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Aug-Sept 2018

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With still no sign of any decision-making Executive at Stormont in the foreseeable future, it is becoming evident that the industry is coping reasonably well in its absence.

As QPANI's Gordon Best reports in this issue, construction activity across Northern Ireland has accelerated to a 46-month high. Indeed, Northern Ireland's private sector has recorded the fastest rate of growth of all the UK regions for both output and new orders.

We also hear from Euro Auctions who celebrate 20 successful years in operation, during which time this local enterprise has grown to become a global leader for the resale of used and 'as new' industrial plant, construction machinery and agricultural equipment.

Meanwhile, in what is a monumental year for Miller UK, a market leader in quick coupler and bucket technology, their chairman Keith Miller has taken some time out of his busy schedule to chat about his 40 years in business and his future vision for Miller.

In other news, we hear from McQuillans whose business has undergone a major re-branding, and from TBF Thompson who have once again established a presence in Dublin after an eight year absence.

On another note, it is good to see that An Garda Síochána along with the Construction Industry Federation (CIF) are taking a proactive role in crime prevention in the construction industry with the launch of a new joint initiative. Figures show there has been a rise of some 25% in Construction Crime compared to this time last year in the Irish Republic; we report on how that is being tackled south of the border.

We've really excelled in our 'View from the Cab' series for this issue, with informative features on a variety of excavators, dump trucks and wheel loaders from Terex, Volvo, Wacker Neuson, LiuGong, Bell and Hitachi.

We also turn the spotlight on the Crushing and Screening sector, and of course, our usual features are covered, including Auctions, Agri Plant & Equipment and our popular Buyers Guide, plus all the very latest news from across the industry – and all you need to know about entering our annual 'Plant & Civil Engineer' awards 2018.

In the meantime, remember, you can keep up to date by logging on to our website at www.plantandcivilengineer.com.

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Plant & Civil Engineer is the journal for plant, quarrying, municipal and civil engineering management. It is circulated on a controlled basis to managers in the following industries; access equipment, agricultural contracting, building, civil engineering and highways contractors, civil engineering practices, commercial vehicle distributors, concrete production, municipal and government authorities, plant dealers and operators, plant hire companies, plant manufacturers, quarrying, scrap processors, spare parts suppliers. For those outside the terms of control, Plant & Civil Engineer is available this year at £30 per annum subscription.

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TEL: 028 9268 8888 FAX: 028 9268 8866 Email: info@4squaremedia.net

McAleer & Rushe recognised at the Irish Construction Industry Awards

Northern Ireland based developer and contractor McAleer & Rushe has been awarded the prize for 'International Project of the Year' at the Irish Construction Industry Awards for Global Student Accommodation's 1000-bed Catherine House scheme in Portsmouth.

The awards, now in their fifth year, recognise companies which demonstrate excellence and innovation in Ireland's construction industry. McAleer & Rushe competed against four other international companies to lift the award at the gala ceremony which took place at the Citywest Hotel in Dublin.

McAleer & Rushe was engaged as the design and build contractor by the global leader in student accommodation to develop the scheme through the entire evolution process. The project which was



worth £50m completely transformed and extended the existing derelict 1970s landmark office building, Zurich House on Stanhope Road. The original structure was given a state-of-the-art refurbishment providing

a 405-bed student accommodation along with the design and construction of an 11-storey new build extension delivering enough space for an additional 595 beds.

Commenting on the award Dominic Trainor, McAleer & Rushe Contracts Director, said: "It is a great honour to be recognised by our peers for this project which further cements our position as leading contractors in the student accommodation sector. I want to pay tribute to our team's hard work and commitment and thank our client, GSA for entrusting us with the scheme. Carrying forward this collaborative relationship with GSA we have already begun work on two further projects in Bournemouth to deliver 950 student beds. We look forward to continuing to build this long-lasting relationship to deliver additional schemes across the UK and Ireland."

Turnover in top Irish construction firms grows to €6.72billion

The combined turnover of Ireland's top construction firms has increased by €720million on last year

according to the annual Top 50 CIF Contractors listing for 2018.

The annual listing gives a snapshot of the overall growth in Irish construction as it delivers many largescale projects throughout Ireland and the world, attracting foreign direct investment to Ireland and exporting over €1.6bn in construction expertise.

According to Construction Magazine's figures, the Top 50 Irish Contractors reported a combined turnover of €6.72billion over the last 12 months, with €5.1billion of this activity taking place in Ireland and a €1.62billion resulting from exported construction services.

Tom Parlon, Director General, CIF said: "Irish main and specialist contractors are absolutely critical to the Irish economy's competitiveness. The largest corporations in the world locate in Ireland for many reasons. But, if our main and specialist contractors were not world-class they would never establish a footprint here. Ireland is working because this sector is working."

"Without the success of Irish construction, we would not have had the ability to attract tech savvy and forward-thinking multinationals like LinkedIn, Google, Facebook, Eli Lilly to name but a few, and this is now recognised by the IDA and the wider Government apparatus."

"The construction industry is changing, we are innovating and leading the way in how we implement new and improved technology, how we attract and

retain workers and how we work together more generally. We have emerged from the depths of the recession leaner, more modern, sustainable, adaptable and resilient. But there are significant improvements, that still need to be made in order to preserve and support our sector's recovery into the future.

"We must enable more companies to grow and become world-leaders. To do this, we need the Government to set out an export-led growth strategy for this important sector. We also need to fix our procurement system here at home and ensure the right supports are in place to help build companies of scale. Finally, we must also work to attract workers back into the industry and make the process of moving home from abroad and gaining work in the sector more streamlined."

The Top 10 CIF Contractors 2018 listing is as follows:

1. John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd: €950,000,000
2. Mercury Engineering: €600,000,000
3. BAM Civil Ltd: €470,000,000
4. John Paul Construction Ltd: €360,000,000
5. Jones Engineering Group: €350,000,000
6. Bennett (Construction) Ltd: €325,000,000
7. JJ Rhatigan & Company: €245,000,000
8. Dornan Engineering Ltd: €218,400,916
9. Roadbridge: €213,997,269
10. Winthrop: €208,000,000

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The sun shone on guests at the Plantworx and Railworx launch at the Barbican Centre!

The future looks bright for show collaboration

The sun shone on the Barbican Centre in Central London recently as members of the UK and Irish Press alongside, Plantworx and Railworx team members, CEA (Construction Equipment Association) Directors and East of England Showground staff gathered for the official launch of the Plantworx and Railworx show, which will be taking place at the East of England Showground in Peterborough from 11th - 13th June 2019.

Rob Oliver, Chief Executive of the CEA (Construction Equipment Association) kicked off the day's proceedings and promised an 'exciting new venue and a bigger and better show'. JCB Director and CEA Honorary President, David Bell, who is a true advocate for the show, was next to address the audience.

In his speech David said, "Manufacturers have to find the best value for money in spending their marketing budgets, and today with so many digital ways of reaching our customers, plant and machinery shows have to do what can't be done digitally. So Plantworx and Railworx provides us with the perfect platform to see machines in the 'flesh', for which there is no substitute.

"These are exciting times for manufacturers - new innovations to meet the ever-increasing need for efficiency - new developments to meet customer demand and many new products for us to showcase. With these factors in mind - bringing together Rail and Construction in one event, makes absolute sense.

"Wherever rail infrastructure is put in place, alongside the direct rail specific equipment, there is always supporting infrastructure that requires more generalised construction machines. This is especially true with HS2, where its success is totally dependent on bringing together the supporting residential, commercial and high-tech building networks around the station complexes."

Kevin Minton, Chief Executive of the CPA (Construction Plant-hire Association) was unable to attend the event as the CPA were holding its annual Stars of the Future Plant Mechanic Apprentice awards ceremony. However, Kevin did send words of support for the Plantworx and Railworx event. He said, "CPA is looking forward to the 2019 event which should be a great meeting place for our Members and an opportunity for them to see the latest products and

technology on offer. The East of England venue looks like a very good choice."

From the very first Plantworx in 2013, the show has had the support of Government, the new collaboration with Railworx has also received words of encouragement from Baroness Fairhead, the Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion at the Department for International Trade.

The Baroness stated: "The UK construction equipment industry has a proud record of achievement in manufacturing, exporting over 70% of what it produces to markets across the world.

"With major construction projects in rail, roads and infrastructure underway, the Plantworx and Railworx exhibition, provides a great opportunity for businesses to meet and source the innovative products and technologies that are the key to driving future growth in the sector, in doing so supporting increased exports which will create jobs across the UK."

Next to talk was Show Director, Simon Frere-Cook who presented the floor plans of the show and highlighted the new key features which include a purpose built indoor arena, which will replace the pavilion marquees that were erected at previous shows. Simon also explained that the new venue benefits from permanent walkways, excellent communication with efficient Wifi and mobile networks and parking for 22,000 cars.

Attachments top of the list of 'must sees' at Plantworx 2019

The CEA's (Construction Equipment Association's) Plantworx Construction Exhibition demonstration areas are selling out fast as manufacturers gear up for putting machines through their paces in front of Plantworx visitors at the shows new home at the East of England Arena, Peterborough (11-13 June 2019).

Visitors can put themselves in the driving seat at Plantworx as many exhibitors will encourage those who present the correct operator's licence to try the

kit first hand in one of the many demonstration areas. Following a recent Twitter poll, it was revealed that machine 'attachments' were 'top of the list' in terms of must sees at the show - Plantworx can confirm that many leading attachment manufacturers have already committed to exhibit and many of these companies will be demonstrating or will have their attachments on excavators on stands around the showground. A strong focus will be on promoting the correct selection and use of attachments and instrumentation to

carry out different tasks more much efficiently.

From augers to buckets, from quick hitches to rakes, blades and grabs, there will be an attachment for every application at the show - all designed to boost productivity and efficiency. The Twitter poll results put new technology as the next most important on the list with 28% of the voters wanting to see Virtual Reality Training. This was closely followed by Machine Guidance Systems with 25% of the votes, and 18% wanted to see Alternative Fuel Machines. Rob Oliver CEO, CEA (Construction Equipment

Association) confirmed there will be a new Innovation and Technology zone at Plantworx.

"The digitalisation of the construction sector is gaining pace - Plantworx offers the perfect showcase to help match the technology with its acceptance by the marketplace."

Plantworx is currently in the process of organising a 'Virtual Reality Zone' within the new Innovation and Technology Zone at the show where visitors can experience virtual reality training on a variety of different machines. Machine Guidance is another area that the show is planning on expanding and companies exhibiting at the show with Hybrid machines include Caterpillar and Komatsu. Takeuchi also recently launched its new Hybrid electric/diesel TB216, 1.9 tonne mini excavator.

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PLANTWORX, the UK's largest plant and equipment exhibition, is about to get even bigger with the introduction of a new dedicated section for the rail industry | 11-13 June 2019 | East of England Arena.

PM Summit survey: Failed projects cost Irish companies €580,000

PM Summit, Ireland's most diverse conference for project, programme and portfolio management professionals, has announced the results of a new survey which reveals that failed projects cost Irish companies on average €580,000.

The research, which involved 407 project management professionals in Ireland from a broad range of sectors and was carried out with the assistance of Pan Research, also found that almost a fifth (19%) of the recent projects that Irish organisations have undertaken have failed.

Too many scope changes, communication and organisational problems, and poorly defined objectives were cited as the most common causes of failure while the most costly reasons were lack of involvement of all team members in project decisions and poor resource planning.

It therefore comes as no surprise that two out of every three companies (68%) are planning to spend more on project management training and education. In fact, organisations are spending on average 16% more in this area this year compared to last.

There are two trades in which project management is particularly important and which make up almost half (45%) of project managers in Ireland: architecture,



Pictured are (L to R) Raymond Poole, CEO, PM Summit and Vicky Poole, Director, PM Summit. Photo: Simon Walsh

construction and engineering (27%); and IT and information management (18%).

Raymond Poole, CEO, PM Summit, said: "Inadequate or ill-prepared project management is costing Irish organisations millions and causing a great deal of

stress to those involved. This research highlights that more investment, in terms of both time and money, is required to increase the success rate and reduce the huge expense of failed projects.

"While it is positive to see that businesses are planning to put more money towards project management training and education this year, events such as the PM Summit are of great value in terms of sharing experiences, ideas and strategies.

"Effective project management is pivotal within all industries and with approximately 52,000 project managers in Ireland alone, there is a wealth of expertise on our doorstep that can be utilised to help ensure the fulfilment of objectives and completion of projects."

This year's PM Summit is taking place at Dublin Convention Centre. Tickets are now available for the PM Summit at €395 for a single ticket or €275 per person for groups of two or more (prices exclude VAT). Tickets guarantee access to three keynote presentations as well as 15 breakout sessions. Refreshments and lunch will be also provided, and delegates will have the opportunity to interact and network with peers. For more information and to register for the event, visit <http://www.pmsummit.global/register/>.



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Briggs Equipment UK handed RoSPA Silver Award for health and safety practices

Briggs Equipment UK has been handed a prestigious RoSPA Health and Safety award in recognition of its practices and achievements in helping its staff get home safely at the end of the working day.

The Silver Award is non-competitive and is awarded on the merits of satisfactory occupational health and safety management systems and culture, improving compliance with control measures for principle risks and actions on health issues, reducing accident rates and no fatal or major injuries due to employer negligence.

After putting their health and safety systems under the microscope during the Barloworld acquisition five years

ago, Briggs have been on a journey to continually improve measures starting with the BE Safe campaign which has sought to educate, reduce risks and enable employees to flag up risks that they come across to enable the company to put preventative measures in place.

The RoSPA Awards scheme, which receives entries from organisations around the world, recognises achievement in health and safety management systems, including practices such as leadership and workforce involvement. The categories are judged by an expert adjudication panel consisting of highly experienced professionals from The Health and Safety Executive and the Institute of Occupational Health amongst many other renowned organisations.



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Two Years On From UK Referendum, Irish Builders' Brexit Boom Accelerates

Irish construction firms have more than tripled their spending on imports from the UK compared to pre-referendum levels, according to data released by the foreign exchange specialist Fexco Corporate Payments.

The analysis of more than 2100 transactions made through Fexco Corporate Payments shows that by the end of May this year Irish building firms had spent 240% more on UK goods and services than they did in the first five months of 2016.

The amount spent in the first five months of 2018 was 31% higher than that recorded during the same period in 2017. While this is less than the 152% jump recorded between 2016 and 2017, it's a clear sign that Irish construction firms are ramping up their import boom.

The figures also reveal that Irish construction firms are importing more – and more frequently – from the UK. The number of transactions rose by 22% between 2016 and 2018, and the average transaction size has nearly trebled from €5,729 in the first five months of 2016 to €15,211 in the first five months of 2018.

The primary driver behind such a sustained increase in imports is likely to be Irish builders' desire to capitalise on the weak



Pound. Though sterling has recovered a little since its low point last August, during the first five months of 2018 one Euro was worth an average of 87.8p, compared to an average of 77.7p between January and May 2016.

Yet cost pressures closer to home are likely to be a key factor too. A global study published in May by the construction consultancy Turner & Townsend found that Dublin is now the sixth most expensive city in the world for builders.

It predicted that a shortage of skilled labour would drive up construction costs in the Irish capital by a further 7% during 2018 – a rate of inflation more than double that being seen in London, where Brexit uncertainty has had a severe chilling effect.

David Lamb, head of dealing at FEXCO Corporate Payments, explained: "Two years on from the UK's decision to leave the EU,

the construction industry in Britain and Ireland is living a 'Tale of Two Brexits'.

"Uncertainty over the impact of Brexit on the UK economy has slammed the brakes on Britain's construction sector, with output falling sharply in 2018. Meanwhile in Ireland the boom times continue to roll, with Irish building firms cashing in on sterling's weakness by snapping up imports from the UK.

"Yet this tactic is likely to be about more than just opportunism. British goods and services are cheaper for Irish builders than they were this time last year – and a bargain compared to their pre-referendum levels – but switching to an import-led procurement strategy is also a way to offset rising cost pressures at home.

"With booming demand and a shortage of skilled workers driving up construction sector wage bills, many Irish builders are trying to insulate themselves from an overheating market by importing more of the materials they need.

"It's a smart strategy, but with the Pound still subject to a high degree of volatility as the UK counts down the months to Brexit proper, Irish builders who import regularly from Britain should consider locking in the current favourable exchange rate by using a forward contract."

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BELL

view from the cab

BELL B50E ADT MAKES AN IMPACT AT LAGAN CEMENT'S KINNEGAD QUARRY

An increasingly familiar sight in quarries and on major construction sites in this part of the world, it is said Bell Articulated Dump Trucks 'haul more, for longer at the lowest cost-per-ton to deliver more on profit margins.' But what is the reality? Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out from an operator who's recently introduced a new Bell 50E to an already impressive mixed fleet.

As the first Bell dump truck to be earning its keep at Lagan Cement's Kinnegad Quarry in Westmeath, we were keen to discover if the machine was living up to expectations and if it compared favourably to other makes in the fleet.

With a yearly capacity to produce up to three quarters of a million tonnes of cement, the quarry is clearly a hive of activity day and daily, with its machinery fleet often working at full stretch in a demanding and tough environment, so equipment reliability is vital to avoid any unnecessary downtime.

So how is the Bell 50 tonne ADT performing? Over to quarry/plant manager Cathal Shine. "We've been operating the dump truck for just over

five months and so far we are very happy with its performance and reliability."

The Bell 50E, delivered by dealers ECI, has replaced a rigid hauler, mainly for operational and changing conditions in the quarry.

Clear Choice

"We looked at several options before deciding on the Bell which readily met our criteria," explains Cathal. "The fact that it is an articulated truck was one of the initial attractions, as is its fuel efficiency, as well, of course, as its large capacity which makes it a very productive addition to our fleet."

He adds: "Our operators are very impressed with the Bell, especially its comfortable and spacious cab and its numerous safety

features, all of which provides a secure and pleasant working environment for the drivers."

Bell ADTs, of course, are built to operate in the toughest of conditions. The central oscillation joint, high suspension travel on all axles, and balanced weight distribution provide the agility and ability to navigate





challenging terrain such as that found at Kinnegad.

The cab is very well laid out, with easy-to-understand instruments and intuitive controls wrapping around the operator so they're easier to view and operate - from the state-of-the-art 10" full colour screen, automotive mouse interface and sealed switch module with centrally located sealed display unit to air suspension seat, tilt/telescoping steering wheel (and optional CD player with high-output speakers), the E-series sound-suppressed cab absolutely provides everything operators need to perform at their best.

Safety Features

Safety is paramount when operating in a quarry environment and as Cathal pointed out, the Bell ADT doesn't disappoint on that front, either.

Independent features such as Hill Assist, Bin Tip Prevention, Auto Park Application, and Turbo Spin Protection are all standard

on the E-series Bell, as are Keyless Start and On-Board Weighing.

The park brake, for example, automatically applies when neutral is selected; it is not possible to engage neutral at speed. Meanwhile, Hill Assist ensures no roll back on slopes, while best-in-class retarder and engine braking automatically applies when the operator lifts his foot off the accelerator. Retarder aggressiveness can be simply adjusted on the sealed switch module ensuring maximum descent control for all conditions.

For improved safety and productivity, the Bell 50E also has Automatic Traction Control which is achieved with speed sensors providing feedback to the truck on-board computer. The computer then controls differential lock activation as needed.

In addition, the dump truck can be set up to automatically sound the horn when starting or switching between forward and reverse - and when maximum payload is reached.

The fully automatic seven-speed planetary Allison transmission with torque converter lock-up maximises fuel efficiency, while automatic retardation slows the truck when the operator backs off the accelerator pedal for more confidence on steep grades. Meanwhile, fully enclosed, flooded, dual circuit wet disc brakes offer

superior braking performance and extended service life essential for wet and muddy conditions. Oil-immersed wet-disc brakes are virtually maintenance-free and feature a high flow circulation system with filtration and cooling.

Mercedes Powered

Powered by a Mercedes 6-cylinder inline, turbocharged diesel engine (producing 577hp@1700rpm) and with a top speed of just over 50km/h, the 50E dump truck, like all in the E-Series, runs SCR-technology in combination with EGR to give an industry leading standard in fuel-efficient emission control.

Routine maintenance is also made simple. The cab, for example, can be tilted in minutes without special tools, for convenient service access to drivetrain components.

Automated daily service checks can also be done with ease and comfort from inside the cab using the LCD monitor and sealed display controller.





Kieran Grant from NI Water accepts the 'excellent' award from Ian Nicholson of CEEQUAL on behalf of the project team comprising NI Water, Dawson Wam Ovivo JV and McAdam Design for the £10m Newcastle WwTW upgrade.

Newcastle Wastewater Treatment Works upgrade hailed as 'excellent'

The NI Water contract team who completed a £10m upgrade at Newcastle Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) has been honoured with an 'excellent' CEEQUAL award for its engineering and environmental work.

CEEQUAL – the Civil Engineering Environmental Quality Assessment and Award Scheme – honours the commitment of those in the civil engineering industry that achieve high environmental, economic and social performance and rewards

project teams that go the extra mile to accomplish distinctive environmental and social performance in their work.

The Newcastle team impressed the assessors with their approach to protecting and enhancing the environment during the complex build of a 2,000m² extension into the Irish Sea within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a Special Area of Conservation and an Area of Special Scientific Interest.

The extension was fitted out inside with an advanced treatment process to meet new Bathing Water Regulations and future-proofed to accommodate population growth in the seaside town. Outside, the roof of the 50m-long concrete structure was sown out with a special mix of indigenous coastal seeds to provide a soft green area which not only offers a more attractive view for the overlooking properties, but which also provides a natural habitat for local birds and insects.

Visiting the Newcastle site recently to present the award, Ian Nicholson, CEEQUAL Technical Director, said: "I would like to congratulate the Newcastle

WwTW project team in achieving an 'excellent' CEEQUAL Award. This accolade honours the commitment of NI Water, its consultants, McAdam Design and contractors Dawson-Wam Ovivo JV in completing this major project within a challenging coastal location whilst protecting and enhancing the local environment."

Accepting the award on behalf of the project team, Kieran Grant, NI Water's Project Manager for the scheme said: "This £10m project represents one of the most complex wastewater facility upgrades to be undertaken for NI Water in recent years.

"Located on the County Down coast, in one of NI's top seaside resorts, the Newcastle Wastewater Treatment Works Project presented NI Water and its contractor, Dawson-Wam Ovivo JV with numerous civil engineering, environmental and aesthetic challenges, all of which were overcome on a highly successful project fully embraced by client and contractor alike. We are delighted to receive this prestigious award which is a fitting tribute to the efforts of the entire design and construction team."

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TBF THOMPSON MARKS THEIR RETURN TO DUBLIN WITH OPENING OF NEW DEPOT

After an eight year absence, TBF Thompson have returned to Dublin with the recent opening of a new depot at Parkwest – and business is already brisk, thanks to a resurgent construction industry in the Irish Republic after years of stagnation.

It was back in 2004 when the company first entered the southern Irish market with a purpose-built facility at Rathcoole to take full advantage of the Celtic tiger years but unfortunately the operation there closed in 2010 because of the economic downturn.

“Now we are back,” says director Seamus Doherty, “and we are delighted to be so, with our first machine from these new premises being sold on the very second day of opening.”

Managing director Raymond Crilly says they are ‘testing the water’ at this stage, but if business continues to grow they may look at further expansion in the south of Ireland.

The new depot, which extends TBF Thompson’s long established Hitachi dealership across the island of Ireland, is located close to the M50, so it is easily accessible by customers from all parts of the country. Two sales reps are already out on the road visiting established and potential customers across the quarrying and construction sectors – and with the backing



of Hitachi Capital, customers don’t have to worry about financing any new purchases.

Seamus adds that being in a position to provide a Hitachi branded finance solution has been a key factor in the company’s continued growth as many customers, he says, don’t want to make substantial

payments up front. Having a Hitachi Capital representative always on hand is a big bonus.

Although the Dublin depot initially will focus on the Hitachi range, it is planned to introduce other brands, such as Doosan Portable Power, for which they are already the dealer for all Ireland.



Further Expansion

If all goes as anticipated, TBF will consider expanding into the west coast of Ireland, and down into the Cork area, but for now they are happy to build and consolidate their presence in the greater Dublin area.

The new depot will employ around eight people, with extra staff available if needs be from the company's Garvagh and Mallusk facilities.

TBF Thompson has enjoyed a long and successful history, more especially in the north of the country, overcoming many challenges and set-backs along the way from those early days of 1958. This year sees the 60th anniversary of the business which has been grown both organically and through acquisition.

In the Beginning...

It is all a very long way from when Thomas Bacon French Thompson left school at 15 to start a small haulage business in

Garvagh. He bought a three-ton Bedford for a milk contract, then hauled potatoes to Belfast and brought back loads of feeding stuffs and fertiliser or lime, buying yet another lorry as the business grew.

As the years passed, business took another twist following a call from another entrepreneur called J C Bamford of excavator fame, leading to the purchase of premises on the Shore Road, Belfast, to give better service to his growing number of JCB customers in Belfast, Co Down and Co Armagh. The Bamford family including the founder's son, young Tony, now Sir Anthony, attended the opening in 1969 by Prime Minister James Chichester-Clark. Before long JCB was market leader in Northern Ireland, with TBF giving a record order worth £2 million to JCB.

We could say 'the rest is history,' but much more was to follow in the company's development and evolution. Fast forward to 1999 when yet another significant milestone was reached - the plant and machinery division was sold to a management buy-

out team of Andy Magowan, Raymond Crilly and Mark McCluskey. This included the premises at Garvagh, plant depot at Mallusk, commercial vehicle business at Mallusk and the plant depot in Dublin.

In June of 2016, Andy Magowan made the decision to retire after more than 40 years in a directorship role. His unwavering loyalty and dedication was a driving force behind the company's success, leaving a lasting impression on many.

At the same time the reins of TBF Thompson were handed over to a management buy-out team involving Raymond Crilly (Managing Director and former Financial Director) together with fellow Directors, Alan Espie (Commercial) and Seamus Doherty (Plant). With years of experience between them, each director is an expert in his field and committed to keeping the TBF Thompson name at the forefront of plant and commercial vehicle business in Ireland.



SRC Scoops Global Award for New £35m Armagh Campus

Southern Regional College's new £35 million campus in Armagh has been recognised with a global award – just weeks after securing regional and UK-wide awards for its innovative approach to procurement and project delivery.

SRC's Armagh campus was one of three high-profile projects shortlisted this year for the New Engineering Contract (NEC) 'Client of the Year' Award 2018 and has now been confirmed as the global winner in London.

Last year, the award, which recognises best practice and collaboration in the delivery of major construction projects, went to Hong Kong's Development Bureau for major public works.

NEC is endorsed by governments and industry bodies worldwide and has an unrivalled track record for assisting in delivering large-scale projects – including the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games venues.



Construction of the new Armagh campus, which is part of a £95 million investment by the Department for the Economy and Southern Regional College, is already underway and will open in 2020.

Designed by WYG Group, it has this year already won the Northern Ireland GO Excellence in Procurement Innovation /

Initiative of the Year Award before going on to win against 12 other shortlisted projects in the UK final in Manchester.

Brian Doran, SRC Chief Executive, said: "Winning this global award is an outstanding result for SRC and the delivery team behind the construction of this landmark project in Armagh and is a testament to our

ambition and commitment to creating world class educational facilities for the future.

"This award recognises the vision, talent and dedication of a fantastic team. With the support and commitment of the Department for the Economy and all our partners, we're really proud to be bringing this pioneering campus to Armagh."

The new, purpose-built education campus in Armagh will comprise 14,000 sq. metres of specialist accommodation across several curriculum areas and has been carefully designed to facilitate a major uplift in the provision of professional and technical education and training.

Located on the existing Lonsdale Road site, it will also specialise in the provision of innovation hubs through which students will engage with business and industry in real world industrial projects and challenges. Felix O'Hare and Co. Limited, the appointed contractor, is spearheading its construction.

Around 200 jobs are being created within the construction phase of the project which also includes 25 apprenticeship opportunities.

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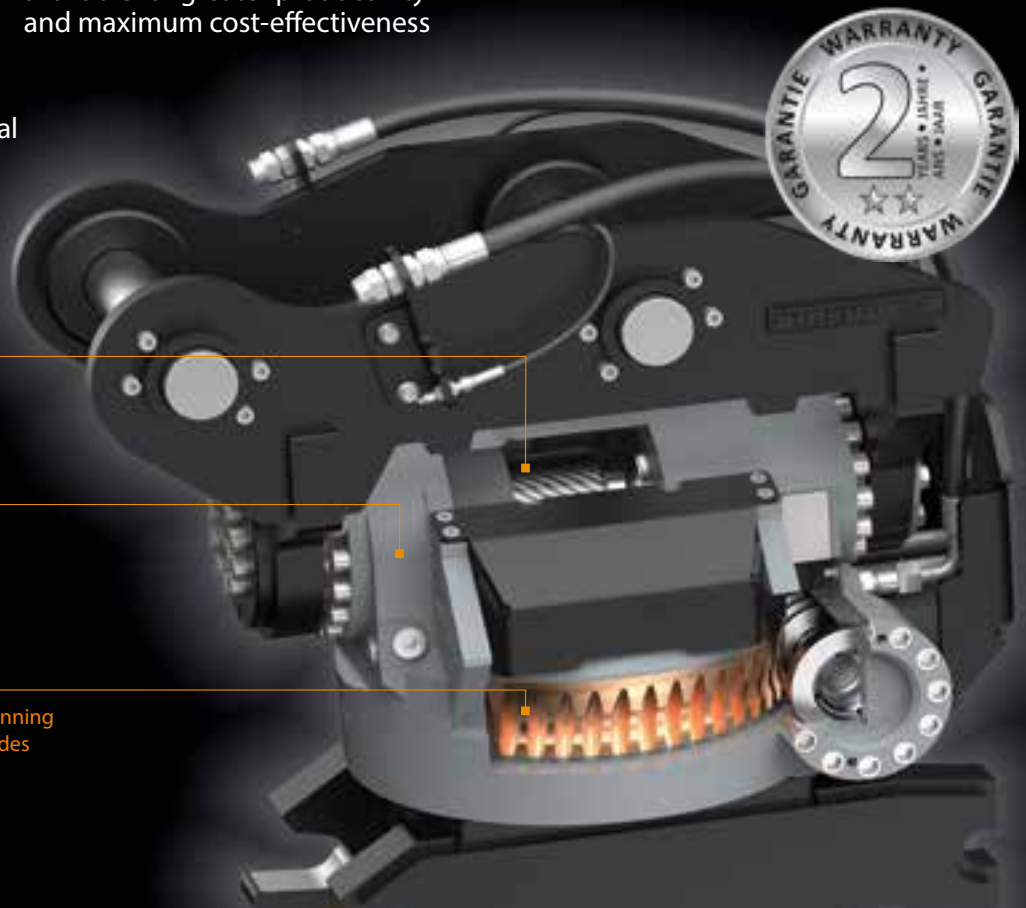
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WACKER NEUSON EW65 WITH KINSHOFER TILTROTATOR, IMPRESSES WEST CORK CIVIL ENGINEERS

As one of the industry's leading companies in West Cork, Pat O'Driscoll Plant Hire and Civil Engineering Ltd are big fans of the Wacker Neuson brand; they operate more than 20 Wacker Neuson machines, the latest addition being an EW65 Rubber Duck supplied by County Wexford based dealers Ferrybridge, as Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes reports.

The family run and widely respected company, with its hands-on management team and large fleet of construction machinery, has completed an impressive range of major civil engineering, building and earth moving contracts over the years.

A progressive outfit that demands high quality machines with great functionality, its latest Wacker Neuson wheeled excavator is fitted with a load of extras,



including the first ever Kinshofer NOX tiltrotator to be utilised by the company.

"It is one cool machine," says Paul O'Driscoll, who is currently putting it to good use on a pipe laying contract. "Its performance since we got it a couple of months ago has been excellent and I've been particularly impressed

with the lay-out of the cab; all the controls are very well positioned and easily accessible."

Comfort Cab

Indeed, the Wacker Neuson EW65 has clearly been designed with operator comfort in mind. The spacious cab comes with an air cushioned seat and an automatic air-conditioning system, as well as a side sliding window, windscreen wiper and washing system.

"I have excellent visibility from my seat, which is essential when working in public areas and on busy sites where space is limited," says Paul. "It is also very easy to manoeuvre, especially on projects like this where our operational area is very tight."

The machine features an innovative front windshield system: the two-part windshield can be slid up and moved, while LED headlights – and a working light mounted





on the boom - offer optimal illumination on dull days and winter evenings.

Better visibility is also aided by the provision of three exterior mirrors and the thoughtful positioning of the boom which is offset to the right for an unobstructed view – and, of course, the rearview camera contributes greatly to safety, especially when in reverse operation.

Stability is also an important factor, and the Wacker Neuson doesn't disappoint, due to its low centre of gravity. It is also easy to transport from site to site, thanks to its street driving mode and speed of up to 30kph. Powered by a Tier 4 Final Perkins engine, it is fuel efficient, too, as it has an ECO mode. Maintenance and service are also made easy, thanks to the tiltable cab which makes access very convenient.

NOX Tiltrotator

"We didn't originally request a triple boom, but we are delighted we did as it gives us greater reach and a much better operational range," adds Paul, who is also mightily impressed with the machine's Kinshofer NOX tiltrotator.

"It's the first tiltrotator we have added to our excavator fleet and it is brilliant," he says.

"It makes the machine so more versatile; we can accomplish tasks that we couldn't with a conventional bucket system. It's great in restricted areas and on street projects like this where access is very tight."

The tiltrotator is driven using the original WN joysticks as the machine has Pilot Circuit Powertilt and 3rd Control Circuit. That means the unit can be operated using the factory fitted joysticks which maintains the machine's integrity and also means there are no additional electronics at the end of dipper.

Any fears that the tiltrotator might be difficult to operate quickly disappeared. "I managed to master it in just a couple of days, and now it is second nature," comments Paul. "I can't believe how we ever managed without it; it has become indispensable. It's a big investment, but well worth it. I'd like to see them on some of our other excavators!"

As we mentioned earlier, the company has every confidence in Wacker Neuson, so it is no surprise that it has also recently added another Wacker Neuson DW60 to its growing fleet of new site dumpers which have been tried and tested on its hire fleet over the years.

The excellent aftersales service provided by dealers Ferrybridge has not gone unnoticed, either. "We are absolutely delighted by the service and support we receive from Ferrybridge."



CDE equipment brings dormant Little Paxton quarry back to life

Aggregate Industries, a leading building materials and solutions company with more than 300 sites across the UK, has brought dormant Little Paxton quarry in Cambridgeshire back to life with a CDE wet processing solution installed in partnership with Aggregate Processing Solutions (APS).

Holding the Responsible Source certification, Aggregate Industries was committed to developing the Little Paxton quarry according to strict environmental guidelines as the site is adjacent to Paxton Pits, a Local Nature Reserve and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The quarry had been mothballed for six years and Aggregates Industries, through APS, identified CDE as its supplier of choice to maximise the site's materials production potential.

As Aggregate Industries originally did not have an extension planning permission, the company opted to lease rather than purchase a wet

processing plant, which it needed to be designed to very specific requirements.

Aggregates Industries' 10-year partner APS, which sells, contracts and hires processing equipment, was able to recommend CDE as the only company that could develop a fully bespoke, high-efficiency wet processing solution for Little Paxton. CDE would provide the technical solution and the equipment, which would be installed and operated on site by APS on a price-per-tonne basis.

Expectations and challenges

David Kinloch, Regional Manager UK for CDE said: "The Little Paxton quarry presented different environmental and technical challenges that CDE's design and technical engineers, in collaboration with Aggregates Industries, tackled systematically and successfully to co-create a tailor-made solution that would deal with the clay contamination in the raw sand and gravel feed whilst addressing requirements

for a specific layout to match the site's footprint as well as height, colour and noise restrictions.

"After the raw feed was analysed in its laboratory, CDE was able to determine how its solutions could match Aggregates Industries' requirements such as specific products, tonnages, product blends, and stockpiling capacities."

With a 180 tonne-per-hour feed rate, Aggregate Industries wanted to produce a mixture of aggregates and sands for the construction industry, with the option to blend 20mm, 10mm and 6mm products into a 20-5mm product. CDE designed a bespoke modular solution to reach this objective with the option to be further developed at a later stage. Matthew Sharpe, Quarry Operations Manager at Aggregate Industries said: "Whilst making a decision on the plant for Little Paxton APS and CDE were able to offer a solution to some of our specific requirements we had for the site. This included product blending and stocking capacity, as well solutions to make the operation and maintenance of the plant easier in the long term.

"The ability of CDE to meet these requirements and offer practical solutions is a major contributing factor to Aggregate Industries ultimately purchasing the plant"

CDE solution

To tackle the clay contamination in the raw feed, Aggregate Industries opted for a complete CDE solution comprising an AggMax 252SR logwasher performing at optimal efficiency thanks to the inclusion of a Prograde twin deck washing screen, a transfer conveyor and an EvoWash triple cyclone sand washing unit. These are completed by six stockpilers, a ProGrade rinsing deck, sizing screens and a Trackstack stockpiling unit. A tracked radial conveyor supplied by APS was added to the installation to allow more flexibility on site.



Matthew Sharpe, Quarry Operations Manager at Aggregate Industries, on the Little Paxton quarry site during the installation of the CDE plant.

Once the plant was completed and tested at CDE's assembly facilities, APS took delivery of it to install and operate it for Aggregates Industries.

With a 180 tonne-per-hour feed rate from the customer's existing overland conveyor, the Little Paxton quarry now produces +90mm oversize rinsed product, 20-90mm / 20mm / 10mm / 6mm scrubbed product, concrete sand and building sand, as well as soft and sharp sand, with an option to blend 20, 10 and 6mm grades into a 20-5mm product. These are sent to market to be used mainly in concrete applications but are also sold to the decorative aggregates market across a range of regions including Scotland.

Duncan Hayden, Assistant Site Manager at Aggregate Industries' Little Paxton Quarry, concludes: "As a company, we have been working with APS for around 10 years and they have always delivered an excellent service, so when they recommended the CDE technology as the answer to the very specific requirements we had for Little Paxton Quarry, we knew we could trust them. The whole experience has been very good and we are delighted with the performance of our CDE plant."



Little Paxton Quarry.



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Construction Industry Federation and An Garda Siochana join forces to combat theft

An Garda Siochana along with the Construction Industry Federation (CIF) are taking a proactive role in crime prevention in the construction industry which has historically has been targeted by criminals. Building sites are by nature easy targets for criminals due to the types of materials, tools and machinery on site.

Figures show there has been a rise of approximately 25% in Construction Crime compared to this time last year in the Southern Region. This can involve thefts from vehicles, burglary, unauthorised taking of vehicles, criminal damage and trespassing.

The main objective of the #Secureitkeepit campaign is to create and maintain awareness both within the industry and with the general public as to the importance of site security, and the security of plant machinery, construction equipment and materials.

Speaking at Bandon Garda Station, Crime Prevention Officer for the West Cork Division, Sgt Ian O Callaghan said: "Every year we encounter construction sites being targeted. In the Southern Region alone we have had 131 construction crime incidents which have been reported to Gardaí in 2018.

"The most important thing for anyone who owns tools and equipment is to keep them secure. If possible, put some type of identify mark on them, take a photo and email it back to yourself so you have it forever. Every year, An Garda Siochana recover hundreds of thousands worth of machinery and tools, most of which goes unclaimed."

Tom Parlon, Director General, Construction Industry Federation said: "With the construction industry in recovery mode with over 50,000 additional workers in the industry since 2014, it's vital that we are smart about protecting our tools.

A lot of tool theft is opportunistic with criminals looking for a weak link in site or automobile security. Taking a few simple steps can ensure that your tools are not targeted. I would urge everyone in the industry to follow the An Garda Siochana Construction Site Checklist in terms of securing tools.

"It's vital that if you do have equipment stolen, report it to An Garda Siochana. The Gardaí have had some major successes in reclaiming stolen tools so it's vital that you mark all tool. Finally, we're advising companies to take extra care in securing sites particularly at the weekend.

If we are sending out the message to the 130,000 workers in the industry that if



Pictured at the launch are *Conor O'Connell, Regional Director, CIF, Southern Region; Donal Cahalane, Chairman, Cork Branch CIF; Tom Parlon, Director General, CIF; Chief Superintendent Con Cadogan, West Cork Garda Division; Sgt James O'Donoghue; Sgt Ian O'Callaghan, Community Policing and Crime Prevention Officer; Mike Varian, Cumnam Construction.*

you secure it, you keep it. Working with An Garda Siochana and by taking a few steps we can protect our livelihoods and prevent this sort of crime."

Some examples of thefts at constructions sites from 2017:

- €30,000 worth of materials/ equipment from a site in Limerick
- €22,000 worth of tools stolen from a van parked outside a house in Limerick
- €15,000 excavator from a site in Cork
- €15,000 worth of tools from a van left onsite in Limerick
- €12,000 of scaffolding at a site in Limerick
- €5,000 worth of copper cable from a site in Kerry
- €5,000 rock breaker stolen from a site in Cork
- €4,000 generator from a site in Cork
- €4,000 digger was stripped of parts on a site in Cork

Simple Tips

Here are a few simple tips to help keep your site more secure:

- Set up CCTV if you are going to be on site for a prolonged period

- Good security lighting
- Fences or hoardings are effective and should be used whenever possible
- Keep the number of gates to site entrance to a minimum
- Localised temporary security alarms should be used.
- Control access to the site. Visitors must sign in and vehicle registration numbers given
- Cash should not be kept on site when possible
- Machinery should be left in a well-lit part of the site with the keys removed.
- Security locks and ground fixings are great for extra security
- Keep a record of engine numbers chassis number, vehicle ID numbers etc.
- Store your tools in a secure area.
- Photograph and mark all of your tools with a unique identification number and keep a record of it.
- Report all thefts and suspicious activity on sites to An Garda Siochana

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MAJOR RE-BRANDING COMPLETED BY MCQUILLAN COMPANIES

McQuillan Companies have recently undergone a re-branding process, establishing four distinct divisions - John McQuillan Contracts Ltd; McQuillan Quarries; McQuillan Environmental; and McQuillan Outdoor.

The company says the move, revealed at a special gathering of invited guests and senior management figures, is to take the business to the next level; all four divisions will operate under the master brand of McQuillan Companies.

Commented Director John McQuillan: "We are very aware the environment in which we work continues to evolve and we must adjust with it. The reputation of our business has been built on hard work, dedication to our customers and a passion for each of the service sectors we deliver. Our outgoing brand, although relevant at the time, has been updated to reflect this passion and the evolving markets we operate in today.

"In today's increasingly competitive marketplace we wanted to present McQuillan Companies in a manner that will allow us to be distinct within our market areas. We feel we've achieved this and are excited with what the future holds for McQuillan Companies."

Added Contracts Manager Ronan McQuillan: "To all of our staff, operatives and sub-contractors, we appreciate the commitment and efforts that you all make for McQuillan Companies. The passion, dedication and



service of all of you, past and present have helped create the history of this company over five generations and 130 years.

"Over time the roles have changed from delivering stone on a horse and cart to delivering a skip on an 8 wheeled diesel-powered truck or carrying buckets of hot tar to the mixing plant to analysing hazardous chemicals in our laboratory. Members of staff have in some cases given over 40 years of service, and fortunately many of them are still working with us today. We would like to thank all of you as there is no doubt that in any company it is the employees' efforts that help to build it."

He went on to give guests an update on some of the projects currently being undertaken by the company.

"We are now well into 2018, this year our Contracting and Quarrying Divisions have completed two phases of the Belfast Rapid Transit scheme to the value of £9 million which facilitate the new Belfast glider buses. We have also expanded our contracting spread with the completion of our first resurfacing project in Scotland.

"In 2017 we opened a 3,000 sq. m building, built in house and continued investment will see a specialist recycling plant completed by September 2018 where we will have the





capacity to process 25,000t per annum of waste into various reusable commodities."

History

The company, of course, has enjoyed a long and successful history dating back to the 1880s when the late John McQuillan commenced quarrying operations with the discovery of limestone at his farm in Colinwell. By the mid 1920's contracting works has begun, with the company securing its first Belfast City Council Annual Contract.

By 1972 McQuillan Skip Hire had been established, providing Waste Management Services for Domestic and Commercial requirements.

The 1990s saw the purchase of Edentrillick Quarry at Dromore, Co. Down followed by the Budore Quarry at Dundrod, Co. Antrim. McQuillan Envirocare's Hazardous Waste transfer station at Caulside Drive in Antrim was established in 2000 and four years later John McQuillan Contracts Ltd secured first five year Asphalt Resurfacing Term Contract for South Belfast, Castlereagh & North Down.

2006 saw significant investment in a state of the art coating plant at the Budore Quarry, Dundrod, and the following year was the opening of a laboratory at McQuillan Envirocare, followed in 2014 by the opening of a Chemical Treatment Facility there and a Materials Recovery Facility at Budore.

So, let's take a brief look at the present day four rebranded divisions:

John McQuillan (Contracts)

John McQuillan (Contracts) is a leading civil engineering and road surfacing company

with an established reputation for quality, reliability and exceptional service.

It possesses the expertise and capabilities to deliver widely varying projects, specialising in road construction and maintenance, surface treatments, car park construction, public realm and environmental improvement, sports pitch construction and demolition.

Utilising the extensive experience of its skilled technical staff and operational workforce, broad range of plant and equipment resources and long standing relationships with specialist partners, it consistently delivers excellence for its expanding client base in the public and private sectors. High profile public sector clients include DfI Roads, Central Procurement Directorate and various Local Councils.

McQuillan Quarries

McQuillan Quarries have been associated with high quality materials and service for generations. This tradition has ensured that they are now leading suppliers of blacktop products, high PSV aggregate and sub base materials throughout GB and Ireland today.

Their two asphalt coating plant locations outside Belfast and Dromore Co. Down have state of the art manufacturing facilities allowing them to supply their own contracting division whilst comfortably servicing a public market for any blacktop material needs.

With materials testing labs at both depots, they ensure the supply of quality products that meet British and European standards.

McQuillan Environmental

McQuillan Environmental is a multi-site Waste and Resource Management

organisation serving all industrial and public sectors to meet their sustainability and legislative commitments.

Offering Total Waste Management solutions it operates a fully permitted and licenced Material Recycling Facility with a specialised fleet of environmentally friendly collection vehicles and waste receptacles to meet all demands for good recycling practise.

In addition, it operates one of Ireland's most advanced Hazardous Waste Management facilities with chemist managed Hazardous Waste Transfer Station, bespoke Chemical Treatment Facility and Soil Treatment Plant all onsite with collection vehicles and tanker services ensuring full service is delivered for all difficult waste streams.

McQuillan Outdoor

McQuillan Outdoor has a large portfolio of clients from both the public and private sectors. This ranges from health and social care trusts, schools, sports stadiums to major airports, supermarkets and retail buildings.

It also works on a large number of prestigious commercial properties throughout Northern Ireland, working closely with many of the leading Managing Agents to ensure its clients' service requirements are met.

McQuillan Outdoor can offer a comprehensive portfolio of services – from cleaning and sweeping to snow clearance and landscaping - and can combine a number of services to offer a complete outdoor facility management package.

This can include one-off cleaning operations, programmed planned site management and full caretaking and site management.



McHale Plant Sales To Host 'Open Day' For Apprentices

Construction, civil works and waste management machinery distributor, McHale Plant Sales is advancing plans to host an 'open day' for prospective apprentices at its headquarters in Birdhill or Rathcoole, or possibly both.

Likely to be held in Autumn, the proposed event is seen by the company as a logical follow-on to their publication last year of a 'Career Choices in the Construction Plant and Equipment Industry' booklet.

The proposed open day is intended as a direct response to the situation now developing in the sector whereby companies such as McHale Plant Sales – whose machinery lines include Komatsu construction and forestry equipment, Metso stone crushers, Merlo telehandlers and



McHale Plant Sales director, John O'Brien and general manager, Denis McGrath pictured at the announcement of the company's plans to host an 'open day' for prospective apprentices next Autumn.

Terex waste handling machinery – are being advised to augment their technical support teams

with personnel versed with an understanding of computerisation and the sophisticated 'intelligent'

technology now being installed in heavy plant and motorised vehicles generally.

While numbers will be restricted and final details have yet to be decided, the company is already open to receiving what company director, Michael McHale terms 'expressions of interest' from those wishing to attend. These, he said, can be channelled through the company's website 'contact' page in the first instance.

According to McHale, the plan will be for a 'one-day event built around a mixture of conference-room talks and presentations coupled with a visit to our workshops and a hands-on opportunity to view machines and see the technology now being employed in their design and construction'.

Possible also will be the participation of international experts from Komatsu, Metso and others, as well as an introduction to the training programmes, career opportunities and salary structures that apprentices might reasonably expect.

Swale Construction Improved 250% using Sidewinder Offset Paver



Trials conducted during the construction of the North Norwich Distributor Road showed an increase in efficiency of 250% by using SidewinderUK plant, as against conventional methods.

Sidewinder offset paver is a unique plant able to lay any granular material to either side of an existing carriageway. Baseline measures conducted on the Balfour Beatty Norfolk project showed that 100 linear metres of swale could be completed in a day using conventional methods. Working with Sidewinder plant, it was possible to lay 350 linear metres in a day – an impressive increase of 250%.

Richard Haley, Technical Manager at SidewinderUK, said: "We are always happy to go the extra mile and in this case we had to make alterations to our equipment in order to meet the high expectations of the Balfour Beatty team. Because we're a small team, we were able to take decisions and act quickly to meet tight deadlines.

During this project we offered unique solutions which involved manufacturing a completely new screed, the manufacture and trial of an extended auger, manufacture of an extension conveyor as well as creating a bespoke trapezoidal roller for the project."

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TEREX'S GENERATION 10 TA400 – THE TOUGHEST OF WORKHORSES

Quarry operators and civil engineering contractors FP McCann are clearly big fans of the Terex articulated dump truck; they have around 10 of them working at various sites across Northern Ireland – and they've recently acquired another, as Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out.

Any plant and machinery going into FP McCann's Quarries certainly has to earn its keep from day one. The award winning company operates a number of Quarries, Surfacing, Readymix and Precast plants, supplying a wide range of heavy building materials to the construction industry.

The latest Terex Trucks Generation 10 TA400, supplied by dealers Sleator Plant, is currently working at the company's Bradley Quarry outside Kilrea in County Derry/Londonderry, which FP McCann acquired late last year. The quarry accommodates an asphalt plant, a readymix

facility and a block production plant, making it a busy and machine-intensive environment.

"We are well pleased with the performance of the Terex brand and had little hesitation in opting for the new TA400 Generation 10," comments Quarry Manager Chris McCloy. "It does exactly what it says on the tin, making it ideal for heavy duty tasks."

The new 38 tonne truck joins a number of other TA400s and TA300s which FP McCann have acquired over the years.

The biggest in Terex Trucks' ADT range, and also the first product to be launched since their acquisition in 2014 by Volvo Construction Equipment, it is being utilised to transport material from the quarry face to a crusher.

The TA300s take over from there, carrying the processed rock to the stockpile.

Stand Out

There are a number of things that make this new Generation 10 TA400 stand out, not least its high performance, fuel efficient Tier 4 Scania engine offering gross power of 331kW and a maximum torque of 2,255Nm, which ensures excellent productivity, while its modulating transmission retarder, which is coupled with an efficient exhaust brake and fully enclosed oil-cooled multidisc brakes, provides optimum control and increased safety in adverse conditions such as steep inclines.

Working in a tough quarry environment, dump trucks, of course, have to contend with a variety of challenges, but the Terex Trucks TA400 takes it all in its stride, as they have come to appreciate at FP McCann.

With all three axles in a permanent (6 x 6) all-wheel drive, incredible traction is achieved while reducing driveline abuse





and wheel spin, resulting in reduced tyre wear, while the planetary gear transmission provides smooth, efficient gear shifting, leading to lower fuel consumption and reduced running costs.

Comfortable Cab

"Our drivers have also been impressed with the cab which is spacious, with all the controls logically positioned, to provide a comfortable and safe working environment.", continues Chris.

The reduction in interior cab noise levels and improvements made to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, all of which combines to help reduce driver fatigue.

Other refinements include improved sealing, which limits risk of environmental ingress such as heat, moisture and dirt; and wider, pivoting steps

view from the cab



and service platforms for easier and safer access. On-board diagnostics and real-time data, including fuel consumption, improves fleet operations and performance by alerting the operator to make faster on-the-job decisions and reducing the possibility of down time.

Telematics

Terex Trucks 'Haul Track' Telematics, incidentally, come as standard on the Generation 10 TA400, providing complete visibility of the truck's routine behaviour, with the captured data viewable on a variety of mobile and desktop devices, or downloadable as hard copy reports.

Telematics will let you know where your truck is located, where it has been and when it's on the move – and that can only be reassuring in the wake of recent news reports of an increase in plant and machinery thefts around the country.

Downtime, of course, can be costly, even for service or maintenance, but this is kept to a minimum thanks to the provision of ground level service access points, and a fully tilting cab and electronic-assisted hood raise for ease of access to engine.

The TA400 transmission is also installed with the latest lubrication oil specification that extends oil service periods to 6000 hours, further reducing operational costs.

Aftersales Support

"FP McCann is one of our largest customers; we have provided them with a substantial number of trucks over the years and we value their continued confidence not only in the Terex brand but also in the high level of aftersales support that we provide," says Sleator Plant General Manager Jonathan Campbell. "We are delighted they opted for the

TA400 Generation 10 which really is an impressive, highly productive workhorse."

In Summary...

A high performance, fuel efficient engine ensures excellent productivity. For optimum control and increased safety in adverse conditions such as steep inclines, a modulating transmission retarder is coupled with an efficient exhaust brake and fully enclosed oil-cooled multidisc brakes.

The fully adaptable drivetrain is designed to maintain traction and speed on the toughest jobsites for outstanding productivity at all times.

The planetary gear transmission provides smooth, efficient gear shifting for optimised fuel consumption and reduced cost of operation.

Ground level test points and a fully tilting cab, combined with an electronically raised hood, ensure ease of service and reduced downtime.



FORWARD THINKING IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT HAE EHA CONFERENCE

How future technology can inspire growth in the Hire industry may be the theme of the forthcoming HAE EHA Conference at Loughborough on October 2, but one speaker has the radical idea that doing away with your mobile devices could lead to a more creative way of thinking.

Keynote speaker Dr Jack Lewis, a leading neuroscientist, whose topic is 'Neuroscience of decision making and how technology is changing our brain', is bound to give members food for thought by explaining that putting aside their electronic gadgetry, even for a short period, can unclutter the mind and produce brainwaves!

Whilst shockwaves from the collapse of Carillion that were felt across the country earlier this year, HAE EHA believe there are still reasons to be cheerful and this is echoed by an upbeat message from David Rockhill of McKinsay & Company, who will reflect on 'The Changing Face of the Construction Industry and Opportunities for Hire'.

Attracting young people into Hire is an ongoing challenge for companies. This topic will be addressed by Mark Woolaston, of ITV Business Development Team with his presentation on how to engage and recruit 16-24-year-olds.

Raising awareness of the great job opportunities the hire industry has to offer the young is vital for its future, says HAE EHA Managing Director, Graham Arundell. He said: "We need to ensure a steady stream of talented people who show the skills and commitment required to successfully deliver high quality work on time.

"Mark will demonstrate at conference how ITV has captured a huge market share of 16-24-year-olds with programmes like Love Island and the World Cup. We need to hook people in that age group by shouting from the roof tops about the rich variety of roles and skills our industry offers and how our training programmes can nurture them and reward effort with career progression."

The impressive line-up of 'Forward Together' speakers aiming to inspire and educate includes Ben Hardy, Managing Director of Richmond Event Management on Behind the Scenes at Bristol Balloon Festival and Amanda Knowles, Heidi Russell and Jessica Bowen from Vp plc Hire Station who will discuss leading roles for women in Hire and how businesses can boost female career progression.

HAE EHA are also hoping to get a representative from Google on Future Trends, Kevin Fear and Martin Coyd (MACE)

discussing a current hot topic Mental Health First Aid, Fay Bevington (Stallard Kane) talking about Dyslexia in the Workplace and Barbour Abi on market research.

Also invited to speak is Sat Dhairwal, who has been asked to become an ambassador for attracting young people into the hire industry. This truly inspirational figure is one of the industry's most influential people and winner of the Chairman's award 2018.

In addition to the bevy of impressive speakers, the Babbage Hall and Turing Hall at Holywell Park will each have a stage area, with seating, to host keynote speaker sessions on subjects including Global and Iconic Events, Extending the Life of Construction Equipment, Celebrating Women in Hire, The Shape of Rental Software and Benchmarking Equipment.

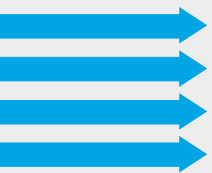
The HAE EHA Conference is open to all members but people wishing to attend need to register online on a website hireconference.org.uk. If you would like further information on speaker slots, exhibitor spaces and sponsorship options, please contact the team on 44 (0)121 380 4605 or e-mail marketing@hae.org.uk.



HIRE 2018 FORWARD TOGETHER



**THE UK HIRE INDUSTRY'S YEARLY GET-TOGETHER
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**Holywell Park Conference Centre
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Themes include:

- Global and Iconic Events
- Extending the life of Construction Equipment
 - Celebrating Women in Hire
 - The Shape of Rental Software
- Benchmarking Equipment Rental

**For further information on speaker opportunities,
visiting or exhibiting please contact Marketing Manager
Ann Harrison on 0121 380 4605 or email marketing@hae.org.uk**



CITB NI boosts Training Grants to £1.65million

CITB NI have launched their new £1.65m training grants scheme and increased overall funds available by 30%. This significant investment will help the local construction industry train in order to be safer, more efficient and more effective.

Available from September 2018, the increased funding offers direct grants to registered employers for support in a wide range of training and qualifications for employees working in Northern Ireland. The training is not limited to just the construction trades. It also includes Administration, Supervision and Management training.

Apprenticeships is a main area that will benefit from the additional funding as grants for construction employers who employ and train apprentices on an approved apprenticeship framework have been enhanced by 30%. This means employers will be eligible to claim up to £5200 over a three year period.

There is also a £1500 grant available from the Department for the Economy for employers who take on an apprentice from the very start right through to completion of NVQ Level 2 and 3.

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive, CITB NI said, "Training delivers results, and more construction employers are embracing and valuing training for their workforce. Our Grant scheme is widely recognised within the industry and we want to continue to provide financial support for employers of all sizes towards the training and qualification of their people.

"We have a major focus on apprentices and want to help employers realise the importance of apprenticeships and their value to the overall future of the industry. We hope that the enhanced grant funding will help employers plan their training for the forthcoming year. The training grant funds are easy to claim,

with employers encouraged to claim online via the website as it is easy, quick and efficient."

Additional Tiers

To ensure the whole industry benefits from the £1.65m grant funding an additional two Tiers of grant categories have been established.

Tier 2 is directed at industry bodies and federations who have identified training requirements for their sector and wish to apply for funding to help them facilitate delivery of the training.

Tier 3 is directed at addressing training needs identified by CITB NI or industry bodies through research and is led and delivered by CITB NI in partnership recognised training providers.

Tiers 2 and 3 can occur at any time throughout the training year.

More Information

For further information on CITB NI Grants please visit the web site at <http://www.citbni.org.uk/Grants.aspx> or contact a member of the Grants team on 028 9082 5466 or email: grants@citbni.org.uk

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For digger from 1t to 8t.

SA800

& SA1000

Swivel Trims

Loader mounted
hedge cutters.
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cuts up to 35mm.



FH Flail Heads

Available in
800mm and
1000mm widths
for mini diggers
from 2t up to 8t.



SLANETRAC INCREASES PRODUCTION TO MEET GROWING DEMAND

As specialists in the manufacture of small tracked dumpers and a range of innovative attachments, County Meath based Slanetrac have never been busier, with increasing sales at home and abroad, necessitating an expansion of the company's production facilities.

Selling direct to end users and hire companies, Slanetrac's diverse customer base extends right across the island of Ireland and into the UK, with significant inroads also being made into the export market, particularly in France and Germany, and as far away as New Zealand.

Hire companies in particular favour the Slanetrac petrol and diesel-powered dumpers. "Customers love the versatility and stability of the dumpers which can access restricted sites that other machines can't," says Production Manager Tony McCann.

With the Irish economy healthier than it has been for many years, the construction industry is growing. The house building sector is especially busy, both with 'new builds' - and with extensions and renovation work as some home owners decide to stay put rather than move away from an area they've come to enjoy.

It is a similar picture in the UK, especially in the London area where more and more 'basement' properties are being



developed as building sites become increasingly difficult to acquire.

"Our tracked dumpers are ideal for those areas where there is little room for manoeuvre," says Tony who adds that one hire company there alone has around 40 Slanetrac dumpers currently out on rental.

And closer to home, Dublin based GK Hire is also a big fan of the Slanetrac brand. Comments the company's Jerome Cunnane: "There are a lot of dumpers out there in the marketplace, but our customers seem to prefer the tracked Slanetrac. The dumpers are very stable and very safe to operate.

"We have around a dozen diesel powered units in our fleet and they are always out on hire to a variety of different customers; in fact, we have even hired some out to Dublin Zoo. The dumpers are robust, very well built, they are very reliable and require minimum maintenance, all of which make them perfect for our hire business."

Dumper Features

So, let's take a closer look at the dumpers. The popular Slanetrac HT 1000 Diesel Track Dumper is hydraulically driven and comes with braked drive motors. It has a maximum width of 750mm and a length of 1900mm, meaning it can turn on its own length offering





greater accessibility and manoeuvrability in urban areas or areas where larger plant can't gain access – and it has a tipping height of 1300mm, so it can easily tip into skips.

With a very low ground pressure and rubber tracks, the Slanetrac HT1000 also offers minimum ground damage, while excellent gradeability and stability ensure safe operating of the dumper.

Powered by a Kohler KDW702 16.5hp (12.3kw) electric start, water cooled engine, it has a load capacity of 1 tonne.

The petrol version offers all the same features and advantages of its diesel equivalent. Powered by a 13 H.P Honda GX 390 electric start engine, it also has a one tonne load capacity.

Attachments

Slanetrac, of course, is also recognised for its range of versatile and innovative attachments which include flail cutters, tree pruners, hedge trimmers and saw heads.

Among the most popular with end users is the Finger Bar Hedge Cutter range which includes the Slanetrac HC150 and Slanetrac HC180 models.

Suitable for a variety of machines, the 1.5m wide and 1.8m wide cutters are robust and easy to maintain. They have individually replaceable cutting sections which come supplied with adjustable mounting brackets to suit your particular machine, as well as hydraulic pipes to

connect to your machine's rock breaker lines for fast effortless installation.

The hydraulically powered reciprocating finger bar allows for fast and neat cutting of



hedges. For best results while heavy cutting the operator can use the slewing movement of the digger to cut through thick heavy growth, while for finer, lighter breasting of

the hedge the operator can use the tracking movement to get the desired finish.

Designed to allow cutting to take place at any angle between horizontal and vertical via the adjustable mounting bracket it allows the operator better access to those hard to get places like behind fences and allows the operator to cut close to and around obstacles such as telephone poles, thus offering greater versatility compared to flail options.

Expansion

Growing demand for both attachments and dumpers has meant that Slanetrac has had to expand its production area. A bigger welding and fabrication workshop have been added, and the plasma and laser cutting facilities have also been extended.

"In addition, we have taken on some extra workers," says Tony, "but, like everyone else, we do struggle at times to get the right people as there is a skills shortage which definitely has an impact on business. However, we are fortunate to have a good team of people around us."

Product availability is good, too. Dumpers can be delivered within four to five weeks, while most attachments can be supplied within just two weeks.

Slanetrac, of course, is a company that doesn't stand still. As Tony revealed, they are always looking to innovate, to explore new solutions and to develop new products, so watch this space!





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golf day

SM COMPONENTS CHARITY GOLF DAY

Newtownabbey based company, SM Components Ltd, recently raised £2,500 through a charity golf day in aid of Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke.

The event, which was organised by General Manager Terry Johnson and Accounts Manager Teresa McCourt, was held at the Temple Golf Club.

Commented Managing Director of SM Components Seamus Hanna: "Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke is a charity that is close to my heart for personal reasons and I would like to thank all our sponsors and participants who joined us in making this event successful."

Steph Ellis, Corporate Fundraiser for Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke, added: "Over 200,000 people are living with a chest, heart or stroke condition in Northern Ireland. NICHHS offers practical and emotional support to individuals and families affected by these illnesses at what can be a difficult time in their lives.

"Over 80% of our work is funded by individuals and businesses like SM Components Ltd. We would like to thank them for raising these vital funds for the charity which will allow us to continue to support local people affected by these devastating conditions."



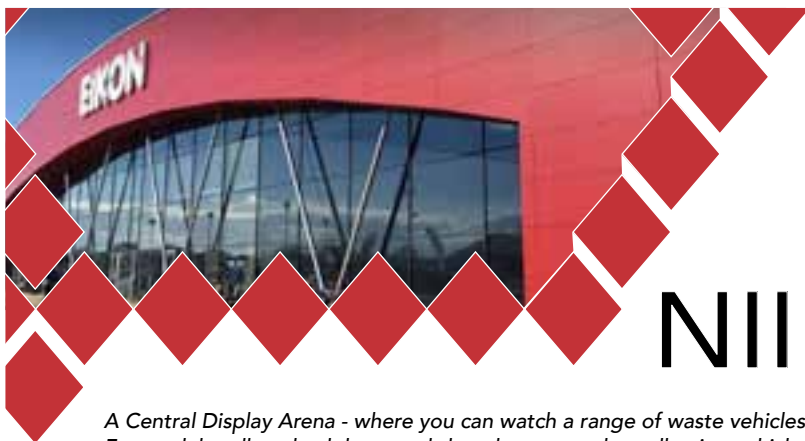
MAJOR MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS SET TO BOOST IRELAND'S WASTE, RECYCLING AND REPROCESSING SHOW

The forthcoming NIIEX exhibition will feature an extensive line-up of vehicles, plant and machinery targeted at the waste, recycling and reprocessing sectors across the island of Ireland.

Being held on Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th September 2018 at the Eikon Exhibition Centre at Balmoral Park outside Lisburn in Co Antrim, the show will feature a range of static displays along with workshops and a conference theatre running a series of informative seminars and various manufacturers' tool-box talks. This year's two day event starts on the Tuesday at 9am and runs through to 8pm that evening to allow everyone the chance to visit after work, if necessary. On day two the event will again commence at 9am but will finish at 4pm.

There will be a Central Display Arena where visitors can watch a range of waste vehicles performing their in-built functionality - from telehandlers, back-hoes and shovels to everyday collection trucks and separation equipment. And there'll be a great opportunity to hear directly from the manufacturers and discover a whole range of current and new technologies. "Most of the major waste management companies in Northern Ireland will be making a return to the show," says Raymond Martin, speaking for the organisers. Indeed, visitors will be able to find out more about over 80 manufacturers and suppliers - all within this one showcase event - brands like MacPac, GeesinkNorba, Farid Heil and Dennis Eagle. The organisers are also hoping to attract other top names like Volvo, Komatsu and Mercedes-Benz.

Raymond adds: "Last year was an absolutely fantastic show and this year's event is shaping up to be even better, with the added advantage of having an active demonstration arena to show off what the various vehicles, plant and machinery can do; there is also a driving track to enable visitors to get behind the wheel of a variety of vehicles, including alternative fuel units, to discover a whole new way to deliver cost-effective and environmentally efficient services." Just over 800 people visited the show last year and the organisers are hoping to attract more than 1,000 this time around to view products and services from the more than 100 exhibitors. "Our ultimate aim is to build on the success of the show to enable local companies to promote their businesses locally in the years ahead," says Raymond.



NIIEX @ THE EIKON EXHIBITION CENTRE

A Central Display Arena - where you can watch a range of waste vehicles performing their in-built functionality. From telehandlers, back-hoes and shovels to everyday collection vehicles and separation equipment you'll get the chance to watch them perform.

An Integral Driving Track - take this fantastic opportunity to get behind the wheel. Maybe you would like to ride in one of our alternative fuel units and discover a whole new way to deliver cost-effective and environmentally efficient services.

The LIVE Demonstration area - Shredders, Compactors and a growing range of waste and recycling equipment will be on display and you can watch "live" demonstrations.

◆ VEHICLE DEMO AREA ◆ SEMINARS ◆ LIVE DEMOS

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Tuesday 25th September 9.00am - 9.00pm

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OPERATOR COMFORT THE DESIGN PRIORITY FOR NEW JCB EXCAVATORS

JCB has developed the advanced new 220X crawler excavator – available from launch in full demolition specification.

An operator protection cage shields operators from falling material. Certified to FOPS Level 2, it is designed to provide maximum protection with limited impact on visibility due to the design of the angled bars.

The cage is platform mounted so can be easily replaced and does not immobilise the machine if damaged. Furthermore the complete front piece of the cage can open like a door allowing easy cleaning of the front glass.

Visibility and on-site safety can be further improved by standard rear view, and optional side view cameras - which provide uninterrupted rearward and sideward views large landscape 7" colour display.

All JCB XD demolition excavators feature a Side Impact Protection System (SIPS) designed to protect the fuel and hydraulic tanks, cooling pack and the hydraulic pump bags. SIPS is fitted down both sides of the machine's upper structure and are bolted on in two sections on each side for easy repair or replacement.

Improved underbelly protection has also been added with an increase of 400% in thickness from 2mm to 10mm to guard vital machine components on the upper and lower structure. JCB also now have an external steel plate covering the tanks which are set inboard for additional protection of the tanks.

JCB XD models benefit from heavy duty dippers, with wear strips added to the underside of the dipper and a bolt of ram guard for the bucket ram with wear pads on the slide mechanism for extensive life and durability.

Twin track guides are fitted as standard on JCB XD models to protect the track chain of the machine when tracking in arduous conditions. Optional full-length track guides can be specified with the machine for even greater durability.

The 220X XD machine features a new Powercore air filter which has twice the dust holding capacity of a standard filter which doubles the life to 2000 hours. The filter design removes the requirement for an external rain cap and no scavenger system is needed to meet the filter life.

JCB also now fits a wide core radiator as standard and has options for a reversing fan & flyscreen that is pleated



in design with no detriment to the 55 C ambient cooling performance.

The bold new counterweight on the X Series is shaped to protect the asset too with dedicated strike points on the corners with the logo recessed behind to protect company branding. The counterweight also comes as red and white chevrons as standard on the XD model.

For ultimate attachment handling, JCB offers the option of Advanced Tool Select. On the display 10 attachments can be setup with desired flow and relief pressure, with customisable control curves for the proportional sliders allowing operators to fine tune the response. ATS monitors pressure changes and makes alterations to the system to maintain a constant and consistent flow to the attachment.

Operator Environment

There has been a total focus on the operator environment and the cab is a completely new structure, which will be used across the X series range. It is 100mm longer and a full one metre wide, making it 15% larger overall than on previous machines. The cab incorporates the ROPS frame within the structure and has flat glazing all round. Most impressively, the 220X boasts an incredibly low 67dB(A) noise level inside the operator's cab, down from 73dB(A) on the previous generation.

The wiper motor is mounted to the bottom left-hand side of the front windscreen, to maximise visibility. Three options of all-new seat developed with supplier Grammer provide maximum comfort, with heating

and ventilation among the options. The servo levers are mounted from the seat frames and so move with the operator, while the cab now sits on four new cab mounts, for improved isolation.

The flat floor is easy to keep clean and even the rubber mat has been redesigned to assist with sweeping out. JCB has also provided an additional hour meter, that can be seen from ground level from outside the cab.

This attention to detail continues inside, as all of the controls have been ergonomically designed to be 100% operator-focused. To the right-hand side of the operator is an all-new command pod, bringing together all switches and controls into a single seat-mounted unit. A 7" tilt-adjustable monitor has been provided with intuitive menus and functionality. The monitor is accessed through an automotive-style rotary controller.

By combining the benefits of the screen and the command pod, which has a button for every regularly used function, tests have shown that an operator can carry out regular operations faster. The foot pedals, foot rests and tracking levers have also been redesigned to provide increased comfort, while the machines can be supplied factory-prepared for GPS excavation guidance, tilt-rotator and autolube if required.

Increased efficiency

While much of the last decade has, for all manufacturers, put engine development at the centre of the engineers' brief, the stability of Tier 4 Final and Stage IV legislation has allowed the team to expand its remit for the new models.

The company has stayed with proven Kawasaki hydraulic pumps and Kayaba valves, but has opted for larger spools and a latest generation valve block for reduced hydraulic losses. The diameter of the main hydraulic hose to and from the main hydraulic valve has increased in diameter from 19-25mm, giving greater flow without increasing the speed of the oil. Maintaining the speed of the oil in increased diameter hoses, results in less wear and tear and therefore increases hose life.

Though the boom and arm are unchanged, JCB will offer the option of boom float with two modes to make grading easier and to reduce stress when operating a hydraulic breaker. The bucket ram will be available with an optional hose burst check valve and the grease points in the boom and arm have been grouped together to reduce service time.

New Radio Remote Controls for Hoists and Cranes

J D Neuhaus (JDN) has further enhanced their remote control capabilities. Three remote control models are now available, RC-X, RC S and RC-SP, each comprising of a transmitter and receiver and all can either be integrated in existing JDN solutions or directly combined with a new JDN hoist.

One of the many advantages of the new JDN receiver is its rigid and extremely compact design. All components are housed in a space-saving, shock-resistant GRP (glass-reinforced plastic) casing featuring protection class IP65 (dust and water protected). A breathable membrane guides any condensation away from the interior to the exterior.

The design also offers seawater-resistance for offshore applications. The radio remote control model RC-X is even suitable for the use in potentially explosive environments rated up to ATEX zone 2/22.

Consideration has also been given to ease-of-installation. Even existing JDN hoists and cranes can be retrofitted thanks to the standardised interface of the JDN RC. The receiver can be mounted directly on the hoist or the trolley, or individually at site. The compact design of the receiver makes it even suitable for hoists with low carrying capacity.

Individual solutions according to specific customer needs are available. Up to 20 hours of use is possible before recharging of the portable transmitter is required.

Perfect for covering long distances between hoist and operator, the JDN RC represents a sensitive alternative to applications with long control hoses. In addition, it can be used in hard-to-reach places and for simultaneous control of multiple hoists.

Epiroc appoints WAC McCandless as full Heavy Attachment Tools dealer

Epiroc has appointed WAC McCandless as the authorised dealer for its hydraulic attachment tools across the island of Ireland.

Donal Cunningham, Epiroc's Sales Manager for Ireland, said: "With a reputation for combining customer focus with product knowledge and expertise, WAC McCandless has successfully grown Epiroc's share of the market for hydraulic breakers and other excavator attachments in Northern Ireland.

"We are confident that their continued investment in sales, service and local stockholding of attachments and parts will enable the McCandless team to offer the same level of customer support south of the border."

Epiroc's Hydraulic Attachment Tools (HAT) division has been a technology leader for more than 50 years. The hydraulic breaker was originally developed in 1963 by the German company Krupp Berco Bautechnik, which became part of Atlas Copco in 2002. The product

range today includes 100 different hydraulic attachment tools, and is designed to ensure that customers can always find the right tool for their specific application and excavator.

The division manufactures excavator attachment tools such as hydraulic breakers, cutters, pulverisers, bucket crushers, shears, grapples, drum cutters and magnets. Among others, the division manufactures the HB 10000, the largest serial hydraulic breaker in the world – every punch equals the weight of 130 elephants.

Ciaran Carvill, Managing Director of WAC McCandless, said: "Epiroc's comprehensive and robust product range, combined with our commitment to holding the full range of spare parts, supported by our fully trained workshop and field engineers makes this the perfect partnership. We are delighted to now be representing Epiroc's market leading range across the island of Ireland, offering fast and reliable back-up service to new and existing customers."

Northern Ireland Construction Output Decreases

The latest edition of the Northern Ireland Construction Bulletin shows that total volume of construction output in the first quarter of 2018 decreased by 6.5%.

That figure is compared with Q4 2017 and was 6.1%


lower compared to the same quarter in 2017

This latest decrease followed four quarters in which the level of construction output has been broadly consistent.

The decrease in the overall output in Q1 2018 from the

previous quarter was accounted for by an 11.8% decrease in Repair and Maintenance and a 6.7% decrease in New Work.

In Q1 2018, there were decreases in Other Work (9.1%), Infrastructure (7.5%) and Housing (3.1%) compared to the previous quarter.



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NEXT GENERATION CAT EXCAVATORS DELIVER MORE CHOICES

Caterpillar say its Next Generation 36-ton size class excavators - the 336 and 336 GC - increase operating efficiency, lower fuel and maintenance costs, and improve operator comfort compared to previous models.

The new Cat 336 features standard integrated Cat Connect Technology and the most power and lift capacity of the two models, while the new Cat 336 GC combines the right balance of productivity features with reduced fuel consumption and maintenance costs.

The new Cat 336 has the industry's highest level of standard factory-equipped technology to boost productivity. Integrated Cat Connect Technology increases operating efficiency by up to 45 percent over traditional grading operations.

The standard Cat Grade with 2D system provides guidance for depth, slope, and horizontal distance to grade through the standard touchscreen monitor, making operators more accurate. The system is readily upgradable to Cat Grade with Advanced 2D or Cat Grade with 3D.

Standard Grade Assist automates boom, stick, and bucket movements so operators can effortlessly stay on grade with single-lever digging.

Cat Payload delivers precise load targets and increased loading efficiency

with on-the-go weighing and real-time payload estimates without swinging to prevent truck over/underloading.

The E-fence feature prevents the excavator from moving outside operator-defined set points - particularly useful when working beneath structures or near traffic.

Cat LINK™ hardware and software connect jobsites to the office and provide customers with machine-critical operating information.

Fuel savings

By design, Cat Next Generation excavators consume less fuel than the models they are replacing - up to 15 percent less fuel for the 336.

New Smart mode operation automatically matches engine and hydraulic power to digging conditions, optimizing both fuel consumption and performance. Engine speed is automatically lowered when there is no hydraulic demand to further reduce fuel usage.

The cooling system features a new fan that runs on demand to keep the excavator working at the correct operating temperature for maximum efficiency.

With a new electrohydraulic system built for responsiveness and efficiency, the Cat 336 and 336 GC feature a new main control valve that eliminates the need for pilot

lines, reduces pressure losses, and lowers fuel consumption. Fewer hydraulic lines on the excavators result in less oil required, lowering long-term operating costs.

Maintenance costs

Offering extended and more synchronized maintenance intervals, the new Cat excavators do more work at a lower cost and reduce maintenance costs by up to 15 percent over the previous series.

The new Cat air filter with integrated pre-cleaner and primary and secondary filters has double the dust holding capacity of the previous design. The new Cat hydraulic return filter has a 3,000-hour service life - a 50 percent increase over previous filter.

The fuel system filters are synchronized for service at 1,000 hours - a 100 percent increase over the previous filters. The fuel system water and sediment drains and hydraulic system oil level are positioned close together at ground level, making routine daily maintenance faster, easier, and safer.

New cab

With a choice of Comfort, Deluxe, or Premium cab packages, all Next Generation Cat excavator cabs come equipped with standard features like keyless push-button start, large standard 8-inch (203-mm) touchscreen monitor with jog dial keys for control, and sound-suppressed rollover protective structures (ROPS) to offer the next level of operator comfort and safety.

A tilt-up console for the Deluxe and Premium cab designs affords easy cab entry and exit, while new advanced viscous mounts reduce cab vibration by up to 50 percent over previous models.

A Bluetooth integrated radio with USB ports for connecting and charging phones bring creature comforts from the home to the operator's office.

Automatic climate control maintains internal cab temperature settings, regardless of external ambient temperatures.

Programmable joystick buttons for response and pattern allow the operator to "dial in" productivity settings.

Large front, rear, and side windows enhance visibility; optional 360-degree visibility (336 only) combines images from multiple machine-mounted cameras to enhance the operator's sight lines in all directions.



JCB Announces £50 Million Investment in New British Plant

JCB has announced an investment of more than £50 million in a new British plant which will create hundreds of jobs and double production of cabs used on its machines.

Work is under way on a 350,000 sq ft facility for JCB Cab Systems adjacent to the A50 in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, next to two existing JCB plants.

The hi-tech factory will have the capacity to produce around 100,000 cabs a year.

It will include a computer controlled production line, fully-automated painting facility and robotic welding and will create more than 200 new jobs by 2022.

JCB CEO Graeme Macdonald said: "This new factory will be the most advanced and productive cab facility in the world and will bring even greater levels of efficiency to the business. The investment is one of the biggest in the company's history and underlines our commitment to manufacturing in Britain and in our home county of Staffordshire."

JCB Cab Systems currently employs more than 400 people at its existing site in Rugeley, Staffs. The new plant is scheduled to open in the summer of 2019.

JCB Cab Systems' General Manager David Carver said: "While new jobs will be created, moving to the new factory will enable us to double capacity without doubling the workforce thanks to high levels of automation. The whole plant is being designed to improve productivity, reduce waste and provide unprecedented quality levels."

New Managing Director for Kubota (UK) Ltd

Kubota Holdings Europe has appointed David Hart as Managing Director of Kubota (U.K.) Ltd.

With over 28 years of leadership experience, David Hart brings a wealth of knowledge and experience of the agricultural and construction industries.

Dai Watanabe, President & CEO of Kubota in Europe, states: "We are very proud of the fact that we have a leading market

position in the UK & Ireland with our current product portfolio. Our ambitions reach even further than that. With David on board we have a leader that can support that ambition by bringing his extensive experience and knowledge to identify and exceed our dealers and customers' needs and requirements."

Added David: "Kubota has a deserved reputation as market leader in many areas. We have a

big opportunity to grow further and continue to diversify into new sectors, bringing our strong business values and quality delivery to match the demands and rightly high expectations of our dealers and end user clients. Kubota's brand, values and proven quality are facets I have respected as a competitor over many years, and I am excited to be part of the team that will take these to the next level."



David Hart

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SPEAKING UP FOR SAFETY: GIVING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS A SAFETY VOICE

The hazards of the construction industry are widely recognised and reported: in the UK alone, 38 deaths were reported to the Health and Safety Executive in 2017/18, as well as more than 64,000 non-fatal injuries, writes Matthew Elson, Chief Executive Officer for SHE Software.

Many of the reported incidents reflect the high-risk nature of the work – almost half of all fatal accidents were due to falls from height.

The nature of the construction industry's workforce presents very specific challenges, such as coordinating large, multilingual teams of employees and contractors in disparate locations. In addition, it can appear that the commercial environment in which construction companies operate puts profit margins in conflict with investment in health and safety.

This appearance of conflict, though, is misleading: the consequences of a safety breach can be severe. Recent court cases have resulted in substantial fines and, in some incidences, custodial sentences for company directors. Even where financial or punitive recourse is avoided, the effects of an incident on a business' reputation and customers' trust can be long-lasting. In any event, everybody has the right to return home safely at the end of the working day: not taking appropriate action to mitigate the risk of serious injury or death is unacceptable, as the judicial system reflects.

While there are numerous examples of good practice in construction, there are clearly further steps to be taken to prevent incidents and protect employees. So how can this be achieved?

It goes without saying that the best way to prevent an incident is to prevent it happening in the first place, and the best



Matthew Elson.

way to achieve this is to record and learn from 'near misses'. Therefore, it is imperative to make this reporting quick and easy and to ensure that issues arising are addressed in a timely manner. Making these tasks simpler breaks down barriers to action.

Traditional approaches to reporting and safety management, often relying on pen and paper or spreadsheet-based methods, are still surprisingly prevalent in the construction industry: paper-based forms are frequently the backbone of many companies' management systems.

The administrative burden created reduces engagement – the lone worker, under the pressure of a deadline, is unlikely to take time out of a busy schedule to find, complete and file a form in triplicate!

The most effective way to increase engagement is to embrace innovation. Imagine the difference if every worker on a construction site had quick access to an intuitive

app on their mobile device, rather than having to battle with a paper form?

Innovative technologies empower employees to engage with safety in real time. No matter where or when an employee is working, they can log a hazard or near miss straightaway, ensuring it becomes instantly visible to colleagues and safety teams. In the case of a hazard, this allows for timely intervention before it becomes an incident. A study of near misses may expose previously unidentified risks and allow mitigations to be put in place.

Thus, using the right technology can underpin a safety culture that engages employees. By encouraging involvement, employees naturally begin to think of health and safety as part of their everyday activity. Safety becomes a part of 'the way we do things' on a job. This allows an organisation to move from a reactive to a proactive approach to safety.

A software solution also frees safety professionals and senior managers with health and safety responsibilities from the administrative burden of chasing actions or analysing data and creating reports. At a further level of sophistication, business intelligence provides the means to visualise such data, identifying trends and relationships, thus helping organisations to better understand their health and safety landscape.

If the construction industry wants to reduce workplace accidents, then it has a long road ahead, but a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

Of course, software alone will not solve all the industry's problems, but it is a step in the right direction – an underpinning that supports other advances. Adopting innovative approaches to giving workers a safety voice may well be the first and most important step towards consigning workplace deaths to history.



Cole Groundwork Contracts Scoops Up At Recent Awards

Cole Groundwork Contracts are a company on the move. Conor Cole who established Cole Groundwork Contracts in 2005 has recently scooped up awards across Ireland and the UK.

Beginning as a sole trader with just a handful of employees, Conor brought the company to 'Limited' status in 2007 and today has built up a strong team in England, with a further 10 employees in Ireland.

"My aim is to become one of the biggest civil engineering and construction companies in the UK and Ireland," says Conor whose

home and headquarters are in Rostrevor in County Down.

Speaking about his recent awards success, he says: "I have a strong, dedicated and very experienced and knowledgeable team around me, and I couldn't achieve what I have so far without their commitment to the business."

Nor, he says, could he do so without the support of his wife, Emma. Conor says he appreciates her commitment and encouragement to build the business.

ice (Business First Awards) Conor has been listed in the Business First Awards as one of

Northern Ireland's Top 40 Under 40 and at the ceremony in May, was thrilled to be selected as the People's Choice, a prestigious award, voted for by the people.

In April, Conor was delighted to win the prestigious, All Star Rising Star - Civil Engineering Company at the Business All Stars that were held in Croke Park, Dublin. The process for this award was tougher than most. Conor endured multiple interviews, reference checks and incognito research - just to make it to the final!

Commented Dr. Briga Hynes, Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick,

Chairperson Adjudication Panel:

"Cole Groundwork Contracts has demonstrated an ability to innovate and has impressive growth plans which no-doubt reflects the resilience and optimism that are the hallmarks of Irish entrepreneurs. Cole Groundwork Contracts bring a real inspiration for what is possible in business in Ireland and provide important role models for the many aspiring entrepreneurs and existing small firms."

Meanwhile, after weeks of judging, Conor also won his first UK wide award, being named as the Best Earthworks & Paving Contractor of the Year across UK and Ireland. The Build Construction & Engineering Awards cast a spotlight on the exceptional and outstanding work undertaken by the world's leading experts.

Introducing the New Miller Quick Coupler GTS Series

Miller says its latest quick coupler GTS Series, with its sleek lines carving a lighter path through the ground, heralds a new era of unrivalled power and cutting-edge coupler technology.

For compact excavators, from 1.0 to 7.0 tonnes, the GTS series boasts the lightest, lowest, yet strongest Miller quick coupler, offering class-leading industry compliance and universal tool versatility.

Safety is built into every element of a Miller quick coupler. "Our innovative GTS Quick Coupler safety features reduce the risk of job site accidents, interruptions and unexpected costs. Miller GTS compact series offers an ISO complaint novel locking system, designed to ensure that the widest set of OEM pin pickups are safely attached even if there is a loss of hydraulic power."



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MID ULSTER SKILLS SHORTAGE DEEPENS

Unemployment figures released mid July show that Northern Ireland as a region was approaching the lowest level of unemployment ever. The rate was lower than any other region in the UK and much lower than in most parts of Europe.

Although the CBI has reported on a shrinking of the NI economy in the first quarter of 2018, Mid Ulster is not feeling that right now as order books continue to fill up and demand for a wide range of skills intensifies.

Recruitment specialists Spectrum says that engineering and construction firms in Mid Ulster continue to report on a serious lack of skilled labour with some believing the problem will get bigger still. The need for welders, assembly fitters, skilled trades people and white-collar workers in certain disciplines has never been greater and is affecting output and delivery times on products/projects.



The decision by one local Mid Ulster company to open a new manufacturing facility close to Belfast is no doubt driven in part by the skills shortage in Mid Ulster and the availability of staff close to Belfast following factory closures in Ballymena and Greater Belfast.

Although there are several contributors to the skills shortage, pay rates features high on list of issues to address for employers.

One of the key findings from some recent primary research conducted by Spectrum is that pay rates here in

Northern Ireland are significantly lower compared to elsewhere in Europe.

On average, a skilled welder or trades person is being offered around £15 per hour in England/Europe compared to £11 per hour here. This needs to change to attract new people into the country or to bring people originally from here back home. The skills are out there, and the shortage can be addressed but it will take significant change in pay rates/salaries across the board to generate the volume of people needed.

The skills shortage is not just driven by lower pay rates however. It is a complex mix of young people's attitudes, parents and teachers advising young people to choose other career paths, Brexit and the uncertainty that exists for non-nationals, and the ongoing weak pound against the Euro and the Dollar. A handful of ingredients that provide the perfect skills shortage storm for 2 key sectors in Mid Ulster!





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view from the cab

LIUGONG 915E DELIVERS ON POWER & PERFORMANCE

The LiuGong 915E is designed to get more done in less time, featuring a stronger boom, arm and bucket breakout force, greater hydraulic flow, higher swing speeds and improved cycle times; this excavator will power through any task in any terrain. That's what we've been told, but is it really so? Plant & Civil Engineer has been finding out from contractors AEC Construction Ltd.

LiuGong dealers for Ireland FJS Plant in Kildare delivered the 915E tracked excavator to AEC Construction back in June and the machine has clearly been impressing its operator ever since on a variety of construction projects.

Since FJS Plant took on the LiuGong dealership just under two years ago, the brand has been attracting a lot of attention and it is much better known around the country now than it was back then in 2016.

At that time FJS Plant Director Frank Smyth told us. "We did a lot of research into the LiuGong brand and we spoke to a lot of people in the UK who were already operating the machines; they all without

exception had a good word to say about the excavators. They were very impressed with the build quality, and the drivers liked them. We drove a few of the machines ourselves, some with very high hours on them, and there was nothing bad to say about them, so that gave us confidence to take the LiuGong dealership on board."

It is a move the company hasn't regretted – and the purchase of the LiuGong 915E is something that Andy Murray from AEC Construction hasn't regretted, either, and for good reason.

He tells us: "Our drivers find its power is deeply impressive; what they like most of all is the smoothness of the excavator's hydraulics. It is very well balanced, with great stability, making it the best excavator any of our drivers have ever experienced."

Adds Andy: "We feel it sits somewhere in the middle ground between a 13 tonne and a 20 tonne machine which is ideal for the type of work we undertake. Its reach and its performance are impressive – superior to any 130 or 140 on the market."



Fuel Efficient

The 915E model is powered by the latest generation, low emission, fuel efficient Cummins engine, with enhanced power output, improved breakout force and faster cycle times.

Load-sensing hydraulics direct the engine's power to ensure hydraulic pump flow continually adjusts for smooth, quick and efficient operation. With its auto-idle speed function, hydraulic signals detect activity, decreasing and increasing engine speed as required; power is supplied only as needed, achieving optimum fuel efficiency.

IPC (intelligent power control) ensures the mechanical, electrical and hydraulic systems work in perfect harmony for efficient and precise control - maximising torque outlet with more power and breakout force.

Comfortable Cab

As the excavator drivers at AEC Construction discovered, the LiuGong's cab provides an excellent and stress-free working environment, with ergonomically designed controls, clear and informative displays - and great all round visibility, thanks to a large glass surface area and a standard rear view camera.

The cab is ROPS ISO 12117-2 certified and mounted on dampener silicone to absorb noise and vibration. The wide spacious cab door swings full open to lock position, while the front windshield slides up into ceiling.



“Our drivers find its power is deeply impressive; what they like most of all is the smoothness of the excavator’s hydraulics. It is very well balanced, with great stability, making it the best excavator any of our drivers have ever experienced.”

Frank Smyth
FJS Plant Director



It also features a removable lower window and a large roof skylight with sun screen.

The adjustable seat and joystick console move independently to accommodate the operator. Increased spacing between the armrest and the nine different seat adjustments allow the operator more options to find a seated position that offers maximum comfort.

The driver is always in control as Liugong's on board monitoring LCD display interface with audible sound will alert him to low fluid levels, high level machine warnings, and when maintenance service is needed. When fuel level is low, or DEF (Diesel Exhaust Fluid) is low, a text warning will appear where date and time is located on monitor. In addition, an audible buzz will sound to alert the operator to what action is needed. If this is a low-level fault, then the buzz sound can be cancelled. With easy access to the maintenance menu through the monitor, the operator can easily see which items should be checked daily 8 hour, weekly 50 hour, and bi-weekly 100 hour.

Dealer Support

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the Liugong in AEC Construction's fleet has become a talking point, as Andy reveals: "We get a lot of people asking about this little-known brand and we are happy to engage with them; they all comment that it is a fine strong looking machine – and that it sounds as good as it looks."

Another major factor in purchasing the machine in the first place was the support the company received from the team at FJS Plant. "Frank, Lorraine and Kieran are exceptional in their support and help – and we found that very encouraging and reassuring, as we did their personal commitment and belief in the Liugong brand. We have no regrets in adding the machine to our fleet."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52 ➔





➔ CONTINUED

As mentioned earlier, our drivers love it. Its power and performance are impressive." You can catch up with all the latest developments at FJS Plant who will be

exhibiting at the forthcoming National Ploughing Championships at Scraggan, Tullamore, County Offaly on September 18th to 20th when they will have their full line up of machines from LiuGong, as well as Kubota, DresSta, NC Engineering, FRD, Robi and FDC.

About LiuGong

For those not yet familiar with the name, LiuGong Machinery Corporation has been a leader in China's construction equipment manufacturing industry for decades.

Celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, the company started with the arrival of 500 workers in the provincial city of Liuzhou in 1958. Today, LiuGong is a global success story as a manufacturer that is committed to world-class quality and engineering.

Its machines are easy to own, easy to operate and easy to maintain. They are built with world-class components, using globally-respected systems and suppliers like Cummins, ZF, Kawasaki and others.

LiuGong employs over 1,000 research and development engineers to guarantee versatility, durability, efficiency and productivity in every machine. Rigorous testing ensures the equipment can tackle any job thrown at it.

LiuGong ranks as the 20th largest construction equipment manufacturer in the world and is a leader in the design and production of wheel loaders. It is also a company of many firsts, including being the first company in China to begin manufacturing heavy equipment and the producer of China's first modernised wheel loader in 1966.



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SAFETY & EFFICIENCY TAKE PRIORITY AT COOTE ENGINEERING

New safety features take priority as Coote Engineering introduces new programming to their mobile block machines, with mould filling and overall machine efficiency also improved.

Finlay block machines have long been synonymous with quality, durability and performance. Having started in the 1950s, the Finlay block machine company was acquired by Coote Engineering Ltd in 2016.

Coote Engineering have been manufacturing and supplying innovative solutions for the Worldwide Precast Concrete Industry for over 40 years and with this wealth of knowledge will continue the development and support of new and existing customer's under the Coote Finlay brand name. There have been many changes and advancements made to the machinery line throughout the years, and these advancements are set to continue as new technology becomes available.

Safety is paramount while working in a potentially dangerous industry, so the entire range of Coote Finlay block machinery employs the most advanced safety

features available. The need to physically adjust travel sensors has been removed, with the introduction of the In-Cab Touch Screen; these adjustments can be done instantly from the operator's seat.

The F44 Block Machine has all round safety guards with a captive key locking system. During mould changing, a hard-wired remote control unit adds safety by keeping the operator out of the danger zone. A securing bolt is then fastened between both carriage and Tamper Head as an additional safety measure.

The current version of machines now come complete with a user friendly control system that has been designed for simplicity in machine operation, recipe set-up and fault diagnostics.

The latest programme features on Coote Finlay's F44 Block Machine aim to improve mould filling and overall machine efficiency, Feed Tray Shuffle options ensure a much fuller and evenly filled feed tray than ever before.

Another brand new program feature to the F44 is the "Active Pack in Row Steering

System" (patent pending) which ensures straighter rows of product and also removes the need for the operator to be present when the machine is approaching the end of the row. This in turn allows for a more efficient overall cycle as during strapping, the BSM-412 can travel in a straight line, without having to adjust travel between packs.

Following the Block Strapping Machine, the Coote Finlay Stacker (CBS-6T) can stack blocks up to 6 tiers high. This vastly reduces production pad clearing costs, as well as time. The CBS-6T is a fully automatic machine, powered by an on board generator. All settings on this easily operated machine are fully adjustable from the user interface, located on the control panel.

Speaking of the safety measures in place with the CBS-6T, Tony Mc Ardle of Coote Engineering says, "The nature of the Block Stacker means that the back of the machine needs a large opening. We have protected the rear opening using a unique 'High Low Exit Only' feature. A sensor will stop the machine instantly if it is entered from the



Block Stacking Machine CBS-6T.



Running a Live Demo of the Coote Finlay Turnover/Cuber at Hillhead.



Coote Finlay F44 Block Machine.

rear opening. An additional front safety bar also stops the machine entirely if triggered." With the ever changing need for improved safety in the transportation and handling of blocks to and on the building site, the new and improved BTCM-409 (Turnover Cuber) has underwent continuous development. This unique machine turns the blocks

from an "on end" position to an "on edge" position, creating a much more stable pack. By activating the "Cubing" function from the operators interface, the top layer of blocks can be rotated through 90° forming a "Cross Bonded" pack which greatly increases pack stability for transportation and handling on site. Both functions can be carried out during the same operational cycle

which vastly reduces the actual handling of blocks on the production pad and the cycle time for Turning and Cubing Blocks. The unique features of this machine were greatly received by customers during a continuous live demonstration at the recent Hillhead Exhibition in which customers could view for themselves the quality, precision and speed in which the machine operated.

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view from the cab

HITACHI ZX490LCH-6 IMPRESSES AT FP MCCANN'S LISNASKEA QUARRY

When FP McCann needed a new addition to its fleet at Clarke's Quarry in Lisnaskea in County Fermanagh there was no hesitation in opting for a Hitachi ZX490LCH-6 from dealers TBF Thompson, and for a very good reason, as Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out.

Hitachi tell us that the ZX490LCH-6 has been created to offer "the highest level of performance, but without compromising on the increasing demand for operational efficiency. Incorporating innovative and unique Hitachi technology, it delivers lower emissions and running costs, while offering higher levels of reliability."

So, has that been the experience at FP McCann who supply a range of building materials to the construction industry from Clarke's limestone quarry?

The quarry produces a range of aggregates and is also 'home' to two

asphalt plants, two readymix plants and a precast production facility, so it is a rather busy and challenging environment requiring plant and machinery that are not only up to the various tasks, but that can be relied on day after day.

"We had been operating a Hitachi ZX470LCH-3 model on the site with no problems prior to acquiring this latest machine; it was well tried and tested in the quarry, so we had every confidence in the Hitachi name," comments quarry and transport manager Chris McCloy.

"We had found the ZX470 very reliable with low running costs and reasonably good fuel consumption, so it made sense for us to stick with Hitachi, and the larger ZX490, which is working at the rock face, hasn't disappointed," says Chris, adding that the older model was re-homed at the company's smaller and less demanding Armagh quarry, where it is still going strong.



Spacious Cab

One of the first things the drivers noticed about the new machine was the enhanced level of comfort in the more spacious cab. Features include a fully adjustable seat, a seven inch multi-function LCD monitor and ergonomic controls - and a drinks holder that maintains the temperature of drinks using warm or cooled air from the air conditioning system!

A larger reflector on the back of the ZX490LCH-6 improves the machine's visibility in low light or at night, so it can work safely for longer periods of time. The optional front guard of the cab has smaller and fewer bars in order to minimise blind spots. Visibility is further enhanced by a rear-view camera, and extra work lights have also been fitted.

"Also notable," says Chris, "is the responsiveness of the machine; the hydraulics on the ZX490 are highly impressive."

Maximum pump flow of the ZX490LCH-6 has increased by 10% over the Zaxis-3 model. This means the machine

"We had been operating a Hitachi ZX470LCH-3 model on the site with no problems prior to acquiring this latest machine; it was well tried and tested in the quarry, so we had every confidence in the Hitachi name"

Chris McCloy
Quarry & Transport Manager



completes operations more quickly and efficiently, thus highlighting its versatility for a variety of tasks on the job site.

The boom raise speed of the ZX490LCH-6 when loading has also increased by 3% (compared with the ZX470LCH-3 model), which, naturally, boosts productivity. The boom mode switch can be selected for power or comfort, depending on the task at hand.

Attachments

Should they so wish, FP McCann could utilise the machine on a variety of other jobs away from the rock face. The attachment replacement support system allows for the easy fitment of attachments, which increase the number of tasks that can be carried out by the ZX490LCH-6. A pressure adjustment feature controlled electronically also protects the attachments during installation.

Thanks to its flexibility, the ZX490LCH-6 is suitable for working on various sites and can be transported securely due to the new tie-down hooks incorporated into its design.

What else can we say about the ZX490LCH-6? Well, a strengthened new injector increases the reliability of the Isuzu engine.

The sliding portion is coated with DLC (diamond-like carbon) and it has a strengthened inlet filter. A stronger blow-by hose also enhances reliability.

A high-volume cooled EGR system recirculates some of the exhaust gas, reducing NOx and other pollutant emissions while maintaining a high engine output. This enables an efficient and reliable performance.

Also worth noting, Hitachi say the ZX490LCH-6 can save up to 5% fuel in ECO mode (3% in HP), with the same productivity as the Zaxis-5 model.

Maintenance

The main fuel filter screws into place on the ZX490LCH-6. This ensures that dust is prevented from entering the fuel circuit during routine maintenance procedures.

It is also easily replaced – and to avoid electrical accidents during maintenance and to retain battery energy during long-term storage, a battery disconnect switch is now included as standard.

Dealer Support

Dependable dealer support, of course, coupled with a readily available parts, are essential to avoid any unnecessary downtime, especially in the highly demanding and challenging environment of a busy quarry, and with TBF Thompson, FP McCann has no complaints.

"We've been dealing with TBF Thompson for more than two decades and they always offer us a service that we have come to appreciate and rely on over the years," says Chris.



UK'S LARGEST FORESTRY, WOODLAND, ARBORICULTURE AND BIOFUEL MACHINERY SHOW

September sees APF 2018, by far the largest forestry, woodland, arboriculture and biofuel machinery and equipment show in the UK, taking place on the 20/21/22nd September at Ragley Estate, Warwickshire. Over 320 exhibitors and around 23 000 visitors are expected over the three days of the show.

The show, now in its 42nd year, takes place every two years and has grown from humble beginnings in 1976 to the major international event it is today with exhibitors from all over Europe and beyond.

One of the show's key features is a 2km demonstration circuit through both open field and woodland where visitors can watch machines operating in realistic working conditions. With exhibitors on both sides of the circuit that is around 2 ½ miles and £50 million of working machinery on show.

Exhibition Secretary, Ian Millward commented: "Our visitors are a very discerning bunch.

They work with this machinery day in and day out so know exactly what they are looking for. Seeing the machinery working under realistic conditions helps them to compare the brochure claims against what happens in the real world.

They can compare almost every manufacturer and distributor of forestry and arboricultural equipment in the UK working side by side in one place."

Exhibitors often report a significant dip in sales in the months leading up to the show



as buyers wait for the event to compare machines and see what discounts can be had. Exhibitors also noted a distinct change to the average buyer profile over the years. Once this would be someone older, a head forester or woodland owner. Now with much of the industry's workforce being self-employed contractors the profile is much younger and it is just as likely that someone in their mid twenties will come onto a stand and place an order for a new £20,000 wood chipper.

Biofuel

The show has also developed from its traditional forestry, woodland and arboricultural core markets and now embraces the production and utilisation of biofuel such as woodchips and pellets. Biofuel has grown enormously in recent years with several new power plants now

CONTINUED ON PAGE 60



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 60 →



STEELWRIST

EARTHMOVING EFFICIENCY



SPECIFICATIONS

X12 S45 S45 CS9

Rotational speed (r/m)	8
Rotational force (kNm)	5,4
Maximum tilt angle (degrees)	45
Tilt power (kNm)	29
Necessary flow (litre/min)	70-90
Pressure (bar)	210
Build Height (mm)	425
Weight (kg)	285

Illustrated with MG25 Multi Grapple on
JCB HydraDig

UK MARKET LEADER

Steelwrist tiltrotators have the lowest build height and are the lightest on the market. Protected hydraulic hoses for longer life, soft and smooth rotation with robust gear wheel.

Steelwrist UK provide expert installation and 24/7 after sales support together with the EXTENDED WARRANTY that you deserve.



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45 ° Tilt Angle

SQ Auto Connection

Front Pin Lock

Durable Cast Steel

DATATAG Anti Theft



STEELWRIST TILTROTATOR HELPS CONTRACTOR TO BE MORE EFFICIENT & PRODUCTIVE

More and more contractors in the general construction and house building sectors are turning to tiltrotators as a 'must have' piece of equipment, among them Castlerock Homes in Cork who've recently acquired a Steelwrist X12; Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out why.

Although Castlerock Homes was only formed a few years ago, the people behind this residential house building company have more than a quarter of a century of experience behind them; today they are busier than ever.

Currently, the company's projects include a substantial high quality residential development at Blossomhill in Midleton in East Cork which is where we caught up with them recently to find out just how invaluable the Steelwrist tiltrotator has become since they acquired it several months ago.

Steelwrist will tell you that tiltrotators transform an excavator into a truly versatile and adaptable machine, enabling the driver to be more flexible in the work that he can do,

more time efficient, fuel efficient and safer, in addition to making him more productive.

However, has that been the experience at Castlerock Homes? Over to the company's Tim Murray. He comments: "The Steelwrist X12 is the first tiltrotator in our fleet. We were like everyone else in our thinking: we didn't realise how beneficial a tiltrotator is - you simply can't in any way appreciate its enormous value until you actually put it to use yourself. We are mightily impressed."

The Steelwrist X12, a model specifically designed for excavators in the seven to 12 tonne weight class, is attached to a new Takeuchi TB290, a top of the range high specification excavator bought from dealers Breens in County Clare.

Great Investment

"When considering the tiltrotator I made a simple calculation before parting with any money," explains Tim. "I worked out that it could save us 20% in man hours, which meant the tiltrotator would pay for itself within two years; worst case scenario, four years. It hasn't been a cheap investment, but it has been money well spent.

"Good workers are hard to get, but with the tiltrotator we can achieve with two men what would have normally taken a crew of four to accomplish. It is as simple as that!"

He adds: "I have been able to take a three tonne machine off the site because I can accomplish so much more with the Steelwrist on the 9 tonne Takeuchi which is ideal for working in and around



new house builds as it can easily access tight spaces and other awkward to get at areas – and it is much quicker and safer than using a conventional bucket system. I'd recommend it to anyone in construction."

With 400 hours already clocked up on the tiltrotator, there have been no problems whatsoever, and says Tim: "Our men found it easy to master just after a couple of weeks. They like its sheer versatility; we are still finding new tasks for it!"

Tough & Durable

Steelwrist tiltrotators are made from cast high tensile steel, making them lighter but keeping the strength, whereas some other manufacturers may cast using a type of ductile iron; the disadvantage of this is it is more brittle and very difficult to weld, all be it cheaper.

Steelwrist is the only manufacturer on the market that have a symmetrical





coupler completely cast in steel, free from welding with large pin contact surfaces and material where needed, creating an extremely compact robust design. In comparison with other brands the build height can differ as much as 40 percent!

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

Compared to other solutions Steelwrist FPL works equally well with all types of excavators,

both small and large, new and used, and especially with all types of control systems.

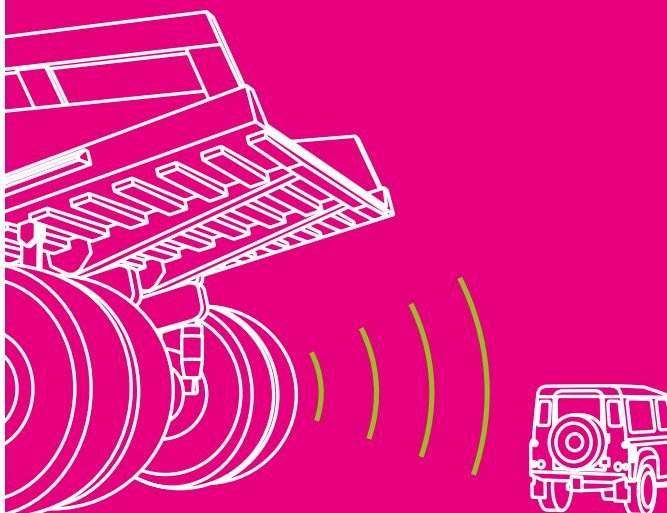
First Class Support

"Our machine didn't come with a quick hitch circuit when it came to us, so Steelwrist provided us with one free of charge," reveals Tim. "Pat Bulcock from Steelwrist was fantastic. He came over to explain the workings of the tiltrotator, made sure it was fitted properly on to the Takeuchi and was working as it should be. He really did go above and beyond our expectations in terms of support and customer service – and since then, he has always been readily available on the end of a phone line."

And he adds: "We've been so impressed with the Steelwrist X12 on the Takeuchi – and with the support we have had from the manufacturer - we would buy another if we go ahead with plans currently under consideration to add a new 20 tonne machine to our fleet."



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Armagh-based Glenvale Waste has put its first Renault truck into service, a Range C480 6x2 with Valley Jetvac waste tanker, supplied by Toal Truck Services.

Glenvale Waste Put First Renault Trucks' Range C into Operation

Armagh-based Glenvale Waste has put its first Renault truck into operation, with excellent service support from local dealer Toal Truck Services sealing the deal.

Joining Glenvale's 12-strong fleet, the Range C480 6x2 empties tanks and desilt lines for the company which specialises in drain and sewer services.

Customer and after-sales service were the key factors in Glenvale selecting Renault Trucks for the first time, as Director Pat Hughes explains: "One of the main reasons we chose Renault Trucks is our local service point, Toal Truck Services, whose hard work, and 'can do' attitude together with a large parts stock means we receive high levels of after-sales service and minimal vehicle downtime."

Specified with the driver in mind, the C480 with sleeper cab is equipped with ultimate leather steering wheel with cruise and telephone control, one touch electric windows, a 2kW cab independent night heater as well as electronically regulated comfort air conditioning.

"The C480 is well finished, very comfortable to drive and, importantly, the drivers are very happy with this new lorry," notes Pat.

Fitted with a Valley Jetvac waste tanker, the C480 comes with overhead boom for cleaning deep tanks, remote control and saddle tanks for carrying extra water.

Glenvale Waste, who operate across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, has seen an increase in the level of business recently and the Range C allows them to offer their customers a wider range of solutions to waste problems.

As Pat says: "A blocked gully can lead to serious flooding, accidents and damage to the road and paved area. With the aid of the new Range C and the high pressure Jetvac tanker we can keep our customer's drains and gullies clear from any blockages and de-silt the line promptly and efficiently."

Pat concludes: "It's the full package, a great truck that gets the job done as well as fantastic back up – we are delighted that we chose Renault Trucks for our latest fleet purchase."

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INDUSTRY FIRST FOR ENGCON AND GROUND CONTROL

Ground Control, a national, multi award-winning landscaping contractor, has taken delivery of a Menzi Muck all-terrain walking excavator with a fully integrated Engcon EC219 tiltrotator, Q-Safe hydraulic quick coupler and EC-Oil system.

Specially configured for Ground Control by Engcon partner and Menzi Muck UK dealer Exc@v8, the Menzi Muck M540 Engcon combination provides a highly efficient and, most importantly, safe solution for the company's challenging road and rail maintenance contracts.

"We'll be using this unique machine combo to clear vegetation from railway and motorway embankments," explains Sean Hughes, Ground Control's Menzi Muck Operator. "As well as the safety benefits, the tiltrotator's tilt and rotate functions and

automatic hydraulic coupling has greatly increased productivity on this type of job."

The agility and excellent climbing capability of the Menzi Muck excavator means Ground Control's operatives can work on gradients in excess of 45-degrees. Adding to the excavator's flexibility, the Engcon compensates for working at this angle.

"You could say that having Engcon's Q-Safe/EC-Oil hitch as part of the package is the icing on the cake," says Sean. With this innovative system the operator can change hydraulic attachments quickly and easily without having to leave the cab. Equally importantly, with EC-Oil there are no external hoses connecting hydraulic tools below the tiltrotator, which means that when clearing vegetation the risks of hose snagging and consequential environmental damage is minimised. "This is a major safety advantage for our team when they are working in

potentially hazardous conditions alongside railway tracks and busy highways," adds Sean.

High flow rates

Ground Control specified an EC219 tiltrotator for its new Menzi Muck. This Engcon has a lighter, stronger body with 37 per cent greater breakout force and 27 per cent higher torque than its predecessor. The 360-degree rotation and 45-degree tilt function mean that grading and off-centre digging can be carried out without moving the excavator around. That's a significant cost saving in normal digging, but a major safety benefit in the rail industry.

The Engcon head is also equipped as standard with the newly developed swivel that allows higher flow rates on additional attachment points. This increases the versatility of hydraulic attachments which can be used, which in turn reduces the number of other specialist machines needed to complete the work. While this is something





Engcon users take for granted in everyday excavator work, it's a good example of how owners and owner-operators are using their investment to differentiate themselves and get ahead of the competition.

Fail-safe features

The tiltrotator is direct mounted, with the company's Q-Safe hydraulic quick coupler installed underneath. Winning awards for its innovation and outstanding safety, Q-Safe has been specifically engineered by Engcon to make it impossible for an attachment to be connected incorrectly. Its triple-safe technology includes the use of sensors and electronic control of not only the hitch but the whole excavator. Sean is particularly impressed by the visible and audible alarms, which are activated automatically to alert operatives nearby when a bucket or other tool is being changed.



view from the cab



"The system's fail-safe design is essential when you are working in the safety-critical rail industry," comments Sean. The Q-Safe is configured with EC-Oil, Engcon's system for connecting the hydraulics and electrical connections of tools and attachments directly from the cab – saving time and improving safety on site.

Menzi Muck walking excavators are based on a high-tech chassis and patented boom, together with hydraulically controlled wheels and supports which can adapt to any terrain - earning this agile all-rounder the nickname 'spider excavator' or 'walking excavator'. Ground Control's machine has been modified to be slew and height restricted specifically for use in the rail and highways industry, so it can't interfere with overhead power lines or adjacent live traffic. The

machine also includes 'Menzi-Prop' - Menzi's own tiltrotator control system.

A Queen's Award Winner for Innovation, Ground Control is the UK's fastest growing landscaping solutions provider. Sean Hughes says investing in the latest Engcon system reflects his company's commitment to embracing advanced technology and practices to deliver high quality services, safely and cost effectively. He concludes: "Anybody with an eye on the future knows that tiltrotators are the way forward. They offer our industry a safer and more productive way to work."

Robert Hunt, Managing Director at Engcon UK, comments: "The spider is a very rare digger to see, and very impressive. Ground Control has seriously stretched the boundaries of what can be achieved with a digger and tiltrotator in the most challenging of environments."



view from the cab

VOLVO L260H WHEELED LOADER TRIED & TESTED AT TOBERMORE

Smarter, stronger, faster... words used by Volvo to describe its latest L260H wheeled loader, but what's the reality? Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the 'view from the cab' from the team at Tobermore.

To say that Tobermore is a big fan of the Volvo brand would be an understatement; Volvo loaders and excavators feature prominently in its hard-working fleet.

Established by the Henderson family back in 1942 as a sand and gravel supplier, the company moved into the manufacture of concrete products in the 1950s. Two decades on, it became one of the forerunners in manufacturing block paving – or 'Pavia', as it was originally called. Today, Tobermore is one of the top paving and walling manufacturers in the UK and Ireland, priding itself on its world-class technology and the unrivalled quality of its products.

With a workforce of over 200 people, mostly from the local area, and with offices in England, Scotland and Wales, and paving centres in Dublin and Cork, the company relies heavily on the reliability and durability of its plant and machinery.

There's no doubt, the team at Tobermore's quarry, based beside Lough Fea in

County Tyrone, has every confidence in the Volvo brand, so the decision to invest in yet another Volvo wasn't a difficult one.

"To be honest with you, Volvo and dealers Pat O'Donnell have given us really good service over the years," reveals William Paul, who has been managing the Lough Fea quarry for the past 25 years.

"We have built up a very strong relationship with them, always finding them very attentive to our needs, and that means a lot to us in our line of work."

Productivity

So what attracted Tobermore to the new L260H? Over to William: "Productivity," he says. "We were initially going to buy another 220 loader, but the 260 worked out a much better proposition in terms of increased payload and greater productivity.

Looking at tonnes per hour, with a 7.1 cubic metre bucket on the machine we are able to lift between 13 to 14 tonne at a time."

Coupled with that purchase was a Volvo A60H articulated dump truck, a decision fuelled by a growing demand for the company's products. With some quarry faces nearly two miles away from the crushers, material has to be moved a significant distance, and quickly. The big capacity A60H fits the bill.

Which brings us back to the L260H loader, which is being employed to fill the new dumper. "The two machines are a perfect match," says William.

Fuel Efficient

Another factor in the purchase decision of both the dumper and the loader was fuel economy. The L260H is fitted with a powerful

D13 engine, delivering 6% more power and 5% more torque than the L250H it has replaced – and is easier on diesel.

Contributing to that fuel efficiency is





the new generation OptiShift which has impressed Tobermore's drivers. This improved technology integrates the Reverse By Braking (RBB) function – patented by Volvo – and the new torque converter with lock-up, creating a direct drive between the engine and transmission, reducing fuel consumption.



The new machine also features next generation of load-sensing hydraulics which have been designed to enhance the responsiveness of attachments and improve the lifting and lowering speed of the boom. For faster cycle times, the new HTL310 transmission works in harmony with the powerful engine and axles, and the new converter delivers increased torque output, resulting in better performance. Moreover, steps between gears have been reduced, for faster acceleration.

Also contributing to fuel efficiency is Fully Automatic Power Shift (FAPS), which shifts the gears to match the engine and travel speed to the best gear ratio. The L260H is also equipped with an Eco-pedal – a feature unique to Volvo – which encourages economical operation by applying a mechanical push-back force in response to excess use of the accelerator.

All-Round Visibility

Working in a busy and fast-moving environment, with a range of crushers, screeners and washers being constantly fed from the quarry face, good visibility from the cab is imperative. Tobermore has complemented the machine's rear-view mirrors with a 360 degree camera and the standard screen is

being upgraded to a larger size. "That apart," says William, "the driver has great visibility to the left, right, front and back."

The machines certainly earn their keep, with the quarry operating from six-thirty in the morning to nine at night; longer in the summer months, perhaps up to 1am at times, so extra lighting was put on to the machine to improve the driver's view.

And talking of safety matters, a Delayed Engine Shutdown facility is available as an option to which serious consideration is being given by William. The engine shutdown can be scheduled to activate automatically by the operator. The intelligent function turns off the machine when the turbo charger has cooled down to the appropriate temperature, reducing component wear.

"This facility was standard on other Volvos, but not on the L260H. It's a feature we like, so we may have to get it retrofitted.

"That said, the Volvo brand meets all our needs at the quarry. The previous loader had over 25,000 hours on it and gave us no problems, so we have no reason to doubt the durability of the new L260H – and as I mentioned, the service and support we get from Pat O'Donnell is second to none. Should any issues arise, they are sorted without delay, which helps us keep any potential for downtime to a minimum."



KELLYS POINT HIRE EXPANDS RENTAL FLEET

Warrenpoint company Kellys Point Hire have made another substantial investment in new heavy machinery to add to their hire fleet.

The recent purchase of six brand new Manitou forklifts from Northern Lift Trucks NI Ltd brings the total investment by this flourishing company to in excess of £1 million over the last two years. More investment is planned in the coming year.

The company has been making some big steps forward recently, with a substantial project to revive, replace and rejuvenate almost their whole large plant fleet with new and improved equipment across the board.

"We believe in being able to service our customer base with the best, most reliable machinery available," said Gary Kelly, Company Director. "We have expanded our hire fleet over the past two years in order to meet a steady increase in demand, and we've chosen not to take any half measures.

"We've purchased multiple new dumpers, diggers, forklifts, scissor lifts and access equipment, all so that we can provide the highest quality equipment to our customers."

Kellys Point Hire has been in business for almost 30 years, providing large and small equipment and machinery not just to the local area, but regularly delivering equipment to Dublin and Belfast for larger scale construction projects.

The company is just one of three major companies within the Kellys Group, all of which operate in or service the construction industry.

"We know very well the huge difference between using older machinery on site and using fresh new machines. Not only is the safety and reliability of the machines vastly improved, but also the speed and efficiency of the work, and the comfort for the workers."

Kellys Point Hire also celebrated another achievement earlier in the year when they were nominated for the prestigious "Safehire Company of the Year" award by Hire Association Europe, competing against some of the top Plant Hire companies from across the UK.

Ronan Kelly, Gary Kelly, Derek Mathers and Mark Fitzpatrick all attended the awards in Park Lane, London where they were awarded a certificate in recognition of excellent performance and are now formally "highly recommended" by the Hire Awards of Excellence.

"This was a fantastic result for us, and real recognition for the sheer amount of work that we've put in over the past year to overhaul and improve all of our safety processes, which included building a custom built PAT testing facility to ensure that all of our machines and equipment are to the highest safety standards at all times."



Pictured, from left to right, are Gary Kelly, Eugene Comiskey, Leonard Kelly and Ronan Kelly.

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 **MANITOU**
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CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF INNOVATION

After selling his beloved Ford Granada (Sweeny Style) in 1978, Keith Miller aged 21 began founding his own mobile welding and repair service based in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Initially used for quarries, mines and opencast coal sites Keith's repair service soon started to grow into manufacturing the products he was initially repairing and later, joined by his younger brother Gary and when old enough his wife sister Jacqui the family decided to take a risk to become pioneers in the earth moving industry.

Today, 40 years on Miller is now a global market leader in quick coupler and Bucket technology and continues to be recognised all over the world for safety, reliability, quality and innovation.

The present day Miller operates on a global basis supplying innovative, high quality attachment solutions to the world's leading earthmoving OEMs and their dealer networks. Based in Cramlington in the North East of England, and China Miller manufactures a range of buckets, quick couplers, hydraulic breakers and other attachments.

In what is a monumental year for Miller, their chairman Keith Miller took some time out of

his busy schedule to chat about his 40 years in business and his future vision for Miller.

Where did it all begin?

I was always quite ambitious as a young lad (and he still is!) while I was in my first welding job, I approached my old boss and asked about potential promotions and where do I fit in. His response was, "You are a second-rate welder and that's all you will ever be," so I decided to use my own initiative and in my next holiday I went around the North East to all the quarries and coal sites and ask if I was to start my own business would I would get any work. The response was very positive and people started to ask for my contact details so I gave them my parent's home phone number and waited for the phone to start ringing... And it did! And that was really the start of Miller.

What made you decide to start manufacturing buckets?

I began in mobile welding and doing onsite repair work, and whilst I was repairing products, in particularly the buckets I could actually see some of the flaws and faults from the original designs. I always thought that if I was building a new bucket myself I wouldn't build it like that and I would do

it differently. So then I thought why don't we do that... why don't we start building buckets? We went from repairs and improving repaired buckets, making them better/stronger to offering bespoke bucket manufacturing service to the UK dealers.

At the beginning it was only me and then my brother Gary joined me and we started off offering one off buckets for special applications. We put ourselves on the tender list at the national coal board. The very first order we had to build outside in a rented allotment in one of the coldest winters I can recall. But it paid off and we were fortunate enough to win a few contracts and we started manufacturing buckets!

Have you always had that ability to identify opportunities?

Yes, I suppose I have.... people are born with their own talent and some people become great doctors, nurses, musicians and scientists; I strongly believe that everyone has their own natural ability. So it's kind of a normal thing for me to see an opportunity and grasp it as they come along and I believe that you need to take some risks. I'm also quite a natural risk taker to an extent... I mean I obviously wouldn't risk the Crown Jewels but



Keith Miller, Founder of Miller UK

KEITH MILLER

FOUNDER OF MILLER UK

face
to
face



I have taken quite a lot of risks over the years and some have paid off and some haven't.

So, 40 years... what has changed for you in those 40 years?

Well, first of all, I can't honestly believe it's been 40 years!

So, what's changed?

Just about everything you can possibly think of. In 1978 there was not a lot of focus on health and safety and there certainly wasn't the technology that we have these days. I think fax machines had just come on the market but apart from that there wasn't the mobile technology around, so we used the old fashioned way of meeting or phone calls then sending a letter or quotation through the post and then waited 2-3 weeks for a response before meeting them for a chat to finalise the deal. But you know the world seemed to manage, and as technology has improved over the years a lot of things have changed for the better.

The changes in safety and the impact that products and their designs have had on improving the quality of life has been fascinating. From an engineering point of view I think it's wonderful, I mean if you take a look at the technology and machinery, the technology has come from pretty basic designs which was functional into intelligent machinery in today's market and what I think to myself is where do we go from here? How can we improve further, how can we improve site safety, how can we improve our quick couplers or buckets and how do we innovate further?

But you know we constantly do we innovate, we constantly look at pushing the boundaries and making sure our product is more productive by being safer, lighter, more productive or stronger and more cost effective. The world is a fascinating place today and I see lots of fantastic opportunities for the future.

You mentioned innovation, safety and performance; what new things are expected from Miller over the next few years?

Well, we are going through a change period at the moment which is really, really exciting

and I am driving the team to focus on two words and that's "customer focus".

Providing old fashioned customer service and added value products that do what they say on the tin is still vitally important as well as innovation. We are passionate about offering the safest products, the most productive products and the finest customer service for most advanced attachment solutions in the world. It's why we strive to lead the way.

So in our 40th year we are taking the next step forward in quick coupler technology and we are very excited to be launching another first for Miller and bring to market the Miller GT range, the next generation of hydraulic quick couplers from 1t – 50t. With the new products and the new investments in our production facilities and service teams, I'm looking forward to further expanding the business globally; I'm looking forward to pushing the boundaries in terms of new markets, gaining market share and attracting new OEM business.

What are your plans for celebrating the 40th anniversary?

I want to first of all thank all of our loyal staff the whole Miller team because every single talented individual has played an integral part in the success of Miller over the past 40 years.

As part of the big thank you to team Miller, we are taking over Croft Motor Racing Circuit and inviting a motor racing Events Company to come and celebrate with us to coach our team driving fast cars safely. As you know, cars are one of my passions in life, so I think it's a great fun way to celebrate this two day event where we have invited all of our team to come and enjoy driving fast cars around the track.

Then of course we had the recent Hillhead exhibition where again we were celebrating the 40th anniversary in style with a special customer event as well as launching our next generation quick couplers.

And finally, something that is very close to my heart; work hard play hard and give something back. We have chosen a local cancer charity as a brush to support throughout the year and we are doing some charity based events internally. Not only is it for a great cause but it's been really

good for team moral and to top off a year of giving back we are looking to host a celebratory charity ball at the end of the year.

Where do you see Miller in 40 years' time?

As we all know things change and fast, you can't predict what's going to happen in 40 years' time, but what I see at the moment is continuous growth and as a business we have to continually innovate to take us forward. I have a young family and if they are interested I would love it if my children would be part of the business, in the future however if they don't that's ok too.

I'm incredibly proud of how well the Miller brand is recognised by the OEMs globally and on construction sites around the world. From the start we always had a grand vision of building a world class leading brand. With incredible drive and tenacity from my sister Jacqui, along with support great from Gary and some fantastic Miller people we have been able to develop a brand that I believe is the industry standard for quality, safety and performance. As the Americans say: let's leverage the brand, take advantage and grow the opportunity.

What advice would you give your 25 year old self if you could go back now?

Well, giving advice to my 25 year old self would be probably be a difficult thing to do! However, I would say to think things through a bit more before acting. I have been quite impulsive over the years and I have made mistakes but I think my enthusiasm and passion has probably been the driver behind our growth. What I have learnt is that it is important to think things through a little before you actually implement, learn from your mistakes and everything doesn't have to be done yesterday.

That being said, that's the drive that actually pushes the business forward so within reason don't ever lose the enthusiasm, but just think things through a little bit get the facts, and protect the down side before making important decisions but then on with it!

Construction Industry Federation honours 100-year-old Carpenter

The Construction Industry Federation and the Construction Worker's Pension Scheme recently honoured Paul Fogarty, who celebrated his 100th birthday in June, for his outstanding contribution to the construction industry and his beloved trade of carpentry throughout the last century.

Dominic Doheny, CIF President, presented him with a copy of Photographer Michael Durand's *The Nurses' Home*, a photographic documentary of the Mater College of Nursing, which was built in 1954; Paul remembers his time working on the project very fondly.

"It was one of the finest buildings in the city at the time. It had the best of materials and workmanship," he recalls, adding: "I never thought I'd see this age and I have seen a lot of changes over my lifetime."

Dominic Doheny, President, CIF, said: "The Irish construction industry has been built on the efforts of craftsmen like Paul Fogarty, whose passion for excellence, for creating something from nothing and improving the world around us has been a lifelong affair. I am honoured to be here to wish him a very happy 100th birthday and pay tribute to his contribution to our industry throughout his life."



Brigid Finn, CWPS, Paul Fogarty and Dominic Doheny, President, CIF. Photo: Marc O'Sullivan.

Construction Equipment Association Promoting Engineering Apprenticeship Standards

Apprenticeships continue to rise in the consciousness of the nation and are widely regarded as crucial to redressing the engineering skills gap. For many young people they are a great way into work and offer a fantastic career without the worry of a student loan and debt.

More and more young people are starting apprenticeships as an alternative to A levels and university, and some employers will sponsor their people to study for a higher qualification once an apprenticeship has been completed.

The CEA has been involved in the development of apprenticeship standards for some time working with the Land-based Training and Education Committee (LETEC). Through hard work and perseverance, through the very lengthy and testing approvals

process, the CEA are delighted with the resulting two standards that have been approved by the Institute for Apprenticeships – Land-based Service Engineer (Level 2), and Land-based Service Engineering Technician (Level 3). Philip Burgess of the Construction Equipment Association's Skills Advisory Panel said, "With these new apprenticeships being introduced this year by several training providers across England, the CEA's attention now switches to their promotion to CEA member companies and their employees. To this end we are planning with key partners representing the Land-based Engineering industry, a coming together with colleges and training providers, two regional (north and south) 'what it's all about' seminars where employers and dealerships can find out more about these apprenticeships as well as the workings of the new apprenticeship levy."

It is important that the term 'Land-based Engineering' is recognised within the context of skills and training as encompassing the construction and plant sector, in addition to the agricultural and outdoor power equipment sectors. With each apprenticeship standard, pathways exist whereby the Land-based Service Engineer's/Technician's occupational title will be prefixed by the industry sector he/she works within, for example; Construction and Plant Service Engineer. Philip added, "In essence, both apprenticeship standards deal with the maintenance and repair of a range of mechanised equipment used across the different pathways within the Land-based Engineering industry." Service Engineer apprentices (Level 2) will learn to work to solve problems using a combination of scientific,

technical and engineering knowledge. They will typically work on the employer's premises under supervision and, where appropriate and safe to do so, on their own initiative. They can work on a diverse range of tasks and machinery specific to their sector pathway. Technician apprentices (Level 3) will learn how to diagnose and repair more complex faults and will need a good level of mechanical skill and the ability to work from technical manuals. They will typically work on site using their own initiative in a customer facing role. In addition, they could often be called upon to mentor and supervise junior colleagues and to give advice to customers on machinery selection; again, specific to their sector pathway. Full details of the two Land-based Engineering apprenticeship standards are given at www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards.

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CLOSING DATE for Entries 28th SEPTEMBER

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2018

GALA DINNER
THURS 22ND NOV 2018
CROWNE PLAZA BELFAST

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 2018



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Plant Hire Company of the Year

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



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Innovation of the Year

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

sponsor to be confirmed



Excellence in Customer Service

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



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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.

sponsor to be confirmed



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.



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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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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 28th September 2018

THE CATEGORIES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Tick the categories you wish to enter



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Plant Manager of the Year

This category is open to individuals who have delivered outstanding results in terms of efficiency, safety and health when dealing with all aspects of heavy (plant machinery) used in the construction industry. They will have worked on projects throughout Ireland, overseeing the important business of buying, hiring or transporting (often huge) pieces of equipment according to strict rules and regulations, and will be involved in supervising & motivating staff on a daily basis.



Sleator Plant
www.sleatorplant.com



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Construction Project of the Year

This award is for the company, team or individual who has demonstrated exceptional skills, expertise, design and innovation on a construction project, be it a building, a road, a utility facility or any other similar undertaking throughout the island of Ireland, Great Britain or worldwide.



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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.



Groundforce
Specialist Construction Solutions

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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.

sponsor to be confirmed



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

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 **28th September 2018** via online submission at **www.plantandcivilengineer.com** or email to **justin@4squaremedia.net** or post to **4SM (NI) Ltd, 12 Main Street, Hillsborough, Co Down BT26 6AE**

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PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY
AWARDS 2018

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2018

You can't win if you're not in. The Plant, Construction & Quarry Awards, hosted by Plant & Civil Engineer, is set to be the biggest event in the Irish industry's calendar.

**Book your table
immediately
to avoid
disappointment**

Held in Belfast's luxury Crowne Plaza on November 22nd 2018 the awards ceremony starts with a superb Gala Dinner.

Start preparing your entries. You simply cannot afford to miss it!

All inclusive tickets cost just £95 each – a table of 10 works out at £850. Anticipated demand is likely to be brisk, so act now to ensure your presence at the event of the year!

**For further information, telephone
Plant & Civil Engineer on 028 9268 8888**

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Please Reserve ☐ seats @£95 or ☐ tables(s) of ten places @£850

at the **Plant & Civil Engineer** Plant, Construction & Quarry Awards 2018 in the Crowne Plaza, Belfast on **Thursday 22nd November 2018** at 7pm for 7:30pm sharp.

Name of Company: _____

Invoice Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Contact Name: _____ Tel: _____

Dress Code: Gentlemen - Lounge Suit. Ladies - Cocktail Dress

The above prices are plus VAT and will be shown as such on the official receipt.

THIS PRIORITY BOOKING FORM TO BE POSTED TO: **Plant & Civil Engineer**, 12 Main Street, Hillsborough, Co. Down BT26 6AE or email table or seating requirements to justin@4squaremedia.net



Fionnuala Brennan, Relationship Manager at First Trust Bank is pictured with NTR Program Manager Martin Sweeney and Noel Breslin, Site Manager from RES at Castlecraig Wind Farm. (Photo, Brian Morrison).



Castlecraig Wind Farm is located near the village of Drumquin in Co. Tyrone. (Photo, Keith Arkins)

£50m Castlecraig Wind Farm Nears Completion

A 10-turbine wind farm located near Drumquin in Co. Tyrone is set to be fully operational by late summer as the construction phase comes to an end. Owned by sustainable infrastructure investors NTR, the £50 million project has been financed with support from First Trust Bank.

Known locally as the Castlecraig Wind Farm, the development - which is now going through a series of power and energising tests - will produce enough energy to meet the needs of over 18,500 homes annually. Working with a host of local suppliers, contractors and businesses, construction of Castlecraig has been managed by renewable energy company, RES who will continue to manage the project over the next 25 years.

Construction started in June 2017 with a number of local firms involved including Adman from Omagh which undertook the civil construction works, B.McCaffrey & Sons Ltd and Colton Quarries who provided stone,

Tracey Concrete from Enniskillen, Lisburn based Mar-Train Heavy Haulage, along with local staff from Barton Industrial Services and Omexom from their Belfast offices.

Speaking about the project, NTR Program Manager Martin Sweeney said: "We are delighted to see construction successfully completed at Castlecraig Wind Farm thanks to the hard work of all our partners including RES and its suppliers. The expertise of the team coupled with the recent good weather, saw an average of two turbines erected each week, a fantastic feat, bringing the project ahead of schedule.

"NTR is selective about the markets, technology and contractors we work with, and we have been impressed by the performance and expertise demonstrated by all the businesses involved in this development. Fionnuala and the team at First Trust Bank have the market and regional knowledge we need in a financial partner. They know the local contractors and suppliers we are

working with and this first-hand sectoral experience is always a benefit when it comes to a diverse development like this."

The project is the latest in a series of renewable energy projects supported by First Trust Bank in Northern Ireland. It has funded over 150MW of renewable energy projects in recent years including large scale wind projects such as Castlecraig, as well as single turbine developments with Simple Power and anaerobic digestors.

Fionnuala Brennan, Relationship Manager at First Trust Bank added: "We are proud to have supported the construction of a key infrastructure project that is enabling substantial inward investment to the local area and across Northern Ireland.

"For projects like this, we often find that businesses think they have to go to Dublin or elsewhere in the UK to get the industry and financial sectoral expertise they need. We however have an expert energy team on the ground across Northern Ireland as we are keen to support the transition to a low carbon economy. We look forward to seeing the Castlecraig Wind Farm generating energy in the months to come and the community benefiting from the various funds and business opportunities that come with the project."

Cork Bridge Construction Underway

Construction of the €5 million Harley's Street Pedestrian & Cycle Bridge, linking Cork city centre and Victorian Quarter, is underway.

It's expected that when fully operational, up to 11,000 pedestrians and cyclists, travelling between the city centre and the Victorian Quarter daily, will benefit from the improved connectivity and convenience provided by Harley's Street Bridge.

Cork City Council has awarded the contract for the construction of the bridge to L & M Keating Contractors who operate nationally and internationally and recently completed local projects such as the re-development of St. Angela's College on St Patrick's Hill and Perrott's Inch Pedestrian Bridge at University College Cork.

Lord Mayor, Cllr Mick Finn said: "Thanks to the work of the bridge designers ARUP & Wilkinson Eyre Architects, the new bridge will fit

sympathetically with the surrounding quays, buildings and city centre environment while maintaining the views along the river, Shandon and the northern suburbs. It will give the river the elegant crossing that it deserves."

The initial phase of work consists of site set up and diversion of underground utilities. The bridge itself will be fabricated off site by Thompsons of Carlow.

Bridge sections will be transported by truck to the

lower harbour for final assembly and finishing. The finished superstructure will be placed on a barge and transported by river to the city centre. The barge journey will be timed to coincide with the optimum tide level for clear passage under Brian Boru Bridge before arrival at its final destination in the city centre in April 2019.

The bridge will be lifted by crane from the barge in one overnight operation which will require the complete closure of both quays for the duration of the lift.



HILLHEAD 2018 SETS NEW ATTENDANCE RECORD

Gloriously hot weather saw unprecedented crowds descend on Hillhead 2018, which took place over three days last week at Tarmac's Hillhead Quarry, near Buxton, in Derbyshire.

According to the official figures, a record-breaking 19,687 unique visitors attended this year's event, surpassing the show's previous highest attendance record set in 2005. This year also saw more exhibitors (527+) in attendance than ever before, many of them occupying newly created space in the enlarged Registration Pavilion.

Exhibition director Richard Bradbury said: 'With clear blue skies, record crowds and all the majors from the plant and equipment world in attendance, business was buoyant and the atmosphere amongst the exhibitors and visitors was superb! Another highlight of this year's show was the Man Engine, which proved to be a real crowd-puller.'

As always, the showground, pavilions and various demonstration areas were packed with all the latest plant and equipment for the quarrying, aggregates, concrete, asphalt, recycling and construction

sectors, many of the products on show for the first time in the UK.

Among the multitude of impressive new product launches were the JCB 220X excavator, Volvo L260H wheel loader, Komatsu WA480-8 wheel loader, Powerscreen Trakpactor 550SR impactor, Keestrack H4e hybrid electric cone crusher, Sandvik QE343 screener and EvoQuip Colt 1000 scalping screen, to name just a few.

Plant & Civil Engineer takes a look back in words and pictures at some of the show's many highlights...



Hillhead2018 Review





Miller's Product Launch Receives Scorching Welcome

Miller UK returned to Hillhead in June to celebrate their 40th birthday and showcase their latest product innovation.

Over the three days of the show Miller UK welcomed hundreds of visitors who flocked to their stand to see the brand new fully hydraulic compact quick coupler Miller GTS range in action.

Barry Robison, Miller UK's Marketing Manager said, "We strongly believe that coupler technology has a key role to play in improving the operator experience; making on-site operations safer, more convenient and capable of withstanding the most challenging working environments.

"Hillhead was the perfect venue to launch our brand new Miller GTS range; the lowest, lightest and safest compact quick coupler on the marketplace. Offering operators of mini excavators the widest multiple range of pick-ups for any attachment within the same class all from the comfort and security of the cab."

In addition, visitors to Miller's stand also had the opportunity browse the full Miller product range, including their latest PowerLatch Tilt coupler and quarry spec buckets, including a 'Hillhead show special', a brand new CAT 980K, which was sold on the last day of the show.

Hillhead also provided a fantastic opportunity for Miller to celebrate their 40th anniversary and as part of the celebrations they held a special customer VIP event to thank them for their loyal support over the past 40 years.

Latest Innovative Sandvik Cone Crusher Unveiled

Sandvik Mobile Crushers and Screens unveiled what it believes to be the 'ultimate' in tracked, mobile cone crushing technology – the QH332 DDHS. The productive and efficient features of the new cone crusher and screening system was also be demonstrated in front of the Sandvik Hillhead stand.

The brand new Sandvik Mobile Crushers and Screens QH332 Double Deck Hanging Screen (DDHS) is a tracked, self-contained cone crusher with an on board diesel engine. It is based on the world leading QH331, with this new cone crushing solution also providing the functionality of a double or single deck (utilising the top deck as a breaker deck) hanging screen in a fully detachable and stand-alone form.

Able to be detached / attached without the use of additional lifting equipment,



the QH332 DDHS thus delivers multi-functionality as a 1, 2 or 3 way split screener as well as a highly productive and efficient cone crusher.

The Sandvik CH430 cone crusher is at the heart of this world leading piece of technology. It is equipped with a hydrosset system which provides CSS adjustment at the touch of a button. The automatic setting regulation system not only optimizes production, it also keeps track of liner wear,

making it easy to plan liner changes and minimize interruptions in production. The CH430 cone has choice of six concaves and three eccentric bushes providing a range of throws from 16 mm to 36 mm, with these providing unrivalled flexibility regarding CSS ranges, production and material gradation.

As well as being equipped with world-leading Sandvik Mobile Crushing and Screens cone crushing technology, the QH332 DDHS comes complete with a stand-alone double deck hanging screen which is completely detachable. This provides its users with the flexibility to operate in open or closed circuit, with the unique design of the QH332 DDHS enabling rapid set-up in less than 30 minutes.

The double deck, hanging screen enables the machine to produce two screened products and recirculate the oversize back into the feed conveyor. The oversize conveyor can be hydraulically rotated through 90° for stockpiling up to three products on the floor. The tail section can be raised hydraulically to give improved ground clearance for transport when loading or unloading.

Hillhead2018 Review





Terex Washing Systems Bring Latest Technological Advancements to Market

The spotlight was firmly on Terex Washing Systems (TWS) at the recent Hillhead Show, with two new products on display—the impressive AggWash 300, a screening, scrubbing, sizing and sand recovery for recyclable aggregates, all on one modular chassis, and Terex AquaClear, the first water management treatment system from Terex.

TWS Director, Oliver Donnelly, commented: “Terex Washing Systems is focused on bringing to market products that deliver value to our customers and offer solutions that serve their needs. The AggWash 300 and AquaClear we brought to Hillhead do just that. Customers to the stand were excited to see up close these latest

innovations and had the opportunity to speak to our technical experts to discuss bespoke solutions for their specific needs.”

He also revealed: “TWS are due to begin manufacturing the Terex AquaClear Water Management Solutions in Dungannon later this year, working alongside strategic alliance partners in the US. We are already handling enquiries for AquaClear from Europe and North America markets.

“Through our strategic alliance - for North American customers - we can send a filter press fully built up, rather than in its component parts in containers. Working with partners who have been in the industry for many years, we are confident that we have the technical capability to

devise optimised solutions which present customers with a unique opportunity to maximise their return on investment.”

Speaking about the Hillhead show, he added: “The reaction and interest to TWS new products and our stand presence was simply overwhelming. The flow of traffic onto the stand was incredible throughout the three days. We had the opportunity to meet with existing satisfied customers, prospective new customers, as well as many of our distributors from around the world.

“We were delighted to receive a large number of orders throughout the show, which is testament to our commitment to providing enhanced and unique washing solutions to meet customers’ needs and demands.”

Wacker Neuson shows new zero emission machines

Wacker Neuson exhibited its brand new and unique dual view trucks along with new products from the zero emission range, which included the all-electric Zero Tail excavator EZ17e and the electric wheel dumper DW15e.

“We are very satisfied with the outcome of Hillhead exhibition, meeting professionals and having valuable conversations with experts within our industry. For us, Hillhead is the best opportunity to show visitors and customers our new products and let them experience the uniqueness and high quality of our machines,” states Richard

Harrison, Managing Director of Wacker Neuson UK.

The new dual view trucks from six to ten tons of payload allow the operator to conveniently and quickly change the seat position through a 180-degree rotation of the entire seat operating console. This always gives the operator a perfect view in the direction of travel – during transport, loading and unloading. The rotation is easily accomplished from the operator’s seat using a single handle to unlock the seat console and then rotate the complete console. Time-consuming turning and manoeuvring are therefore no longer necessary on small confined construction

sites, such as in urban areas, in tunnels, on motorway improvements or on busy roads.

With the EZ17e Zero Tail mini excavator, Wacker Neuson is strengthening its position as an innovation leader in the zero emissions segment. The fully electric EZ17e, powered by lithium ion batteries, performs and handles like a diesel-powered model, has zero overhang, and makes it ideal for environments where emissions and noise has to be kept to a minimum, for example in urban areas or indoors.

Meanwhile, the new electric DW15e wheel dumper is a

good choice wherever the work should be carried out emission-free and as quietly as possible, for example, next to hospitals, schools or in parks.

The newest member of the zero emission family comes with all-wheel drive and 1.5 tons payload, which is particularly suitable for material transport. The DW15e is each equipped with its own electric motor for the travel drive and for the working hydraulics in order to reduce power consumption as required and independently and to minimize energy consumption. When the machine brakes or goes downhill, the energy is fed back into the battery. This is therefore not converted into heat as usual, but used to charge the battery. The maintenance-free battery is supplied with an integrated charger that can be plugged into a conventional socket.

Mobile digital solution from Sandvik

Hillhead also saw Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology Mobile Crushers and Screens highlight the total solutions nature of its world-leading equipment ranges, including new digital solutions.

The Sandvik range of mobile crushing and screening equipment provides solutions for virtually any application, and encompasses such diverse businesses areas as surface rock quarrying, excavation, demolition, recycling and civil engineering.

The all-encompassing range has provided customers across the world with the very latest developments whether working independently, or in conjunction with other equipment from Sandvik's offering.

As well as mobile crushing and screening equipment, Sandvik Mining and Rock Technology produces ranges of underground excavation and



mining equipment, rock tools, drilling rigs, breakers, tunnelling equipment, stationary crushing and screening machinery and bulk-materials handling systems.

A number of global product launches took place, with demonstrations of mobile crushing and screening

equipment being held. Products shown included: QJ341 best-selling jaw crusher; QJ241 compact jaw crusher; Screening media and aftermarket solutions; QE342 screener and Sandvik My Fleet.

Sandvik My Fleet is a fleet management tool which

provides critical data on GPS location and machine utilisation. The remote monitoring system enables customers to optimise their machine operation and work more efficiently through accessing a functional portal interface.



MASON BROTHERS KEEP ON CRUSHING WITH SANDVIK

Pembrokeshire based Mason Brothers Quarry Products has a longstanding relationship with Sandvik which goes back to the 1990s. The company now produces in excess of 100,000 tonnes of high quality aggregate from its Rhyndaston quarry near Haverfordwest, with a mobile crushing, screening and scalping train from Sandvik playing a key role in ensuring that Mason Brothers' customers get the materials they need.

Mason Brothers Quarry Products is family run business which has carved out a niche in supplying sand and aggregates throughout Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire for over 25 years; the company also works out of other quarries, including its new shale quarry which is also located in Haverfordwest.

Most of Mason Brothers' material is produced at its Rhyndaston quarry. "It's (the rock at the quarry) a metamorphic granite, with its actual name being Royal Lite Hornfeldt. It breaks reasonably easy, but it is quite abrasive which makes it hard wearing on any equipment we use," explains company managing director Alun Mason. "This means we try to sort out equipment that is going to do what we want, and give us the tonnages that we require, but at the same time keep our costs to a minimum."

A key part of the production process at the Rhyndaston quarry is Mason Brothers' crushing, screening and scalping train supplied by Sandvik Mobiles. This comprises of a QA451 triple deck Doublescreen, QH331 cone with hanging screen, and currently, a QE341 scalper with finger deck.



The highly productive and efficient nature of the set-up is explained by Alun: "Two boys there run the complete quarry. They primary crush at face and then scalp off the material. We produce a 1-4 inch (25mm-100mm) cone feed from the face which we then stockpile at the rear of the cone crusher. This is then moved across the quarry with an excavator loading the cone for secondary crushing. This set-up enables the running of the entire quarry with just two men."

The QH331 cone crusher with hanging screen was launched at Hillhead in 2016, and its features have proved to be particularly of benefit to Mason Brothers. "Obviously the hanging screen has been a big improvement for us. It's efficient; we don't re-circ a lot with it as we tend to

try and use all the products the machine produces. Another good thing is that you haven't got crusher backing to leave 'cure'. We change between 'matt' and 'concave' (on the cone) quite regularly, so we can just change and get on with a day's work."

The QH331 draws heavily on Sandvik's expertise in cone crusher technology, which as Alun explains has been put to good effect. "We try to keep the shape (of the end product) which is something the cone has enabled us to do. We only primary and secondary crush, we don't tertiary crush at all, so we have to get that shape right in two stages."

Mason Brothers has been using mobile crushing and screening equipment from the Sandvik range for nearly as long as it has been producing aggregates. "We've a long, long relationship right back to the Extec days (Extec was acquired by Sandvik in 2007). They've always pulled us out and kept us going."

Alun further explains how this excellent relationship between the two companies helps maximise the production and effective use of the equipment. "We are a long way from Sandvik. They do come out as quickly as possible (if equipment requires services, parts or in the rare event of a breakdown) but they also provide good advice over the telephone so we can try a lot of things ourselves without the need to send a service engineer."

Alun Mason's experience of Sandvik and its mobile crushing and screening equipment is still highly positive after many years working together. "I'd have no problems in recommending Sandvik to anybody. We've got a good relationship with them and they've looked after us over the years. Well, obviously, we wouldn't have spent the money with them if weren't happy with product, and happy with the company."



EVOQUIP COLT 1000 PUTS ON AN 'IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE'

EvoQuip's latest innovation - the Colt 1000 scalping screen - which builds on the success of the Colt 600 and Colt 800, is the largest screen in the company's portfolio and capable of processing up to 360tph (403us tph), depending on application.

The Colt 1000 has been on test with Rapid Aggregates in the UK and says Trevor Armitage, Rapid Aggregates Managing Director: "I am impressed by the performance of the Colt 1000, a powerful machine for such a small package. There is nothing it can't cope with and output is comparable to larger screens. The screenbox is very aggressive and excellent at clearing both stone and wet soil material."

The highly adaptable machine incorporates an aggressive



double deck screen of 3.96m (13') x 1.22m (4'). The variable screening angle and numerous screen media options enable the machine to operate in both heavy duty scalping and precision screening applications, and to manage even the most difficult of materials. In addition, the full 13ft bottom deck ensures

optimal classification in fine screening applications.

The versatile and mobile Colt 1000 includes a compact footprint maintaining the ethos of the range. Standard configuration discharges the fines product to the right side of the plant, with the mid-grade on the left. Both conveyors can be ordered reversed as an option, with the

ability to place both conveyors on the same side of the unit once the Colt 1000 reaches the field. Flexibility is further enhanced with two-way split conversion by simply relocating the tail conveyor to collect both top and bottom deck pieces.

The Colt 1000 achieves excellent conveyor discharge heights and by coupling a broad belt on the fines the machine distinguishes itself from the competition.

The feeder system has class leading capacity through the folding hopper extensions. The 1000mm wide feed conveyor complements the screen width to ensure maximum screen area is managed from the feed point.

The Colt 1000 can be fitted with the T-Link telemetry system which provides the customer with real time information on the performance of their machine.



COLT 1000 SCALPING SCREEN

The highly adaptable Colt 1000 Scalping screen is able to operate in both heavy duty scalping and precision screening applications and will manage the most difficult of materials.

Featuring an aggressive double deck screen, variable screening angle with numerous screen media options, broad fines conveyor, quick set up time and tall discharge heights ensures the Colt 1000 distinguishes itself amongst its competition.



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McHALE PLANT SALES REPORTS CONTINUED METSO SUCCESS

With a strong presence in mining, quarrying and aggregates production, Finnish-based Metso is one of the leading names in the world of rock crushing and screening equipment manufacturers.

Distributed in Ireland by McHale Plant Sales, the Metso brand has experienced solid sales progress since the Birdhill and Rathcoole-based construction plant experts were appointed to handle sales and after-sales, north and south of the border, just three years ago.

Initially appointed to market Lokotrack mobile crushers exclusively, the McHale Plant

Sales brief was extended shortly afterwards to cover both mobile and static machines

and the company has since reported a number of high-profile, first-time Metso users now committed to the Finnish brand.

Speaking to Plant & Civil Engineer, McHale Plant Sales director, Tim Shanahan notes the current increase in civil works and construction activity should provide what he terms a 'springboard' for future crusher sales as many contractors are 'now demonstrating willingness to invest' in new plant as they get equipped to meet the expected rise in demand for product and on-site services.

Within the Metso product offering, aggregates producers can choose from a full range of crushers, in jaw, cone and impact variants. Renowned for their durability, reliability and excellent resale value, Metso models proving most popular for Irish needs are the LT106 jaw crusher, the compact and sturdy LT200HP cone crusher, and LT1213 impact crusher.

Seen as the workhorse of the Metso range, the attractively designed

Lokotrack LT106 mobile unit is built around the tough, high-output C106 jaw crusher whose many features include ease-of-maintenance and the easy replacement of worn components.

The popular LT200HP cone crusher is a machine of proven versatility with an intelligent IC 600 control system at its heart. Attractive for its 'transportability', the LT200HP weighs in at 30,000kg. Its 16,750mm-long, 3,000mm-wide and 3,400mm-high dimensions make it especially attractive to the site-to-site contractor. Driven by a powerful 317kw CAT C-12 engine, it is fed by a 6m long belt through a 5cu.m capacity hopper with a 210mm feed opening. Its numerous other features include a hydraulic generator and lube-cooling fan.

Another model gaining ground with a number of high-profile installations recorded is the multi-purpose Lokotrack LT1213 mobile impact crusher. Offering more capacity to lower fuel consumption, ease of operation and maintenance are listed amongst its various features.



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GYRU-STAR COMPACT SCREENING SYSTEMS FAST AND EFFICIENT

For a fast and efficient screening system look no further than the unique and innovative Gyrus-Star range.

Already well established in many parts of the world, the brand continues to make a big impact with contractors across the UK seeking a cost-effective compact screening bucket for soils, aggregates and compost.

Distributed here by Gyrus-Star's Northern Ireland dealer Essener Equipment, the well-respected County Tyrone based family run business, the keenly priced nine-strong range of screening buckets are suitable for excavators between one and 18 tonne, as well as other small machines including skid steers, telehandlers, agricultural tractors and backhoe loaders.

Manufactured in the UK by Gloucester based Wheatway Solutions Limited, Gyrus-Star screening buckets are also sold and supported by a growing international distributor network and a string of UK dealers.

What makes the Gyrus-Star so effective and so unique is its clever design incorporating flexible poly stars. Unlike the steel alternatives, these nylon manufactured poly stars screen without crushing and shredding, virtually eliminating the potential for sharp stones, while producing a very fine product size.

All Gyrus-Star buckets use sealed bearings – so no greasing – and combined with Poly Chain

carbon belt drive lines with belt tensioners they require little or no maintenance or regular servicing; a pre-season check should be all that is needed.

With a near silent operation, the screening buckets which feature a powder coated frame, are ideal for the likes of utility companies and other contractors working in built up or residential areas.

The buckets, which are easy to transport from site to site, being small and light enough to fit on to the back of a normal pick-up truck, would also be well suited for hire companies seeking a new and profitable product line.

Applications at a Glance

Soil & Aggregates - Separating aggregates and vegetation without crushing or shredding.

Compost - Separating oversize and non-compostable items, also mixing and turning to accelerate the composting process.

Aeration - For accelerating drying and conditioning of soil and compost.

Mixing and blending - Mixing pre-screen soil and compost to improve the final product.



Universal Interfacing System - Excavator or Loader interface using our Kustom Konnect unique Rail System for Loaders.

Parts Dept

Wheatway, which continues to expand its fabrication facilities as the brand steadily grows in popularity, also operates a busy parts department, which services the crushing and screening industry, supplying crusher consumables, wearing parts and durable castings.





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



Gordon Best, QPANI

CONFIDENCE RETURNS TO MATERIALS MARKET, BUT...

Recent visits with members certainly indicates a medium to high level of confidence in the current construction materials market here, the Irish Republic and GB. This is supported by the recent Ulster Bank PMI report showed that construction activity accelerated to a 46 month high and wider NI business activity grew to a four month high. This was obviously helped by the long period of good weather.

Northern Ireland's private sector recorded the fastest rate of growth of all the UK regions for both output and new orders. Worrying though is the level of business confidence, particularly in construction, mainly given the absence of decision-making around publicly-funded capital investment, coupled with recent legal challenges to procurement processes, this pessimism cited by local construction firms may be well placed.

On QPANI activity we continue to respond to a number of the more recent local Council Preferred Options Papers, namely Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and the Newry Mourne and Down POPs. We are working on the Causeway Coast and Glens POP at present and this will be submitted by the 21st September.

The focus continues to be the safe guarding of future resources and developing supply and demand scenarios within each Council Area and wider Northern Ireland.

Recently the Association hosted a visit by Ards and North Down Planning Officials to Craigantlet Quarry. John McReynolds of Northstone and Aidan McMullan of Whitemountain, the two QPANI members with quarries in the Council Area, to discuss the forthcoming Local Development Plan and Preferred Options Paper.

We discussed the industry requirements looking forward over the next 15 years and what type of information and in what format the Council requires to help develop supply and demand scenarios to ensure the sustainability of local quarry companies.

The meeting was an excellent exchange of views and will assist in better understanding between operators and local Council planners. The Regional Director also made a short presentation on "How Does a Quarry Work" for the benefit of five of the Planning Officials who had never visited a quarry before.

We also recently held our Biodiversity Group meeting hosted by AG at their Fivemiletown Quarry. The group is made up of QPANI Members, NIEA officials, NGO representatives and local council biodiversity officers.

Quarry Returns

QPANI would urge all members to please complete the 2017 annual quarry return that you received from the Department of the Economy, Geological Survey, earlier this year. As I have said repeatedly over the past number of years this information is of strategic importance in highlighting the economic contribution of the aggregates sector to the Northern Ireland Economy and to helping protect the industry in the future.

This is even more important now as the industry's right to operate and access to future resources comes under increasing pressure from land availability, NIMBYISM and a general assumption that the supply of construction materials and minerals that we need in our everyday lives will always be there.

Growing Threat

As an industry and individual companies we need to engage more with our neighbours and politicians at the local level to highlight the importance economic and social contribution you all make individually and collectively in the rural areas of Northern Ireland.

As Regional Director I would strongly recommend that CEOs and Managing Directors of all our member companies, including those within the Quarry and Mining Materials Handling sector meet with your workforce and those in your supply chain to inform and advise them of this growing threat to our industry and long term job security.

We would ask that employees are encouraged and supported to contact their local Councillors, MLAs and MPs to challenge them as to their support for our industry and their jobs. One suggestion would be to invite local political representatives to your sites and operations and give your workforce the opportunity to challenge our politicians face to face. Let them see our industry represents thousands of votes that puts them in a job!!

Safety Conference

In September we will be supporting the All Island Safety Conference being hosted by the Health and Safety Authority, IMQS and ICF in Roadstones Dorans Pit,

Blessington in County Wicklow. At our recent Health and Safety Committee we were delighted to have MPA Health and Safety Director Kevin Stevens speaking.

Kevin highlighted the most recent Lost Time Incident Statistics, the need for change in how we manage Health and Safety and gave an update on the formation of working groups to deal with how we manage the Big 6 high fatal risk areas of falls from height, isolation of energy, struck by vehicle, road traffic accidents, struck by falling or moving object, and respirable crystalline silica.

Also attending the meeting was Ken Logan, HSENI Principal Inspector, who gave an update of progress on the Dust Strategy and he informed us that this winters series of H&S Workshops would focus on occupational health within the Industry.

Contractors Group

At our recent Contractors Group meeting it was good to hear that all companies were busy working their way through roads maintenance works orders generated by the significant starting allocation of roads maintenance funding received back in April. Unfortunately this initial allocation will be all but exhausted by the end of October.

QPANI will be raising the need for further in year allocations to be made before that to ensure continuity of work and employment. We are confident that given the slippage on a number of major infrastructure projects across Northern Ireland, within the Department of Infrastructures own budget, that further structural maintenance allocations will be made available.

QPANI Journal

As many readers will be aware this year the QPANI is 20 years old. It's hard to believe how quickly the time has passed by! To mark this important milestone we have just published our "Quarry 2018- Celebrating 20 Years of QPANI". This is our most comprehensive Journal yet with over 130 pages of excellent industry editorial covering the Economic, Social and Environmental contribution the industry makes not just in Northern Ireland but farther afield. I hope you enjoy the read, and the pictures.

Latest Komatsu Forest Machines Arrive

In the short period since its appointment to represent Komatsu Forest timber harvesting equipment in Ireland, north and south, McHale Plant Sales has brought to timber contractors the extensive knowledge, experience and expertise required to be a successful Komatsu distributor.

Appointed Komatsu Forest distributors in late-2017, the Rathcoole and Birdhill based company enjoys a relationship with the Japanese manufacturer that dates back almost quarter of a century.

Over 24 plus years, McHale and its team have accumulated an in-depth knowledge of Komatsu, its products, technology, and standards in customer support.

To that end, they have put in place an efficient and effective sales, parts supply and technical support structure to meet the requirements of customers in civil works and construction – support that is now being applied to the forestry sector.

Applying that experience to the timber sector, McHale has got its new, expanded role with the acclaimed Japanese manufacturer off to an impressive beginning.

From a standing start, the company has already recorded a number of significant, high-profile sales of both harvesters and forwarders to customers in Northern Ireland and the Republic.

Latest Machines

Two new machines from the Komatsu Forest range – the Komatsu 901XC harvester and Komatsu Forwarder 835 – currently occupy centre stage at McHale Plant Sales as the company prepares to promote their availability on the market.

In the case of the new Komatsu 901XC wheeled harvester, the very first unit to arrive in Ireland is currently being prepared in McHale's impressive sales and after sales service centre at Greenogue Industrial Estate, adjacent to the busy Dublin – Limerick M7 motorway just outside the south Dublin village of Rathcoole.

In the same workshop, two new Komatsu Forwarder 835 machines are also being



made ready for delivery as they undergo the mandatory pre-delivery preparation ahead of their customer handover.

Noted for its low ground pressure, stability and good reach, the eight-wheeled Komatsu 901XC harvester is designed to deliver excellent manoeuvrability in steep terrain, with its superior ground clearance to help reduce ground damage on soft forest floors.

Designed to make light work of inclines and difficult terrain, its various features include an 'excellent' operator environment with large cab volume, perfect visibility, and a levelling system that ensures the cab remains horizontal while working on inclines.

A 3-pump hydraulics system allows the operator to work faster and carry out several crane and head functions simultaneously.

Powered by an impressive EU-compliant Tier 4 engine that delivers 170 kW DIN at 1,900 rpm, with reduced fuel consumption, it has a tractive force of 181kN, weighs from 20,000kg and has a stroke volume 6.61.

Stablemate to the 901XC harvester is the highly productive eight-wheeled Komatsu 835 forwarder. A companion unit in every sense of the term, the 835 delivers the manoeuvrability and power required for optimal productivity and performance.

Combining performance and capacity, its low weight, high ground clearance and fuel efficient engine work in unison to reduce the environmental impact within the forest setting.

Its unique hydraulic cab suspension ensures a comfortable ride while its short nose and large windows ensure that operators enjoy superb visibility.

High torque and considerable traction force – coupled with its superior crane turning torque and reach – paint a picture of the hard-working lumber carrier it is. Able to transport a gross load of 11,000kg, its other vital stats include power output of 127kW DIN, torque of 750Nm at 1200 – 1500rpm, and a tractive force of 159kN.

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SCREGGAN, TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY

18th, 19th & 20th SEPTEMBER

COUNTDOWN WELL UNDERWAY TO NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year's National Ploughing Championships in Scraggan, Tullamore, Co Offaly from Sept 18th – 20th is shaping up to be another record-breaker.

The attendance figures for the 2017 event came to a record breaking 291,500 which marked the most successful National Ploughing Championships to date.

NPA Managing Director Anna May McHugh said: "It is the primary aim of the National Ploughing Association to improve exhibitor and visitor experience to ensure the best possible 'Ploughing' for all. The Exhibition Team in NPA have confirmed that bookings this year have surpassed previous records which highlights how beneficial it is for businesses, companies and organisations to this epic event.

"There is serious worldwide appeal with exhibitors, international buyers and visitors coming from countries such as Turkey, the USA, UK, Germany, India, Poland, Belgium, New Zealand, France, Saudi Arabia, Latvia and the Netherlands all attending."

There will be an array of new exhibitors as well as hundreds of outstanding veteran companies showcasing their products and services in dynamic ways. The dairy sector will be very well catered for with many new additions.

The very latest models in agricultural machinery will be on display, as will quality livestock, in addition to a Forestry Village, Motor Show, Food Fayre, Hunt Chase, Fashion Shows, Live Music & Dancing, Sheep Dog Trials, an extended Local Enterprise Village with over 80 exhibitors as well as National Baking Competitions, Craft Shows and many topical seminars.

With celebrities and well known faces everywhere Ploughing 2018 is not to be missed.

The popular Innovation Arena is set to make a very welcome return with ground



breaking technologies and cutting edge ideas that will amaze – and with a total prize fund to the value of over €80,000.

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 350 for the 3 days.

Machine Awards

The 'Machine of the Year' award is open to all machines launched/manufactured since the last National Ploughing Championships. Entries must currently be in manufacture and all machines should have a practical use in agriculture and will be exhibiting at Ploughing 2018.

Commented Anna Marie McHugh: "There was great interest with entries of an exceptional standard in last year's 'Machine of the Year' competition and this is to be expected again this year, as the quality of

machinery at Ploughing is unparalleled with ground breaking displays and cutting edge technologies worth in excess of €50 million.

"Last year's winner was the exceptional horse-power high cylinder Valtra N174 tractor, which the judges praised for its ability to have different levels of specifications for operational use and the intuitive design of the touch screen systems. Following the Ploughing Championships the Valtra N174 has gone on to experience phenomenal commercial success."

Enterprise Village

Under plans for the 'Local Enterprise Village', launched by the Minister for Trade, Employment and Business Pat Breen T.D., Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) are helping 30 small businesses and start-ups launch products and services to the thousands of visitors expected at the three-day event.



Minister Breen recently met several Local Enterprise Village entrepreneurs at a LEO-run training day in the Crowne Plaza in Blanchardstown, where they were learning about business development, product marketing and how to secure more sales for their small business. A second training day took place in Limerick.

Minister Breen said: "The Local Enterprise Office network is a key pillar in the Government's support for the growth and development of micro and small enterprises. By having dedicated supports in place to help small businesses at international events like the National Ploughing Championships, we are promoting trade and driving innovation and export growth for all business sectors across the country.

"I would encourage all visitors to the National Ploughing Championships in September to pay a visit to the Local Enterprise Village to support Ireland's start-ups and small businesses. The Local Enterprise Offices are central to the delivery of these dedicated supports, which help build a culture of entrepreneurship and enterprise, delivering jobs in every County in Ireland."

Minister Breen was joined at the launch by Oisín Geoghegan, Chair of the Network of Local Enterprise Offices, Anna May McHugh, Managing Director of The National Ploughing Association, Martin Corry of Enterprise Ireland and Paula Butler, Assistant Chief Executive of the Local Government Management Association and representative of the County and City Management Association.

Oisín Geoghegan, Chair of the Network of Local Enterprise Offices said: "As Europe's largest outdoor event, the National Ploughing Championships are an international showcase for Ireland's small business sector. To help small businesses get 'ploughing-ready', Local Enterprise Offices are providing expert training, marketing and project management

support to maximise selling opportunities through the Local Enterprise Village."

Record Year

2017 was the 86th year of the National Ploughing Championships when there were over 1,700 exhibitors at the event which featured 200 acres of ploughing competitions over the three days with over 350 competitors.



International exhibitors with countries such as Australia, France, UK, Netherlands, New Zealand, Czech Republic, Germany, Canada and Belgium were exhibiting, with around 80% of visitors having travelled from outside the area, from locations throughout the entire country, the UK and internationally.

Fact File

Other fascinating facts from the 2017 event:

- * There was one Irish produced quarter pounder burger sold every second

- * There was one chicken fillet sold every 10 seconds
- * On average of 80,000 cups of tea and coffee were consumed each day over the 3-days.
- * During the 3 days, 16 tonne of prime Irish beef and three tonne of local sourced pork were consumed.
- * 5 tonne of Irish sourced soft fruit was used during the event.
- * Approximately 14 acres of Irish potatoes were grown to supply the event.
- * Up to 40,000 breakfasts / breakfast rolls were sold each day.
- * 24,000 litres of milk was consumed during the 3 days as well as:
- * 19,000 eggs
- * Over 5 tonne of cheese.
- * 6,500 boxes of fresh Irish salads
- * The total number of livestock between Cattle, Sheep and Pigs were approximately 1000 including a buffalo.
- * To feed and keep the livestock during the 3 days required approximately 300 round bales of straw, 100 bales of hay and 7 tonnes of meal.
- * Supplying electricity to the site this year; 5,000 kilometres of cable is required, 10 generators and will put out enough electricity to power a small town with a population of about 8,000 people.
- * This year 7,000 fencing panels were required. This represents 14km kilometres of fencing.
- * There were over 350 entries from all over Ireland competing in the different ploughing classes throughout the 3 days with a double increase in the novice class, which indicates great interest in the next generation of Irish ploughers



SCREGGAN, TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY

18th, 19th & 20th SEPTEMBER



Pictured here (From left) are David Gibbons, Gearoid Monaghan, Alice Walsh, FBD CEO Fiona Muldoon NPA Chairman Denis Keohane, NPA Managing Director Anna May McHugh, Eoin Monaghan, Darragh Monaghan and Caitlin Lynam.

Child Safety Initiative Set To Return To Ploughing Championships

The 'Ploughing and FBD: Keeping Your Safe' child safety wristband initiative will be an important feature again at this year's National Ploughing Championships following its tremendous success in previous years.

Such is the high level of demand that this year there will be 40,000 wristbands issued, an amount that has more than quadrupled since the concept's inception in 2015.

Fiona Muldoon FBD CEO said: "Protecting the future of Irish agriculture is very near to our hearts in FBD Insurance. So once again, we are delighted to continue this fantastic safety initiative protecting our children at the largest event in the farming calendar. Everyone should enjoy themselves at the National Ploughing Championships and when children wear these wristbands, parents can be a little more relaxed about their whereabouts. We hope all young visitors will wear FBD wristbands

and have a great safe and fun day at Ploughing 2018."

"We are delighted to be partnering up with FBD again on this safety initiative as all can now rest assured that loved ones will be returned safely in case they wander away in the large crowds that attend the Championships, as the 2017 event was attended by a record breaking 291,500 visitors. These wristbands give reassurance and great peace-of-mind to all attending the event and add

immensely to visitor experience," said NPA MD Anna May McHugh.

A day at Ploughing is a brilliant family day with something of interest for all ages and tastes and children are very well catered for with a Playground, Baby Changing Area, Pony Games, over 1,000 Animals, Live Entertainment, Junior Baking Competitions, Fun Fair, Inaugural Horse Sport Ireland Young Handler Competition, Sporting Heroes, Sweet & Toy Stands and much much more.

Official Fuel Sponsor Signposts the Way

Top Oil, the official fuel sponsor of this year's National Ploughing Championships, has joined forces again with the NPA, following several successful years, to brand more than one hundred road-sign billboards nationwide reminding the country that "the Ploughing" in Screggan, Tullamore, Co Offaly from September 18th to 20th is fast approaching.

At the Top Oil/Ploughing launch NPA Managing Director Anna May McHugh spoke of how she looked forward to working with Top Oil in the run up to and during this year's Championships and said: "I am delighted that Top Oil and this year's

National Ploughing Championships will continue with this winning partnership.

"As the main fuel sponsors, Top Oil have a great appreciation of the importance of the National Ploughing Championships. They will supply all the event fuel requirements for the 3 days including fuelling all the generators for powering the site, the lighting towers that extend out to a radius of over 30 km from the main site, all the event machinery, upwards of 350 competitors tractors and that's without even touching on the 1,700 exhibitor requirements."

Andrew Meagher, Head of Sales, Direct & Reseller at Top Oil expressed how much Top Oil was looking forward to this year's Championships: "We are

proud to be providing quality fuels and excellent customer service to local businesses and farming communities across Ireland for many years and are delighted to be supporting this prestigious event for our fifth consecutive year.

"There is always great excitement throughout our nationwide network of Top Oil depots and retail sites about the ploughing and this year is no different.

"We are really looking forward to working closely with The National Ploughing Association again this year. Our two organisations have our roots in local rural communities and we very much look forward to supporting the NPA to showcase and celebrate the very best of rural Ireland."

Collins Earthworks in UK First Trimble Earthworks for Dozers Investment with SITECH

Leading earthworks contractor, Collins Earthworks has become the first UK business to work with SITECH to fit the new Trimble Earthworks for Dozers 3D Machine Control system to its latest Cat D6N machine.

The system allows Collins to fully utilise 3D across both planning and implementation for its customers. Using Earthworks for Dozers gives Collins unprecedented control over its grading, with customers able to see progress updates and confirm work has been completed.

One of the major changes with the system is the movement of both the masts and the GNSS receivers from the blade to the cab, with two receivers making it much easier to perform steep slope work and complex designs with tight tolerances. In addition, the interface is a rugged tablet with customisable interfaces,



so each operator can set up the system for themselves. To support easy receiver installation, a quick release function allows the receivers to be removed at the end of the

day or even switched between machines, reducing setup time.

Commenting on its investment in Earthworks, Dave Collins, MD of Collins Earthworks, said: "You only

have to look around the site to see how different it is when you are using 3D machine control. This makes a big difference in the way we are able to service our customers and how we share the commercial benefits of technology with our customers."

Collins has a full suite of Trimble equipment and software which is supported onsite and remotely by SITECH. This includes the Trimble Business Centre software package, which allows engineers to share 3D models using GPS with operators in the cab ensuring they're always up to date with changes to specifications or plans.

Adam Proctor, Technical Director at Collins, added: "3D Machine Control gives us valuable real-time knowledge, enabling us to act much quicker to any changes in design or sequence of works. Making the decision to invest in the new Earthworks technology is always made easier when SITECH and Trimble are involved. Not only is there the peace of mind that you have good durability, service and support, but there is continual product development behind the scenes."

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EURO AUCTIONS MARKS 20-YEARS OF SUCCESS

This year Euro Auctions celebrates 20 successful years in operation, during which time it has grown to become a global leader for the resale of used and 'as new' industrial plant, construction machinery and agricultural equipment.

The first 'one-day' URO sale was held in Dromore, County Tyrone, on the same site that has is now the global Euro Auctions headquarters. That day a total of 371 vehicle and equipment lots went under the hammer, achieving a total sales figure of approaching £1 million. The ensuing years have seen massive expansion in terms of locations and staffing; creating a globally recognised brand that continues to go from strength to strength.

"When we embarked on this adventure we never envisaged the impact we'd have on the global equipment market," stated Derek Keys, founder of the business. "We've so far been instrumental in selling equipment worth many billions in value with the single biggest items to go under our hammer being a couple of 220-Ton all terrain Tadano cranes previously operated by Hewden Stuart that each went for £725,000 in Spring 2017 as part of the epic one day £32m disposal sale. We've also sold numerous lots at under £1000 each so there is always something for everybody at each of our auctions."

Today, Euro Auctions hosts around 60 key auctions a year and operates from 10-sales sites in seven countries on four continents around the globe. Collectively they now auction over 75,000 lots each year, consigned by more than 6000 regular vendors. Each auction also has massive appeal with sustained corporate marketing initiatives regularly reaching a global audience of over 150,000 potential buyers; one in five of whom actively register as bidders, with over 10,000 actually taking delivery of one or more consignments. This now results in a global turnover annually in excess of £400-million.

Further expansion

Having started with sales activities in Dromore, it took only a couple of years for Euro Auctions to expand into England and in early 2000 it held its first sale in Wetherby, featuring a selection of Volvo dump trucks that came in from the Far East. A couple of years later a new dedicated site near Selby Leeds was acquired which attracted over 500 buyers to its first sale, providing them with the opportunity to acquire 1139 lots from 83 consigners, which achieved a hammer total of £7-million. This site has steadily expanded both in terms of volumes and physical size and today regularly



delivers auctions well in excess of £30 million every six-weeks / couple of months.

Into Europe

With so many consignors being located across Europe and with an ever growing number of buyers also based on the continent, expansion into the key German market in 2006 and the Spanish market in December 2010 were logical steps. Territory managers were also created in most other key European countries during this period to help manage and promote the auctions in both the established and the emerging Eastern European markets.

Global Domination

Brisbane Australia was the next step in the expansion process with the first sale taking place in March 2012 opening up the flourishing Asia Pacific rim and providing a conduit for moving quality used equipment completely around the planet. The USA, a market in which the company had had aspirations to enter for many years, was the next major to become the focus of Euro Auctions' expansion plans and a suitable launch site was acquired near Atlanta, Georgia and hosted its first successful sale.

2017 proved to be a momentous year for Euro Auctions, commencing in January with the acquisition of the renowned USA-based Yoder & Frey business that had been built up by Peter Clark and his team over more than forty years, helping spearhead expansion activities in both North and South America. New sales sites were also opened in September in both Dubai in the United Arab Emirates and in Hong Kong, together helping link the sales networks between Europe and Australia and creating seamless links around the globe.

To the Future

"Our staff remain our biggest asset and as such we ensure they have all the tools they need to do their jobs properly and provide each of our customers, both sellers and buyers, with the best service possible," added Jonnie Keys, Operations Manager at Euro Auctions. "We've seen growth and increased

interest over the past 12-months across all businesses around the globe with brisk trading, particularly online, being recorded, plus year on year growth at our flagship Leeds, UK site that saw a record breaking £42 million hammer achieved earlier in April.

"Further afield our new facilities in both Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong are becoming well established in our annual auction calendar and we're increasingly being retained to manage flagship off-site disposal sales for individual equipment owners. For anyone who has never attended one of our auctions we would encourage them to come along and see for themselves the massive quantity and the quality of equipment we offer and experience first had the unrivalled levels of service and support we deliver."

Other developments

1998 was a landmark year for a number of other significant businesses. Microsoft's Window 98 operating system was released helping secure its domination of most global computer systems. Google was also founded in the September and Apple Computer unveils the iMac, now one of the most desirable global brands.

More widely it was 20-years ago that Europe agreed on a single currency, the Euro, and even though the UK didn't sign up, it's been an influencing factor on most Euro Auctions business transactions ever since. 1998 was also the year that France hosted and won the World Cup; on 10th April the Good Friday Agreement was signed bringing about significant political change in Northern Ireland; and the planet also shrunk considerably with big developments in transport infrastructure including Hong Kong being opened as the world's biggest airport and work commencing on the assembly of the International Space Station (ISS) in December.

Upcoming Auctions

A full schedule of upcoming Auctions can be obtained by visiting the Euro Auctions website at www.euroauctions.com but highlights include the next 'ever popular' three-day sale in Leeds, UK between 17th-19th October. There is a two-day sale in Dromore on 14th&15th September and in Dormagen scheduled for 05th-06th September; and one day auctions in Brisbane Australia on 30th August; then in September in Dubai on the 17th; and in Zaragoza, Spain on the 19th.

In the USA there are also one-day sales scheduled under the YODER & FREY banner in Ashland, Ohio on 20th and Kissimmee, Florida on 24th October.

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2011 Kubota U48-4



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2006 Doosan DL400



2005 Komatsu WA320-5H



2007 JCB 3CX P21



2014 Manitou MT1840



2012 JCB 550-80WM



2002 Manitou MLA628-120 LS



2011 CAT 226B3



2006 Barford SK10000
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2010 Terex TA6



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SAND QUARRY DOUBLES PRODUCTION THANKS TO CDE EQUIPMENT

Located in the French countryside of Brinon-sur-Sauldre, close to Orleans, the Sablière du Val de Loire quarry is preparing to double its production from 60,000 to 120,000 tonnes annually in response to the recent increase in demand for its sand and gravel products following the installation of a CDE wet processing system.

The alluvial material is made up of 50% sand and 50% gravel and treated using a bespoke CDE solution, consisting of a wet processing unit and a water recycling unit. Very low in clay, the excavated material is dry and is fed directly into the hopper.

The quarry produces 60,000 tonnes of sand and gravel (4/10, 10/20, 20/40). 60% of the output is destined for the concrete industry and 40% for the civil engineering market.

Rodolphe Gabriel, the owner of the quarry, says that the company also produces sand graded 0/4 and below. "This product is very fine, resembling beach sand. It's popular with the region's builders and plasterers because it can be worked into a very smooth product."

CDE's M2500 E4X wet processing solution was co-developed with Rodolphe Gabriel to precisely meet his production requirements. The installation incorporates a feeding system, a sand treatment unit with cyclone technology, a washing and classification unit and stockpile conveyors on a single chassis. It is also linked to a waste water treatment unit – a CDE AquaCycle thickener with a capacity of 400m³/h, which allows up to 90% of the used water to be recycled for immediate re-use in the system.

The CDE M2500 E4X includes a wet processing unit based on a CDE washing screen, a jet pump and a double-pass cyclonic unit for optimal washing. Marc Sopransi, Business Development Manager for CDE France, explains: "The jet pump is a substantial technological benefit. A high-pressure jet is located at the base of the washing screen sheet which collects the 4/10mm fraction. The material is then pumped and transported by a pipe to the dewatering screen at the front of the unit. This creates slightly increased additional attrition and provides an even higher quality product.

"Here, the jet pump treatment is applied to the 4/10. The granulometry curve of the Sablière du Val de Loire project lends itself to the use of this technology."

Using this unit, it is possible to draw four fractions from the alluvial material. The washed products have a level of humidity of



around 12% when they exit the conveyor belt, making them ready for immediate sale to the region's construction and building companies.

Rodolphe Gabriel adds: "As well as being effective and reliable, the CDE equipment is also easy to use. A single operator is enough for the plant to produce 60-100 tonnes per hour. Given that the quarry is isolated, we of course prefer, for safety reasons, to always have two employees working together."

The wet classification screen incorporated into the CDE equipment at the Sablière du Val de Loire quarry can produce four fractions simultaneously, on two decks.

The specific arrangement of the bottom deck of the screen allows for the classification of an extra product, totalling three. The 0/4mm fraction passes through the upper part of the bottom deck before it is pumped to the cyclone. Meanwhile, the 4/10 passes through the lower part of the bottom deck and falls into its own sump, at the end of which the jet pump is located. Finally, the 10/20 fraction rolls out of the bottom deck of the screen to be stockpiled.

The system also includes a waste water treatment unit – a CDE AquaCycle thickener with a capacity of 400m³/h – which allows to recycle up to 90% of the water used via a system that traps fine materials and expels sludge into two settling ponds.

Rodolphe Gabriel explains: "The quarry doesn't waste anything. We are very committed to protecting the environment and have put in place systems to preserve biodiversity.

"The use of a CDE AquaCycle contributes towards this effort. After an initial fill of 350m³ of water, 90% of the used water is recycled

and reused in the system. We even recycle the water captured in the neighbouring ponds and ditches. 30 to 40m³/h of water is enough to keep the system going."

Marc Sopransi continues: "The process water, after passing into the deaeration chamber and having the flocculant added, passes gently to the centre of the thickener so that the flocculant can work and act on the sedimentation of the fine material.

"The system's integrated flocculant station allows precise dosing of the pre-mixed flocculant for efficient settlement. A single motor operates the rack arms of the AquaCycle for optimal treatment of the sludge prior to its drainage.

"The conical section of the thickener, with an integrated sludge pump, allows for rapid installation and start up."

Thanks to strategic management of its resources and its operating priorities, the Sablière du Val de Loire quarry has until now been able to easily meet the demand for 60 tonnes an hour of washed, ready-for-sale sand and gravel. Today, this demand has increased significantly and Rodolphe Gabriel expects to double his production within the coming months. He says: "The industry of quality washed sand and aggregates is highly competitive in France and our CDE system has allowed us to rise to the challenge of meeting demand to position the Sablière du Val de Loire as a growing player in the market.

"Our aim of doubling our current production means a rapid return on investment, thanks to the equipment which is highly performant, economical, reliable and easy to operate by a minimum of employees."

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Community Safety Leaflet Now Available

MPA has produced a small briefing document on keeping communities safe around water; it is not intended as a document to be given to the public.

The first line of defence in protecting members of the public are the mitigation measures that are already in place such as warning signs, appropriate fencing and our risk assessments in relation to public safety.

However, another major element will be ensuring that employees working near water both understand these risks and can explain them to members of the public. This briefing document is to help address this issue and has been designed so that it can be conveniently carried around in an operator's pocket or vehicle.

In summary, the benefits and most likely ways in which this document might be used are as follows:

- To ensure that there is a consistent set of water safety messages between all the agencies interested in public safety

- To ensure that your employees working near water are informed about the potential hazards and what to do in emergencies
- To help employees with safety messages when engaging with members of the public on their site
- To help anyone involved in community engagement work that might incorporate the opportunity to raise awareness on water safety
- To be given to new landowners or managers when responsibility for a site passes from the quarry operators
- Shared with non-members or landowners with active or restored sites in the same region as a member

Give consideration to who in your organisation might find this document of value; this might include operators working on sites with water, technicians and contractors who might visit sites with water, estate managers who are responsible for restored sites with water, managers whose duties encompass sites with water.

HMRC Consulting on Removal of Red Diesel Rebate

The QPANI and MPA have responded to an HMRC/Treasury Consultation on the possible removal of the Red Diesel Rebate for non-road based machinery.

The official line is "this is just a call for evidence so don't get alarmed about losing the red diesel rebate..."

In our response MPA have highlighted the potential costs

because we think these issues need to be emphasised now. MPA think Government's plan is a statement in the Autumn Budget that there will be a consultation on proposals to reduce/ remove the rebate.

Some members in NI have received phone calls from HMRC asking them to engage in a telephone survey. We would strongly recommend

that members reject any notion of a removal of the rebate as there is no alternative fuel and to move to electric vehicles would result in astronomical costs.

You should also state that as the agricultural sector will be exempt as a rural industry the Minerals Sector should enjoy the same exemption.

Northstone Host Butterfly Count

Northstone hosted a Butterfly Count recently at the Carrickmore Quarry. A number of different species of butterfly, which included speckled woods, green-veined whites and a peacock were found and the data was submitted onto the Butterfly Conservations Big Butterfly Count campaign app.

After the searching for butterflies, the families investigated the wildlife around the settlement pond.

A number of different damselflies and hawkers were found, even a common field grasshopper was found along the pond periphery. The event demonstrated that quarries, although they alter a habitat and create other semi natural habitats, they can support a vast range of species.



QPANI host Ards and North Down Planners

Recently the Association hosted a visit by Ards and North Down Planning Officials to Craigtantlet Quarry.

John McReynolds of Northstone and Aidan McMullan of Whitemountain, the two QPANI Members with quarries in the council Area, discussed the forthcoming Local Development Plan and Preferred Options Paper.

"We discussed the Industry requirements looking forward over the next 15 years and what type of information and in what format the council requires to help develop supply and demand scenarios to ensure the sustainability of local quarry companies.

"The meeting was an excellent exchange of views and will assist in better understanding between operators and local council planners."

Regional Director Gordon Best also made a short presentation on "How Does a Quarry Work" for the benefit of five of the Planning Officials who had never visited a quarry before.

"This type of meeting is what QPANI have been calling for with the other local councils but as yet none have been arranged. QPANI are currently consulting with Newry and Mourne Members on that Council's Preferred Options Paper. We are also now drafting our response to the Causeway Coast and Glens Council Preferred Options Paper."

Big Build 2018 in Malawi: 1 Week 10 homes

Creagh Concrete have partnered with Habitat for 11 years, changing the lives of families in need of safe homes, and the work continues.

An invite has gone out to other companies to join them for Big Build 18 when they will build 10 homes in one week, supporting Habitat's long-term partnership with Habitat Malawi. Work will begin on Monday 1st October, World Habitat Day.

"As we raise our hammers, we also raise our voices with the global Habitat family about the urgent, growing need for safe shelter. It has been amazing to see the Creagh family come together to support Habitat's work over the last decade.

"As we work together to make a lasting, positive difference to families in need at home and around the world, our teams have bonded, which has delivered real benefits for our company too," commented Paddy McKeague, Director, Creagh Concrete.

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Molson acquire Finlay Group Limited

The Molson Group Limited have acquired Finlay Plant (UK) Limited and its subsidiary and associated companies ("Finlay Group"), their long established equipment Dealer for England and Wales.

Through this acquisition, Molson have successfully secured the distribution rights for the complete range of Terex|Finlay mobile crushing, screening and conveying equipment for England, Wales and Channel Islands.

The current Finlay Group Sales, Hire and Service organisations will remain largely unchanged. New key resources have already been added to further enhance Finlay Group's regional operations. Aftermarket support will continue to be provided by Sure Equipment Limited.

Kieran Hegarty, President – Terex Materials Processing, commented: "The Molson Group are already a valued Terex partner, with distribution rights for other Terex lines in England and Wales. This acquisition allows us to strengthen our relationship with this vibrant and progressive business. Terex's continued success significantly relies on working in partnership with professional and customer focused Dealers. Molson have proved to be just that in the past and we look forward to growing with them in the future."

"We are particularly excited with the benefits that this acquisition will bring, both for our customers in England and Wales and for our business. Synergies within the existing



Pictured here (l-r) are Nigel Irvine – Sales Director (Terex Finlay), Robin Powell – MD Molson Group, and John Garrison – President & CEO Terex Corporation.

Molson organisation will provide the depth required to consolidate the excellent growth experienced by the Finlay Group in recent years and will guarantee industry leading customer support across the entire country."

Robin Powell, Managing Director of Molson Group commented: "The success of the Finlay Group has been built upon a customer-centric philosophy to provide innovative products and solutions to the market. Their commitment and dedication to exceptional customer service directly

correlates with our own culture and we are delighted that they have joined our team".

Added David Statham, Managing Director of Finlay Group: "For almost 50 years the Finlay Group reputation has been built on the diligence of our people and their respect for our customers. Molson Group is also highly respected and there are clear synergies between our organisations for our mutual customers. I'm very excited for the future direction and the growth expectations for both businesses."

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Mattest Team (L-R) - Ryan Nichol, Olcam Kearney, Colin McGookin and Jason Dalton



CMS Cepercor Team - Ruairi McCloy, Gary Jones and Graham Mitchell



David Johnston, Jason Hopps, Alwyn Creanor and Richard Tweed



Gibson Bros Team - John Cowan, Brendan Smith, Dennis Davidson and Gene Fitzpatrick



Dalradian Team - Michael Meehan, Matthew Smith, Pierce Bradley and Shane OG Mullan



Whitemountain Team - Pat O'Connor, Mark Mulholland, Tommy Cousins and Glenn Henry



Deep Soil Mixing Team - Robert McGall, Oliver Hopgood, Alan Skates and Richard Gallagher



Scania Road Trucks Team - William Moore, Beth Moore, Elaine Marks, John Marks



QPANI Team - Tom Verner, Gordon Best, David McCullough, Garfield Harrison



Finning Team - Davey Hamill, Niall Morris, Steffan Barrett and Lyndsey Gampbell



Dawson Wam Team - Dennis McGall, Gordon Martin, Billy Stewart and Jonathan McGall



Lagan Cement/Breedon Team - David Kerr, William McLaughlin, Darren McMillan and Josh McMillan



CNH Team - Geoff Bowen, Mark Branagh, John Cully and Tom Reihilly



Orica BQS - John McCartan, Roy Wallace, Frazer Wallace and Adam McCluskey



CDE - Colin Bell, Des Crawford, Robert Murphy and Gary Todd



David Logan, Adam Spence, Malcolm Morgan and John McDowell



Con Expo Team - John Moore, Peter McCluskey and David McCluskey, Tom Leckie.

CEMEX UK Selects a Second Rapidmix Mobile Continuous Concrete Mixing Plant

Rapid International Ltd has recently supplied CEMEX UK with a new Rapidmix 600CW mobile continuous concrete mixing plant / pugmill for production of cementitious mixes including Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) and Cement Bound Granular Material (CBGM) at various sites.

CEMEX is a global manufacturer of building materials and the biggest Mexican investor in the UK, with 3,000 people employed across 450 sites nationwide. CEMEX is one of the UK's leading providers of aggregates, cement, ready-mixed concrete and rail sleepers, with annual sales of around £1 billion.

The latest Rapidmix 600CW is the second Rapidmix to be added to Cemex's UK fleet in recent years. In 2014, the company purchased a Rapidmix 400CW to extend its capabilities in cementitious materials.

The new plant is to be utilised for a wide range of applications throughout the UK, including, a Veolia UK composting facility in Nottingham and an Able UK port development in Killingholme.

Due to the large scale nature of the company's projects, CEMEX's key plant considerations included, speed of mixing and mobilisation.



Commented James Playford - Cementitious Business Manager - CEMEX Paving Solutions: "The speed of mixing is most important as we need to lay large quantities of material and (especially for RCC) the speed of installation is key to ensure the workmanship

of the finished product is suitable. The mobility and design of the machine are the important bit for us. We need to be able to move and mobilise a high production plant very quickly and the Rapidmix 600CW, is a great asset to achieve this."

New technologies take centre stage at Civils Expo 2018

From smart motorways programmes using new scientific breakthroughs to manage our roads, through to the use of drones, robotics, 4D BIM and nanotechnology in construction materials, civil engineers are taking inspiration from technology and looking for ways to apply these ideas across all parts of the industry.

Unsurprisingly then, it's new technology and innovation which is taking centre stage at Civils Expo this year, the UK's leading show dedicated to civil engineering and construction, which returns to the NEC from 9 to 11 October as part of the construction industry's largest event, UK Construction Week (UKCW). Civils Expo will cover the largest infrastructure projects both in the UK and abroad and will feature exhibitors showcasing the very latest products and services for the sector. Seminars at the Infrastructure Hub will be delivered by

Hawkins Brown on Crossrail, Vinci on legislation, Kier on Mersey Gateway plus more on airports, rail, road and tunnels. Seminars will also look at major policy and legislative issues including industry compliance with the Modern Slavery Act, civil engineering skills and diversity gaps, and supply chain procurement. Nathan Garnett, UKCW event director, said: "Some of the biggest infrastructure projects in the world are happening right now in the UK, so the learning opportunities are enormous. "Civils Expo is an unmissable event for civil engineers, site managers, landscape architects and all those involved in infrastructure and this year's best chance to get the latest updates on current projects and others in the pipeline. It's the only opportunity to hear from experts, to network with industry leaders, to ask questions and genuinely get under the skin of the achievements and lessons learned in such a fundamental industry."

The 'Future of Construction' is UKCW's theme for 2018 which will explore the latest innovative ideas, products and systems throughout the event. The Innovation Trail provides the perfect opportunity to see what's on offer for the civils sector with exhibitors such as 3D Systems Europe, CEMEX, Cleveland Bridge, HS2, JP Concrete, Kingspan, Marsh Industries, Premier Tech Aqua, RMD Kwikform and Sheppard Piling. This year also sees the launch of the UKCW Role Models Campaign to champion the existing talent in the industry and to inspire the next generation. Role models are taking part in an outreach programme, going to colleges and schools in the coming months to talk to students and teachers at key stages of their education to explain what inspired them to choose construction as a career and to bust any myths around the image of construction. 37 inspiring men and women, including civil engineer

Annabel Davis from Costain and Dr Sonia Zahiroddiny, BIM strategy manager at HS2, have recently been shortlisted for this campaign. The overall Role Model of the Year will be announced on 10 October. Debates on major national and international infrastructure and construction issues will take place on the UKCW Stage. Speakers already confirmed include Phil Wilbraham, expansion programme director at Heathrow and Bridget Rosewell OBE, commissioner at the National Infrastructure Commission. Other benefits for visitors include an extensive programme of free CPD sessions, the Beer & Ale Festival with hot food and live entertainment, and a chance to celebrate with the Construction Enquirer Awards.

Tickets

Free tickets for visitors are available now from www.civilexpo.co.uk

Tickets also allow access to the other UK Construction Week shows: Building Tech Live, Timber Expo, Surface & Materials Show, Plant & Machinery Live, HVAC 2018, Build Show, Energy 2018 and Grand Designs Live on 10 and 11 October.



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2 Mecacac dumpers (TA3SH and TA6S) are off to a local plant hire company sold by Sleator Plant.



Komatsu PC55MR-5 with Tilt-Hitch sold to Powerscourt Estate from McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



4 x Hitachi ZX26U-5 - Balloo Hire, Bangor sold byTBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Anthony Lappin, Co. Armagh with his SK30SR-6 from McSharry Bros.



New Takeuchi TB230 delivered to Hire Services in Castlebar Co Mayo by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



Briggs Equipment on collection of 4th MAX lifting bed trailer.



Churchill Stone on collection of 4 axle MAX Low Loader.



MI30D and MLT741-140V sold by N.Lift Trucks.



Conor Keenan s new c180 compactor from Ni hoses ltd.



New Case CX145D supplied by Cowan Bros to Armoys Homes, Ballymoney.

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4 x Thwaites 3 Tonne - CP Hire, Coleraine sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Daytona Heavy Haulage on collection 4 axle Faymonville HD, low loader.



New Doosan DX420-5 for R J MITTEN & SONS ENNISKILLEN sold to Northern Excavators.



New Dynapac CC900 sold to MGD Civil Eng by WAC McCandless.



New Komatsu PC210LC-11 recently sold to James Devine by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



Eoin Mc Kever on collection of 5 axle MAX extendable low loader.



McFarland Transport on collection of new MAX 3 axle step frame extendable, 2nd New MAX for McFarland recently.



New Takeuchi TB23 R ready to go to Fergal Byrne in Clairmorris Co. Mayo from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



New Epiroc HC450 Compactor recently sold to Source Civils by WAC McCandless.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Robert Ivers Groundworks, Naas, Co Kildare sold by TBF Construction Machinery Dublin.



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Monaghan Freight on collection of new Faymonville 4 axle low loader, their 4th new Faymonville recently.



S. Duffy Plant Hire, on collection of 2nd 4 axle MAX, low loader.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to Creative Earth, Moira.



New Epiroc SB302 sold to IJ Lynn by WAC McCandless.



Komatsu PC55MR-5 sold to Dermot Forkan from McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



Tinnelly Demolition on collection of new Faymonville 4 axle HD Low Loader.



WR Shaw, on collection of 3 axle extendable MAX Low Loader.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - J & A Clements, Omagh sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



New Epiroc SB302 sold to MGD Civil Eng by WAC McCandless.



TB260 Takeuchi on its way to ABC Hire in Naas from Alan Milne Tractors Newry.

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Hitachi ZX85USB-5 - G M C S Construction Ltd, Co Longford sold by TBF Construction Machinery Dublin.



New PC210LC-11 ready for delivery to Robinson Quarry Masters from WAC McCandless.



Hitachi ZX19-5 - David Ramalho, Garvagh sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Hitachi ZX210LC-6 & Thwaites 6 tonne - Newtownstewart Construction Ltd, L'Derry sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to James Kennedy, Muckamore, Antrim.



John Blake, Blake Concrete, Co. Wicklow shakes with Conor McSharry, McSharry Bros on his new SK140SRLC-5.



SK30SR-6 delivered to John McLoone, Glenties, Donegal by McSharry Bros.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Cathal James McVey, Magherafelt sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Hitachi ZX55U-5 - Quinn Building Supplies, Ardboe sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Corrigan Plant Hire, Emyvale, Co. Monaghan sold by TBF Construction Machinery Dublin.



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1 of 2 new PC360LC-11 Recently sold to Whitemountain Quarries by WAC McCandless.



2x Bomag BW28RH - D F I, Belfast sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



2x Hitachi ZX48U-5 - Taggart Homes Limavady Ltd sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Kubota KX0574 sold to Lynwood Hire by FJS Plant.



SK180N for Danny Fitzgerald & Sons, Co. Tipperary from McSharry Bros.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Conor McGuinness, Newry sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Hitachi ZX65USB-5 - Shannonvalley Plant Hire, Donabate sold by TBF Construction Machinery Dublin.



New Case CX18C supplied by Cowan Bros to William Mooney, Katesbridge.



New Epiroc MB1500CL recently sold to McCusker Demolition by WAC McCandless.



Thwaites 9 Tonne - JFM Construction Ltd, Toomebridge sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.

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Hitachi ZX33U-5 - Crisamore Concreting Ltd, Burnfoot, Co. Donegal sold by TBF Construction Machinery Dublin.



Hitachi ZX65USB-5 - QB Contracts Ltd, Pomeroy sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Oliver Corr of Corr & Nyland Building Contractors, Dublin and Westmeath with their new SK230SRLC-5 from McSharry Bros.



SK140SRLC-5 on its way to Ronan Sheridan Plant Hire, Co. Dublin from McSharry Bros.



Hitachi ZX65USB-5 - QB Contracts Ltd, Pomeroy sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



New Dynapac CC1200 sold to MFL Plant & Machinery by WAC McCandless.



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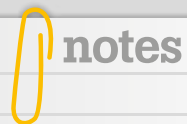
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