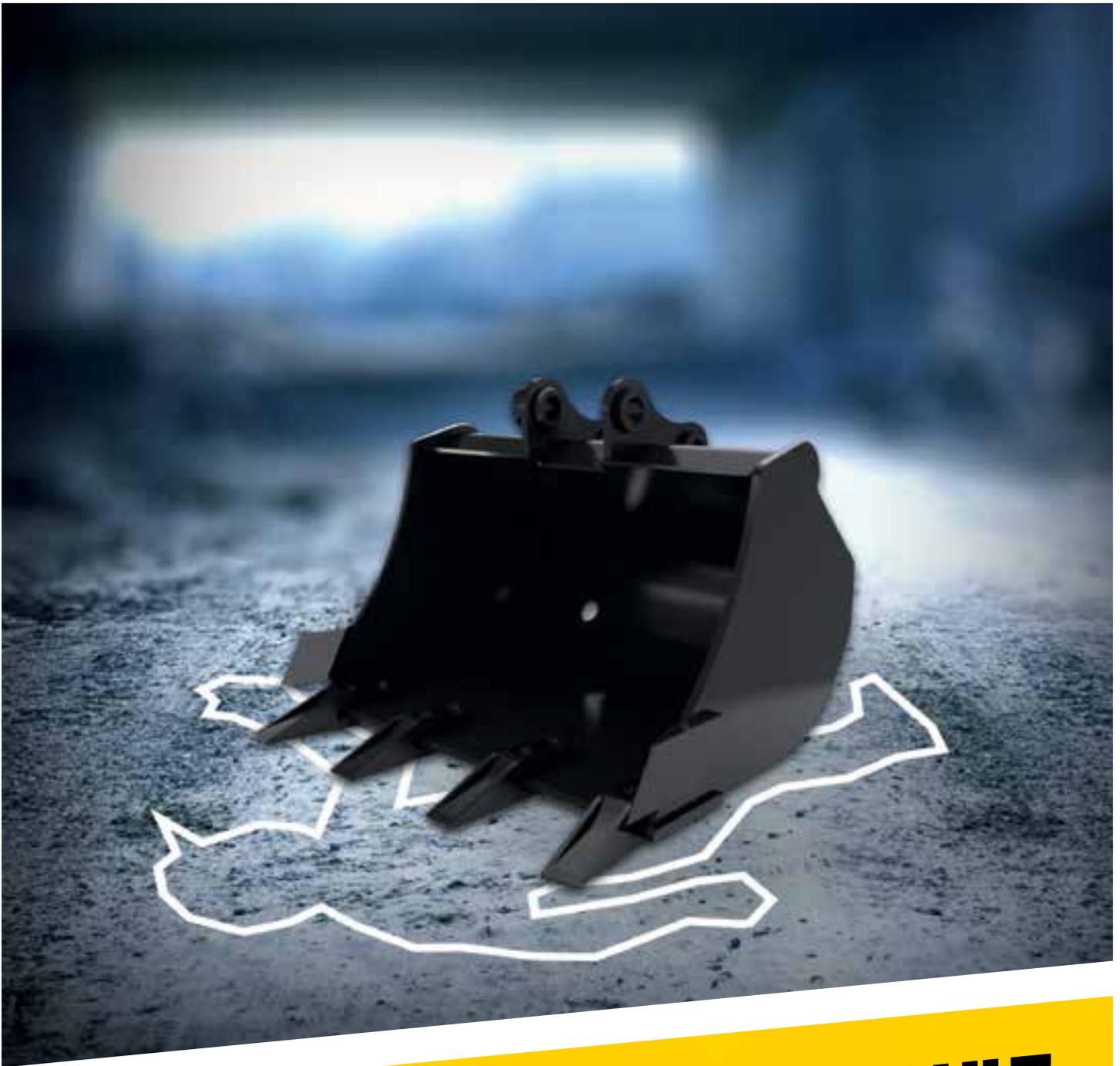
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TILTROTATOR TRAILBLAZER INVESTS IN LATEST ENGCON TECHNOLOGY

Since investing in their first Engcon EC15 tiltrotator four years ago Jamieson Contracts, based in Broughshane, County Antrim, haven't looked back. Now this trailblazing groundworks business from Northern Ireland has taken the next step in tiltrotator technology with a Generation 2 Engcon EC214.

Says Company Director, Stuart Jamieson: "I'd seen tiltrotators being demonstrated at trade shows and had a test drive so I could see the potential."

Before taking the plunge, however, Stuart took time to read test reviews in magazines and user's comments online. Convinced by the many positive reports, he finally decided to invest in an Engcon EC15B fitted to a New Holland 135. Still going strong, the tiltrotator has since been swapped onto a Case CX130C.

"When we first got the Engcon," says Stuart, "I couldn't believe how much difference it made to be able to tilt and rotate the bucket, particularly when grading or backfilling trenches. We certainly haven't been disappointed with our initial investment and that's why we've just added another Engcon system to our fleet."

New addition

Stuart's latest acquisition consists of a Hitachi ZX130 with 2.5m dipper, equipped

with a fully integrated Engcon package, including EC214 tiltrotator, EC-Oil, QS60 quick hitch and MIG 2 controls. The company's new addition marks a change from a PUP (Pick Up Pin) hitch to Engcon's QS60, featuring Q-Safe, one of the world's safest quick hitch systems with innovative safety functions and warning systems.

Stuart comments: "As well as being super-safe, the QS60 allows us to drop the Engcon off whenever we need to. We couldn't do this with the PUP hitch which was a pain, especially when working on narrow trenches. Everyone I spoke to said Engcon's QS60 was the best so we went for it."

Best decision

John Craig, a dealer and Engcon Service Partner at JCC Engcon Group in Stirlingshire, supplied Stuart's new EC214 system.

"John did an excellent job," praises Stuart. "He also persuaded me to get EC-Oil, Engcon's hydraulic and electrical tool connection system. I was sceptical at first but now I wouldn't go back, which is exactly what John predicted – and he was right!" says Stuart with a smile.

EC-Oil enables instant tool and attachment changes directly from the cab. It is specially adapted for Engcon's





Generation 2 tiltrotators and Q-Safe quick hitch lock.

Stuart continues: "It works a treat when pouring concrete in foundations. No spillage up the sides and the concrete goes where it's needed. And when we're bedding pipes, the stone is placed exactly over the pipe. It has improved efficiency and often means we can reduce the number of men on site. EC-Oil was one of the best business decisions I've ever made."

"The product is great and so is the support. Members of the Engcon team I've met at shows still keep in touch and their service partner, John Craig, is a star. What more could you want?"

// *I'd seen tiltrotators being demonstrated at trade shows and had a test drive so I could see the potential."*

*Stuart Jamieson,
Company Director*



QPANI'S ANNUAL JOINT INDUSTRY CHARITY GOLF DAY

A huge THANK YOU! to everyone who took part or supported through sponsorship the Joint Industry Charity Golf day.

Following a successful day of golfing the event raised an amazing £5530 in total and cheques for £2765 will be presented to each of the nominated charities in the near future.

Joint Industry Golf Day

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Steven Caldwell receiving the CIHT Harold Scott Trophy

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Nearest the Pin: 4th hole	Robert Peden, Tennants Bitumen
Nearest the Pin: 11th hole	Paddy Reid
1st Team Prize	Atlantic Bitumen
2nd Team Prize	CDE
3rd Team Prize	QPANI
Best Nett	Ray Hogg, Macrete
2nd Nett	Ken Hood, Atlantic Bitumen
Best Gross	Olcan Kearny, Mattest



Ray Hogg winner Best Nett



Ken Hood winner 2nd Nett



Olcan Kearny winner Best Gross



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CASE
CONSTRUCTION

view from the cab

CASE CX26C FITS THE BILL AT KELLY NEW HOMES

Newry based Kelly New Homes' new Case CX26C has proved a big winner with its operator, Joseph O'Hare. He's been driving excavators for more than a decade and says this latest Case outshines them all. Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the view from the cab.

Since its launch as part of a six-strong line-up of mini excavators from Case, the 2.6 tonne CX26C has gained a reputation for its excellent working range, best-in-class reach and dig depth, as well as its ample boom swing angles.

Joe has been operating it for just a couple of months, but already he has got nothing but good to say about it.

"My last Case CX was an excellent machine, but this new upgrade is better still," says Joe. "It offers more space, greater comfort, better visibility, and a more powerful and smooth performance."

Certainly, the tracked CX26C enjoys the benefits of a host of features that combine to make the operator's work easier, more comfortable and, consequently, more productive – all of which is essential as

Kelly New Homes keep their machines busy on a wide variety of projects, from site works and house building to rock breaking and landscaping.

"A lot of our work is carried out on sites with limited space or access, and the CX26C, with its zero tail swing, is easily manoeuvrable and can reach areas that other bigger machines can't," adds Joe.

He is also impressed by the comfortable cab. "The working environment couldn't be better. I have a great all-round view from my seat, and it's also very quiet; you wouldn't even know the engine was running."

A sliding fold-in front window can be easily opened and safely stored in an open position to further improve ventilation and visibility, while other standard equipment includes weight adjustable suspension seat, radio USB with 2 speakers, foldable pedals, multiple storage compartments and air conditioning.

Easy to Operate

It's easy to operate, too, says Joe, thanks to ergonomically placed joysticks and a digital instrument cluster that is easy to read, providing such information as fuel level, engine coolant temperature, travel speed, engine oil pressure, and battery charging.

The first and second joystick-controlled auxiliary hydraulics make it possible to use a wide variety of attachments – Kelly New Homes opted for a rock hammer attachment, switching to which is made easy thanks to an hydraulic Quick Coupler. There's also a pilot system with an accumulator that enables the operator to put the attachment down safely even when the engine is off

Safety Features

No construction work is without its potential dangers, but the Case CX26C boasts an array of safety features.

These include ROPS, TOPS and FOPS compliance, emergency stop switch that immediately stops the engine in case of an emergency, an optional travel alarm

Standard Spec

- Kubota D1305 Engine
- Rubber tracks 250 mm
- Long arm 1350 mm
- ROPS / TOPS / FOPS compliant Cab / Canopy
- Emergency stop switch
- Pilot system with accumulator
- 2 speed travel with auto shift-down system
- 1st auxiliary 2-way circuit controlled with pedal
- Foldable boom swing pedal
- Suspension seat with seatbelt
- Radio / USB
- Standard anti-theft with interval setting function
- Waterproof digital instrument cluster
- Centralized greasing inlet



that alerts the people near the machine when it moves forward or backward, and an object handling kit, which includes safety valves on the boom and arm, lifting hook on bucket linkage, and an overload alarm to handle heavy weights safely. The safety valves prevent loads from slipping in case of hose failure.

As with all models in the C-Series, it also comes with an anti-theft Engine Start Limitation (ESL) which requires a 5-digit code that can be set by the operator to any one of three options – always on, which



means the ESL is engaged every time the machine is shut off; at intervals, meaning ESL is engaged after a pre-defined interval of shut off; or completely disabled.

"This is a very useful feature," says Joe. "It is especially useful when engaged in road work projects; you can safely leave the machine knowing it won't be stolen in your absence. On site works, the 'interval' mode is more appropriate."

The CX26C has been designed for easy routine serviceability, with a logical service

point layout, convenient check points, and easy-to-remove side panels for full maintenance and repair access, as well as two-piece blade hydraulic hoses.

And adds Joe: "The back-up and support we get from Cowan Bros is second to none. We have several other Case machines, including a 130C and a 210D, and if ever we need to call on the dealers, we have every confidence they will be there for us."

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



Gordon Best, QPANI

POLITICIANS NEED TO FIND AGREEMENT WITHOUT DELAY

The result of the June 8th General Election has again highlighted how little mind sets and fears have changed in the past 20 years since the Good Friday Agreement was signed. In times of strife and uncertainty the electorate in NI seem to turn to the more extremes in politics because they feel that is the safest place to be and the only way they can be assured their constitutional and identity interests and aspirations can be safeguarded. Compromise goes out the window to the detriment of all.

The position we now find ourselves in cannot be underestimated. The repercussions of not finding an agreed and sustainable political way forward to both getting a working Assembly and Executive up and running and secondly an agreed plan to deal with Brexit implications are very serious indeed. I am sure I speak for all of you, and indeed the rest of my Construction Industry colleagues in NICG, in encouraging our Politicians to go the extra mile in reaching agreement.

Recent surveys and opinion polls are showing the effects of the political impasse and fears over Brexit. Locally we have seen a slow down in tenders coming out from the public sector due to budget uncertainties. The financial agreement of £1.5 billion for Northern Ireland secured by the DUP is to be welcomed. However given the political uncertainty that prevails and falling confidence it is essential this money finds its way onto the ground as quickly as possible. QPANI are currently lobbying Government Departments and senior officials to ensure that any funding, either new or unspent current money, is allocated or reallocated to Departments that can spend it quickly. Delivery is paramount!!

On a wider context, workloads have slowed across all sectors of the construction industry in the UK as Brexit delays investment.

Recent surveys from the Ulster Bank and RICS say the UK's decision to leave the EU continues to impact on investment in NI, in particular demand from foreign investors has fallen for the fifth quarter in succession.

Overall, most of the indicators for Northern Ireland remain positive, but there has been a softening and slowing down in activity in

the data compared to the previous quarter. Economic indicators for the Northern Ireland economy in the second quarter of the year suggest a more cautious approach by businesses and consumers. The general view from all business organisations is that a local Executive would be best placed to ensure the delivery of long-term policies and decision-making that are vital to the development and growth of the economy.

Skills Shortages

Skills shortages are affecting every industry sector in Northern Ireland. The challenge is that all sectors are competing to attract young people from a reducing pool of potential recruits. It is therefore essential that we as an industry agree our "Industry Value Proposition". Basically what is it that makes working in our sectors an attractive and welcoming career opportunity?

We also need to identify priorities for our sectors, where the main challenges lie in achieving these objectives and working with Government stakeholders to reduce challenges and promote our vitally important industry sectors. To take this forward a QPANI group of HR Professionals from within the Industry intend to begin work and agree terms of reference on a collaborative strategy, supported by Invest NI and the Department of Economy that will help increase the pool of potential recruits to the construction materials manufacturing and materials handling sectors.

Health & Safety

QPANI work on Health and Safety continues with us supporting the recent initiative by HSENI to improve the management of dust in quarries across Northern Ireland. The strategy is aimed at improving and sharing best practice in relation to total inhalable dust, respirable dust and respirable crystalline silica in the NI quarry industry. Our QPANI health and safety committee are fully supportive of this strategy and will be assisting members in achieving the targets and practices outlined in the strategy.

The Association will also be holding two "Safer by Leadership" events on the 5th and 6th September. This short seminar

is based on the IOSH Leading Safely Course and will cover topics such as:

The difference between Managing and Leading Health & Safety

Recognising the value of strategic safety and health and its integration into business management system and performance

Understanding your safety and health responsibilities

Appreciating the consequences of poor safety and health in your organisation

Understanding the importance of adequately resourcing your safety and health management system

Knowing why you should monitor and review your safety and health performance.

Invitations will be sent to all QPANI Member Principals shortly. We would encourage anyone interested in attending to register as quickly as possible as we anticipate significant interest in the course.

Planning

On the planning front we continue to make submissions to the ongoing local councils local development plan process consultations. To date we are happy that those councils who have consulted on their preferred options papers have been listening to PQNI and are clearly recognising the importance of the minerals and quarry products industry in their local areas. All Councils to date have recognised the need to identify and safeguard future aggregate resources.

We have been encouraging QPANI members to complete the resource and production surveys the Councils have sent to them in order to assist in developing a accurate supply and demand plan for the aggregates industry. There is also a commitment to develop a mineral plan between Belfast City Council and its neighbouring Councils to ensure an adequate and sustainable supply of construction aggregates to meet development demands within Belfast.

Finally...

I trust you have enjoyed the summer break so far and to those of you who are lucky enough to be still looking forward to a holiday may I wish you an enjoyable time with your family.

New generation wheel loaders from Wacker Neuson

Two largest wheel loader models from Wacker Neuson, WL60 and WL70 with an operating weight of six or seven tons, are now available with new engines and additional options. They thus meet the current exhaust emission standards, offer customers even more comfort for efficient and fatigue-free work and increase productivity.

Both wheel loaders WL60 and WL70 with bucket volumes of 1.0 and 1.1 cubic metres manage even difficult applications, thanks to their sturdy and powerful load arm design - with the highest lifting height in their class.

Three new Perkins engines are now available to choose from for the wheel loaders: The 55 kW version corresponds to exhaust standard stage IIIB. The 75 and 90 kW versions correspond to the emission standard level IV.

Both wheel loaders have a high level of stability thanks to the optimal weight distribution. An improved braking effect

is achieved by the use of a braking system with disk brakes. This provides increased safety while operating the machine, which especially pays off in the urban sector.

A 3.5-inch color display with more functions and clearly arranged control lights makes work easier for the operator. The "jog dial" press-push button also provides added comfort: Once the flow rate of the hydraulic oil has been set for a certain attachment,

this can easily be recalled time and again when necessary at the push of a button. The oil quantity setting is particularly advantageous when the machine is driving a hydraulic attachment that does not need the full hydraulic performance of the machine, such as a sweeper for example. The operator can thus work with the machine and attachment very sensitively and in a resource-conserving way.



The 100% connectable differential lock engages when necessary in order to work reliably on difficult terrain. The result: maximum propulsive forces with excellent traction. During normal driving operation, the lock is not enabled so as to protect the tires from unnecessary wear, but also to protect the ground surface.

An extremely practical option is available with the 40 km/h version. This makes it possible to move the machine between two application sites quickly and also makes working with attachments and transporting material even more efficient. Thanks to the wide variety of hydraulic options, the two wheel loaders are real equipment carriers and can thus be used very economically.

The most powerful high flow system in this wheel loader class pays off when attachments are used that require an increased hydraulic output. This makes it possible to easily operate a snow plow or asphalt milling unit for example. Using a hydraulic quick hitch system, the different attachments can be easily replaced from the operator's seat. In addition, different versions of rear hydraulics are available as well as a large selection of tires for any application.

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NEW Unused 5 axle Faymonville MAX step frame trailers, payload 65tons, extendable, option for hydraulic ramps.



NEW Faymonville Heavy Duty 4 axle step frame low loader, extendable, trough, rear steer, front lift axle, double flip ramps, 13" out riggers, hydraulic legs under rear.

NEW Faymonville MAX 3 axle step frame low loader, 478ton gross, double flip ramps, rear steer axle



NEW Schmitz aluminium tipping trailer, rear steer axle, front lift axle, roll over cover, option of steel body also



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

APPRENTICESHIPS ANSWER THE SKILLS SHORTAGE QUESTION

By Richard Kirk, Regional Director, Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Northern Ireland

Like the rest of the UK, Northern Ireland is facing a skills shortage over the next decade – with STEM sectors facing the biggest undersupplies. The government-produced Skills Barometer Report shows that IT and civil engineering top the list for Northern Ireland industries with highest demand. Not only that, but by 2021, we will have 10% less 18-year-olds to populate these much-needed jobs.

Last year, 86% of infrastructure providers were concerned that these shortages will deter the UK's ability to deliver future infrastructure projects, with concerns greatest among digital providers (91%). The infrastructure/construction industry needs to be finding and promoting opportunities now that will put the right people into the right jobs. One of the best ways to accomplish this is by championing apprenticeships.

Some circles in Northern Ireland still wrongly consider apprenticeships to be "Plan B," or less desirable than a university education. Collectively, we are not doing enough to promote and support apprenticeships – especially when compared to other countries. For example, Germany is a world leader in vocational training for young people – and has half the rate of unemployed youth that Northern Ireland has.

There has also been great uncertainty about the apprenticeship levy introduced in April this year. Unlike other parts of the UK, Northern Ireland does not have an implementation plan for the expenditure of levy funds. Worse, we have not had a functioning Executive for most of 2017. The promise of a plan for investment in skills still seems out of reach, and employers are understandably exasperated.

However, despite the current frustrations, the eventual investment in skills that the levy will bring is much needed in Northern Ireland. Our employers cannot afford to not invest in attracting and retaining a highly skilled workforce, as they will be competing against other sectors to get the best people from a smaller and smaller pool of people.

Work+

In response to the shortage, ICE has developed Work+, a civil engineering apprenticeship in conjunction with the Department for the Economy, 31 employers and all six of Northern Ireland's FE colleges. The programme commenced in September 2016 with 17 apprentices, and is set to have an even bigger intake for Autumn 2017.

Work+ provides a starting salary of £10,000, no educational debt, a professional qualification at the end of two years and a first step into a career as a civil engineer. Apprentices attend college on a day release

basis while working fulltime, earning while they learn and getting valuable experience from as young as age 16. Employers benefit as well: they can recruit talented people of all ages, oversee their development and secure their long-term commitment by instilling company values.

Though Work+ is only about to begin its second year, it has already proven how beneficial apprenticeships are to the apprentices, employers and wider industry. The programme is not merely a vehicle for recruiting apprentices. It is a framework which ensures that apprentices flourish both at FE and in their jobs, and that employers have the resources they need to support and mentor apprentices.

We need more of these partnerships between industry, FE and government to create career opportunities, provide the skilled people our sector needs, and push the Northern Ireland economy to thrive. We also absolutely need our government to provide clarity around the apprenticeship levy so that we can reinvest funds into skills and apprenticeship programmes as soon as possible. Lastly, we need to work even harder to show the public the myriad benefits apprenticeships have for all sections of society. By doing this, we will secure the skills we need to deliver infrastructure that supports our quality of life.



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



As the UK repositions its economy on the global stage, improving the performance of our infrastructure networks has never been more important.

ICE's digital transformation campaign is pushing industry to transform both the tools and approaches used to build, maintain and operate assets to:

- *Boost productivity by shifting from CAPEX to TOTEX*
- *Understand the behaviours and technologies that will improve outcomes*
- *Increase resilience against cybercrime - currently affecting 1 in 6 construction firms*

Explore the resources at ice.org.uk/digital.

 **#DigitalBuilt**

ice.org.uk/digital

KEY EVENTS

Shaping a Digital World

13 October, London

ice-digitalengineering.com

Transport Asset Management

21 November, London

ice-tam.com

QUARRY MARKING 25 YEARS OF TESAB MACHINES

A busy quarry owned by RJ Mittens in County Fermanagh has recently taken delivery of a new Tesab 800i Jaw Crusher and has already put it to good use at the quarry face.

Breaking blasted material to 150mm before it enters a screener to create 3 aggregate sizes: plus 40mm for secondary processing; 20-40mm for secondary processing and direct sales and minus 20mm for sale as blinding.

With a range of Tesab equipment already being used in the quarries, the decision to upgrade to a new Tesab 800i was very easy for the quarry owners. The Mitten family run two quarry sites in Fermanagh in the business that was started off by the late Robert Joe Mitten in 1969. Third generation Roy Mitten - along with his father Eric - now run the two quarries, which combined, produces up to 700,000 tonnes of material per year!

"My grandfather started back in 1969 with a sand and gravel pit in Derrylin," said Roy. "In the early 1980s we purchased Rockfield

Quarry at Lisnaskea and ten years later we also purchased the Magheradunbar Quarry. "We produce up to 700,000 tonnes of material a year from both sites, with 250,000 tonnes coming out of the Magheradunbar Quarry, supplying all sizes of aggregates as well as agricultural lime locally in Enniskillen. Our biggest customers are those involved in the precast and readymix industries," he said.

New Technology

The new Tesab 800i Jaw Crusher is the latest offering from the Omagh-based manufacturer and replaces the already established Tesab 10580 model. Designed specifically for crushing primary rock at the quarry face the 800i features Tesab's new and improved step deck vibrating feeders which helps the machine handle dry or wet material. Plus it has an independent two deck pre-screener for extra production.

Roy said: "We have been using Tesab equipment here for 25 years and for us the

brand has performed brilliantly over the years. Before the new Tesab was in operation here, we used the older model, the Tesab 10580, for eight years. Indeed, that machine gave us great service over the years but it did not have a pre-screen facility on it."

Roy adds: "This new 800i model is getting us over 400 tonnes per hour and comes with a secondary belt outlet which dispenses the finer grade material for immediate resale. We use it to break down the material from the quarry face to 150mm which is then screened, making the resulting material easier to handle. This machine will run all day, every day, and will put around 2,000 hours on the clock each year.

"On top of the additional outlet belt to the side of the Tesab 800i it also has a magic eye which keeps a control of all the material flowing into the jaws," Roy says. "If the operator puts too much in there, the machine automatically identifies this and stops the feed until the jaw is free from obstruction.



The new Tesab 800i Jaw Crusher

This prevents blockages and maintains a more consistent flow of material going through the machine and onto the screener."

Dedicated Machines

Across the two sites operated by the Mitten family they use three Tesab Jaw Crushers; two of the older 10580 models and the new 800i. They also have two Tesab Impact Crushers - the 1412T and 623CT. The two Tesab 10580 jaw crushers with extra deep jaws date back to 2005 and 2007 and are used across both the quarry sites. The 1412T is used as the main secondary crusher at the Enniskillen site and was purchased new in 2008. Most impressively however, they have one Tesab 623S static model that was bought new in 1993 and has been fully reconditioned by Roy and his team.

"The Tesab 623S has around 30,000 hours on it," said Roy. "We bought it in the early 90s and decided recently to refurbish the machine as it is still a vital piece of equipment here. It breaks material down from 70mm to 20mm and is powered by a Cat 3306 engine, which, from experience, we knew was a very reliable engine.

"The hopper was modified so we can fill it with the bigger loading shovels, the conveyor was extended and the engine was reconditioned. All this work should give it an even longer life with us. It really has given great service to our quarry," he said.



Still going strong - a Tesab 623S from 1992.

"The Tesab 1412 is powered by another Cat engine - the Cat C13 - which again is very reliable and has given very little bother over the years," he added.

Flagship Model

The new Tesab 800i was sold to the Mittens by Tesab Sales Executive Leon Connolly. He explained: "The 800i is the flagship model of the Tesab Crushers, designed for quarry operators looking for maximum output with minimal downtime. The 800i is a high

output, simple and highly reliable, primary jaw crusher, with no fancy electrics and no Canbus or PLC computer systems on board.

With the 800i we have listened to the market and retained the benefits of proven 10580, 24 ton jaw unit, along with a more streamlined feed system with a two deck independent pre-screen. This new model is improving production by over 25 per cent from the older model as well as providing a better quality material at less cost per ton."



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NEW ACADEMY BASED AT ITS IN PORTADOWN OPENS GATEWAY TO EMPLOYMENT

A newly-launched National Construction Skills Academy (NCSA) in Portadown is to provide 10 full-time jobs for its first intake of students.

The NCSA, based at Industry Training Services (ITS), provides tuition across several trades including groundworks, joinery, bricklaying, plastering, tiling, structural steel erection and steel-fixing.

Its initial course in groundworks – a unique qualification for the industry – will commence in September, with several employers pledging to provide jobs for the 10 participants.

The centre was established as a sister-company to ITS, Northern Ireland's largest provider of health and safety training solutions to the construction, utilities and civil engineering sectors and beyond.

ITS Managing Director Brendan Crealey said the commitment from employers illustrated a desire from companies in the construction industry to boost the size and quality of their workforce.

He commented: "The Academy has been set up because many of our clients, including some of Northern Ireland's largest building and utilities firms, have told us a major skills shortage is hampering their growth plans.

"Our first intake of students will now have a clear pathway into a job at the end of the groundworks course, such is the interest from employers."



Jordan McGeown (16) from Lurgan gets ready for the first term of the new National Construction Skills Academy at Industry Training Services (ITS) in Portadown with Terry McCrum, Morrow Contracts, and Brendan Crealey, ITS.

Among firms to have committed to take on course graduates are McNicholas Construction, Morrow Contracts, AG Wilson, NuLine Utilities, Mills Contracts, RMG contracts and Cole Groundwork Contracts

The NCSA was formed following a succession of industry reports highlighting a growing skills gap across the construction sector in the years since the economic downturn.

Brendan said there had also been huge demand from his client base of more than 3,500 firms for additional training, particularly in groundworks, to address the shortage.

He added: "We developed our unique groundworks qualification because that is what our client base told us was required.

"For building firms, it means that as new contracts come online, they can get a group of workers trained to a high standard within a short timeframe, ready to go onto site.

"It also means that individuals who apply to attend the Academy will have a clear pathway into employment.

"The programme covers a wide variety of general skills required on site including foundations, drainage, kerbing and paving."

Terry McCrum, Morrow Contracts, added: "We are delighted to commit to the new National Construction Skills Academy.

"The availability of high-quality training from a provider which, as a long-term client, we already trust, is a welcome addition to the industry.

"The introduction of a groundworks qualification is particularly pleasing and we look forward to welcoming our new recruits from the course later this year."

For more information or to apply for a place at NCSA, contact 028 3839 8700 or visit www.ncskillsacademy.com.



Industry Training Services (ITS) Managing Director Brendan Crealey, left, and Sales Manager Ciara Judge receive the Customer Focus Award at the Business Eye First Trust Bank Small Business Awards from Ken Roulston, Managing Director of category sponsor CMI.

Industry Training Services' 'Customer Focus' Recognised As Best In Business

Portadown-based Industry Training Services (ITS) has been recognised for its unrivalled level of customer service at a prestigious business awards ceremony.

The company, which is Northern Ireland's leading provider of training solutions to the construction, civil engineering and utilities sectors, among others won the Customer Focus Award at the Business Eye First Trust Bank Small Business Awards.

The accolade was presented at a gala dinner held at the Crown Plaza, Shaw's Bridge, Belfast, attended by more than 500 guests.

ITS Managing Director Brendan Crealey said: "It is a tremendous honour to have received this accolade at the Business Eye First Trust Small Business Awards. It

is a recognition of the dedication and hard work of all staff at ITS who truly put the customer at the heart of everything they do."

ITS, which has delivered 50,000 qualifications since it was set up in 2001, came out on top ahead of other finalists in the category which included HNH Human Capital, Larchfield Estate, MCS Group, BlueZone Technologies and Bull & Ram, Ballynahinch.

The award, sponsored by IT firm CIM, sought to find the Northern Ireland company which most effectively brought to life best practice in customer service across all of its operations.

Judges were impressed by ITS' efforts to tailor its offering to suit the particular needs of clients.

The company has invested more than £150,000 in the past 18 months to enhance its facilities

including moving to new purpose-built premises on a 10-acre site off the M1 Motorway.

In consultation with ITS' client base, the centre was designed to provide training for covered street works, confined space, scaffolding and working at heights, operating large plant and machinery, first aid and safety in excavations.

Brendan said: "We strive to provide bespoke services to our growing list of clients and that's why you'll find facilities at ITS not available anywhere else in Northern Ireland.

"For example, one of our latest developments includes a unique mock 'street' complete with underground cables, street lighting and water pipes, designed specifically to meet the needs of utilities firms."

And the firm has recently launched a National Construction Skills Academy in response to calls from clients to plug a skills gap in the construction sector.

Brendan added: "Clients had been telling us a lack of training provision was a major concern for the trade. So we launched the National Construction Skills Academy, initially to provide Northern Ireland's first qualification in groundworks – a specific need for the industry – with further programmes to be added in future months.

"For building firms, it means that as new contracts come online, they can get a group of workers trained to a high standard within a short time frame, ready to go onto site. It is also open to individuals to apply and provides a clear pathway into employment."

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JCB CELEBRATE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOADALL

JCB designed and engineered the first Loadall in 1977 and passed the historic milestone of manufacturing its 200,000th telescopic handler in the summer of 2016. Now in 2017, as the undisputed world leader in telehandler sales, JCB will celebrate the 40th anniversary of this iconic machine. Plant & Civil Engineer followed the manufacturing process from sheet steel to final customer centre sign-off, to see why the JCB Loadall is the world's number one telescopic handler.

There are currently more than 30 Loadall models in production at JCB's Rocester head office site. However the number of engine, transmission, boom and cab options on offer, results in more than 1,000 individual machine configurations.

As with all JCB equipment, the story starts with high quality steel, which arrives on a daily basis. The Loadall manufacturing line consumes more than 35,000 tonnes of steel each year in the construction of chassis, stabiliser legs and high strength booms.

As a vertically integrated manufacturer, other sites supply JCB engines, JCB transmissions and axles, Loadall cabs and all of the hydraulic rams and cylinders. This allows JCB's designers and engineers to fine tune every component, boosting performance and productivity for customers.

Steel is fed into two main production lines, one for booms, the other for chassis, with a side production area dedicated to stabiliser legs. Computer design combines component pieces into each sheet of steel, to utilise up to 77% of the incoming material. Waste steel is returned to suppliers to be recycled.

Sheet material up to 15mm thick is cut using computer-controlled laser cutting machines, while 20-40mm steel is cut with CNC plasma



Loadalls undergo a steering test on the test track.

equipment. JCB has recently invested more than £1 million in additional laser and plasma cutting equipment for the Loadall line.

Boom steel moves to a 650-tonne press to form the box section of the boom. At every stage operators are responsible for maintaining quality. Boom sections are tack welded with initial fitting of bushes, while chassis sides are drilled and tapped with all necessary holes.

All chassis and boom structures are tack welded by hand in complex multi-model jigs that hold every piece of steel perfectly in place. Up to 70% of the chassis and boom weld is then carried out by robot welding machines, with manual operators completing the remaining difficult to access welds. An incredible 14,509,818m of welding wire is used in the Loadall facility each year.

A twin boring machine completes a final bore of the boom mounting points, to ensure that the two holes are perfectly aligned. Two £1.2m computer-controlled machining centres drill, tap and finish the boom sections ready for assembly.

Paint Process

Booms, chassis and stabilisers are fed through a two-hour paint process that starts with a light shot blast to remove contamination and to prepare the surface for the paint application. Originally machines were painted once they had been built, but now all components are pre-painted before assembly to ensure a higher quality finish.

JCB uses a two-pack acrylic paint and the Loadall facility will use 73,000 litres of primer plus 50,000 litres of gloss each year. Finished



The start of the assembly process with the main chassis harness.



An axle awaits fitment - the last stage before transfer to the main assembly line.



JCB Loadalls await despatch to customers.



Loadalls await pre-delivery inspection.

components are baked at between 90-120 C to provide a robust, protective covering.

JCB yellow is by far the most popular colour, but customers can order Loadalls in their own livery, painted to the same exacting standards of finish. The versatile paint plant can change colour for a single machine.

Sub-assembly sections sit to either side of the main assembly lines, preparing wiring harnesses, engines and transmissions, cabs and axle assemblies. These sub-assembly sections feed into the main lines as required, ensuring that production moves smoothly through the process.

Any full size Loadall can be built on the line, with different models following each other through the process. There is a secondary line for compact Loadalls.

JCB axles and wheels are attached to the chassis at an early stage, followed by hydraulic valve blocks, rams and cylinders from the company's hydraulic component division within the Rocoester site.

Engines from JCB Power Systems near Derby are attached to transmissions from JCB Transmissions' Wrexham facility, with exhausts and other ancillaries added on the sub-assembly lines.

There can be up to 3,000 individual components in a JCB Loadall and with up to 1,000 configurations available, every build is carefully coordinated to ensure that the right parts arrive at the line at the correct time. With 35 build stages, it takes around eight hours to fully assemble a Loadall.

Loadall cabs arrive finished from JCB's cab plant in Rugeley and these are installed along with the machine's cooling pack. Boom sub-assembly runs alongside the chassis line, installing the two, three or four boom sections and building the structure ready to install on the chassis after the stabiliser legs.

Quality Checks

There are three separate quality inspection points on the assembly line, ensuring that every machine meets with JCB's exacting quality standards.

Oils and fluids are added and the engine started for the first time. Every Loadall then enters a driveline rolling road. The machines are strapped down and the engine and

transmission put through full speed rolling road tests, to calibrate the driveline.

Once warmed through, the Loadalls enter a UVXPOSE booth that uses ultra-violet light to check the integrity of hydraulic componentry. The initial fluids contain a tracing additive that is visible under UV light.

Only then are the final body components and engine covers fitted. The machines leave the assembly line and head to an external test facility where highly trained operators carry out intensive operational testing on every Loadall.

This includes a warm-up, a steering test and a weight test. Attachments that have been ordered by the customer, are installed and tested at this stage.

The machines then enter a second UVXPOSE dark room for checking as part of an additional quality sign-off, before heading to the Pre-Delivery Inspection (PDI) centre.

In March 2016, JCB opened a Loadall Customer Focus Centre. Every Loadall comes from PDI to the CFC, where the machine is once again thoroughly checked. Decals are attached and customisation can be completed, with the addition of toolboxes, additional lighting and other optional equipment to suit the customer's request.

The Loadalls get an automotive-style valet, ensuring that customers receive their machines in the best possible condition.

Command Centre

However the real innovation in the CFC is the Command Centre.

Every Loadall model is built with JCB's LiveLink telematics system and this feeds information into the Command Centre. Data is also imported from JCB's tech web service centre and from customer calls.

If a concern is identified, the team initiates an enquiry into the cause and if it relates to manufacturing, this can be fed back to the factory speedily. Afterwards, the Command Centre then tracks the next wave of machines to be produced, to ensure quality is maintained to the highest standards. This includes sending photographic and written instructions to tablet computers on the CFC line, to ensure that machines are verified and checked.

The system greatly improves the speed of feedback from the field, which would traditionally have taken weeks to get back to manufacturing.

Once the final inspection has been completed in the CFC, machines are moved to the despatch area ready to be sent to dealers and customers around the world.



A Loadall on the test track.

ENGCON



GETS A NEW FACTORY TO MEET GROWING DEMAND

Engcon, a world leader in tiltrotators for excavators, recently opened another factory in Strömsund, Sweden, as Plant & Civil Engineer's Justin Carrigan reports.

Underpinning investment in the new factory is the need to meet increasing demand for Engcon's products as well as a drive to reduce delivery times.

"We've enjoyed fantastic sales in recent years, so we're expanding our production and delivery capacity accordingly," said Stig Engström, Engcon's founder, during his inaugural speech at the new factory.

He praised his staff for maintaining delivery times in the face of record sales. He also said that the additional capacity provided by the new factory would allow the company to meet continued growth.

Anders Jonsson, Head of Assembly at Engcon's factories in Strömsund, commented: "The new factory means we can be one step ahead before customers even place their orders. We will be able to offer even



shorter delivery times, especially for larger volumes of our standard products."

The new plant and recent sales growth have resulted in the recruitment of additional staff and will probably mean further new jobs in the future, and added Stig Engström: "Our

growth rate speaks for itself; the increase in production space and staff won't stop here."

Other Developments

In other developments, Engcon has updated its fully hydraulic EC-Oil solution, which allows the safe automatic connection of hydraulic tools from the operator's seat. The biggest development is a completely newly engineered electrical connector featuring a blade-type design. The new style connector has increased contact surfaces and has been moved to the top of the hitch to provide better protection from oil and dirt.

EC-Oil's new electrical connector has 12 robust blades in two banks of six that make it even more durable than its predecessor. What's more, the updated EC-Oil was rigorously tested during the winter of 2016/2017 with approximately 100,000 couplings in varied environments including dirt, salt water and snow. The tests have made sure the new EC-Oil can handle really tough working environments.



"The test results were all very positive and show that this improved EC-Oil can handle really tough working environments," says John Lundqvist, Test Manager at Engcon's R&D department.

Each pin in the connector is wedge-shaped and when connected is inserted about 20 mm into the spring-loaded female half of the connector. This provides a cleaning effect with maximum contact in every position, which reduces the risk of the excavator losing electrical contact with the tiltrotator.

"We also want to emphasise just how robust EC-Oil hydraulic connections are," says John, explaining that each movable part of the hydraulic connector (both female and male) has an O-ring seal that is easy to access, making maintenance simple. This is also the only O-ring on the redeveloped EC-Oil blocks which, together with the flat face of the connectors making cleaning easier, has been designed with the operator in mind.

"The simple, robust design also makes EC-Oil the market's best value-for-money solution for fully hydraulic couplers," adds John.

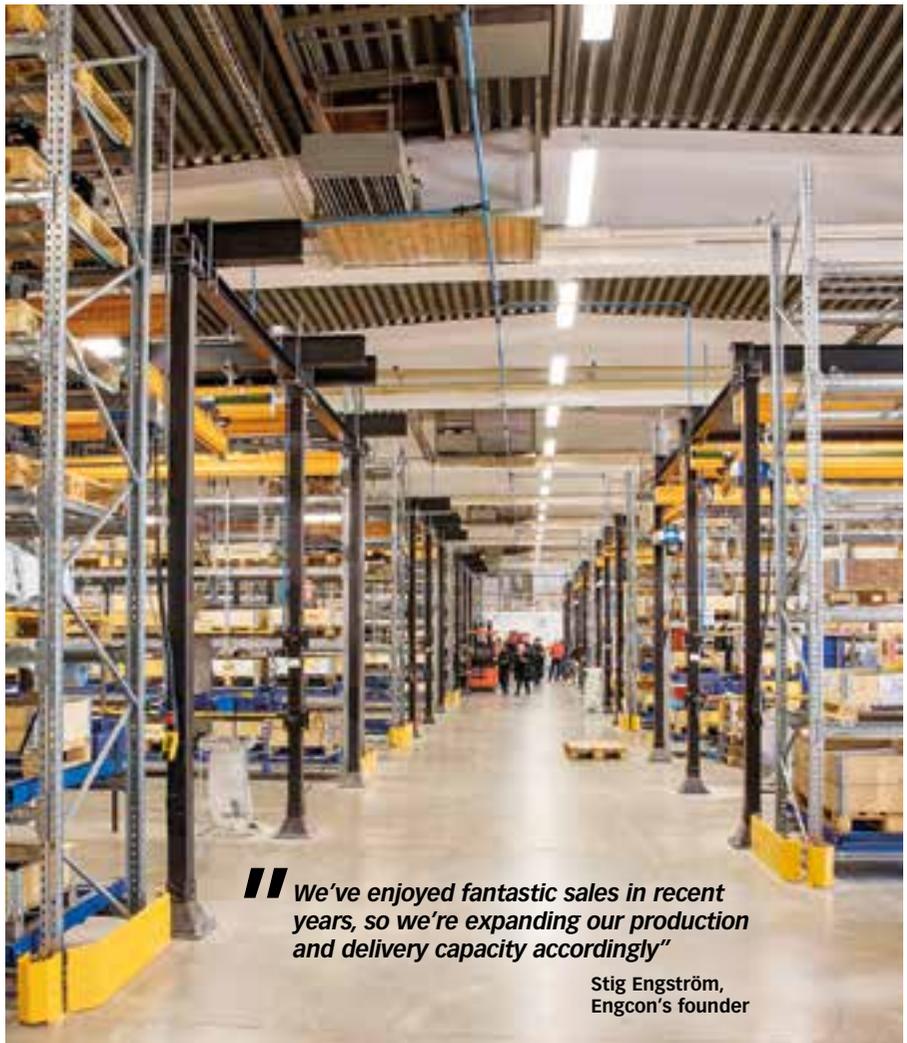
Growing UK Market

Meanwhile, we also learned that tiltrotators from Engcon are part of the high-tech specification of three new Komatsu wheeled excavators for JN Bentley, one of the UK's leading civil engineering and construction companies. Each of the customised machines has been fitted with a fully integrated Engcon EC219 tiltrotator and Q-Safe quick coupler.

"This is an important signal that the UK as a market is growing and embracing the great benefits that tiltrotators bring when it comes to efficiency, safety and cost reduction. We are very glad that JN Bentley have decided to go with our tiltrotator solution," says Stig Engström.

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

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



"We've enjoyed fantastic sales in recent years, so we're expanding our production and delivery capacity accordingly"

**Stig Engström,
Engcon's founder**

The EC219 tiltrotator selected by JN Bentley is part of Engcon's Generation 2 series which includes models for excavators from 1.5 to 32 tonnes. The new range is designed to further increase profitability and excavator versatility, letting the operator tilt or rotate the bucket (or any other attachment) for optimum flexibility and accuracy.

"JN Bentley has combined its new EC219 tiltrotators with our SS9-2 control system as well as our Q-Safe quick coupler for excavator tools and attachments. Our popular SS9 nearly doubles the number of

program modes available to the operator giving greater versatility with hydraulic attachments, as well as providing safer locking methodology, explains Stig Engström.

"Our Q-Safe is featuring a triple-lock safety system. By being able to detect ground pressure on the boom, if the bucket is not grounded the system overrides the hitch controls, meaning that an operator cannot accidentally detach a tool in mid-air. That's safety."



PLANTWORX 2017 EXCEEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS

The 3rd biennial Plantworx Construction Machinery exhibition, hosted by the CEA (Construction Equipment Association), at Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground in Leicestershire, was a resounding success.

More than 360 exhibitors, including over 140 exhibitors making their show debut, took part in the three day event which showcased the very latest in earthmoving equipment, compaction kit, drills and hammers, compressors, attachments and much much more.

In terms of size and exhibitors numbers the 2017 show exceeded the 2015 exhibition and here Plant & Civil Engineer takes a look at just some of the many new products that were on show...



Engcon Scoops Plantworx Innovation Award

Engcon's NPORS Tiltrotator Safety Training initiative has been recognised by the Plantworx Innovation Awards, achieving Highly Commended in the Commitment to Skills category.

The Plantworx Innovation Awards recognise and celebrate innovative companies, products or services that have made a major impact in the construction equipment industry.

Louise Murphy, CEA (organisers of the awards) said: "Judging was really tough this year as we had a record number of entries."

Robert Hunt, Chief Executive of Engcon (UK), commented: "We are thrilled to have won this prestigious award. As the largest tiltrotator manufacturer in the world, we take our corporate responsibility seriously and it's very gratifying to have our efforts recognised.



"When we identified this potential safety awareness issue, we decided that a coherent safety approach was necessary and for this reason sought a national accreditation body to help devise and regulate the course. Because Engcon was the only manufacturer of tiltrotators to have a corporate presence in the UK,

rather than being represented by dealers, it was difficult to attract interest from other tiltrotator suppliers to participate in the scheme. However, a fundamental value of the course is that it should apply to all tiltrotators, not just the market leader."

The Tiltrotator Safety Training covers the core elements of a tiltrotator and its use and has been specifically developed by experienced tiltrotator operators to address issues specific to tiltrotator use, including attachment selection, causes of instability when using a tiltrotator, safety checks/signals, and the regulations relating to lifting operations and equipment.

To date, a total of 15 NPORS instructors covering the whole of the UK have been trained, tested and accredited to carry out this programme and Engcon offers this certification free to all new and existing Engcon owners.

HAE showcase virtual reality training programme

Hire Association Europe (HAE) showcased its virtual reality training and SafeHire certification initiatives at Plantworx.

The HAE team was on-hand throughout the three-day exhibition where it won the Commitment to Skills category of the Plantworx Innovation Awards, for its use of virtual reality and oculus rift technology for Health & Safety training. Included within, the now award winning, training programme

are working at height and cut-off saw modules. HAE, in partnership with the University of the West of England (UWE) have adopted the latest in gaming and VR technology to produce a hazard perception risk assessment approach to fault finding. Users must first select the correct PPE for the job in hand, identify areas of risk and undertake a series of multiple choice questions to complete the module. New training modules are already

in the pipeline including: dust, noise and HAVS and other product groups like breakers, angle grinders and diamond drilling. The HAE is committed to growing the number of modules over the next two to three years.

The HAE is also looking for hire companies and manufacturers interested in advertising within its training programmes, the virtual reality software features placement holders that can be utilised for branding purposes.

There are several packages available to suit all budgets.

In addition, HAE's SafeHire Certification has been designed to raise standards across the hire sector by helping businesses improve Health & Safety procedures and customer service levels. The certification allows companies to demonstrate that they have achieved a certain standard in their Health & Safety, quality and environmental policies and operations. It has been developed in conjunction with BSI, HSE and CHAS and is highly cost effective. All HAE members must achieve certification by 1st January 2018.

Strickland MFG & Morris Leslie Plant Hire – The Perfect Partnership

Three years ago Morris Leslie Plant Hire gave Strickland MFG the opportunity to supply buckets and couplers into their ever expanding fleet of machines. Working closely with their Account Manager for Strickland MFG, Alan Kells, the business relationship between the companies has gone from strength to strength.

In 2015 Strickland MFG were supplying a proportion of the Morris Leslie fleet with buckets and hydraulic couplers. Fast forward two years and Strickland are delighted to be preferred supplier for all the Morris Leslie attachments from Micro through to 20 ton.

This year will see Morris Leslie purchase in excess of 500 machines, all kitted out with Strickland buckets and couplers.



Sourcing their machines from top end OEM'S, Morris Leslie specify Strickland MFG at point of sale. "Having worked with Strickland's for a number of years now, I have found the quality of the product & the efficiency of the service second to none", says Garry Howland, Sales Manager for Morris Leslie. "Alan Kells, who

manages our account always has time for us. I know I can pick up the phone at any time & he will deal with my request in an efficient & professional manner.". Plantworx 2017 saw both companies exhibit, with both stands showcasing Morris Leslie excavators and Strickland buckets and couplers

"Building partnerships with OEM'S, OED'S and National Plant Hire Companies is what we strive to achieve," says Alan Kells, Account Manager for Strickland MFG. "We are delighted to be working with blue chip companies such as Morris Leslie and look forward to this continuing for many more years."



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New Miller Powerlatch Tilt Coupler Goes Down A Storm

The new Miller PowerLatch Tilt coupler made a big impression on the thousands of visitors who braved the summer storms to attend the 2017 Plantworx Show.

The Miller stands welcomed hundreds of visitors who were all keen to find out more about the new innovative PowerLatch Tilt which allows attachments, whether that's a bucket, breaker or grapple, to be rotated up to 180 degrees, giving operators

much greater versatility on site than ever before

Over at the Miller demonstration stand, a brand new Kubota KX080-4 was fitted with the new PowerLatch Tilt coupler and over the three days were put through their paces by vastly experience driver Jeff Morris.

Commenting on the new tilt, Jeff Morris owner of Morris Plant Hire said: "The tilt is a solid piece of kit, it grips the attachment pins tightly, with no sliding about when you tilt to full rotation, which is a full 90

degrees both ways. The added versatility and functionality of the tilt really does offer greater accessibility, ideal for civil and ground works."

During the show, a near constant stream of interested visitors received a glimpse of the latest attachments from Miller UK. Industry leading PowerLatch couplers and Scoop buckets were the subject of specific requests from a number of key customers, with some significant deals made at the show.

In addition, visitors to the Miller stand gained a unique insight into an exciting product pipeline currently under development that is set to make an impact in the earthmoving sector.

Brendan Quill, Sales and Marketing Director at Miller, said: "Despite the challenging weather conditions Plantworx 2017 turned out to be extremely encouraging for Miller, with a number of major deals being agreed on our stand and sales enquiries at an exceptionally high level compared to previous shows. Plantworx provides us with the perfect opportunity to connect with new and existing customers and demonstrate live the tangible benefits of our latest product innovations."



New One Tonne JCB Minis Weigh In

JCB has launched three new mini excavators engineered to meet the needs of individual industry customers.

With operating weights of 1.6-1.8 tonnes, the line-up includes the rental-specific, conventional tailswing 16C-1 and JCB's first zero tailswing 1.7-tonne model, the all-new 18Z-1, which is designed to meet the changing requirements of mini excavator users in all industry sectors. Completing the line-up is the conventional tailswing 19C-1, ideal for contractors looking for the ultimate performance from a premium compact excavator.

The three machines share common design DNA, boasting improved durability with robust construction and ease of maintenance, to minimise downtime and to boost productivity for the customer. They have been engineered from the ground up to deliver reduced total cost of ownership and improved ease of use.

A common undercarriage is used on all three models, with machined faces for improved fit and extended component life. Sloping track legs reduce material retention, making it easier to clean the machine between hire periods. The 16C-1 is available in both fixed and retracting undercarriages, with the retractable track frame offering widths of 980-1,330mm. A revised idler design delivers improved ride quality and reduces track stalling in loose material.

Short-pitch rubber tracks come as standard, with a steel track option available on all three models. A redesigned dozer blade comes with easy to install dozer wings. It offers increased lift height and the option of standard or longer-reach dozer arms. The long reach gives the machine additional stability and the ability to dig right up to the dozer, for improved site clearance.

There are two upperstructure designs, one for the two conventional tailswing models and a second for the all-new ZTS machine.

In both cases the structure has an improved layout for easier component access. The 18Z-1 is expected to prove particularly popular in southern European markets, where customer demand continues to drive increasingly compact designs.

Sturdy tie-down points have been built into the frames of all three machines, making regular transportation easier for rental businesses and ensuring that chains and slings are not pulled across rubber tracks, causing unnecessary damage.

The compact excavators will be among the safest on the market, thanks to improved stability and increased all-round visibility with easy to change flat glazing, combined with JCB's 2Go selectable hydraulic cut-out system.

JCB is backing all three of these next generation mini excavators with a standard two-year warranty and a range of service and warranty repair packages.

inspHire Showcase Logistics Management on Mobile

Plantworx 2017 provided visitors with the opportunity to get an exclusive look at the latest release from equipment management software supplier, inspHire. It was showcasing its recently launched logistics planning and management tool which now seamlessly works together with inspHire Mobile, allowing businesses to stay connected at all times.

The newly developed transport booking screen and inspHire Mobile integration was well received by visitors. The logistics planning and management tool helps hire businesses ensure all their equipment is in the right place at the right time, with all the correct documentation needed as well as being a great feature for managing the schedules of drivers and engineers and improving communication throughout the business, with both hire desk staff and mobile workforce being able to stay up to date at all times.

Utilising useful features such as push messaging and live updates makes it incredibly easy for driver or engineer schedules to be altered when they're out on the road. If a collection is added to the list of jobs they need to complete that day, they will be notified by an automatic alert with details of what they're collecting and where they need to go. From here they will be able to tap the address and Google Maps integration will provide them with directions to the location. This will dramatically improve communication and ensure that a job is never missed.

inspHire Mobile also provides a wide range of features and functionality that allow users to manage everything from stock take, adding items to a contract, workshop jobs, remote tests and inspections as well as deliveries, collections and exchanges. Anything completed within inspHire Mobile is immediately updated within inspHire, providing businesses with important real time data that allows them to have clear visibility across the whole business.



Doosan Excavator is 250,000th CESAR Machine in UK

Plantworx saw a new Doosan DX85R-3 mini-excavator being unveiled as the 250,000th CESAR marked machine in the UK.

The official CESAR Scheme is owned by the UK's Construction Equipment Association (CEA), the organisers of the Plantworx event, and is the number one anti-theft and recovery system for plant and agricultural equipment. CESAR was launched in 2007 to help combat the theft of equipment which was estimated to be costing the industry £1 million a week at the time.

Attending the unveiling at Plantworx on behalf of Doosan was Kim Dudley, Regional Manager – Northern Europe, who was presented with a certificate marking the occasion by Kevin Howells, the CEO/MD of Datatag ID Ltd, based in Egham in Surrey, the chosen delivery partner for the official CESAR Scheme.

The ceremony marked the tenth anniversary of Doosan's participation in the scheme, which began in September 2007, when the company became the first construction equipment manufacturer to fit CESAR to all the company's products. The official CESAR security marking scheme was itself launched earlier that year and, as well as celebrating 10 years of CESAR, Datatag is also marking 25 years in the security marking business in 2017.

Kim Dudley said: "Since we joined the scheme in 2007, every Doosan machine sold in the UK has been CESAR marked, providing a powerful deterrent to thieves and peace of mind for our customers."



L-R: Kim Dudley, Regional Manager – Northern Europe Doosan, presenting a certificate to Kevin Howells, the CEO/MD of Datatag ID Ltd.

It has brought our dealers and their customers many benefits as it allows the police to quickly establish the ownership of construction equipment recovered after theft and to quickly return it to the owner.

"This ensures that police will more readily pursue stolen plant (knowing it can be identified) and lowers the insurance premiums our customers have to pay for their machinery. Since Doosan joined the CESAR Scheme in 2007, many other leading manufacturers have also adopted the scheme."

Kevin Howells, CEO/MD of Datatag, said: "Reaching 250,000 machines protected is a significant milestone in the story of the CESAR Scheme and we couldn't be happier that just as the very first machine protected was a Doosan product, the 250,000th is also a Doosan machine. Doosan has supported the CESAR Scheme since it was launched, recognising the theft deterrent it provides to the company's customers."

A&Y Equipment Appointed Dieci UK Importer

A&Y Equipment Ltd will be adding to their product portfolio after signing a deal to become the UK importer for the Dieci range of construction machinery.

These products, predominantly telescopic and "roto" telehandlers, but also including truck mixers and dumpers, will complement A&Y's existing ranges of Yanmar construction, Ammann compaction and Cormidi tracked carriers.

At Plantworx there was a selection of Dieci telehandlers positioned on the A&Y

stand, including the Icarus 40.17 with its 17 metre lifting height, the Zeus 40.7 which has a 4000kg lifting capacity and the popular Apollo 25.6R. With a width and height of both under 2 metres it is ideally suited to working in tight spaces.

A&Y Equipment's Managing Director, Robert Brown said that he is delighted to be associated with premium brands such as Dieci. "The products will compliment those that we already supply, fill in some gaps in our product line and ultimately allows us to offer more complete solutions to our customers."

Paul Bidwell Remembered

The first Paul Bidwell Memorial Award was presented on the first evening of Plantworx 2017 to Altrad Belle.

This worthy winner was judged to have demonstrated a real commitment to the success of Plantworx through its design, safe construction and delivery of an attractive stand complete with an informative working demonstration area.

The selection was made by the Plantworx organisers who were greatly impressed by the creativity and enthusiasm of the Altrad Belle team.

This new Plantworx Award recognises the long term contribution made to the UK construction plant industry by the well-liked Paul Bidwell who tragically died in May last year at the age of only 58. Having first

worked for Poclain, Paul joined Manitou UK in 1988 and latterly, in his role of Marketing Manager, used to organise and manage the company's many exhibition stands.

The Award presentation provided a good opportunity for colleagues and friends to fondly remember Paul who was, for so many years, so much a part of the UK plant exhibition scene. Paul's wife Rosie and his son James travelled from Verwood to Bruntingthorpe to personally hand the Award over to a very appreciative Altrad Belle team. At the handover, Rosie stated that Paul loved his job and was particularly passionate about Plantworx.

During the well-attended award ceremony, CEA Chief Executive and Plantworx Team Leader Rob Oliver stated that Paul was a very committed and valued colleague. Paul was one of the original members of the Plantworx 'working-group' and his extensive experience and informed advice really helped to shape the event. So it is apt that, with this Award, his cherished memory will live on.



Rosie and James Bidwell at Plantworx surrounded by members of the Altrad Belle team who were the first winners of the Paul Bidwell Memorial Award.

Top Plant Mechanic Apprentices Recognised at CPA Stars of the Future Event

The future of the construction plant industry is in safe hands judging by the exceptional quality of the entrants at this year's Stars of the Future awards hosted by the CPA (Construction Plant-hire Association).

Held in association with A-Plant and supported by CITB, CPA Stars of the Future identifies some of the industry's brightest young

talent and almost 750 eligible plant mechanic apprentices entered, representing over 300 companies including Clee Hill Plant, GAP, JCB and Lifterz Work Platforms, plus several independents.

Now in its fifth year, this year's awards presentation was hosted at Hangar 42 adjacent to the main Plantworx showground and the CPA welcomed over 300 apprentices, family members and employers to the event. As well as A-Plant and CITB,

the event was supported by JCB, Hawk Group, IPAF, Snap-on Tools, My Future My Choice and Plantworx.

Stars of the Future is a national awards scheme for apprentices in the construction plant industry, run in conjunction with all UK colleges offering plant mechanic apprentice training. This year's awards were for plant mechanic apprentices who have been assessed throughout the academic year

on their work in college and in their work environment.

There were a total of 20 regional winners for both NVQ Level 2 and Level 3 apprentices, plus two national winners. Prior to the awards, My Future My Choice led an interactive activity for the apprentices which involved the construction of a crane using materials such as cardboard, rubber bands, syringes and tubing in order to test their engineering and teamwork skills.

Thwaites launch Cabbed Dumper

Thwaites launched a fully integrated manufactured cab solution for its 9-tonne forward tip, 6-tonne forward tip and 6-tonne powerswivel dumpers.

This new Level 2 ROPS and FOPS cab protects the operator with an engineered, reinforced structure, to reduce injury from machine overturn or falling objects.

Operators and on site personnel are further protected with the inclusion of a fully integrated camera system. Compliant to ISO 5006, and waterproof to

IP67. This system provides the operator with 360 degree all round visibility.

Operators of the new Thwaites cabbed dumper will now be able to work as effectively all year round with the following additional features fitted as standard: tinted side and rear glass to reduce solar gain for operator comfort and safety; operational optimisation is also enhanced further with a 'pop out', easy to replace modular glazing system; and a fully controllable cab heater and ventilation system with

both dust and pollen filters to remove airborne irritants. Further standard features include, a Bluetooth radio and a twin USB charging port improving connectivity on every level. Daily maintenance checks can be achieved efficiently and effectively via a keyless, lockable panel. Access and egress to the cab is safe and secure via three points of contact and an easy release door lock. Once inside the cab the operator will find a secure internal storage area for their personal belongings.

Engcon improves automatic coupling for hydraulic tools

Engcon has updated its fully hydraulic EC-Oil solution, which allows the safe automatic connection of hydraulic tools from the operator's seat.

The biggest development is a completely newly engineered electrical connector featuring a blade-type design. The new style connector has increased contact surfaces and has been moved to the top of the hitch to provide better protection from oil and dirt.

EC-Oil's new electrical connector has 12 robust blades in two banks of six that make it even more durable than its predecessor. What's more, the updated EC-Oil was rigorously tested during the winter of 2016/2017 with approximately 100,000 couplings in varied environments including dirt, salt water and snow. The tests have made sure the new EC-Oil can handle really tough working environments.

"The test results were all very positive and show that this improved EC-Oil can handle

really tough working environments," says John Lundqvist, Test Manager at Engcon's R&D department in Strömsund, Sweden.

John goes on to explain that each pin in the connector is wedge-shaped and when connected, is inserted about 20 mm into the spring-loaded female half of the connector. This provides a cleaning effect with maximum contact in every position, which reduces the risk of the excavator losing electrical contact with the tiltrotator.

"We also want to emphasise just how robust EC-Oil hydraulic connections are," says John Lundqvist, explaining that each movable part of the hydraulic connector (both female and male) has an O-ring seal that is easy to access, making maintenance simple. This is also the only O-ring on the redeveloped EC-Oil blocks; which, together with the flat face of the connectors making cleaning easier, has been designed with the operator in mind.



"The simple, robust design also makes EC-Oil the market's best value-for-money solution for fully hydraulic couplers," adds John.

This latest EC-Oil was launched at Plantworx and will be available with the Q-Safe quick coupler in sizes QS45 through to QS80 for excavators from 6 to 33 tonnes. The QS60 will be first with initial deliveries anticipated for the middle of June 2017; the other sizes will be introduced throughout the summer and autumn of 2017.

Kubota gets eco-friendly at Plantworx with the new KX042-4

Kubota introduced its brand new, eco-friendly mini-excavator live on stand at this year's Plantworx show.

The KX042-4's Diesel Particulate Filter and ECO PLUS system makes the 4.2 tonne excavator the most environmentally friendly in its class. In Power mode, the KX042-4 offers a 3% increase in productivity, and uses up to 12% less fuel in comparison with its predecessor. In ECO MODE, the user gets the same level of productivity as the previous model, whilst saving up to 20% on fuel: a massive improvement for operators and plant fleet owners.

The excavator can take on large challenges without wasting energy, thanks to its 29kW, four-cylinder Kubota diesel engine, fitted with a Common Rail System that controls the fuel injection timing and amount. Its auxiliary oil flow has proportional flow control. Also as standard the KX042-4 comes with auto idling, auto-shift and dozer blade float, meaning that

the Kubota excavator is able to meet the requirements of the most demanding jobs.

The same standard is met regarding the machine's ease of use, allowing the user to save time and act as efficiently as the excavator performs. An example of this is when simultaneous operation of the

boom, arm, bucket and swivel is required; the one variable pump load sensing hydraulic system distributes the precise amount of oil flow to each actuator, which reduces fuel consumption and delivers greater operating performance.

Not only does the ECO PLUS system and ease of use offer

the opportunity for long and productive work periods, so does the spacious interior. The KX042-4's luxurious cab has a wider entrance, more leg room and a deluxe seat with suspension, making it ideal for the operator. This also means greater visibility and therefore a safer machine for everyone on site.

Adrian Mann, Product Manager at Kubota UK commented: "The new KX042-4 is yet another example of Kubota pushing the boundaries, closing the gap between performance and fuel consumption. Plantworx was the perfect opportunity to showcase the KX042-4 and prove our dedication to the needs of our customers.

"As emissions regulations become more demanding in construction with Stage V around the corner in 2019, we have to make sure our equipment is not only able to cope with these challenges, but also lead the market. This new generation is more productive and more fuel efficient than any previous Kubota four tonne models, two qualities that we know our customers will love."







2017 BRINGS NEW DEPOTS, MAJOR INVESTMENT, AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE HSS / LAOIS HIRE GROUP

The HSS Hire / Laois Hire Group are currently focused on a program of expansion in Ireland. The group recently opened a new super center in Limerick, a new Laois Hire branch in Dublin Greenogue, plus another branch is due to open in Waterford in July.

This adds to the HSS Hire and Laois Hire Group's already established network of 26 hire branches and super depots across Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Michael Killeen, Managing Director of HSS Hire and the Laois Hire Group, says: "We're committed to offering our customers more availability, more value and more support in order to ensure an unrivalled hire experience. The new branches will help us deliver the highest quality service to our customers."

As with all HSS Hire /Laois Hire branches, the new facilities are supported by an extensive fleet of liveried vehicles and underpinned by an industry-leading operating and distribution system. The company continually invests in its distribution network which is organised into Distribution Centres and local format branches. Through the network, branches are restocked daily with equipment for customer pick-up. Customers also benefit from the expert workshop and refurbishment capabilities which are a feature of the network operations.

Impressive Fleet

Recent significant investment in plant machinery such as teleporters, excavators, and an impressive fleet of new Kubota diggers signals the groups commitment and serious intent to focus on delivering

the newest and best fleet of machinery available to customers today.

Laois Hire's Regional Director Mike Killeen adds: "Since the industry started to recover we have expanded greatly and last year alone we have added up to one hundred items of plant. These are currently running at a very high level of utilisation, which resulted in a need for us to return to the market this year to further expand machinery numbers".

Michael Killeen commented on the impressive rate of expansion: "Even though we consistently invested in new and improved machinery throughout the downturn, we noticed that there has been a significant surge in demand recently. On the back of this, we have decided to increase the pace of our fleet expansion ahead of schedule to



Michael Killeen, Managing Director Laois Hire Group, Raymond Kelly, Group Services Director KN Group, Damien Delaney, National Key Account Manager Laois Hire, Alan Shevlin, Group Plant Manager KN Group.



Michael Killeen, Managing Director of Laois Hire / HSS Hire Group and Laois Hire Portlaoise Branch Manager, Niall Brennan, pictured with Donagh Kelly's Ford Focus.



Michael Killeen, Managing Director Laois Hire Group, with Champion Jockey Ruby Walsh at Ruby's Stud Farm in Co. Kildare.

match the demands and expectations of our existing and future customers".

The group's nationwide reach and dedicated customer service has helped secure them the Irish agencies for top brands such as CompAir compressors, Western Global tanks, Selwood pumps and Husqvarna.

Supplier Partnership

Laois Hire is also busy fulfilling an agreement with specialist services giant KN Group. The deal extends the existing successful partnership developed over several years. The partnership now expands to the supply of equipment to KN Group projects across the UK.

Speaking about the arrangement, 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."

Group Training Division

Although, tool and equipment hire are still at the heart of what HSS Hire do - and plant hire and agencies is central to what Laois Hire offers - the group also now has a range of specialist service divisions that add real value for customers. One such service is the groups training division, now offering even more workforce training courses from more locations.

HSS / Laois Hire Training is the groups division dedicated to developing and delivering health and safety training across a range of specialist areas. It offers a range of accredited courses that are now delivered at any depot in Ireland. Fully equipped with all of the necessary tools and resources, these facilities provide an ideal learning environment for any individual looking to develop their health and safety knowledge and practical skills. At the same time, the training division is able to deliver company-specific training according to your specific needs, be it on-site or at an external location of your choice.

"The importance of appropriate training to the construction industry workforce has never been more important. Busy construction sites need to maximize speed and efficiency more than ever. It is vital that skills are continually updated to maintain optimal on-site health and safety and to ensure a safe workforce and a successful project," says Steve Kelly, Mobile Trainer for HSS Hire.

(For more information about training please contact Steve Kelly on +353 86 022 9540)



HSS Hire now offering more courses in more places.



Ger Punch, HSS Hire Limerick Branch Manager, CJ Stander, Munster, Ireland and Lions Star and Michael Killeen, Managing Director, HSS Hire and Laois Hire Group at Limerick Branch Opening.

hire news

HAE awarded Gold level in new nationwide scheme

Hire Association Europe (HAE) has been awarded Gold level of the highly anticipated, new Talent Match Mark scheme, recognising that they are an employer who creates opportunities for young people at one of the highest levels.

Talent Match Mark is a nationwide scheme, founded by the Talent Match programme, London Youth and Youth Employment UK, which launched on 14th July, making HAE one of the first businesses to receive the prestigious Gold level award.

The scheme aims to solve the problem of young people struggling to gain work experience, and is dedicated to recognising employers who are focused on creating opportunities for them. The hope is that by launching this scheme, it will encourage other employers to do the same.

HAE was awarded the Gold level due to the vast number of opportunities it

offers young people. These include its Future Hirers programme, which involves actively visiting schools and colleges to promote entry level jobs, work experience placements targeting 16-24 year olds, and their Career PATH (Progression And Training in Hire) apprenticeship programmes, which provide a number of entry level positions, including Level 5 NVQ graduate entry level targeting 18-30 year olds.

As a Talent Match Mark employer, HAE demonstrates commitment to the 5 youth friendly principles; creating opportunity, recognising talent, fair employment, developing young people and listening to the youth voice. The association is advised on its application processes for young people by DWP and JCP, and their application processes are in conjunction with CITB and NCAS.

HAE managing director, Graham Arundell, comments: "It is an honour to receive the Gold level award of the Talent Match Mark scheme.

We have always been, and will continue to be, dedicated to creating opportunities for, and working with, young people. We have spent considerable time developing our youth employment schemes to make them the best that they can be for young people, and it is fantastic that this has been recognised. I hope the Talent Match Mark scheme encourages many other employers to do the same."

HAE is dedicated to continuing its focus on investing in young people to give them the best start in their careers, through offering diverse involvement in their work experience programmes, where candidates spend time working cross-department in commercial, operations and marketing and offering every young person a personal mentor.

Laura-Jane Rawlings, CEO of Youth Employment UK, added: "We are delighted to be awarding HAE the Talent Match Mark Gold Award. HAE are an organisation committed to youth employment and supporting as many young people to develop successful careers in their industry as possible. This award shows they offer many different quality opportunities that inspire, support and engage with young people."

news

Introducing The New Genie S-80 XC And S-85 XC Booms

As Genie continues to expand its range of Xtra Capacity (XC) boom lifts, the new Genie telescopic S-80 XC and S-85 XC booms update the brand's popular earlier telescopic units.

Providing the ability to perform a wider range of heavier lift tasks on construction and industrial jobsites, both these new Genie XC models include new features to help increase productivity and efficiency.

New to these models, the Genie S-80 XC and S-85 XC booms feature automatic envelope control. This is the ability to automatically retract as the booms reach their operating envelope, allowing for simple platform positioning and an enhanced operator's experience. And, they are equipped with a load sense cell that continuously checks the weight in the platform and limits the operating envelope to match the load chart, all while boasting the ability to do zero-load field calibrations.

To support additional weight in the platform, the Genie S-80 XC and S-85 XC models are



engineered with a redesigned boom structure that boasts increased performance, range of motion and envelope control, as well as a robust jib capable of easily handling the 1,000-lb (454 kg) maximum capacity.

Additionally, the new Genie S-80 XC and S-85 XC telescopic booms have been updated with a new state-of-the-art CAN-based ALC600 control system (replacing the earlier ALC500). Altogether smarter, both technicians and

operators will find the new ALC600 much simpler and more straightforward to use.

Marking a significant improvement in terms of diagnostics and troubleshooting capabilities, settings and parameters can now be modified directly on the machine without the need for any additional tools. Overall connectivity with customer telematics systems is also enhanced. New and improved features include a clear display of gauges on the display controller, new full error code readouts with text, as well as a service mode providing clear menus for settings and parameters. For added flexibility, with the new ALC600, software updates can now be performed directly from the control panel without the need for a laptop computer via USB. Technicians also benefit from password protected fault logs that display the last 100 faults for both the engine and the machine.

Availability for these new Genie S-80 and S-85 boom models is planned globally end of Q1 2018 depending on countries.



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To book tickets and exhibition space visit:
www.hireconvention.org.uk

or call 0121 380 4605 email: hireconvention@hae.org.uk

hire news

CPA Date and New Venue for Construction Plant Conference 2017

The Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) has announced that this year's CPA Construction Plant Conference will take place on 31st October 2017 at a new venue - the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre between Birmingham and Coventry.

Plant tracking specialist AMI Group has been confirmed as the headline sponsor and several companies have already confirmed they are exhibiting at the event, namely GenQuip, ECY Haulmark and Datatag.

The Construction Plant Conference is an annual one-day event organised by the CPA, the leading trade association for the plant hire sector in the UK. The CPA has over 1,600 members who supply 85% of plant used in the construction industry. The sector generates over £4 billion and invests £1.3 billion in new equipment each year. The underpinning theme of the Conference is 'Understanding and Influencing the Future of Construction Plant Hire' and the event is a unique opportunity to discuss the latest issues affecting construction plant in the UK.

Kevin Minton, Director of the CPA said: "This will be the fourth year that the CPA Construction Plant Conference has been held and it has become an essential entry in the calendar for senior figures in the plant hire industry. This year sees a new venue being introduced to provide far more indoor and outdoor exhibition space, and the Midlands location brings it within travelling range for far more delegates from across the UK."



The conference will address important and business-critical developments in construction plant hire. Speakers and subjects give a cross section of topics, including major projects, client requirements, how the industry can tackle its future skills needs, the latest progress in health and safety, securing your assets and embracing new technology.

Previous speakers have included representatives from the likes of the Health

& Safety Executive (HSE), CITB, Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, HS2, Tideway, Highways England, Skanska and Metropolitan Police. Around 150 - 200 senior figures from across the industry typically attend the event. In previous years, there has been excellent representation from many of the major construction companies, national plant hirers and smaller operators.

Dromad Hire Invests in Additional Service Vehicles



Lynn Motors Paul Callan and Dromad Hire's Sales & Business Development Manager Pierce Martin.

Dundalk based company Dromad Hire adds two more service vans to the road, supplied by local dealer Lynn Motors.

The nationwide supplier of plant & access platforms now operates four service support vehicles in total as well as providing a 24hr emergency call out service

According to Dromad Hire's Managing Director, Seamus Byrne, "The two new vans will be dedicated to routine servicing of our hired-out equipment on a weekly basis. It is critical that we continue to make every effort to constantly provide the best service possible to our customers and minimise the risk of any down time."

Lynn Motors Managing Director, Mark Lynn states, "We are delighted to be working with Dromad yet again, providing an after sales service so they continue to have hassle free motoring. Both models are equipped with the highest spec, which fits in perfectly with the high standards and professionalism Dromad Hire demonstrates day in day out."

NI Hoses Complete Biggest Contract To Date – On A Fishing Vessel

NI Hoses have recently completed their largest ever – and most unusual – contract since the company was established less than three years ago.

The team was called in to replace hydraulic hoses with stainless steel piping on what is the world's biggest mussel dredging boat, the Westport registered 'Emerald Gratia.'

Built in 2005, the 500 tonne, 49m long vessel docked in Belfast to allow the NI Hoses team on board to carry out the work.

"We had three service vans on site at the docks for the week-long contract, with four technicians involved in what was a challenging task," says NI Hoses' Darryl Rogan. "There was a maze of hydraulic hoses on the mussel washing

plant on the vessel, but we managed to complete the project on time and within budget, thanks in no small measure to the team led by my business partner Dean Jackson."

While it was the first time the NI Hoses team were called to such a large vessel, they have replaced hoses on much smaller boats in the past, experience which clearly held them in good stead

for the work on the 'Emerald Gratia,' the captain of which was delighted with the outcome.

NI Hoses operate across a wide range of sectors – from construction, plant hire and agriculture to transport, marine and utilities – and all replacement hydraulic hoses are guaranteed to be of the highest quality.



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Local companies offer GOLD standard Apprenticeship Opportunities

A total of eight local companies are providing nine apprentice opportunities for young people to avail of. The apprenticeship opportunities are available through the Level 3 GOLD Construction Products Engineering Apprenticeship.

Apprentices will study a BTEC Level 3 National Diploma at South West or Northern Regional College whilst in employment from day one. The opportunity to 'earn while you learn', is one that is highly sought after by employers as apprentices are provided with the opportunity to work in industry while simultaneously gaining the technical knowledge at College.

In recent years this employment route is highly sought after by not only school leavers and potential apprentices, but employers as well. This avenue is becoming an increasingly important method for local companies to build talent pipelines for their businesses.

Local employers, Acheson & Glover, Conexpo, F P McCann, McQuillan Companies, Northstone, Quinn Group, Patrick Bradley Quarries and Tracey Concrete in partnership with Quarry Products Association Northern Ireland (QPANI), South West College and



(L to R) are Gareth Rooney, SWC; Gerry Clancy QIH; Barbara Greer-Sayer of F.P. McCann; Paul Shannon, QIH; Amy Dunbar, F.P. McCann; Paul Callan, Patrick Bradley Ltd; and Caroline McCaffrey, QIH.

Northern Regional College have collaborated to develop the Construction Products Engineering Apprenticeship.

This initiative provides high achieving young people with a unique opportunity, to build a successful career in a diverse sector.

In recommending the opportunity, Gordon Best, Regional Director of QPANI, stated: "The quarry products

industry is an economically important sector, with an annual turnover of approximately £650 million supporting a workforce of 5,600. This GOLD standard apprenticeship provides young people with the opportunity to enter education and employment simultaneously and build meaningful and sustainable careers in our progressive industry."

The development of this apprenticeship is of

regional significance for the sector as recognised by Institute of Quarrying.

David Johnston, Secretary of the local branch of the Institute of Quarrying, said: "As a professional body the Institute of Quarrying was formed to develop education and professionalism within the industry. With an aging demographic in the industry it is vital that the industry attracts young people into the industry at all levels. It is vital that we offer good training, present career paths and working conditions that recognise the skills needed within the industry.

"As a professional body we offer a technical membership for technical staff and have formed close links with support industries both locally and nationally. Providing a structured training programme with recognised qualifications is the first step to meeting the industry needs of tomorrow"

This opportunity is open to those aged 16 plus, who hold or will hold six GCSEs at grade A-C on entry, including English, Maths and a Science or Technology based subject in September. Enrolment on to this is through a three stage process which includes an application form, aptitude test and an interview.

Rapid Announces Affiliate Membership with QPANI

Rapid International Ltd, machinery manufacturers to the concrete, construction and environmental industries, has joined the QPANI as an affiliate member.

One of the primary driving forces behind Rapid's decision to join QPANI was the introduction of the association's new 'Concrete Built IS Better Built' initiative.

The concrete products industry is a vital component in the Northern Ireland construction industry, which employs 80,000 people and is worth £2.4billion to the local economy. As part of its initiative, QPANI has 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.

To show support to the initiative, Rapid will be carrying the new 'Concrete Built is Better Built' logo on its concrete mixers, Rapidmix/ Trakmix mobile continuous mixing plant and Rapidbatch/ Transbatch mobile batching plant.

Commenting on its affiliate membership, Jarlath Gilmore, Sales and Marketing Director – Rapid, said, "Rapid is delighted to be joining QPANI and getting further involved locally with our fellow industry members and also hoping to open up links to wider markets. We are fully supporting the Concrete Built is Better Built initiative and hope that it will enhance the positive message that local concrete producers and concrete equipment manufacturers offer premium quality."

Established in 1969 and based in Tandragee, County Armagh, Rapid International manufactures a wide range of

equipment for the concrete, construction and environmental industries. Rapid's portfolio includes the Rapidmix 400/600 mobile continuous mixing plant, Trakmix track mounted continuous mixing plant, Rapidbatch mobile batching plant, Transbatch compact mobile batching plant, Rapid Pan, Planetary and Twin Shaft concrete mixers, Jetwash high pressure mixer washout system and in-house manufactured spare parts.

This comprehensive range of equipment is manufactured exclusively at Rapid's purpose built 50,000 square foot manufacturing facility, where every aspect of design and production is stringently controlled. Rapid's range of equipment is utilised by many of the world's leading construction and concrete groups and is present in over twenty countries via a strong network of dealer representatives.

All concrete manufacturers across Northern Ireland are invited to join QPANI in their 'Concrete Built IS Better Built Strategy', as the association strives to increase market share for concrete products and make concrete the construction material of choice.

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NI Water Awards £3.25 million Water Improvement Contract to Heyn Engineering

NI Water has awarded a major new £3.25 million contract to local Duncrue - based firm Heyn Engineering. Heyn will be supplying and maintaining essential safety and maintenance equipment to NI Water over potentially the next six years.

As NI Water marks a decade of delivering what matters, investing £1.8 billion in water and wastewater services over the past ten years, this contract will deliver essential health and safety equipment, which will help our staff to safely access and maintain our water and wastewater network. The project will also assist in supporting a growing economy, with 7 people working full-time on the contract at the local firm.

Dean Campbell Category Manager, NI Water Operational Procurement team said: "NI Water are delighted to announce this major contract with Heyn, who will maintain, test and certify over 20,000 items of lifting & fall arrest equipment



Pictured (l-r) are Ryan Scate, Heyn Engineering; Dean Campbell, NI Water; and Kevin Denvir and Gerry Kelly of Heyn Engineering.

such as cranes and hoists. Heyn will also supply replacement equipment, which is essential for our company to maintain our vast network of Pumping Stations, treatment plants and reservoirs throughout Northern

Ireland and continue to deliver what matters to our customers. "Health and safety is a key priority for NI Water and this essential service supplied by Heyn will ensure that staff and contractors can safely get access to

underground services and tanks to help us continue to deliver high quality water and wastewater services, as well as meeting our statutory requirements."

Kevin Denvir Director of Engineering at Heyn added: "We are extremely pleased to have won a contract of strategic importance with NI Water. As a local Northern Ireland company and with Heyn Engineering's expertise, skills and experience we will be able to fulfil this essential supply, maintenance, testing and certification contract to the highest possible standards. "The contract has created additional jobs and improved job security amongst our engineering division. Being selected on a contract of strategic importance by such a high profile organisation such as NI Water, has also helped to raise the profile of Heyn Engineering in the industry. We look forward to working in partnership with NI Water."

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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

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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

Cowan Bros NI **CASE**
CONSTRUCTION

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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.

Leica
Geosystems

innovate ni

sponsored by



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.

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.

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machinery

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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.

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 aftersales 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.

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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.

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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.

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**PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
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PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2017

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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
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NI Water Commence Major Restoration Project for the Mourne Wall

NI Water has started work to restore parts of the historic Mourne Wall, which will benefit the scenic Mournes area.

The first phase of work will see the restoration of a 2.5km section of the Mourne Wall between Slieve Loughshannagh and Slieve Meelmore which is surrounded by NI Water land.

Local experienced stonemasons will carry out the repairs under the management of NI Water contractor, GEDA Construction with advice and guidance from Mourne Heritage Trust (MHT). This project is part of NI Water's commitment to the 'Protocol for the Care of the Government Historic Estates.

Dermott McCurdy NI Water's Project Sponsor said: "During this first phase of the restoration of the wall, NI Water is working closely with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, our contractor GEDA Construction, local stone contractors and the Mourne Heritage Trust to assess the sympathetic construction methods employed, with a view to developing a wider 4-year programme of work.

"To repair certain sections of the Mourne Wall, it is



(L-R): Dermott McCurdy NI Water, Michael Sleator Historic Environment Division, Department for Communities, Niall McGovern GEDA Construction, Michael Donnelly NI Water, Alice Adams RPS, Iain Greenway Historic Environment Division Department for Communities, Helen Anderson, Director, Natural Environment NIEA, DAERA, Brian Rooney (local stonemason) and Desmond Patterson of the Mourne Heritage Trust pictured at the launch of the restoration of the Mourne Wall.

necessary to transport stone and other material to site where it is not readily available. This is being done through carefully planned helicopter drops to agreed locations within the Mournes area."

Councillor Garth Craig, Deputy Chair of Newry Mourne and Down Council added: "The wall crosses 15 mountains across the Mourne range and took approximately 18 years to build, with completion of the original wall in 1922.

This important project will carefully restore and improve parts of the wall, enhancing environmental protection and tourism in this beautiful scenic area."

Countdown begins to Hillhead 2018

There is now just under a year to go until the UK's largest and best attended construction show opens for business again.

Exhibitor rebooks for Hillhead 2018 are already 30 per cent ahead of where they were at the corresponding period

two years ago. This follows on from a record-breaking 2016 event which attracted over 18,600 visitors* and more exhibitors (476) than ever before.

Event Manager Harvey Sugden explains: 'As the deadline for exhibitor rebooking approaches at the end of this month, we look forward to opening the site up

to new enquiries from July, with plans in place to expand both our indoor and outdoor capacity next year.'

The 2018 event takes place from 26 – 28 June at Hillhead Quarry near Buxton. Further event details are available on the show website at: www.hillhead.com



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INSTITUTE OF QUARRYING CELEBRATES CENTENARY YEAR

The Institute of Quarrying nationally is celebrating its centenary year. Events have been arranged nationally and by each of the 13 branches, including the Northern Ireland branch, to celebrate this milestone.

One recent event, a show garden displayed at RHS Chatsworth, won several prizes at the inaugural show at Chatsworth House in Derbyshire, including Best Show Garden. This is a tremendous achievement against stiff opposition. The theme of the garden reflected the life of an extractives site from design, development, working life and restoration.

History of the Institute of Quarrying

The Institute of Quarrying originated in Caernarvon in 1917 with a common purpose: to advance the science and practice of quarrying internationally in the interests of the public at large.

Today it has approximately 5,200 members working around the world. To support these members the Institute has a network of affiliate offices in Australia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand and South Africa.

The inspiration behind the formation of the Institute was Simon McPherson, a quarry manager who felt the need to develop the skills and professionalism of individuals within the industry. It is a professional body for members and not a trade association. The Institute headquarters building is named McPherson House in honour of the founding member.

Education and Professionalism

In keeping with the IoQ values education through a suite of courses has been promoted through Derby University and the IQ Academy. These are practical courses developing technical, managerial skills and apprenticeships with industry.

A continuing professional development (CPD) scheme is run and administered from headquarters. From this scheme the PRIME (Professional Recognition in Mineral Extractives) initiative aimed at extractives personnel and support industries. In recent years a new membership grade of Technical Member has been developed to recognise the skills and professionalism of those in industry who have technical skills but may not be managers. This grade includes quality control technicians, drilling and blasting personnel

and site supervisors. There has been a large uptake for this grade of membership.

All members have to maintain 35 hours of CPD to maintain their membership and this is audited through the CPD scheme. To reflect the areas of CPD a skills wheel has been developed to reflect the skills required by extractives industry professionals. Each area represents an area of personal skills development.

Terex. The aim of the course is to help manufacturer's understand the needs of industry. Approximately 200 Terex employees have completed this course successfully including design engineers, sales and production personnel.

Local Connection

The Northern Ireland Branch is the youngest branch but enjoys great support from industry.



One of the most exciting developments which is on-going is development of the IoQ to become a chartered body. This process is well on the way with several major hurdles overcome. It hoped to achieve chartered status in the next 12 to 18 months.

A local example of reaching out to support industries is the uptake of a blended learning course on mineral extractives by

The programme includes technical evenings, social events and field trips each year for the purpose of educating and developing professional standing, very much reflecting the tenets of the founding members.

It supports local charities through fundraising at its annual Stonecrushers' Ball. In the last 10 years it has donated almost £50,000 to a variety of local charities.



The show garden will be dismantled and moved to the national arboretum, which is in a former sand and gravel pit, as a testimony to the skills and products of the industry.

Technical evenings involve presentation of papers by companies either directly involved or supporting the industry. Presentations in the last year included water management, tyre selection and maintenance, renewable

energy, HGV vehicle specifications and life saving skills through the use of defibrillators.

Close Links

As a professional body, the Northern Ireland Branch interacts and develops

close links with other organisations such as Irish Mining and Quarrying Society, QPANI, HSENI, Irish Concrete Federation and Institute of Asphalt Technology.

One venture it has been pleased to support is supervisor and operative training seminars by HSENI. These are held in local quarrying venues and a range of companies are invited to attend. As a branch, it has accredited these as CPD events and IoQ CPD certificates were issued to over 400 operatives in the last two years on quarry face safety, machinery guarding and quarry vehicle safety. The seminars are on-going and by the end of the year the figure may be close to 600.

The local branch will be supporting and promoting IQ Academy courses on leadership and technical knowledge for supervisors from September onwards.

More Information

If you or any of your colleagues wish to find out more about the IoQ you can visit the national website www.instituteofquarrying.org or contact local branch officers: **Chairman: Sam Eccles – mobile 07702 632064** sameccles3@btinternet.com or **Hon secretary: David Johnston – mobile 07887 514410** jabezsafetysolutions@btinternet.com

Programme	
<i>The local programme for the incoming year is set out below:</i>	
17th August 2017	Golf day at Belvoir Park GC, Belfast
3rd November 2017	Stonecrushers' Ball at Europa Hotel
10th / 11th September 2017	Field trip to Dalradian Gold and Aughey Screens
1st October 2017	Quarryplan – Developments in planning and quarry development
6th November 2017	Stream Bioenergy – energy from biomass
4th December 2017	Antifriction – Transmission solutions and bearing maintenance
15th January 2018	Vayu Energy – Energy generation and management (Holywood Golf Club)
5th February 2018	Sandvik – Developments in crushing and screening technology
5th March 2018	HSENI
9th April 2018	AGM and dinner

Managing Health & Safety with Hire Software & Mobile technology

Health and safety law and legislation is always changing and businesses need to stay informed and ensure they are abiding by all of the latest rules and regulations. Here, we talk to inspHire Managing Director, Graham Dobbs, to find out more.

You want to ensure your equipment is being utilised to its full potential, in a safe and certified manner, which is why many hire businesses are already using or seeking solutions that allow them to manage many aspects of health and safety through digital and mobile platforms.

Why should hire businesses never under-estimate the importance of maintaining equipment?

Properly maintaining equipment is vital not only to health and safety but also for equipment utilisation. A hire management system should provide a dedicated Workshop module that allows businesses to easily manage the up keep of their equipment, ensuring all of the correct services are always completed and equipment is repaired on time. Having access to features such as scheduled servicing as well as alerts and reminders mean that a job will never be missed.

Also, a mobile solution that allows you to complete workshop jobs on the move such as; booking equipment in and out of service and repair, allocating parts and labour as well as marking equipment as ready for hire is greatly beneficial, as it removes the need for paper based documents, saving time and reducing costs.

It's crucial that regular tests and inspections are performed to keep equipment in prime condition and in full working order. Often these are completed either in the yard or out on site. It can be a very tiresome task to complete this using paper based documents and it becomes difficult to follow the paper trail. Even if you're using a hire management package, the hire desk will have to enter the service data into the system, duplicating work and wasting valuable time. Also, being able to capture photos and signatures as proof of work that has been completed and being able to immediately store them back the central system, removes workload duplication and makes processes more efficient.

Why is it important to keep a record of all equipment servicing and maintenance?

The service and repair history of equipment provides hire businesses with some important data such as depreciation as well as the ROI. Well maintained equipment helps to keep equipment active for longer, reduces its value depreciation and keeps customers happy as they're being provided with a high standard of product. Detailed operational, business and financial reports provide businesses with the data they need to make informed decisions when it comes



to purchasing new equipment. Knowing which pieces of equipment have been consistently safe and reliable is a positive for both the business and the customer.

How can hire businesses further support their customer's health and safety?

Quite often you need a variety of accessories to be legally compliant when operating a piece of equipment out on site, whether that be protective clothing such as hard hats or high visibility garments. However, it's not just clothing that you'll need, to operate equipment correctly attachments and additional products may be needed. It's incredibly easy for these small items to be forgotten when equipment is being allocated to a contract. Automated checklists ensure all of the necessary equipment is supplied to the customer, every time. When selecting equipment to add to the contract, you should be informed of all of the other items that must be supplied to the customer along with the main piece of equipment they've requested.

How can customers be assured that equipment operators are qualified to do the job?

An issue that customers face is ensuring all equipment operators have the correct licenses, qualifications and are legally certified to correctly and effectively use any operated equipment. Online Customer Portal's that store important documentation such as, certificates and equipment specifications are an incredibly useful tool that many hire businesses are beginning to use. Customers can access certificates 24/7 and be sure that the operator who arrives on site is fully qualified, the equipment they're using

is safe and the job will be completed to a high standard, leaving customers happy.

What are inspHire doing to continually meet the ever changing demands of the hire industry?

We pride ourselves on providing hire businesses with the tools they need to successfully and smoothly run their operations as well as providing their customers with equipment that is in great condition, ready to use and completely safe. We're innovators in the industry and are always actively seeking ways to enhance our customers experience, thus enhancing their own experience. We've worked closely with our customer on mobile technology, cloud based solutions and much more product research and development to provide them with features and functionality they want to see, incorporating the latest technologies.

*About inspHire

inspHire has been providing dynamic solutions for managing every area of a hire business, including health and safety since 1997. During recent years, inspHire has seen an increase in demand for the ability to complete health and safety related tasks on the move.

inspHire was an early adopter of mobile technology, introducing its inspHire Mobile product back in 2013. Since launch inspHire Mobile has been consistently updated and developed to provide hire businesses with the latest features that allow them to successfully and easily work away from the hire desk, online or offline, ensuring they're capturing all the legal information and supplying equipment that is safe and ready to use.

You'll find more details at www.insphire.com

Do you see the benefits of CSCS?

Up until recently, if someone said ‘CSCS’ to me, I’d have looked at them like a deer in the headlights, writes Daniella Matra-Grano from The Equipment Network which connects operational, sales and service professionals with manufacturers, dealers and hire & rental companies in the UK.

Alongside my colleagues, we have been filling roles in the construction equipment industry for years, but it’s still a term we rarely came across.

After recently sourcing for a role where the card was a requirement, it led me to do some further digging into what the card actually meant for the people obtaining them and working on sites with them.

The idea behind the cards is to implement a system to which all levels of employees working on construction sites have to comply to. The Construction Skills Certification Scheme is designed to show the knowledge and level of qualification each worker has gained. The not-for-profit company use different colours of the card to show the different level of safety each employee is trained and educated on. The card is said to help reduce accidents and drive out the “cowboy element” within the construction industry. The scheme tests the safety and competence of the workers, but does it?

The multitude of cards depend on two things: Industry relevant qualifications; and the appropriate level CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test.

When I began researching online, the articles lead me to believe that it would be hard for people without these cards to seek employment yet having never been a necessity before when recruiting for roles I wanted to challenge this theory further. I recently reached out to a social media platform to ask people in the industry their opinion on the CSCS cards and whether it’s a necessity for them in their workplace.

Employers that do ensure their employees have the correct CSCS card tend to have it due to a “better safe than sorry” mind set as it proves to them and their clients that the workers they send are safe and



knowledgeable on what their working on. Saying this, others have stated that they do need to show their cards quite regularly to gain access to the sites they’ll be working on and therefore, for £30, is a vital certification for them to have.

“It’s money generation and proves nothing about the person who holds the card but the industry says you have to have it.”

On the other side of the spectrum, there were many others who expressed major disagreements with the scheme. The consensus of it being a money grabbing scheme that doesn’t really prove much was also discussed with people also saying it’s very dependant on where you’re working. ‘Big blue chip companies are far stricter on being covered by CSCS cards than small companies.’ Could this be due to the media attention or because they genuinely care for the safety of their employees, more so than the smaller companies?

So, with the introduction of the Construction Skills Certification Scheme being introduced in 1995, has there been a significant drop for construction accidents? With the card not being a legal requirement, and very much down to the individual sites on whether to implement the scheme or not, it’s hard to calculate whether the card has had any serious impact on reducing the amount of incidents and injuries that happen.

According to the HSE (Health and Safety Executive), the amount of injuries, diseases and dangerous occurrences in construction has dropped by 85% over the past 40 years but again, this doesn’t

show much correlation to the CSCS card itself and the differences between the workers that have it and don’t have it.

Looking at the chart below, the red line (showing worker fatal injury rate) shows a significant decrease in the fatal injuries to workers pre and post the CSCS card, but there is also a lack of statistics to the few years leading up to the introduction of CSCS, and the first few years of it being in place, so again, while accidents and injuries have definitely and significantly dropped, there is no proof that this is directly related to people obtaining CSCS cards for the workplace.

It’s obvious that opinions on the scheme aren’t going to change overnight, they are there for a good purpose but it’s understandable that some people aren’t keen on the idea when a lot of sites aren’t buying into it any. Why would you pay more for a certification that isn’t needed? It’s not until the site makes it part of procedure and bans people not holding them, that it becomes a concern for the workers themselves.

Falsifying answers

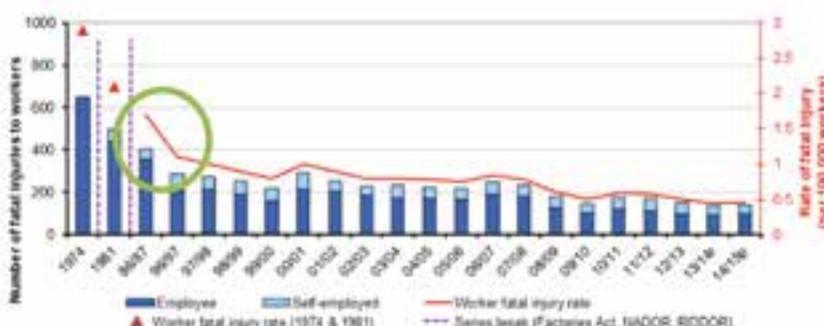
Taking a test online could be completed with the aid of google searching or a colleague/friend with the knowledge. With the dangers in the construction industry, the scheme seems a good idea, but the way it’s regulated makes me doubt how much it qualifies the workers.

So will the CSCS card prove effective? Has it already? Or with it becoming more and more common in the industry, will we see the drastic improvements in the years to come?

Taking the time to thoroughly look into this scheme, not only facts but also opinions and situations with the CSCS card on sites has given me a kind of insight to the industry that I wasn’t aware of. I of course, welcome any further thoughts on this matter. Alternatively, I’d be more than happy to gain a yellow CSCS visitors card (or not) and come and visit you on site.

Information for this article was gathered through the HSE website (<http://www.hse.gov.uk>), through discussion on social media platforms (Facebook & LinkedIn) and through my own experiences.

Figure 1: Number and rate of fatal injury to workers^a in Great Britain 1974, 1981, 1986/87, 1996/97 – 2014/15^b



HSENI advice on Slips, Trips and Falls from Height

The Health and Safety Executive NI and the 11 Councils in Northern Ireland have partnered to deliver a Health and Safety awareness-raising initiative, focusing on slips, trips and falls from height.

Slips, trips and falls from height continue to cause accidents, injuries and fatalities in many different types of workplaces in Northern Ireland. Between 2011 and 2016, falls were the biggest single cause of workplace fatalities in Northern Ireland. The total number of deaths during this period as a result of work related falls represents one third of the total workplace fatalities.

HSENI Deputy Chief Executive, Louis Burns said: "The majority of work-related slip, trip and fall accidents are preventable by adopting simple steps to manage risks in the workplace. The process should begin with a risk assessment covering all areas to consider what risks in your workplace may lead to slip or trip or fall injuries. "You should then decide what suitable and effective control measures will



prevent these types of accidents and put these control measures into practice".

Sinead Trainor, a Senior Environmental Health Officer/ Affordable Warmth Co-ordinator from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, said: "Slips, trips or falls from height are the most common causes of workplace accidents in Northern Ireland. In 2016/17 over 1/3 of reported workplace injuries resulted from slips, trips or falls from height; this is why we are jointly focusing attention on this area."

There are many simple ways to control the risks of slips and trips and prevent accidents in your workplace, and the post-risk assessment preventative measures include:

For slips and trips

- Stop floors becoming contaminated
- Use the right cleaning methods
- Get the right footwear
- Think about people and organisational factors – for example, consider how work is organised and managed, eg to avoid rushing, overcrowding, trailing cables.

For work at height

- Avoid working from height in the first place by carrying out the job at ground level
- Prevent a fall from occurring with edge protection and safe use of ladders
- Minimise the consequences of a fall with safety nets and other safety equipment

UK Construction Week to offer definitive safety courses

In light of recent tragic events, UK Construction Week has taken the most positive step possible by launching free unbiased, factual workshops to anyone working in the industry.

These free, one hour CPD-certified sessions - taking place from 10 – 12 October at the Birmingham NEC - will address the specification and use of products from the viewpoint of safety, quality and fire prevention in buildings to ensure that all participants are given the most up-to-date advice and guidance on the main issues affecting the built environment following the tragedy at Grenfell Tower.

These topics have been under intense public scrutiny at a national level, and whilst Grenfell will change the construction industry forever, companies must come to terms with the fact that 'doing enough' is no longer

UK CONSTRUCTION WEEK | 2017



good enough. Our industry has a responsibility for the safety of every user or inhabitant of every building in the UK and with an ever-zealous media looking to apportion blame, and the threat of prosecution and prison now a stark reality, these workshops will ensure that our industry is completely informed with the latest views, findings and legislation.

Earlier, UK Construction Week issued a survey which received over 1000 responses from construction professionals. This survey asked them to identify the professional bodies they want the most up-to-date guidance from; the type of products and services that are now a priority for on-going and future

projects; and how the industry can learn from this terrible event and move forward. The survey results have shaped a series of workshops, which will seek to clarify the latest advice and guidance for the industry.

Topics include:

- Building Regulations – an update and interpretation
- Fire Prevention – guidance on sprinklers, fire doors, dampening
- Flammable Building Materials – looking at cladding and other materials and latest advice
- Health & Safety – knowing your responsibilities and up to date guidance on the latest legislation

- Improving Safety through Technology

Nathan Garnett, Event Director, said, "In light of recent tragic events in London, and the fact that there are millions of square metres of building space being refurbished, refitted and built right now, the industry must act swiftly to decipher the latest guidance and advice by separating the facts from the fiction. By collaborating with the authorities and professional bodies, we at UK Construction Week have responded with a series of free, CPD certified workshops to address the latest issues and provide the facts from people the industry knows and can trust."

Available to any companies involved in the specification or use of products or services in construction or who are responsible for Health and Safety in commercial or residential buildings the show is offering completely free subsidised places on the workshops. Due to the expected high demand, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Sisk Steconfer JV begin testing trams on new Luas Cross City extension

Sisk Steconfer JV recently began testing the trams on the new Luas Cross City light rail extension in Dublin, the most significant milestone for the project to date.

Running from St Stephen's Green to Broombridge through the city centre, Phibsborough and Cabra, the new line will link the Luas Red and Green Lines.

Construction works for Luas Cross City are being carried out by a joint venture between John Sisk and Son and Steconfer, a Portuguese based global railway construction company.

The gauge run is the first test for the Luas Cross City system in advance of passenger services commencing in December. It consists of moving trams at slow speeds (from 5kph up to 10kph) whilst carrying out a range of measurements and verifying that the new infrastructure (tracks and overhead wires) is working with the trams. Speaking after the first successful gauge run, Stephen Bowcott, CEO of John Sisk & Son, said: "This marks a significant milestone for the construction of the Luas Cross City extension and the 800 SSJV employees who have combined their talent and expertise to ensure the success of this project to date.

"As an innovative, international, engineering and construction company, John Sisk & Son is proud to be part of the SSJV team that will deliver such a large, complex and multidisciplinary project in partnership with our client, Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). The progress on this project to date demonstrates Sisk's track record, scale and capacity to successfully undertake large, complex, multidisciplinary programmes. With the successful completion of the first tram gauge run, the project is now well on course to be delivered safely and on time."

The gauge run comes almost two years after SSJV commenced works as the contractor for the project.



L-R: Seamus Egan – Performance Manager, Transdev; Michael Nolan, CEO Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII); Luis Bairrao, Managing Director, Steconfer; Shane Ross, TD, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport; Pat Lucey, John Sisk and Son, Director Civils UK & Ireland; Anne Graham, CEO, National Transport Authority (NTA); and Mary Morrell – Acting Managing Director, Transdev.

Luis Bairrao, Managing Director, Steconfer said: "The delivery of this prestigious and multidisciplinary project allows us the opportunity to demonstrate our expertise and high technical skills required for the construction of railway and overhead line electrification systems. We are delighted with the progress made to date and look forward to the final completion of the project within the next few months."

In September the new line will be handed over to Transdev, the tram operators, who will then coordinate the driver training and conclude further tests and trial running of the new system.

In the interim, SSJV will close out the remaining works around the tracks such as road resurfacing, paving, the fit-out of

the tram depot and landscaping of the surrounding plaza. These works continue in parallel with the tram testing programme.

Key construction statistics:

- * Total Single Track: 13.4km
- * Total weight of the tracks: 1520 tonnes
- * On street concrete track bed and shoulders poured: 13600m³
- * Total ducting and pipes under the surface: 178000m
- * Daily average distance walked by a foreman: 12km
- * Projected total man hours to complete SSJV works: 2.5 million hours
- * Number of people who worked on the mains infrastructure project: 811

Hako Plus Briggs Equals a Clean Sweep

Briggs Equipment UK has further enhanced its relationship with industrial cleaning equipment manufacturer Hako Machines Ltd by announcing that it has been appointed as the national dealer for Hako in the UK.

Hako, based in Northamptonshire, produces a range of pedestrian and ride-on sweepers, scrubber driers and street sweepers capable of maintaining all kinds of floor surfaces and cleaning up wet and dry debris to help companies keep their premises clean and to comply with health and safety and environmental regulations.

Hako identified and understood the strengths of Briggs Equipment's proposition including a 3 hour response time to breakdowns, 600 mobile engineers across the UK, an online fleet management portal and an in-house financing business.

This new partnership will also enable Briggs engineers to receive overnight, in-boot parts deliveries, speeding up the reaction time for service visits and in doing so set new standards for this sector. The full range of replacement parts, attachments and specialist detergents is available through this leading edge supply chain and every industrial floor

surface, potential spillage or debris is catered for.

This new appointment means that companies looking for industrial cleaning equipment now have access to premium quality machines supplied and maintained by an equipment rental and maintenance specialist, making the process of choosing the right solution for the job more flexible and efficient.

Sylvie Giangolini, General Manager of Hako Machines Ltd in the UK, said of the appointment, "Briggs Equipment's experience as an engineering services and asset management company made them the ideal partner for Hako as we looked for a

way to expand the reach of our product range and offer customers a unique proposition."

Peter Jones, Managing Director of Briggs Equipment UK commented, "Our relationship with Hako is another example of how we have developed to be more than a materials handling equipment provider. The Hako product range, technical support and appetite for growth matches our strategy perfectly and we really feel that this move puts our two companies at the forefront of the cleaning equipment market in the UK. We look forward to developing new opportunities and pooling our collective expertise to deliver an exceptional customer experience."

Sandvik demonstrates its expertise at steinexpo

In a well-designed layout Sandvik Mining and Construction Central Europe GmbH will demonstrate its expertise as a supplier to the aggregates and construction industries at the 10th steinexpo.

Different exhibits presented in specially defined areas of the 1,400 m² Sandvik exhibition area will home in on the specific interests of visitors.

Product innovations from the manufacturer's broad range of products in the drilling, mobile and stationary crushing and screening technology segments as well as wear protection and screening media underline the performance and the practical understanding of this global player.

In addition, Sandvik promises a sensational unveiling at the show with the first presentation of a global innovation from the Ranger drilling equipment series.

The new QJ341+ tracked jaw crusher is on display on the Sandvik stand. This new crusher model features a double deck pre-screen as standard and so expands the performance of this Sandvik bestseller under mobile jaw crushers with the QJ341 type designation.

The intensive and therefore particularly thorough pre-screening of large quantities of fine particles makes the QJ341+ especially ideal for quarrying applications with a high fines content in comparison to the standard model. Test results confirm an increase in the productivity of up to 38% in certain applications. In addition, the effective removal of fine particles reduces the wear in the crushing chamber before the actual crushing takes place.

To complement the pre-screen, the QJ341+ features a new telescopic natural fines conveyor, with a discharge height of 3.1m / 10'3" to deal with the increased flow of pre-screened material. The dirt chute has been designed with a steeper angle to enable a faster transfer of material, whilst also increasing the ability to deal with sticky material. The three position dirt chute allows all material passing the pre-

screen grizzly to be diverted onto either the main conveyor or the natural fines conveyor. In the middle position it allows a screened product to be produced out from the fines conveyor. All of this is done by positioning the three way chute without removing any media from the pre-screen.

Like the standard model, the QJ341+ also has easy-to-use features such as the hydraulic gap adjustment, reversible jaw and a hydraulic drive for starting when under load, as well as a Sandvik PLC control including a control screen. Highly efficient inclined axle and radial piston motors reduce the hydraulic flow rates, reduce fuel consumption and improve the durability of the 50-ton plant with throughputs up to 400 t/h.

Secondary crusher

The latest representative of the CH/S 500 series from Sandvik is the CS550 cone crusher. It was designed as a powerful secondary crusher for applications in the capacity range of 250 to 750 t/h. Apart from its flexibility and concentrated crushing power, this model provides maximum operational productivity and availability thanks to its modern automation functions and its user-friendly maintenance design due to the complete absence of casting compound during installation of the crushing tools.

In addition, ergonomic improvements contribute to the even safer and more time-saving maintenance and servicing of the plant. The Sandvik CH550 is the latest cone crusher addition to the Sandvik CS550 and Sandvik CH540 in the 500 crusher series. This reliable high-performance machine for secondary crushing stages has been specially designed for applications in the aggregates industry.

The Sandvik CS550 takes the lead with outstanding feed characteristics and achieves a 25% higher crushing ratio with excellent quality of the final products in this crushing stage. The remarkable crushing ratio with high throughput rate and excellent grain quality is due to the novel crushing chamber geometry developed in house. This way the

CS550 sustainably relieves the load on the tertiary stage. As a result, the material cycle load of the process stage can be reduced by up to 50%. The Sandvik CS550 offers a wide range of achievable gap widths and adjustable crushing strokes to allow a large feed opening, adapted to the primary stage jaw crusher. This extreme flexibility makes the Sandvik CS550 ideal for various requirements.

Screen media

The newly developed Sandvik screen media perfectly combines the advantages of different screen media, which are represented by the brand new product, Sandvik WX6500, and will be presented to the professional public for the first time.

It combines the screening accuracy of a wire mesh for split cuts of 2 to 32 mm particle size with all the advantages of a rubber screen panel. In addition to the higher durability, up to ten times more than conventional wire mesh, users will appreciate the particularly simple handling of the light and flexible screen media.

In practice, the maximum proportion of the open screen area, the outstanding screening accuracy and excellent screening performance convincingly meet the particularly high demands that practitioners place on the quality of the finished product.

In this respect, the Sandvik WX6500 screen medium is absolutely equal to wire mesh, but it provides other positive properties that wire screens do not have. For example, the effective value is significantly increased as the new-type screen panel minimises clogging and material sticking to the screen.

The wear-resistant screen panel ensures that a consistent quality product is generated over the entire operating time. This increases the reliability of the production process and also brings about a significant reduction in replacement intervals and production downtimes because of the long service life of the screen panel.

Ranger Debut

As an absolute world first, a brand new member of the Sandvik Ranger drill rig series will be unveiled when the steinexpo opens its doors. This prelaunch is a very special event as the equipment will only be presented and demonstrated to dealers in Finland for the first time seven days after the steinexpo.

In the run-up to this exclusive preview, a mantle of secrecy has been pulled over the type designation. Nevertheless, it has become known that the operating radius of the machine covers a range of 290 degrees, thus bringing a significant advantage when it comes to speed, accuracy and safety when drilling specified drill grids from a selected location in the drilling process.

The developers are also particularly proud of the newly designed and comfortable cabin of this technically advanced, intelligent drill rig equipped with industry 4.0 docking points. The wide range of technical features of the new Ranger has prompted Sandvik to compile an information package especially for it, which is available to interested parties at steinexpo.



The new QJ341+ tracked jaw crusher

EVERYTHING READY FOR THE 10th STEINEXPO

This 10th anniversary steinexpo, the largest demonstration exhibition of the raw and building materials industry on the European mainland is fully booked, with international exhibitors accounting for more than 25 per cent of those participating in the trade fair.

Trade fair director Dr. Friedhelm Rese and trade fair business unit manager Andrea Friedrich are especially pleased about the increased participation by international exhibitors, saying this again shows how committed professional partners, including the European Aggregates Association, are in their involvement in the development of the steinexpo.



The participation of companies from New Zealand or China is also due to the fact that trade visitors to the previous events have spread the reputation of the "live" trade fair across continental borders.

The trade fair again has 180,000 m² of total surface area at its disposal in the MHI stone quarry in Nieder-Ofleiden, which provides more than 15 per cent additional net exhibition space compared to 2014 with some skilful planning.

Together with the technical planning team of the TU Clausthal, the organisers will once again provide new stimuli for a lively trade fair experience. In the joint demo on area A, visitors can observe 23 large machines with a weight of up to 130 tons at "work" from a 250-seat spectators' stand. Over the course of the trade fair, the mobile equipment used here will demonstrate perfectly combined charging and transport processes in a total of 101 real-life demonstrations. There will be a caterpillar presentation for the first time and the use of other special equipment is also fitted into the tight schedule.

In addition to the moderated demo area that includes trademarks across the spectrum, which can be viewed from the spectators' stand, a special non-moderated area is also prepared on level A. Here, various exhibitors will host individual demonstrations of their equipment in the excavated material after prior announcement.

In addition, the individual demonstrations of mobile equipment, treatment plants and accessory equipment, which are typical to steinexpo, are demonstrated at various other stands in all exhibition areas.

Everything around construction machinery is shown on demo area B, while the processing technology is grouped together on area C. The demonstrations follow a user-friendly interrelated schedule. To be in the right place at the right time and to actually see the more than 500 large-scale machines in operation, it is worth taking a look at the demo information in the trade fair catalogue. Two lifts contribute to "doing the rounds" in a more relaxed manner.

Pavilion exhibitors once again benefit from the "open concept" of the large tent halls, which have proven themselves for the first time in 2014, improving the integration of the rather "static" range of products from accessory suppliers and service providers into the vibrant demo environment.

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Sand Production Doubled Thanks to CDE wet processing plant

Located in Gauting, near Munich in Germany, sand and aggregates producer Kies- und Quetschwerk Oberbrunn GmbH is reaping the benefits of their new CDE EvoWash wet processing plant after doubling their concrete sand production.

Prior to switching to a CDE solution, Kies- und Quetschwerk Oberbrunn GmbH was using a bucket wheel and fines recovery cyclone. However, the company was dealing with issues that prevented it from maximising its operations. These included the need for continuous maintenance for the - too numerous - moving parts of its existing installation as well as the latter's limited capacity which restricted production to a maximum of 35 tonnes per hour if quality and consistency of the final product were to be ensured.

Already interested in the modular concept offered by CDE, Kies- und Quetschwerk Oberbrunn GmbH's Managing Director Manfred Kirschler started a discussion with the CDE team based in Germany. He recalls: "When we initially met with CDE, we were ready for a radical upgrade of our operations. We needed a wet processing plant that could easily adapt to the existing plant and that would be efficient, reliable and economical. "Crucially, we were aware that we were not realising the maximum performance of the entire processing plant. We wanted a plant that was able to process a lot more sand than the current 40,000 tonnes per year."

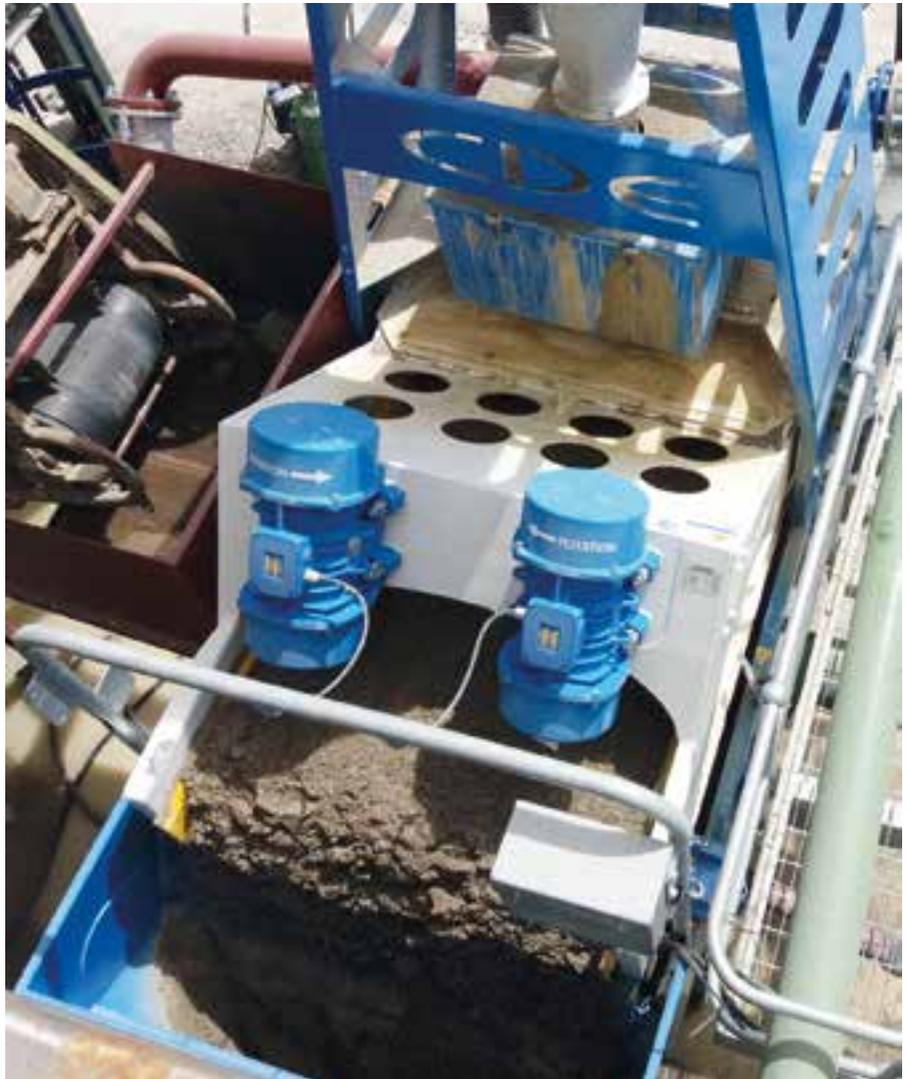
Kies- und Quetschwerk Oberbrunn GmbH's objective was to double its concrete sand production to be delivered in its totality to a concrete batching plant located next to the sand washing plant.

Manfred Kirschler continues: "For a consistent production of up to 80,000 tonnes per year, the CDE EvoWash wet processing plant was an ideal solution. Compact, economical and powerful, the plant is now producing 60 tonnes per hour of sand – equivalent to 68,000 tonnes per year – and can process up to 80,000 tonnes per year if the company's production requirements increase."

Christoph Aubel, Business Development Executive for CDE in Germany, adds: "From the first conversation with Mr Kirschler and the visit to the site, it was obvious that a lot could be done to improve the site's operations as well as its levels of production."

"To satisfy the requirement for a plant that would adapt to the constraints of the site's geography, the modular concept as well as the tailor-made design of the CDE equipment meant that an ideal solution for the client could be found without having to make compromises.

"Hard wearing and conceived for ease of maintenance, with the EvoWash there are



no moving parts to deal with any more. The new EvoWash at Kies processes 200 tonnes of limestone raw feed per hour with 35% of 0-4mm sand. Concrete fractions of 4-8mm, 8-16mm, 16-32mm and 32/X are processed with the rest of the plant."

Manfred Kirschler says: "We are delighted with our new CDE modular sand washing system. It is economical, requires a minimal amount of civils and provides consistent high-quality sand in any quantities. Sand quality stays extremely high and consistent throughout the process, with a sand ready to be processed by the concrete batching plant straight from the belt."

As is the case for every plant CDE designs and deploys anywhere in the world, the ProMan system kicked in as soon as the order was placed. ProMan entails the allocation of a Project Manager as the single point of contact for the client. Supported by a

Project Team that covers all aspects of the work, the Project Manager accompanies the client from the conception of their bespoke washing installation to its commissioning, with responsibility to deliver the highest level of quality within agreed timeframes and costs. With the added bonus of fully transparent and straight-forward communications, the development, building and commissioning process becomes seamless.

Christoph Aubel concludes: "It has been a pleasure to work on the improvement of Kies- und Quetschwerk Oberbrunn GmbH's concrete sand operations. Thanks to the introduction of a CDE EvoWash sand washing plant, concrete sand production at the Kies site has now become highly efficient in terms of quality, quantity and consistency."

Incidentally, CDE will be at Steinexpo from 30 August to 2 September on stand P235.

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IMAGE: ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

IMAGE: ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



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Terex Trucks' 28-tonne Gen10 TA300 To Make Show Debut

Scotland-based manufacturer Terex Trucks unveils its Generation 10 TA300 in Germany for the first time at Steinexpo.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of Steinexpo, Terex Trucks is attending the four-day exhibition with its newest articulated hauler, the Gen10 TA300. The 28-tonne capacity machine is set to take pride of place in booth C100 at Europe's biggest basalt quarry near Homberg, Germany.

Masterfully crafted in Motherwell, Scotland, the articulated dump truck is made to work harder for longer in the most testing terrains. Fit for purpose in a number of applications ranging from quarries, infrastructure developments, and commercial construction projects, the TA300 features an enriched operator environment and sophisticated engine enhancements.

The EU Stage IV emissions-compliant machine is the second product to be launched by Terex Trucks since its acquisition by Volvo Construction Equipment. The hauler also comes with upgraded hydraulic and electrical interfaces and improved aesthetics in order to maximize uptime. The Gen10 TA300 will be showcased at Steinexpo by Terex Trucks' official partner in Germany, Klarmann-Lembach.

From increased availability of parts to product improvements and customer focused finance solutions, Klarmann-Lembach's team will be present alongside Terex Trucks specialists throughout the show. The experts will be on hand to explain how



the manufacturer is making investments to impact the customers' ability to maximise uptime and production efficiency.

"Steinexpo's 10th anniversary will no doubt be an impressive event and it serves as the perfect opportunity to introduce the Generation 10 TA300 to all our German customers," says John Mlonek, commercial

sales manager at Terex Trucks. "The new articulated hauler is well suited to various operations that are prominent in the region, and it's essential for Terex Trucks to continue to build its reputation in such an important market. We are looking forward networking with visitors at the hopefully sunny exhibition," adds John.



Tickets online: www.steinexpo.de/registrierung

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TEREX TRUCKS MAKES A SOLID MOVE IN IRELAND

Terex Trucks' proven articulated hauler, the TA300, has been showcasing its versatility and fuel efficient ways to Ireland's leading concrete product supplier, Kilsaran, at its Gallstown Quarry located in Louth, in the border region of Ireland.

"The TA300 is an impressive truck – it's fit for purpose, built to perform and not too complicated," says Peter Ryan, site manager at the quarry.

He adds, "We use the truck for a couple of purposes, primarily for hauling material from our chip plant, bringing aggregates to our concrete and block-making facilities; and secondly, we put it to work doing the removal of overburden at the quarry, and some general housekeeping muck shifts around the site."

Established in 1964 by Patrick McKeown, Kilsaran is a family-owned business that initially specialised in the production of sand and gravel. Its operation has grown substantially and the company is now renowned for creating a number of construction materials including asphalt, road surfacing aggregates, and paving bricks. With 16 modern facilities countrywide, Kilsaran acquired the Gallstown Quarry as a greenfield site in the early 90s but has since transformed it into a fully-functioning quarry equipped



with a concrete plant, block making-facility, crushing and screening, and washer plant.

Known for producing material with an unusually high polish stone value, Kilsaran has grown into a progressive company over the last 50 years, while still maintaining

the intimacy of a family-run business. As such, Kilsaran is not short of accolades for its products and commitments to the environment. Matching its equipment to its mission, Kilsaran purchased the low emission 28-tonne TA300 from Terex Trucks' official dealer EMS in January 2016.





The 28-tonne capacity machine is primarily used at the Gallstown Quarry for hauling material from the chip plant, delivering aggregates to Kilsaran's concrete and block-making facility

Rock-solid partnership

Terex Trucks first impressed Kilsaran after EMS brought the machine on the Gallstown site for demonstration, at which point it quickly won favour with operators. "EMS was very keen to position a truck in our company and to date it's been very positive," says Peter Ryan. "This partnership is meaningful, it's much more personal, and EMS is particularly attentive."

He adds, "Terex Trucks has also been of great assistance since we got the machine. They want to look after us, and they want to see that we're happy; EMS has the full support of Terex Trucks and that's where we are with it."

Concrete capability

Built at the Motherwell factory in Scotland, the TA300 is designed to power through the toughest environments efficiently with good fuel economy. Offering maximum return on investment, the machine is fitted with a Scania DC9 five cylinder 9.3 litre engine running at 276 kW (370hp) and maximum torque of 1880 Nm. This power is due to a drivetrain gear reduction that provides excellent rimpull, powering the articulated hauler up the steepest inclines and enabling increased operator control when conditions are at their toughest.

The versatile hauler, which works eight hour shifts six days a week, has impressed Kilsaran with its fuel efficiency and simple operation

Transmission and engine exhaust brake retardation systems comes as standard, while a high capacity body makes for excellent productivity due to the amount of material that can be moved in a single trip.

In addition, the TA300 features fully independent front suspension, as well as a spacious ergonomic cab offering a

commanding view and operator comfort. Suited particularly well to the Gallstown site, the TA300 will clock up the hours working eight hour shifts six times a week, loading and hauling aggregate from the static crushing plant and transferring it to the block and concrete-making facility.

Peter concludes: "The TA300 is performing well, it's doing exactly as we'd expect from a relatively new truck – it's trouble free and the operator likes it!"



Genie Hybrid Articulating Boom 'Rental Product Of The Year'

Among the eighteen rental companies and equipment manufacturers from 12 countries that were on this year's shortlists, Terex Aerial Work Platforms' Genie Z-60/37 FE hybrid articulating boom was named 'Rental Product of the Year' by the European Rental Association (ERA) at the European Rental Awards.

With sustainability in mind, "This is a true four-by-four hybrid machine designed for indoor and outdoor use and with low fuel consumption," said the judges.

"The ERA 'Rental Product of the Year' stamp has long been synonymous with product excellence and innovation that guides fleet owners to the best new products

on the market", says Joe George, Genie VP & Managing Director, Terex AWP EMEAR.

"We are delighted to have won this award, which is a tribute to

the entire global team involved in the design, engineering and manufacturing of the Genie Z-60/37 FE boom. This machine takes hybrid technology to

a whole new level, and the recognition of ERA validates that Genie's legacy of more than 50 years supporting the growth of the powered access industry by driving innovation and introducing pioneering technology is the right approach for our rental partners and their customers."

For Adam Hailey, Director Product Management, Terex AWP, "As a result of its unique three-phase AC power system, the 20 m (65 ft 7 in) Genie Z-60/37 FE boom is the first and only true high performance hybrid unit on the market. Providing the choice of two modes of operation, this machine offers rental companies a versatile, sustainable and powerful 'two-in-one' solution adapted to indoor as well as outdoor applications, even where on-site electric power is not available, besides offering the economy of between 15 to 30 euros of fuel a week and running more than 8 hours with just a full bunk of battery charge overnight."



The Genie EMER team (L-R) are Joe George (Genie VP & Managing Director), Adam Hailey (Director Product Management), Rebecca Cozzolino (Marketing Manager) Simona Martini (Marketing Director), Christine Zeznick (Senior Product Manager – EMEAR).

Software Delivers CAD Drawings In Less Time

Leica Geosystems has released its new DX Office Vision utility post processing software for mapping ground penetrating radar (GPR) data from the field into a CAD drawing in an easy and professional way with minimal training.

DX Office Vision allows even non-experienced users to obtain professional

3D CAD drawings and visualise the detected underground utilities in a simple way. The intuitive interface enables users to filter, select, identify and make annotations of the located targets.

With DX Office Vision, post processing for all ground penetrating data requires no add-on or third party software.

It was developed by utility surveyors who know what is needed from a post processing software. The software was created to reduce the post processing time and eliminate all unnecessary steps to convert data or chose parameters. The software guides the user to create a reliable 3D map of the underground detected utilities with minimal training.

RSK's Roseanna Bloxham Named Best Woman Consultant

Roseanna Bloxham, senior consultant at environmental consultancy RSK, which has offices in Belfast, has been named Best Woman Consultant at the 2017 European Women in Construction and Engineering (WICE) Awards.

The awards aim to find the most-exemplary women within construction and engineering across Europe.

To claim top spot, Roseanna first had to face a rigorous and competitive judging process, including the WICE judging day, which involved a face-to-face interview with industry experts and a one-minute presentation to all 57 judges.

The finalists were assessed according to their involvement in and commitment to the industry, career and education, teamwork and leadership skills, knowledge of workplace health and safety issues, customer service skills and other pursuits, hobbies and extracurricular activities.

Roseanna joined RSK, which now employs 1600 people worldwide and has a turnover of almost £100 million, in 2011. She works as a senior geoenvironmental engineer in RSK's geosciences team at Hemel Hempstead. RSK's geosciences team assists clients in realising the opportunities and managing the potential liabilities associated with the acquisition, ownership, development and divestiture of land.

Roseanna is currently working on the Shell Global Environmental Services Strategy contract and managing a large multidisciplinary geotechnical-led project.

"I feel incredibly shocked and honoured to have won the award for Best Woman Consultant. I still cannot quite believe it," Roseanna commented. "I see it as a representation of my hard work and dedication to my role within RSK and the support from my colleagues over the past five years.

"Over the past few years, I have noticed the number of women in the industry growing and I am pleased to see more female graduates."



Roseanna Bloxham

THE COBRA 230 COMPACT WITH IMPACT CRUSHER

EvoQuip has launched a new addition to their impact crushing range: the Cobra 230 impact crusher. No matter what line of work you're in, whether it is Construction & Demolition, Asphalt Recycling, Quarrying or Contract Crushing the Cobra 230 will enhance your profitability.

Matt Dickson, EvoQuip, Product Line Director said, "The Cobra 230 Impact Crusher is a machine that provides class leading productivity, unmatched versatility and excellent fuel efficiency. The quick set up times, simple intuitive operation and ease of transport makes this machine an ideal solution for all applications."

The Cobra 230 has been on test with J & V Construction in Ireland. Gerd McCann, J & V Construction Director, said: "The EvoQuip Cobra 230 has managed to surpass our expectations, handling a mix of difficult rock and heavy duty recycled concrete with ease, and turning it into products we have been able to reuse on our construction sites."



The rapid set up time and intuitive control system on the Cobra 230 enables the operator to be crushing minutes after unloading the machine from the lorry. The operator can also adjust the crusher setting easily without the need for any tools using the user friendly hydraulic assist that is standard on the machine.

There are a number of key design features in the Cobra 230 that ensure an optimal material flow through the crushing process. As material moves from the feeder through the impactor onto the product belt each section becomes

wider ensuring an unrestricted flow. The excellent under crusher clearance, the short distance from the crusher discharge to the magnet and the ability to lower the product conveyor while running make the Cobra 230 the ideal machine in all applications.

The Cobra 230 uses an extremely fuel efficient and high performing direct drive system to power the impact crusher. This along with the two independent hydraulic controlled aprons allows the operator to optimize the material throughput and reduction whilst ensuring the best fuel efficiency.

Serviceability

Serviceability has been integral throughout the design and development of the Cobra 230. With ground level access to the engine, hydraulics, service and refueling points, it ensures maintenance is easy for the operator. This is further enhanced with features such as the hinged radiator pack and hinged diesel tank.

The compact footprint makes the Cobra 230 easy to transport and also makes it an ideal machine for working in urban areas.



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Major Manufacturers at DemoExpo 2017

The NFDC and IDE recently held the third DemoExpo at the Herts Showground; unlike the preceding shows, a third day was added at the request of many of the attending manufacturers.

Almost all major manufacturers graced the event with Marubeni Komatsu showing their award winning PC390-11HRD to the public for the first time. Displayed in full 26m high reach configuration, the machine was only beaten for height by their larger PC490-10 model which was on display at Ridgway Rental's stand.

Komatsu were also keen to show the largest excavator in their Hybrid range, the PC365. Designed to save over 20% in fuel consumption on certain tasks, the 36 tonne machine was displayed alongside a PC290-11 excavator and WA320 wheeled loader in waste handling specification.

Hitachi Construction Machinery arrived with a wide variety of equipment from mini, midi and large excavators and wheeled loaders. Hitachi showed just why they are number one excavator supplier in the UK with all the machines sporting customer liveries and destined for job sites directly after the show. Hitachi products were also being showcased on other stands with M O'Brien displaying a Zaxis 135-6 with short boom and 2.5 tonne Okada concrete processor, an ideal tool for internal and top down demolition.

Hybrid

Caterpillar dealers Finning were also present with a range of material handling and demolition spec'd machines including a hybrid 1 tonne mini excavator ideal for confined spaces. Complete with a HPU300 electric generator which attaches to the machine's blade, the excavator can also run off its standard diesel engine and is a first for Caterpillar in this range.

Hybrid excavators were also present on the Atlas Copco stand with a Takeuchi TB216 sporting an integrated electric motor. The machine brought in a great deal of interest from visitors thanks to its compact design and has been purchased by a hire company with the intention of

using it on basement excavations thanks to having a zero emissions motor.

JCB as always showed up in force with a range of products including a crawler based material handler, something of a rare beast these days. Mini, midi and full size excavator examples were on show with the show judges deeming the British manufacturer worthy of taking a joint award for the Best Stand. While the machinery on the JCB stand drew in the crowds, a special mention must go to their hog roast supplier!

CPMS attended the show with a brace of Liu Gong excavators in NFDC company liveries including one of the first 50 tonne 950E machine in Brown and Mason livery. The Chinese manufactured kit is gaining a good reputation amongst the demolition fraternity with the latest examples certainly looking like they are now able to compete with established manufacturers. The CPMS stand was also home to their regular Irish Band who entertained visitors throughout the show.

Liebherr GB attended the show in force with a wide range of excavators, wheeled loaders and a new tele-handler with the star attraction on their stand being an LH30 material handler in a giraffe inspired livery for Wards Recycling. Liebherr also had a 120t R 974C in demolition spec situated on the demonstration plot.

Crushers

For visitors wanting full sized crushers, both premium brands on the market were in attendance with Blue Group, Kleeman and Sandvik displaying the latest technology for the demolition and recycling industries. Kleeman's UK dealer, Wirtgen also took advantage to display a small range of self propelled rollers.

When it comes to attachments, the show didn't disappoint with the largest names in the industry displaying their wares. Both leaders in the supply of hydraulic hitches ECY Haulmark and Worsley Plant were present and were joined by supplier of the ProQuick coupler BPH.

The full Indeco range of equipment was on display including hammers and concrete pulverisers whilst Inmalo displayed a large

range of Mantovanibenne equipment and the extremely popular MotoFog range of dust suppression equipment.

Atlas Copco showed their range of attachments off on a beautifully crafted stand and included their huge 10t HB10000 hammer and CB2500 concrete cracker.

Murray Plant, the UK Rammer dealer showed off a range of dedicated demolition tools and the popular Rammer range of hammers including the huge 9033 which walked away with a joint Innovation Award along with a new Okada concrete processor with built in magnet found on LDH's stand.

The stand also included the range of Dehaco dust suppression units and monstrous 5t selector grab and LDH's David Hearne was pleased to announce the company had just been awarded the UK dealership for the Okada brand.

For those looking for fixed concrete munchers MST displayed a heavy duty version alongside their demo spec buckets designed in conjunction under with AR Demolition for the OilQuick coupler. Staffordshire based Primal were also on hand with a wide range of fixed leg attachments, buckets and heavy duty rippers.

Robots

The increased use of what are known as demolition robots saw both Husqvarna demonstrating two of their smaller units while at the opposite end of the scale Gnat UK showed off their latest acquisitions, two 13t Brokk machines complete with Lehnhoff couplers and Rotar attachments. For those wanting a less costly and more versatile choice, Irish ISP Remoquip showed off their remote control system which can be retrofitted to almost any excavator within hours to give it a fully remote controlled capability.

All in all, the show was deemed a success and both the NFDC and IDE would like to extend their sincerest thanks to all those who participated in the event and for all their hard work which went into making the show the growing success it is.



Blue Group have successful Demo Expo

Blue Group recently exhibited at Demo Expo, the demolition industry's biggest event which was held at the Hertfordshire Showground near St Albans.

Blue had three machines on display at the event, the Powerscreen PT400, EvoQuip Bison 120 Jaw Crusher and the brand new EvoQuip Cobra 230 Impact Crusher.

The Powerscreen Premiertrak 400 is designed for medium scale operators in the quarrying, demolition and recycling sectors, and includes a hydraulic adjust and release. The Premiertrak 400 post-screen also allows users to generate a type one product at high volume from one machine. It has been designed with a quick release system, to ensure maximum up-time and easy service and maintenance.

The Bison 120 and Cobra 230 are part of the new EvoQuip range of crushers and screens. The brand offers a comprehensive portfolio of products to address the needs of the compact crushing and screening markets in five key industries: building and construction; quarries; farming and agriculture; landscaping and gardening and asphalt and concrete crushing.

The EvoQuip™ range starts with the Bison 35 crusher capable of outputting up to 30 tones per hour and goes up to the Cobra



260 crusher capable of outputting 250 tones per hour. The Cobra 230, which was on show at the event is a machine that can dramatically enhance the profitability of an operator, whether they are in Construction & Demolition, Asphalt Recycling, Quarrying or Contract Crushing. It's a machine that provides class leading productivity, unmatched versatility and excellent fuel efficiency. The quick set up times, simple intuitive operation and ease of transport make this machine an ideal solution

The Bison 120 has a 2.3m³ hopper capacity with a grizzly feeder as standard. Behind the machine is a very powerful Isuzu

engine which enables the Bison 120 to process up to 80tph. This model also has a jaw level sensor and a remote control as standard. Transport dimensions are 5.66m long x 2.25m wide and the overall weight of the machine is 13,000Kgs.

Commenting on the event, Blue London Sales Director, Danny Morgan said: "While footfall was not exceptionally high, the quality of visitor was very good. Even on the last day, which was aimed at families, there were some key players in the industry visiting our stand to see the machines and, of course, take advantage of our hospitality by grabbing a bacon sandwich or a burger."



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NEW INDUSTRY CODE OF PRACTICE FOR INSTALLATION AND REFURBISHMENT OF IRONWORK

A new industry Code of Practice for Ironwork Systems Installation and Refurbishment has been published by the Road Surface Treatments Association (RSTA). It forwards industry best practice and has been peer reviewed and endorsed by Highways England and ADEPT.

The Code provides practical guidance on how to avoid early life failure, how to achieve a high quality installation and ensure a high quality repair. It covers installation and refurbishment of ironwork systems including gully tops and chamber covers.

The new Code cross references HA104/09 Chamber Tops and

Gully Tops for Road Drainage and Services: Installation and Maintenance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges and also cross references the Specification for Reinstatement of Openings in Highways (SROH).

It is recognised that some systems and products have HAPAS certification and/or a CE mark and some products and systems are proprietary with proven use. The purpose of this Code of Practice is to provide practical guidance on avoiding early life failure and to achieve a high quality installation and a high quality repair.

The correct installation of ironwork and compatibility of the constituent materials is critical to the service life

of the installation. The main objectives of the new Code are:

- To increase the average service life of ironwork installations and refurbishments by illustrating a 'right first time' approach using appropriate materials and good design, which when combined offer lowest whole life cost.
- To raise expectations regarding the in-service performance of ironwork assets.
- To minimise return visits, customer complaints and any potential public health and safety issues associated with failed ironwork.

Currently the service life expectation and specification guidance for the installation and refurbishment of ironwork varies greatly from location to location and between clients and guidance often covers products and components in isolation. This Code of Practice considers all aspects of installation and maintenance and consolidates existing industry experience into one document offering best practice for these applications.

Under typical conditions, the price of materials and components is dwarfed by the cost of traffic management, installation of the ironwork and reinstatement of the surfacing. If this has to be repeated because of poor installation workmanship, these costs rise considerably. Research has shown that under typical conditions the cost of materials and components used in ironwork installation, covered within this document, account for about 20% of the overall cost. Therefore the whole life cost saving arises from reduced maintenance frequency i.e. less repeat visits to site.

In addition to the more traditional reinstatement materials of HRA, SMA and Asphalt Concrete, the

document also permits the use of Paving Grade Mastic Asphalt and HAPAS certified Permanent Cold Lay Surfacing Materials (PCSM).

In the last few years, Mastic Asphalt has been used extensively in the Republic of Ireland as a reinstatement material around ironwork repairs and the resetting of ironworks retrospectively on resurfacing projects. Polymer Modified Mastic Asphalt should be CE marked to EN 13108-6 or have HAPAS certification.

Another unconventional product is introduced within the Code in that interlocking mono-polymer bricks can be used as an alternative to class B engineering brick courses as a part or full chamber construction. These mono-polymer bricks require a suitable bedding mortar but negate the need for mortar between the courses of brickwork construction.

The health and safety, environment, training and quality assurance responsibilities of client and contractor are also set out by the code. It also provides guidance on site planning, programming, co-ordination and traffic management. A useful inclusion is the pre-contract, on-site and post-contract checklists.

Ironwork specification, selection and installation is covered in significant detail and Appendix A provides useful guidance on system product and selection. There are also checklists for the client and contractor, a glossary of terms, references and various images showing each stage of the installation. It also goes into some detail to explain the various failure mechanisms that can occur.

The Code of Practice is freely available from www.rsta-uk.org/publications/



Products

- **Mastic Asphalt Paving (EN13108-6)***
- **Jig-Brix™ Interlocking mono-polymer bricks***
- **High Specification Aggregate**
- **LYSIT Natural White Aggregate**
- **Asphaltband Overbanding***
- **Tree Pit Resin**
- **Anti-slip Resin**
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*Products marked with * comply with requirements of RSTA Code of Practice for Road Ironwork Systems*



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Ritchie Bros. and Ironplanet Secure Unconditional Antitrust Clearance

Ritchie Bros., the world's largest heavy equipment auctioneer and provider of end-to-end services has announced the receipt of unconditional antitrust clearance from the U.S. Department of Justice for the proposed acquisition of IronPlanet, a leading online marketplace for heavy equipment and other durable assets.

Ritchie Bros. outstanding brand reputation and high degree of customer trust, coupled with IronPlanet's digital prowess built on user friendly technology, will provide multiple product and channel offerings.

"Over the last three years, we've been successfully executing on a multi-channel diversification strategy to ensure that the company stays relevant and strong in a changing environment. In IronPlanet, we found a company that allows us to continue our rich history of innovation and gives us the tools and talent to transform into a digital information and insights powerhouse," said Ravi Saligram, Ritchie Bros. CEO.

"The missions of our companies are aligned: deliver maximum choice and value to our customers. We look forward to bringing our combined pride and passion together



under one umbrella to accelerate our growth initiatives and add shareholder value."

Greg Owens, IronPlanet chairman and CEO added, "The management team and employees of IronPlanet are enthusiastic about joining forces with Ritchie Bros. – the possibilities are endless when you merge brand strength with technology. We are inspired by the vision of leading a digital transformation in the industry."

The anticipated benefits of Ritchie Bros.' acquisition of IronPlanet are extensive and

make a positive impact on the business internally and externally. Highlights include:

- 1) Pioneer a path into the future. Ritchie Bros. is a forward-thinking, growth-focused company that never stops innovating. By continuing to invest in technology and providing end-to-end support solutions, the company will continue to set a benchmark for equipment values across the globe.
- 2) Maximise opportunity for customers. The acquisition of IronPlanet is intended to provide the highest quality choices in asset disposition to best serve customers. The acquisition is the next step in Ritchie Bros.' diversification and multichannel strategy. As a successful player in the marketplace for nearly 60 years, Ritchie Bros.' unique business model and heritage of extraordinary customer relationships make it a leader in the industry.
- 3) Caterpillar Alliance. Ritchie Bros. also enters into a historic, long-term strategic alliance with Caterpillar, which will significantly strengthen its relationship with Caterpillar's independent dealers around the world by providing enhanced and continued access to a global auction marketplace to sell their used equipment.

Unreserved public auction in Donington Park, UK

19 September + 20 September

online timed auction

Some of the equipment in this auction so far:



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EURO AUCTIONS CONDUCTS SALE FOR THE LATE DA WILLIAMS



Following the recent death of Don Williams, a well-known Shropshire based plant and machinery dealer, Euro Auctions was appointed to hold a local one-day asset disposal sale which took place on Saturday 01 July.

In total, 123 individual lots went under the hammer at this auction which attracted over 200 bidder registrations, with over 40% of all transactions being online. Almost 20% of all registrations were first time buyers; 14 of whom placed winning bids. Around 100 bidders, the majority of whom were from the UK and Ireland, attended the event. The remainder participated online with a total of 21 countries being represented, spanning much of Europe.

Top lot was a 2012 CAT D5K crawler tractor / dozer, a

model that has earned a global reputation for its superior performance and comfort coupled with outstanding versatility and reduced operating costs. With only 414 hours on the clock this particular example which featured a 6 Way Pat Blade c/w A/C Straight Blade & Tilt plus 3 Shank ripper attracted considerable interest and finally sold for £69,500. Several other CAT dozers featured in the auction including a 2008 CAT D6T XL a unit with a Straight Blade & Tilt c/w 3 Shank Ripper that had done 16422 hours and was sold for £45,500, with others going for between £13,500 and £16,500.

Whilst a number of 'general' lots went for only a few hundred pounds each, other notable machinery lots included a 2006 Hitachi ZX135US hydraulic

excavator with 7910 hours going for £19,000; a 2013 Scania G440 tractor unit with a 6x2mid lift that also went for £19,000; and a 2003 Renault 610RX 4WD Tractor with 3373 hours going under the hammer for £11,500.

"Don Williams was a long established, well know and highly respected plant and machinery dealer who for many years was a regular attendee at our Leeds auctions and he will be missed by many," stated Jonnie Keys, Operations Manager for Euro Auctions. "We never cherish staging an auction under these circumstances but made every effort to maximise the return for the estate. Two thirds of all lots by value are expected to remain in the UK, with one buyer in Poland spending £78,000; and other major

European destinations being the Netherlands and Romania."

Euro Auctions also donated £5,000 to Don Williams' local Shifnal Council to help improve local amenities; something Don was passionate about.

Euro Auctions has a number of auctions scheduled over coming months including the next big three day Leeds auction starting on 23rd August. There are one day sales in Brisbane, Australia on 31st August; in Zaragoza in Spain on 12th September; and a two day sale in Dromore in Northern Ireland starting 15th September. There is also the inaugural sale at the newly acquired site in Dubai on 13th September. Yoder & Frey, Euro Auctions' US operation is also scheduling two auctions: Ashland, Ohio on 20th September and in Florida on 25th October.

Euro Auctions expand to the Middle East

Euro Auctions are opening a new site in Dubai where they plan to hold four auctions each year.

Holding over 60 auctions each year, on 10 sites around the globe, in 7 countries and on 4 continents Euro Auctions is a real global player. Each year Euro Auctions sells over 70,000 items of machinery, attracting 30,000 bidders, working with 6,000 vendors, selling to over 10,000 buyers,

As part of an expansion plan Euro Auction has acquired a 22.5 acre site within the Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA) of Dubai which also includes a purpose built auction complex covering over 3,000m² with a 360 seat, fully air conditioned and enclosed auction arena as well as ancillary buildings, workshops and infrastructure. All the necessary services and logistic licences are also in place for



the new venture which will trade under the Euro Auctions brand and its first sale is already planned for September 2017.

"As part of the continued global Euro Auctions brand expansion, the Middle East, and in particular the United Arab Emirates, was always the next country in which to establish a strong and stable

operating base," explains Jonnie Keys, Euro Auctions' Commercial Manager.

"We have many good relationships with buyers and sellers in the Middle East and Africa and this new auction location will enable us to create stronger relationships with existing customers in this region and open the door to many new buyers and sellers.

"We have seen increased participation in our European and American auctions from the Middle East region over the past year and in particular in the last six months. Indeed we have had numerous customers request that we take a larger part in this region which this facility will allow. In addition to growing our customer base, sellers are already making contact and consigning equipment to this upcoming auction."

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Wednesday 23rd - Friday 25th August 2017 @ 8.30am



2012 Hitachi ZX350LC
- choice of 2



2013 Komatsu
PC210LC-8 - choice of 4



2015 Hyundai Robex
R145LCR-9A - choice
of 3



2015 CAT 313FLGC



2007 Liebherr A934C
Material Handler



2011 CAT M316D



2017 CAT 308E2CR
- choice of 2



2014 Doosan DX85R-3
- choice of 3



2015 Bobcat E50
- choice of 5



13-15 JCB 8026 CTS
- choice of 6



2014 CAT D6T LGP c/w
Ripper - choice of 2



2008 CAT 140M - choice
of 4



2012 Volvo A40F



2008 Volvo A25E



Unused JCB 436ZX



2012 CAT 966K - choice
of 2



12-13 JCB 3CX P21 ECO
- choice of 3



2013 CAT 432F



13-14 JCB 540-170
- choice of 16



2015 CAT TH414C
- choice of 6



2014 Manitou MT625



2015 Bomag
BW213DH-4I



03-07 Extec C12 Tracked
Jaw - choice of 2



2003 Erin 206T Tracked
3 Way



2008 FG Wilson
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Northern Ireland farmer wins European tractor drivers' crown

Sam Graham, a farmer from Killinchy in County Down, beat off tough competition from farmers and contractors representing 13 European countries to win the European Drivers' Championship 2017, organised jointly by John Deere and Michelin.

The event was held at the Michelin Technical Innovation Centre Test Circuit in Ladoux, France, and saw farmers and contractors testing their skills behind the wheel of John Deere's new 6250R tractor – riding on Michelin's latest generation ROADBIB tyres, which were unveiled at the event ahead of their planned 2018 launch.

Sam earned his place at the final after registering to take part online, and winning hundreds of votes to secure himself the chance to compete at an international level. This saw him treated to an exclusive two-day visit to Ladoux, which is one of the world's largest vehicle test centres, featuring 20 test tracks with a combined length of 45km.

To compete in the challenge each participant had to master the challenges of speed, manoeuvrability, fuel efficiency and soil protection by developing their own winning driving strategy for tasks that are typical for the daily work of a farmer or contractor.



The European Drivers' Champion for 2017 Sam Graham is congratulated by Bibendum, better known as the Michelin Man. The runners-up were David Durand from France and Stefan Håkansson from Sweden.

The winner was the driver who adopted the best overall strategy, combining speed with the lowest possible fuel consumption and lowest soil compaction in the field. Their skills were tested around a carefully constructed 18km long course where even the smallest mistake mattered.

"Winning the competition was a very pleasant surprise, taking into consideration the skill and effort we all put in," said Sam Graham. "Whether I won or not, the European Drivers' Championship was an unforgettable experience, and I would like to thank John Deere and Michelin for the opportunity

– the whole event went so smoothly and without a fault."

Javier Fernandez, John Deere's product marketing manager for the new 6R Series tractors, said: "Sam decided to go for the Auto transmission mode, which automatically adjusts the gear ratio and engine speed to get the maximum performance without compromising efficiency. This proved to be an excellent strategy, and helped him to deliver a winning performance."

Alexandre Gasc, marketing product manager for Michelin's new ROADBIB range, added: "Tyre pressures are critical, and Sam ensured maximum fuel efficiency

and minimal soil compaction across this demanding road and field circuit. It was an event designed to challenge even the best drivers, but he put in a fantastic effort and was a truly deserving winner."

The range of tasks facing Sam and the other competitors in Ladoux was designed to represent the typical daily challenges that today's farmers and contractors constantly face. Time and money matter – that's why it's essential they use the latest technology to ensure they are operating efficiently, and keeping fuel consumption at the lowest possible level.

The European Drivers' Championship was the first public test of Michelin's new ROADBIB tyres, which will be available on the original equipment and replacement markets during early 2018.

Their launch is testament to the more than €700m Michelin invests in research and development every year, with the new product being co-designed with agricultural contractors to define a new segment of the market. At launch, they will become the first tyres for 200+hp agricultural tractors designed specifically to provide high performance, longevity and traction on machines used intensively on roads.

PSNI's 'Copagator' Hits the Road

The Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) officially unveiled its new, specially liveried crime prevention demonstration vehicle at the recent Balmoral Show.

The four-track John Deere Gator utility vehicle was nicknamed the 'Copagator' after a Facebook campaign invited the public to come up with a special call sign for it during the build-up to the show.

Supplied by John Deere agricultural & turf dealer Johnston Gilpin & Co Ltd of Lisburn, the Gator is helping to promote the PSNI's fight against rural and agricultural crime.

"Tackling crime against the rural community is important to the police," said Supt Brian Kee. "We understand the effect these crimes have on these communities and the grave impact they can have on farmers' livelihoods. Our strategy is to work with partner agencies and commercial stakeholders to identify ways of preventing crime, as well as targeting and arresting those committing such offences.



PSNI superintendent Sean Wright takes the keys of the specially liveried John Deere Gator utility vehicle (aka the Copagator) from Randal McConnell of John Deere dealer Johnston Gilpin & Co (right), with Constable Ricky Taylor (left) looking on.

"We are particularly pleased to be working as part of the Rural Crime Partnership (RCP) to spread the message about crime

prevention and reporting suspicious activity, and bring forward recommendations and initiatives to combat rural criminality."

He added: "The farming industry is a very important part of our community, and we want to reassure people that we are doing all we can to prevent thefts," added Supt Kee. "Thefts of farm machinery or livestock can not only hamper a farmer's ability to do his job but can cause significant upset, inconvenience and loss of income. We understand this, and we want to disrupt those who would target the rural community while helping farmers to safeguard their properties and themselves."

Johnston Gilpin's managing director Randal McConnell said: "John Deere is now fitting Datatag's CESAR security marking system as standard on all XUV and HPX Gator utility vehicle models sold in the UK & Ireland, as a way of protecting against theft, recovering stolen equipment and reducing insurance premiums. We are very happy to support the PSNI in this way to help their efforts to prevent crime in the countryside."

Summer Shows for Kubota's new RTV

Kubota UK has launched its new four-seater utility vehicle, the RTV-X1140.

The new model, from the market-leader in diesel powered utility vehicles, builds on the popular predecessor (the RTV1140), demonstrating its ongoing commitment to developing exceptional machinery which not only supports professionals in their day-to-day activities, but provides exceptional comfort and safety as standard.

Designed to provide greater power and performance, the RTV-X1140 enables operators to easily transport both cargo and crew with its versatile two or four passenger configurations. Users can single-handedly transform the 1102"



cargo bed to two additional back seats in three simple steps, allowing for the safe transportation of four adults.

Dedicated to delivering a higher standard of performance across all tasks, its four-wheel drive and unrivalled 10.8" ground clearance enables smooth travel over any terrain, whilst its hydraulic bed-lift makes light work of dumping tasks. The three-cylinder liquid-cooled Kubota diesel engine also offers a robust 24.8 HP, supported by its Variable Hydraulic Transmission for increased power and traction.

To celebrate its launch, the RTV-X1140 will be travelling across the UK this summer, debuting at a range of national shows including Royal Highland, Royal Welsh and the Game Fair.

Countdown to This Year's National Ploughing Championships

There's been an unprecedented demand for bookings for this year's National Ploughing Championships taking place in Scraggan, Tullamore, Co Offaly from September 19th to 21st.

NPA Managing Director Anna May McHugh said: "We are delighted that so many have already committed to Ploughing because that is a real seal of approval for the event. It is the primary aim of the NPA to make the event better every year for visitors and exhibitors alike and early bookings give us much more time for the optimum site design and layout.

"There is phenomenal worldwide interest with exhibitors coming from far flung countries such as Turkey, the USA, UK, Germany, Belgium, New Zealand, France

and the Netherlands to have a presence at Europe's largest outdoor event.

"This year the core agricultural machinery companies, as always will be the anchor exhibitors of the championships showcasing hundreds of thousands of euros worth of the latest technology. The NPA are also at the planning stage of a few new initiatives in the machinery sector of the event which will add an interesting dimension together with a range of new exhibitors.

"With record crowds of 283,000 visitors in attendance last year and with the site in Scraggan proving to be a phenomenal success, signals would suggest another 'great ploughing' is on the way."

There is no doubt that the entrepreneurial spark is alive

and well in Ireland with an unprecedented number of diverse and exciting businesses, exhibiting at the "Local Enterprise Village" at this year's Ploughing Championships.

The Livestock Arena, Food and Lifestyle Villages are almost fully booked with the huge "dome" back again featuring over 100 exhibitors. The motor arena will be significantly bigger following hugely positive feedback in this sector last year. The dairy sector will be very well catered for with many new additions, which is particularly reflective of the times we are in and the huge surge in interest in this area. The popular Innovation Arena is set to make a very welcome return with ground breaking technologies and cutting edge ideas that will amaze. There are only a

few days left to enter – please see www.innovationarena.ie.

All of the firm favourite traditional attractions are set to return this year such as Fashion, Meggers, Sheep Shearing, Hunt Chase, Pony Games, Live Music and Dancing, Vintage Ploughing, Threshing, Sheep Dog Trials, Loy Digging, with celebrities and well known faces everywhere Ploughing 2017 is not to be missed.

In the ploughing stakes a particularly strong programme has attracted entries from all around the country and Northern Ireland bringing the number preparing to plough in Offaly over 300 for the 3 days. There has been a substantial increase in this year's Novice class bringing the total to over 20 entrants, which signals great interest in the next generation of ploughers.

Deere and Kramer form strategic alliance

John Deere has invested in Kramer-Werke GmbH in order to establish a long-term alliance. Both companies have agreed, subject to antitrust approval, to provide material handling equipment solutions for distribution through the John Deere Dealer Network under the trademark of Kramer.

This new strategic partnership will enable John Deere to deliver its dealers an extensive range of agricultural material handling solutions with a specific focus on the hay, forage and arable production systems as well as contractors' solutions.

The product portfolio includes compact wheelloaders (9 models), telescopic wheel-loaders (4 models) and telehandlers (9 models) produced and developed by Kramer, Pfullendorf (Germany).

Under this agreement the John Deere dealer channel will be the preferred distribution partner for Kramer. The alliance enables Kramer to leverage the industry leading John Deere dealer network in Europe, CIS, North Africa and Near & Middle East.



GOLF DAY IN MEMORY OF CP HIRE FOUNDER NORMAN HUTCHINSON

A charity golf day held in memory of CP Hire founder Norman Hutchinson attracted strong support from across the industry.

Norman, who passed away in March last year, established CP Hire in Coleraine in 1971 with the aim of becoming 'foremost in plant hire' and that he did; today the company, headed up by sons Andrew and David, has a network of successful outlets across the Province.

'Big Norman's Memorial Golf Day' saw suppliers, customers, family and friends take to the greens at the Castlerock Golf Club in Coleraine.

The event, which was rounded off with an evening of entertainment, raised £17,000; £2,000 of which was used to install a defibrillator at the course, the remaining £15,000 being donated to the Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) organisation.

Founded in 1995, CRY supports young people diagnosed with potentially life-threatening cardiac conditions and offers bereavement support to families affected by young sudden cardiac death. It also promotes and develops heart screening programmes and funds medical research.

"It was great to see so many support the day; it was much appreciated," commented Andrew Hutchinson. "Even the weather played its part."

Volvo Construction Equipment Sales Director David Munns was a life-long friend of Norman. Following his passing, David wrote in tribute: "I have been in this industry for over 40 years, and have had the good fortune to



The Hutchinson Family

have met and dealt with some outstanding characters. This was the 'best of times' for plant hire where a number of real hard-working entrepreneurs, with outstanding vision changed the industry. No one stands out for me more than Norman Hutchinson.

"Norman loved the hire business, the people and 'the craic'. He was a larger-than-life character and I am grateful for the friendship and time I spent with a real legend of the industry."



Andrew & David Hutchinson presenting a cheque to Garry McGrotty for C.R.Y.



Andrew Hutchinson & Stephen presenting Katie & Eleanor Hutchinson



3rd placed team - Crumlin Plant Sales



golf day



Event organisers with Mrs Hutchinson



NK Fencing Team



Lamont Trailers Team



Phillip Tweedie & Co Team



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Stanley Black & Decker Team



McLaughlin & Harvey Team 1



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Wacker Neuson battery-powered rammers last longer



The running time of the AS50e and AS30e battery-powered rammers from Wacker Neuson has increased by 50 percent, thanks to the state-of-the-art battery cells used. However, nothing has changed in the practical application of the rammer: customers can switch to the new battery at any time and work with their existing AS30e and AS50e rammers as usual.

The battery-powered rammers are available in two versions: the smaller AS30e model is a special rammer for compacting pipe spandrels, and the AS50e battery-powered vibratory rammer is used for all traditional rammer work.

The batteries of both machines can be removed without tools so that the operator can replace the discharged battery with a charged battery in a few simple steps. The running time extension of the battery-powered rammers was achieved by increasing the energy capacity of the battery from 600 watt hours to 1,000 watt hours, which extended the running time of the rammers by 50 percent.

The larger AS50e model was increased to 30 minutes and the smaller AS30e rammer was increased to 45 minutes. Customers who already own a battery-powered rammer can easily switch to the new battery, as the design, connections and operation remain unchanged; the battery chargers can also still be used.

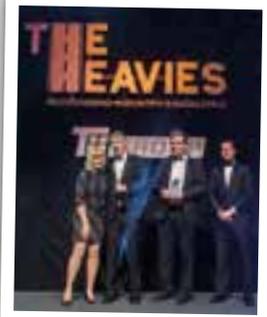
The battery specifically designed and developed by Wacker Neuson for application in vibrating machines is characterised by its robustness and safety, in addition to the improved running time. The lithium-ion battery designed for harsh job site work offers a consistent power output throughout the entire discharge phase, which leads to a constant compaction performance from the first to the last minute of work.

Aging effects can be minimised by an active cooling during operation of the rammer and when loading, and extreme temperatures from -10 to +50°C will not damage the sturdy battery. The compaction performance of the battery-powered rammers corresponds to the time-tested and proven Wacker Neuson two-cycle rammers of the same class.

Due to the zero-emissions thanks to the electric motor and battery-both models easily meet stringent requirements, e.g. for urban construction areas or work in trenches. Another advantage of the battery-powered rammer is its low operating costs, as the electric motor is completely maintenance-free. Costs and effort that are typically incurred for rammers with combustion engines, due to typical maintenance work on air filters, spark plugs and the carburetor, can also be spared.

The energy costs are also priced significantly lower: around 55 percent in energy costs can be saved by operating with electricity. In addition, the easy start at the push of a button speaks for the battery-powered rammer. Moreover, batteries and battery chargers are designed so that they can be used independently from the model.

The battery-powered rammers from Wacker Neuson have already received multiple awards, such as the European Rental Award 2015 in the category "Sustainable Rental Product of the Year", and the EuroTest Award 2016 from the German employer's liability insurance association (BG Bau) for outstanding performance in occupational health and safety.



Sally 'Traffic' Boazman, Nigel Hanwell, John Comer and Gary Forster.

Volvo Trucks Wins Innovation Award At 'The Heavies 2017'

Volvo Trucks' I-Shift with Crawler Gears automated transmission has won the 'Innovation of the Year: Vehicle Manufacturer' award at 'The Heavies 2017'.

Launched in 2016, I-Shift with Crawler Gears provides exceptional startability for trucks carrying heavy loads in demanding situations. The system is entirely unique for series-produced heavy trucks.

I-Shift with Crawler Gears allows trucks operating at high gross weights to be driven at speeds as low as 0.5 to 2 km/h. This helps drivers carry out the low speed precision manoeuvring and reversing often required in Heavy Haulage and Construction transport.

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Brian Waugh from Waugh Construction, Blackskull with their new MT1335.



Hitachi ZX490LCH-6 - H J B Plant Hire Ltd, Newtownards.



A new Takeuchi TB230 delivered to Demesne Contracts in Seaforde Co Down by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Branniff Joinery. Francis Branniff with his 2 new Skyjack SJ3226 scissors at the new City Hospital from Glendun Plant.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Harkness Plant Hire Ltd, Cookstown.



A Giant Tendo 4548 HD for F McMullan Contracts from Ballyward plant services.



Bomag BW120AD-5 - Hawthorn Heights, Greysteel.



New Hammer HS 700 sold to Ward construction Dublin by SME Plant Sales.



Starting them young...Dominic Duffin with Island View Plant Hire's new MT625.



2 New ammman 5920 forward reverse plates supplied to CP Hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



20 ton c910 hydraulic compactor sold to Re Gen Newry by ni hoses.



Another new Yanmar SV08 Added to the fleet for Parkes hire. from Crumlin Plant Sales.



Another Stelco for joe Finnegan Const Newry from Darryl rogan ds hammers ltd, brings to 4 now in joes fleet.

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A Hanix H17D out for delivery to Rock Tool Hire, from Ballyward plant services.



New Hammer SB 150s sold to a customer in France by SME Plant Sales.



A Mc Kee & Co. Stuart McKee taking delivery of his new Wacker Neuson DW100, 10 ton cab dumper from Glendun Plant.



New Stelco sel 950s sold to D Jackson plant saintfield by Darryl rogan ds hammers ltd.



Hitachi ZX135US-6 excavator for Braton Construction of Castlederg.



Marley Hire - New Skyjack SJ6832RT supplied by Glendun Plant.



Peter McGinn of PRO Hire Omagh with one of two JCB 51R-1 excavators supplied by BC Plant JCB Ltd.



One of two compactors sold to re Gen Newry by ni hoses.



New Takeuchi TB240 getting ready to be delivered to V. Abraham in Portadown by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



New Case CX75C supplied by Cowan Bros to Glenview Contracts Ltd, Cushendall.



Hitachi ZX135US-6 excavator for John Graham Construction Ltd of Hillsborough.



New Dynapac CC1200 recently delivered to Eden Contractors from WAC McCandless.



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Three P40.17 Plus Merlo forklifts sold by D.A. Forgie to E.H.A Group of Campsie.



Ronnie, Gareth, and Mark Crawford, RTD Crawford, at Balmoral show with one of their new Merlo telescopic handlers, recently delivered by D.A. Forgie.



Two New Case CX210D supplied by Cowan Bros to C-Mac Contracts Ltd, Dromore.



Emett & Lawrence O'Hara of North West Drylining with their new JCB 540-200 (1st 20metre in Northern Ireland), supplied by BC Plant.



New Idromeccannia compactor heading for a contract in Galway sold by Dean Jackson ni hoses.



Felix O'Hare new Manitou MT625 Easy.



New PC210LC-10 ready for delivery to JH Price & Sons.



A Giant V4502T Xtra compact loader delivered to Demense Contracts from Ballyward plant services.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 excavator for M D K Construction Ltd of Craigavon.



New Stelco set 600s to John Thompson from ds hammers ltd.



Dieci Mlni Agri 25.6 R delivered to JR Whitten in Tandragee Co.Armagh by Dieci ltd Newry.



One of 2 Rotair MDVN 22K compressors supplied to Surefill.

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New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to Kscape, Dunloy.



New Case CX18B supplied by Cowan Bros to Hawthorn Heights Ltd, Greysteel.



Hitachi ZX85USBLC-5 excavator for G Thompson Contracts of Donaghadee.



New Case CX210D supplied by Cowan Bros to Oughterard Contracts Ltd, Omagh.



Takeuchi TB250 delivered to ReGen Waste Newry by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



1 of 3 Bomag BW90AD-5 - JB Plant & Tool Hire Ltd, Omagh.



New Yanmar SV18 supplied to NMG Contracts From Crumlin Plant Sales.



KC Hire, Newry . Gary Clarke with his new Niftylift 120TPE boom lift, supplied by Glendun Plant.



A Giant V5003HD for AG Wilson from Ballyward plant services.



New Case CX18C and a New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to T MCL & Sons Contracts Ltd, Ardmore, L'Derry.



Mark Colwey of Cowley Haulage & Civil Ltd. Co Dublin receiving his SK210LC from Conor McSharry, McSharry Bros.



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Takeuchi TB260 delivered to Alan Spiers in Killeel co. Down by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Yanmar SV18 Supplied to Monaghan Hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



Oliver Corr and Brendan Fulham of C&N Building Contractors, Co. Westmeath receive their SK210LC from Conor McSharry, McSharry Bros..



New Stelco sel 600s working in Newry sold by Darryl rogan Ds hammers ltd.



SK300LC-10 going to P&D Lydon, Co. Mayo from McSharry Bros.



New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to DPH Construction Ltd, Downpatrick.



Jack Swan, Omagh taking delivery of his new Manitou MLT 625 Premium.



JB Plant Hire - Matt Devlin taking delivery of their new Niftylift TD120 tracked boom from Glendun Plant.



New Case CX50B supplied by Cowan Bros to Doherty Farm Services, Dunloy.



The first NEW MT1840 Tier 4 machine was delivered to Trevor McAlister at their Magherafelt site.



A Giant V452T Xtra delivered to L Gaynor Enterprises, from Ballyward plant services.



Another Yanmar SV18 For NMG Contracts from Crumlin Plant Sales.

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Hitachi ZX19U-5 - Blacks Nursery Ltd, Armagh.



A Truxta B450-g mini dumper out for delivery to D McFeteridge from Ballyward plant services.



Another consignment of stelcos for Da Forgie.



2 NEW Yanmar VIO25'S & 1 New Yanmar VIO17 supplied to Dromad hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to Derek McConville, Poyntzpass, Newry.



Barry & Willie Walsh, Barry Walsh Civil Eng Co. Cork with their SK140SRLC from McSharry Bros.



A new Takeuchi TB260 ready to be delivered to I Scott in Whitecross Co. Armagh by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Paul McAuley of PMA Contracts with his new JCB 65R-1 Midi Excavator, supplied by BC Plant.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to Brendan Mulholland, Toomebridge.



915E sold to Coolraine Concrete.



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New Takeuchi TB216 canopy being collected by OK Electrics in Tassagh Co. Armagh from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 excavator for McCusker Contracts of Dromore.



SK350LC-10 ready for M&N Groundworks, Co. Donegal at McSharry Bros..



Aaron Patterson from Patterson Potato boxes, Crossgar taking delivery of his first Manitou MI30 forklift.



New Stelco sel 600s sold to Kevin Connolly Newry by Darryl rogan ds hammers.



Dieci Agri Farmer 32.6 delivered to a customer in Moira region.



Dan Daly from Sme Plant Sales delivering a new Hammer concrete pulveriser to Paddy Mc Gee in Wexford.



Hitachi ZX26U-5 excavator for BJT Plant Hire of Enniskillen.



New Case CX26C supplied by Cowan Bros to Stephen Wallace, Ballyclare.



The first new Hammer SB 500 to fit 13 ton excavator sold to Ceart Construction Dublin by SME Plant Sales.



Rototilt R5 ICS sold to Seaforde digger hire fitted to there new Volvo EC160E.



New Betton BT900 ride on float supplied to Ian Donnelly Flooring.



New Stelco sel 600s headin to James Mcgrath for a under water contract on rathlin island sold by ds hammers ltd.

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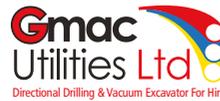
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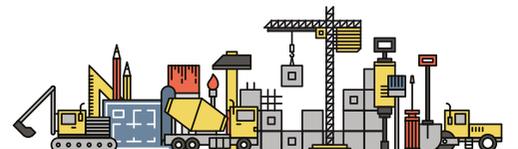
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