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NORTHERN EXCAVATORS LTD: FIFTY YEARS ON & STILL GOING STRONG

When Clifford Lilburn embarked on his working life back in 1963, he had no idea where that journey was to take him over the next six decades. Today, as the founder of family business Northern Excavators Ltd, he has many good and some not so good things to reflect on. As Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been discovering, he has come a long way since milking cows on the family farm!

Northern Excavators Ltd was formed in 1968, five years after Managing Director Clifford started up a plant hire business, investing in his first machine, a JCB 3C backhoe loader, which happened to be only the third such JCB in Ireland at the time, a 'sixties design classic that helped that revolutionise construction sites throughout the UK, before the days of mini-exc and midi-excavators and telescopic handlers.

That machine earned Clifford one of his first contracts, digging drains that would become part of the M1 motorway.

"I didn't have far to travel as the job was literally on our doorstep here in Hillsborough," recalls Clifford. "For a 10-hour day I was paid the princely sum of £12 - £1.20 an hour!"

In the Beginning...

The first franchise picked up by the newly formed Northern Excavators came from the then Essex based Whitlock Agency, manufacturers of rubber tyred diggers, which was acquired three years later by Hymac who produced a range of excavators. Over the next 10 years, Northern Excavators and Hymac forged a very successful partnership, putting the Hillsborough based dealership firmly on the local map.



Stanis Dougherty, Clifford Lilburn & Dennis Watson at the Balmoral Show back in 1972.

The company's first officially appointed salesman was Dennis Watson; more later about Dennis who has recently retired. He and Clifford have built up a solid business relationship and personal friendship that has survived and thrived right up until today, some 52 years in all.

"We made a conscious decision to remain fully focused on the excavator market," says Clifford. "When Hymac ceased trading a series of mostly unexpected events resulted in us becoming agents for Ford's rubber tyred diggers before being awarded the

franchise for Kobelco to cover the whole of the UK and Ireland. We imported the very first Kobelco from Japan into Europe in 1983. They arrived here in parts and were assembled at a facility in Hampshire."

However, that importing business died a death three years later when import duties on machines from Japan were increased to 39% which made it no longer financially viable. "We were very disappointed as we were selling healthy numbers of Kobelco's up until then."

Back to the Drawing Board....

All was not lost, however. "We travelled to Korea to set up a similar deal with Daewoo, now Doosan, which turned out be even more successful. We brought the very first Daewoo into Europe, a 120, with the Serial Number 001.

"It was eventually bought back by Doosan about 12 years ago and today it is on display at its factory in South Korea on a plinth with an inscription declaring it was the first machine sold in Europe by Northern Excavators. That was a proud moment.

"The third Daewoo we brought into the country was a 20 tonne 180, and it is still working at a building contractor's in Londonderry."



H&P Campbell Ltd's fleet of Backhoe Loaders in front of the Northern Excavators depot in Hillsborough in 1974.



Dennis Watson, Brian Morgan (Ford), Geoff Tiplady (CEO of Ford), Sally Lilburn & Clifford Lilburn on the Northern Excavators stand at one of the early Balmoral Show's.



Dennis Watson with Kingshall Plant Hire collecting their new Daewoo DH170 Excavator back in the early 1990's.



The Northern Excavators Team back in the mid 1990's.

Over the years, Northern Excavators have built up a close and highly successful relation with Daewoo / Doosan and its management team and today it is stronger than ever; in fact, the manufacturer's President and Vice President and other officials visited the Northern Excavator premises in Hillsborough last year.

"It was another proud moment," says Clifford. "Indeed, we were the first Daewoo/Doosan dealership in Europe, and 35 years on we remain the oldest Doosan dealer in the world today."

According to Doosan, the secret to Northern Excavators' success has been 'to represent the Doosan brand well, invest in stock, parts and aftermarket support and keep a close relationship with their customers.'

Over the years Northern Excavators have won the Dealer of the Year award many times, and Dennis has been most prominent on many dealer meetings and major trade shows, instrumental in motivating new dealers and developing key relationships to help improve the Doosan network as a whole.

Leading Brands & Loyal Staff...

Another new chapter opened up for Northern Excavators when Doosan acquired Bobcat in 2007 and it is those two leading brands that the company has concentrated on over the years.



Customer Trip to the Hymac Factory in Wales back in 1977.

"We prefer to focus on these two brands rather than spreading ourselves too thinly; it means we can provide our customers with a service and support they deserve. With Bobcat very strong

up to eight tonnes, Doosan extends our offering right up to 80 tonnes."

Despite the current situation, with lockdowns and social distancing, Northern Excavators report that the past year has been exceptionally busy. "If it carries on as it is, we will be reporting one of our best ever years in terms of sales volume, especially in mini excavators and machines in the 10 -14 tonne range," says Clifford. "We do a lot of business with the quarry sector which has been very busy, too, so next year, despite Brexit and the pandemic, is also shaping up to be good.

It wasn't always that way, of course, over the past half a century. "We've had lots of ups and downs over the years, but the loyalty of our staff, their hard work and dedication have been pivotal in our successes to date; some of our staff are long serving, including Stanis Dougherty in Sales, who has been with the company on and off for almost 50 years and special

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE ➡



Dennis Watson with Sam Harris & Brian Snoddon of Snoddon Construction & their new Bray PS4000 Wheel Loader in 1984.



One of the old Daewoo Mega 300's loading a R.J Mitten & Son's Truck back in the mid 1990's.



Dennis Watson in front of a new Doosan DL420-7 Wheel Loader. The 1st machine of its kind sold in Ireland.

CONTINUED

mention, too, to Dennis Stewart in Service. Their loyalty to me has been outstanding.

"I have to give special mention to two other individuals without whom I would be lost. My wife Sally and Karen Martin has been my right arm, my main stay for the past 30 or more years; Karen not only looks after the administration and financial side of the business, she keeps us all in check in the office!"

Dennis Steps Down, But Not Out...

At Clifford's side, too, over the past 52 years, has been sales manager Dennis Watson who stepped down from the business in September.

"It's been quite a journey," says Dennis, "with many memorable moments along the way, one of them being taking on the Doosan franchise and building the brand here from zero to where it is today; it was hard work, but enjoyable."

He adds: "I have made some very good friends over the years, and have been to some wonderful places around the world, visiting manufacturers facilities and attending trade shows – countries such as Italy, Korea, China, Denmark, Belgium and other parts. I am going to miss that buzz, but hopefully not too much!"

"The biggest loss in retiring is missing the people I have worked with day and daily, the boys in the yard, the staff in the parts department, the fitters in the

workshop, the rest of the sales team, and, of course, Clifford with whom I have been working for more than 50 years."

Dennis's working career started in a car dealership – Lindsay Robb, now Trust Ford – where he spent four years and where he first met Clifford. "I'm a bit of a petrol head; diggers were never my thing, so who would have guessed I'd end up selling excavators for most of my life!"

In those early days, Dennis was quite successful as car racer and now that he has got more time on his hands, he is returning to his first love. "I've recently returned to the track and this coming year I will be competing in the Hill Climb Championships and the Sprint Championships, so I am looking forward to that."

He will also have more time to spend with his daughter and grandson; he lost his wife four years ago. Although he will no longer be travelling into the office every morning, he does intend to stay in touch with Northern Excavators. "I only live a few miles from the depot, so I'll be popping in now and again. I'm still getting calls from my former customers, so no doubt I will be helping Clifford and the sales team with those from time to time."

As we mentioned, Northern Excavators is a family affair, with Clifford's son Andrew, grandson Ben and nephew David Lilburn instrumental in taking the company forward into the future, although Clifford, despite past retirement age, says he has no thoughts of stepping down.



A Commemorative Plaque to celebrate Northern Excavator's 30 Years as a Doosan Dealer.



Dennis Watson in top form & on a crest of a wave at a Doosan Dealer Forum in Spain!

"What else would I do? Will I miss Dennis? No, he may have retired, but he is family and he will always be around. His commitment to me and to the company has been exceptional. Our customer base remains very loyal to us; indeed, some of them have been with us from day one, and we plan to be here to continue serving their needs."



Stanis Dougherty & Dennis Watson collecting an Award at the Doosan Dealer Network Awards for the top Dealer Sales Award in Ireland.



Stanis Dougherty & Dennis Watson at one of Doosan Sales Training Courses.



Dennis Watson's Competition Winning Rally Car, Northern Ireland Hill Climb Class Champion 2017, 2018 & 2019!



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Welcome to our latest issue of Plant & Civil Engineer and as you will quickly discover it is jam-packed with lots of positive news stories from across the industry, with many companies reporting some of their busiest periods, surprisingly defying the Covid-19 challenges and lockdowns.

While we very much welcome news of a breakthrough in the race to find a vaccine and a six month extension of Government support through the Furlough Scheme, we mustn't get too carried away. We are not out of the woods yet, not by any stretch of the imagination, with fears remaining in our industry especially of a downturn as we look towards the New Year and the end of the Brexit transition period.

That said, despite the challenges of coping with a global pandemic, our industries have thus far come through and here at Plant & Civil Engineer we are looking forward to helping you promote your business activities in any way we can in the New Year that will be here before you know it.

So, what have we got for you in this issue? All our regular features and columns are back, plus we turn a special focus on telehandlers, wheel loaders, attachments and working at height, while in our 'view from the cab' series we look at the latest Cat 988K, Terex Trucks Generation 10 TA400 dump truck, Case's new 1121G wheel loader and Hydrema's 912F dump truck.

We also focus on JCB's 75th anniversary, with a very special feature looking back at the company's long, innovative and proud history, and we have been speaking to the man who founded Northern Excavators more than 50 years ago, Clifford Lilburn, as well as hearing from his long serving sales manager Dennis Watson who recently retired.

Well, that's all for now, but don't forget you can also keep up to date with all the industry news 24/7 throughout the rest of this turbulent year and beyond by logging on to our website at www.plantandcivilengineer.com. Of course, you should also be getting our weekly newsletter which is emailed out every Tuesday; if not, do subscribe on our website so you don't miss out. It's FREE!

Justin Carrigan General Manager Email: **Justin@4squaremedia.net**



TU Dublin Wins European Accolade for Innovation in Engineering Education

The School of Civil and Structural Engineering at Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) has won the Francesco Maffioli Award of Excellence for its Creative Design Studio Framework and its extraordinary contribution to engineering education.

The European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI) established the Award in honour of its former President Prof. Francesco Maffioli of the Politecnico di Milano.

Una Beagon, Patrick Crean and Dr Aimee Byrne were part of the team which designed the Creative Design Studio Framework to develop and enhance both technical and professional skills in engineering students, preparing them for life in engineering practice and in society as a whole.

Commented Assistant Head, School of Civil and Structural Engineering, Una Beagon: "The Design Studios allow students from all years of our programmes to use their technical knowledge to work on the kind of complex and difficult problems they will face in their careers. With guidance from academics who have significant industry experience, they build upon and contextualise their studies. The Studios complement the School's Problem Based Learning (PBL)

techniques by providing our students with the 'creative space' within the curriculum to explore real-life projects and scenarios."

Speaking at the virtual award ceremony, Prof. John Mitchell, Chair of the judging panel and University College London (UCL) Vice-Dean Education and Co-director UCL Centre for Engineering Education, recognised the innovation in their approach: "The committee was impressed with the integrated, whole curriculum approach of the instructional design and the potential that this approach has to bring approaches more typically seen in disciplines such as architecture."

Congratulating the School, the President of Technological University Dublin, Professor David FitzPatrick, said, "As a new type of University for an evolving world, TU Dublin introduces our students to a range of educational experiences which enhance their learning and provide them with opportunities to solve real-world problems. The Creative Design Studio, developed by the School of Civil and Structural Engineering is a prime example of our unique approach to education which equips our graduates with the knowledge and skills required to secure fulfilling employment while playing an active, responsible role in society."



Una Beagon of TU Dublin Demonstrating Building A Timber Structure at a Creative Design Studio.

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The new TA 230 Litronic is designed for challenging off-road applications and impresses with superb off-road capability, maximum traction and combined pulling force.

WORLD PREMIÈRE AS **LIEBHERR** PRESENTS THE NEW GENERATION OF ARTICULATED DUMP TRUCKS

With the introduction of the new generation of articulated dump trucks, Liebherr becomes a full liner in the earthmoving area.

Apart from a comprehensive product portfolio of earthmoving machines for diverse applications, a Liebherr dump truck is now available to customers with the new TA 230 Litronic.

The extremely robust, powerful and all-terrain machine is primarily designed for overburden transport and the mining industry. The articulated dump trucks are also a useful assistant for larger infrastructure projects. Thanks to their optimal structure gauge, they can also be used for special applications, such as tunnel construction.

The new TA 230 Litronic convinces with a clever machine concept, which has been developed specially for challenging off-road applications. New designs in the

front end area create maximum ground clearance for superb off-road performance.

For example, in the TA 230 Litronic the powershift transmission is positioned safely and compactly under the operator's cab and the exhaust gas aftertreatment is safely installed behind the operator's cab in a space-saving manner, whereby a large slope angle could be generated. The newly designed, solid articulated swivel joint creates excellent off-road capability. It allows independent movements of front and rear end, thus ensuring maximum manoeuvrability. The robust and positive-locking swivel joint with tapered roller bearing is perfect for the shear stresses arising during use, withstands maximum loads and provides optimal force distribution.

Powerful drive

A powerful 6-cylinder construction machinery engine with 12 l displacement and 265 kW / 360 hp is installed in the new

TA 230 Litronic, which complies with the requirements of exhaust emissions standard V. A robust and efficient drivetrain with automatic 8-speed powershift transmission ensures optimal force distribution. With the actively controlled longitudinal differential locks, automatic traction control is also available for the TA 230 Litronic. As soon as slip occurs at an axle, the torque is cleverly transferred to the axle or axles with traction. The new Liebherr dump truck impresses with an excellent driving performance and enormous pulling force, even in the most difficult ground conditions and on challenging gradients. Maximum safety is always guaranteed thanks to optimal adhesion.

Increased productivity

The large and robust trough of the new TA 230 Litronic is designed for the effective transport of a 28-tonne payload. Numerous improvements have been made for quick

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world première

THE EXTREMELY ROBUST, POWERFUL AND ALL-TERRAIN MACHINE IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED FOR OVERBURDEN TRANSPORT AND THE MINING INDUSTRY.



➔ CONTINUED

and efficient loading and unloading, as well as safe transport of the material. The front of the trough is straight and the sills are low so that loading with a wheel loader, for example, is easily possible across the entire length. A standard, innovative weighing system shows the current payload during the loading process on the display in the operator's cab. An optional loading light on both sides at the back of the operator's cab shows the loading level outdoors.

In order to accelerate the release of the material during unloading, the inner edges of the new trough are tapered. Thanks to the optional trough heating with exhaust gas management, unloading can also be easily realised at cooler temperatures. The two tipping cylinders at the side give the TA 230 Litronic high tipping pressure.

The load can be tipped against the slope easily and quickly. During transportation the long chute at the end of the trough ensures minimal material loss. The trough volume can be increased with the optional tailgate.

Thanks to the large opening width, tipping of large and bulky transported material is easily possible. Even with the tailgate the overall width of the TA 230 Litronic is still below 3 m – this allows the machine to be easily and quickly transported on the low-loader.

Optimal visibility and safety

The newly developed, spacious operator's cab of the TA 230 Litronic provides ideal conditions for comfortable and safe working. Thanks to the excellent panoramic windows without any annoying struts, as well as the short, inclined bonnet, the machine driver always has an optimal view of the driving, working and articulating area of the machine.

A touch display with integrated rear camera also increases transparency in the rear area. In the soundproof cab ergonomically arranged control elements facilitate intuitive operation of the machine. Various trays and storage spaces greatly expand the spatial offering. The offset steps, as well as the large driver's door, also make possible convenient and safe access to the operator's cab.

The new lighting concept with LED headlights ensures improved visibility and

safety – both for the machine operator and everyone in the outdoor area.

Increased comfort and safety

The modern assist systems installed in the new TA 230 Litronic support the machine operator, thus increasing safety and comfort during operation. Apart from a hill start assist, a speed assist is also available. With the hard stop function, the end position damping of the trough lifting cylinders can be activated or deactivated at the touch of a button. The trough lift is limited for work in a height-critical area with the aid of the height limit.

The speed-dependent steering provides additional driving comfort: The adaptive steering system continuously adapts the ratio of the steering movements to the current speed. This makes possible easy and accurate manoeuvring at low speeds, but also accurate steering at higher speeds, as well as fewer steering corrections when cornering or taking bends.

Maintenance-friendly machine design

With the intelligent machine check-up and a service-oriented machine design, the new TA 230 Litronic boasts an optimised maintenance concept. The Liebherr dump truck automatically performs the daily check itself thanks to the clever sensor technology: The machine runs through an inspection catalogue at the start, where levels of engine oil, coolant, the central lubrication system, for example, are checked for the nominal state.

Any deviations are shown on the display in the operator's cab. As a result, the daily set-up times can be reduced, costs can be saved and the durability of the components can be extended. The electrohydraulic opening bonnet, as well as an integrated, folding ladder with non-slip steps, provide easy, safe and clear access to the entire engine compartment. All relevant service points are visible and easily accessible. Maintenance work can be performed comfortably and safely from a platform. Refuelling with fuel or urea solution is also done easily and safely from the ground.



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in profile

SHANNON VALLEY GROUP & HITACHI FORM PERFECT PARTNERSHIP

To say the County Dublin based Shannon Valley Group is a big fan of the Hitachi brand would be an understatement; the group has a wide range of Hitachi excavators and wheel loaders in its impressive fleet and has recently invested in one of the very latest Hitachi Zaxis 690-7 models, thought to be one of the first sold in this part of the world, as Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes reports.

The new machine is currently earning its keep working alongside an older Hitachi ZX690-6 on the latest phase of one of the most desirable and sought after commercial and residential developments in the country, Central Park, located

in Sandyford just 10km south of Dublin City Centre at the base of the Dublin Mountains. Strategically positioned adjacent to both the M50 Motorway and the N11 and just 30 minutes from Dublin Airport, Central Park has

established itself as one of the most accessible commercial locations in the city; when completed it will include over 1.5m sq ft of space for offices, a hotel, retail outlets and restaurants.

Shannon Valley has been contracted by UK headquartered property developers Henderson Park, who now own the site, to carry out the enabling works on Block N of the development which will comprise three separate commercial buildings and will include a wellness pavilion,





a public open space, sunken gardens, a shared entrance plaza and a roof terrace. It will also feature both 474 basement car spaces and the same level of dedicated cycle storage spaces.

Distinguished by world-class architecture, a commitment to sustainability and a unique community programme, Central Park has attracted many of the world's most respected corporate names such as Vodafone, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Ulster Bank, Tullow Oil, Salesforce,

LeasePlan and most recently AIB, Google and Genesis Aircraft Services.

The new Hitachi ZX690-7 not only looks powerful and impressive, its performance on site is also living up to and exceeding the company's expectations.

Not surprisingly, some of Shannon Valley's highly experienced drivers favour the brand saying they are smoother to operate and more precise. Durability and reliability are also key factors that have attracted the company to Hitachi.

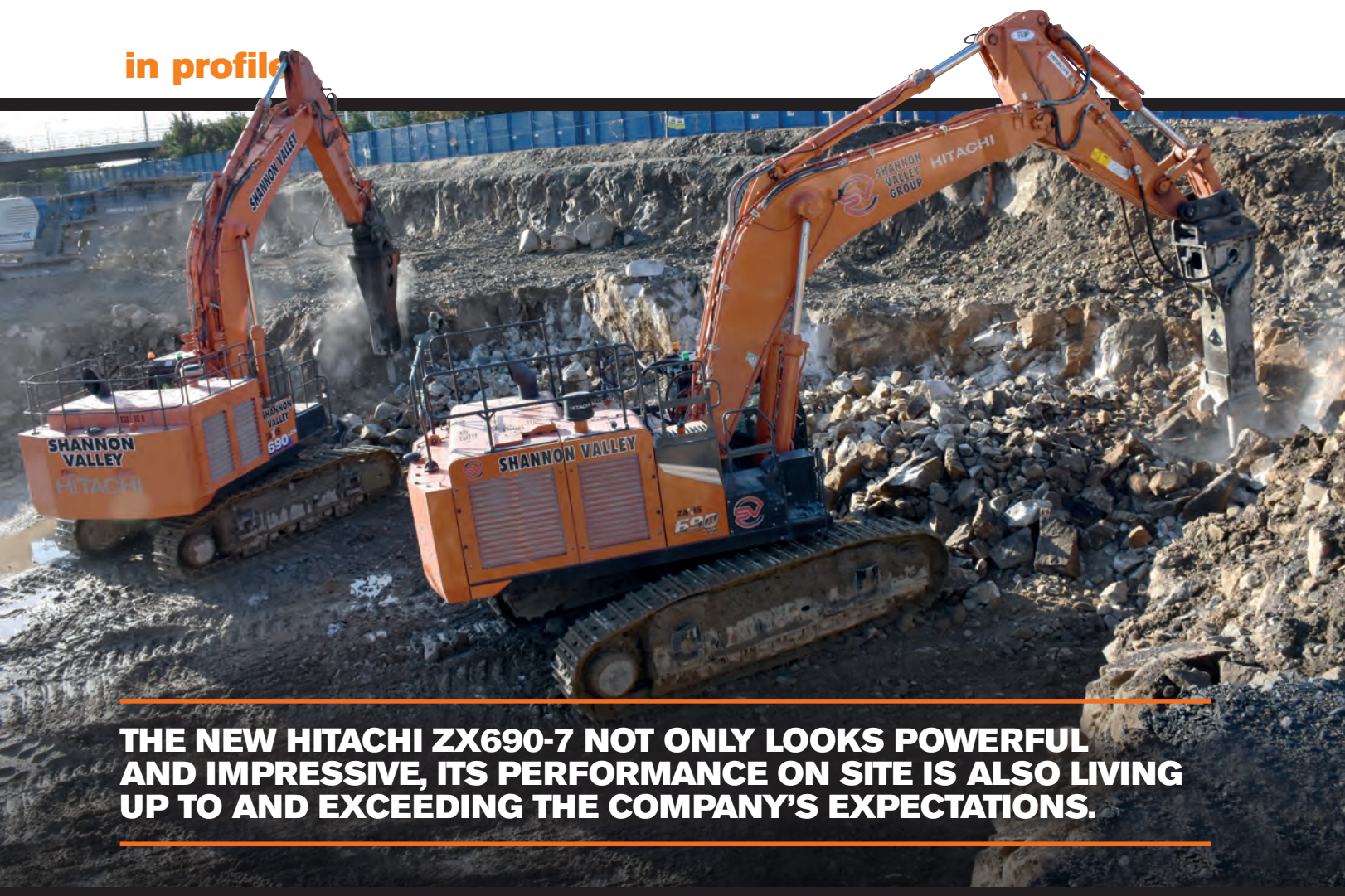
It was back in 1989 when award winning Shannon Valley, which specialises in demolition, road construction, ground works, soil stabilisation, bulk excavation and haulage, purchased their first Hitachi excavator; today there are over 50 Zaxis excavators and ZW wheel loaders in the company's ever expanding fleet.

Fit for Purpose

"The new machine and its older model are making light of the heavy and demanding working conditions at the Central Park site where the excavation footprint extends to over 13,500 sq m. Just looking at them in action is quite a sight. They are definitely fit for purpose, the right tools for that particular job," says Site Foreman Michael O'Dwyer from the Shannon Valley Group who were among the big winners at last year's annual Construction, Quarry & Recycling Awards, being presented with the Demolition Project of the Year award in recognition of its work on a major contract to demolish one of the most iconic city centre buildings in Dublin, the world famous 165 year old Clerys building.

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THE NEW HITACHI ZX690-7 NOT ONLY LOOKS POWERFUL AND IMPRESSIVE, ITS PERFORMANCE ON SITE IS ALSO LIVING UP TO AND EXCEEDING THE COMPANY'S EXPECTATIONS.

CONTINUED

What makes this latest generation Hitachi ZX690-7 excavator so sturdy and robust is the fact that it has been built with reinforced parts that are ideal for digging and loading of heavy materials.

Meanwhile, an impressive fuel saving of up to 20% (PWR mode) compared to previous models is achieved by Hitachi's industry-leading HIOS-V hydraulic system. This also enhances efficiency in the swing, boom lowering and arm bucket roll-out.

Productivity is further increased by the improved front speed for loading operations; and the increased engine output of the new Zaxis-7 machines contributes to a higher workload. The fuel efficiency can also be controlled by using the new ECO gauge, clearly visible on the cab's multifunctional 8" monitor

Comfortable Cab

However, what has perhaps impressed operators the most is the state-of-the-art, ultra-spacious cab which provides the perfect working environment, offering ultimate comfort and quality, with reduced noise and vibration levels.

New features include the synchronised motion of the seat and console – to reduce operator fatigue – and the adjustable console height with three positions to choose from. Easy operation comes from the ergonomic design of the console and switches, and the hi-res anti-glare 8" screen is also easier to view.

Increase safety

Shannon Valley makes job-site safety a priority in everyday operations and on this front the Zaxis-7 excavator doesn't disappoint, offering what is an exceptional view from the cab. Operators can control their own safety, as well as that of those around them, thanks to the Aerial Angle camera system.

It provides a 270-degree bird's-eye view and users can choose from six image options to see the machine's immediate environment. When working in challenging conditions, new LED work lights and a windscreen wiper with an increased sweeping area further improve visibility.

Meanwhile, the environmental performance of the Zaxis-7 is enhanced by the selective catalytic reduction system, which reduces nitrogen oxide from exhaust gas by injecting a urea solution. The new machines comply with Stage V emissions regulations thanks to the combination of the SCR, diesel oxidation catalyst and catalysed soot filter.

Fleet management

To enable owners to feel in total control of their fleet and workload, Hitachi's remote monitoring systems, Owner's Site and ConSite, give them access to vital data and tools. Both systems send operational data via GPRS or satellite from the excavator to Global e-Service on a daily basis. ConSite summarises the information in a monthly email, while the ConSite Pocket app shows real-time alerts for any potential issues.

The quality of the engine and hydraulic oil is monitored continuously by a unique Hitachi innovation.

Two sensors detect if the oil quality has deteriorated and data is transmitted to Global e-Service. This innovative feature provides peace of mind on the condition of their excavators and reduces maintenance and unscheduled downtime.

AT A GLANCE

Up to 22% reduced fuel consumption compared to previous models

Enhanced efficiency due to Hitachi's industry-leading hydraulic system, HIOS V.

Higher productivity thanks to improved front speed and increased engine output

Reduced noise and low vibration levels in the cab provide a more comfortable working environment

SPECIFICATION

Engine rated power:
348 kW (ISO14396)

Operating weight:
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Bucket ISO heaped:
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Caterpillar Plans to Axe 700 Jobs in Northern Ireland

Around 700 jobs are to go at Caterpillar's operational sites across Northern Ireland, the majority of them at the US manufacturing firm's plant in Larne, County Antrim, over the next 18 months.

In a statement, Caterpillar say the job cuts are needed to "improve cost competitiveness" while the Unite union calls the move "devastating news" for the workforce.

"We recognise that what we are considering is difficult for our employees, their families and the community," said Joe Creed, vice



president of Caterpillar's electric power division. "We do not take these contemplations lightly."

Economy Minister Diane Dodds says the planned redundancies are hugely disappointing. She said the potential loss of up to

700 jobs would be a devastating blow to the local economy and many hard working families.

"The situation has arisen as a result of a decision made by Caterpillar at corporate level. The announcement and potential

job losses are not directly related to Brexit or Covid-19.

"The company has clearly stated their announcement is not a closure announcement. I have confidence in Northern Ireland's capability and that the Caterpillar operation will continue to be a key contributor to the manufacturing and engineering base in Northern Ireland.

"Since 2000 Caterpillar has invested £135million in Northern Ireland and been a major contributor to Northern Ireland's reputation for manufacturing and engineering excellence.

"Invest NI will work with the Caterpillar Senior Management Team to mitigate potential impact on the Northern Ireland operation."

New Topcon robotic total station system built for versatile workflow performance

Topcon Positioning Group says its new flagship GT Series robotic total stations are now available for survey, construction, and machine control applications. The GT-1200 and GT-600 total stations are available in multiple accuracy levels.

The new total stations are part of a full workflow solution, including a new field computer, a full-version update to Topcon field and office software, as well as GNSS receivers. The system is designed to work in sync for improved performance and better data handling with built-in, field-to-office connectivity.

The speed, tracking and accuracy of the GT Series, combined with the intuitive software system, creates a flexible solution capable of satisfying the technology needs of surveyors and contractors performing survey, layout or machine guidance projects.

"The new total stations perform at a faster 10 Hz positioning update rate. Combining the GT Series with the new field computer and software enhancements, this tracking improvement makes layout easier, and



guidance more fluid, within an intuitive map view. More layout and survey points can be collected in less time," said Ray Kerwin, director of global product planning.

"Surveyors, contractors, as well as heavy machinery automation operators and other construction professionals can benefit from the time-savings and accuracy the series provides," said Kerwin.

Advanced UltraTrac prism tracking combines optical sensing with a new ultrasonic motor control algorithm designed to maintain superior prism-lock.

"Tracking fast moving targets and maintaining prism-lock is now easier on challenging job sites as well as in machine guidance applications. If you're performing a machine control project where the prism is vibrating on the end of the blade, for instance, the GT will lock onto the prism better than ever before and provide smoother machine guidance," Kerwin said.

From a software perspective, MAGNET improves field-based quality reporting and data handling for larger files, graphical processing, and 3D models. MAGNET Field features more visual- and map-based workflows in addition to menu-driven functionality popular with power users.

An optional upgrade incorporating Hybrid Positioning technology helps advanced users get instant location updates via GNSS receivers so positioning data points can be captured, even with the loss of line of sight from job site obstructions.

Yanmar launches unbeatable finance offers across the UK and Ireland

Yanmar Compact Equipment EMEA has announced two limited-time finance offers to make purchasing its latest range of class-leading plant equipment simple, accessible and hassle-free.

For all excavators, carriers and wheel loaders purchased before 30 November 2020, the customer can freeze hire purchase repayments until 2021. A simple

10% deposit payment is required up front, alongside VAT in full and a small document signing fee.

Alternatively, for select models across Yanmar's tracked excavator, wheel loader and wheeled excavator portfolios (B75W, B95W, B110W, V70s, V80, ViO80-2PB, ViO82, B7, SV100, SV100-2PB and SV120), hire purchase customers can benefit from 0% APR for 36 months. A

minimum deposit of 10% applies, alongside payment of VAT in full and a small document signing fee.

David Cockayne, UK & Ireland sales manager at Yanmar Compact Equipment EMEA, commented: "Perfectly blending stylish Japanese design with pioneering European innovation, the Yanmar compact portfolio sets the global

standards in performance, capability and reliability.

"Our unbeatable finance packages offer a helping hand to construction professionals nationwide, making purchasing the latest range both simple and accessible. As with all our promotions, they'll only run for a limited time, so interested parties should take advantage while they can!"

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ARONMAR PLANT ENJOYS FOUR YEARS OF STEADY AND SUCCESSFUL GROWTH

When Aaron Farrell initially established Aronmar Plant Ltd back in February 2017, he had no idea the family contract crushing and screening business would grow so rapidly and so successfully in such a short space of time.

Today, he operates an impressive fleet of mobile crushing and screening equipment, but it wasn't always like that.

"When I originally started out with just a couple of employees I hired whatever equipment I needed, but over time as the business expanded it made more sense

to invest in my own fleet," says Aaron, "and I have been regularly growing and updating the machinery ever since."

Currently his 35-strong fleet includes excavators, loading shovels and crushers and screeners – and it is kept busy on a variety of contracts to supply chips for asphalt plants across the country.

He hasn't opted to stick with one brand, though. While the crushers and screener would be mainly from Terex Finlay, his machinery fleet also includes

a number of LuiGong excavators and Cat and Volvo loading shovels.

"When investing, I look at what is available on the market at the time, and what best suits my purpose," says Aaron. "I wouldn't be keen on equipment that needs a regular top up of Adblue, for example."

Supplier Support

His equipment suppliers also plays a pivotal role in his purchasing decisions. "I look for dealers who are going to provide me with a high level of aftersales support and





service because in this business I cannot afford the luxury of unnecessary downtime, it can be a killer, so a prompt response in cases of emergency is very important."

And he certainly gets that from a number of suppliers he has dealt with in recent times, such as FJS Plant Ltd, Dungannon Plant Sales Ireland, Cormac Cogan Plant Sales Ltd, South West Crushers Ltd and Red Belt Ltd.

"We are kept very busy and can't always look after our own service and repairs, and sometimes we need support at the last minute, so it is good to know help is only a phone call away, and all of my suppliers can certainly be relied on.

"They were very good to me when I first started out, and they continue to have my best interests at heart."

Solid Customer Base

Since setting up the business there have been some ups and down, of course, not least the present pandemic which has been challenging for many companies, but Aronmar Plant has managed to successfully navigate its way through the lockdowns.

"The pandemic has created its own pressures, but we have been very fortunate in the customer base that we have built up, and while we don't work directly with local county councils, we are involved in supplying materials for their road maintenance contracts."

That work takes his 15-strong team of employees across the country, including Cork, Kerry, and Kildare. "Being mobile, we will go wherever the work is," says Aaron. "Distance is not a problem and we would like to think that our rates are among the best and most competitive in the market, and our products of the highest standard of quality."

Indeed, Aronmar Plant operates in a very competitive sector of the industry, but says Aaron: "We try to limit the size and scale of our company, so that makes us flexible and able to remain focused on what we do best, producing chips for asphalt plants; we also have a great team of experienced and dedicated people around us, some of whom have been with us since the beginning.

"This is not a nine-to-five business. The needs of our clients come first, so we can be working 12-hour days, from seven

**CURRENTLY
HIS 35-STRONG
FLEET INCLUDES
EXCAVATORS,
LOADING SHOVELS
AND CRUSHERS
AND SCREENERS
- AND IT IS KEPT
BUSY ON A VARIETY
OF CONTRACTS
TO SUPPLY CHIPS
FOR ASPHALT
PLANTS ACROSS
THE COUNTRY.**

in the morning to seven at night, seven days a week, in all sorts of weather. That's just the nature of the business."



New President Picks up the Reins at Institute of Quarrying

Martin Riley FIQ, senior vice-president of Tarmac, has been appointed the 69th President of the Institute of Quarrying (IQ), taking over from previous president Phil Redmond FIQ.

The new President was officially confirmed at the Institute's AGM, which recently took place via videoconference.

Martin says: "I've been involved in the aggregates industry all my working life. I have been a proud member of the Institute of Quarrying for almost four decades. It is a fantastic opportunity to represent IQ at such a critical time for both the industry and our members, as we enter a post-pandemic economy.

"As a proud former industry apprentice, for me, one of the key motivational factors for taking on the role of IQ President is the opportunity to 'make a real difference' within the field of education, training and professional development. I hope to use my position to better engage with younger members and attract potential ones by raising awareness about the rewards of working in the quarrying and mineral

extractives sector and breaking through the misconceptions that jobs are mainly for men.

"The growth of IQ in the past few years has been impressive and shows how important the industry considers education, training and professional competence. So, it is a huge honour to be the new IQ President and I am more excited than ever to be playing my part in the Institute's ongoing development and look forward to championing the needs of the sector at every opportunity."

Leadership

With more than 35 years' experience in the quarrying and construction materials sectors, and a proud member of IQ since the 1980s, Martin is widely recognised within the industry and brings significant extensive knowledge and operational leadership experience to the IQ Board of Trustees, having served as the Institute's chairman from 2018 until September this year.

Martin 'takes over the chains' from outgoing president, Phil Redmond FIQ. He says: "Holding the honour of President of the Institute of Quarrying has been

the highlight of my career in the industry. I can't believe how quickly the time has flown.

"To be able to hand the chains of office and the Presidency over to Martin Riley is such a great thing for me; he has been a solid support to me for many years and I am very grateful. His experience and standing in the industry are unrivalled and I can't think of a more fitting person to hold the office of President of the Institute of Quarrying. Congratulations Martin, I wish you the best of luck."

James Thorne, Chief Executive Officer, IQ, adds: "It's a pleasure to have Martin on board as the new President of the Institute of Quarrying. He is no stranger within the industry with many years' of experience and is highly respected by those working in it. He is passionate about the mineral extractives sector and a highly driven individual. Already he is enthused with many exciting and innovative ideas so I am sure he will leave his mark during his two-year tenure."

The role of President follows two years' service as deputy chair and then Chair of the Board. The role is visible leader



Martin Riley FIQ

of the organisation for both the members and the external world. Representing and promoting the work of the IQ both in the UK and working in partnership with the Presidents from the affiliated Institutes on the international stage.

The AGM also confirmed the appointment of Viv Russell FIQ, Managing Director of Longcliffe Quarries Ltd as its Chairman and Ben Williams FIQ, Directeur de la Zone Europe Nord at EPC Groupe as Deputy Chairman. IQ also welcomed two new trustees to the Board: Dave Bagshaw FIQ, recently retired Managing Director of Midland Quarry Products and Ruth Allington MIQ, Principal at Allington Collaborative Problem Solving Ltd.

Concrete milestone reached in construction of new pumping station in Bangor

NI Water and its contractor BSG Civil Engineering have reached a significant milestone in the construction of the new wastewater pumping station (WwPS) at Brompton Road in Bangor, County Down, with the completion of the first major concrete pour at the site.

More than 30 lorries visited the coastal site recently, pouring over 230m³ of concrete in one day to form the first section of the new underground storage tank.

Catherine Watkins, NI Water's Project Manager said: "The successful completion of this major concrete pour – which involved a total of 66 vehicle movements in to and out of the site – and the formation of our first section of tank represent a significant step forward in the advancement of this challenging contract.

"Construction of the new tank at Brompton is being carried out in cycles with periods of excavation works followed by concrete pours until the full 10m deep tank has been constructed.

"A concrete 'collar' is poured against the rock face to ensure the structure cannot drop into the excavation during this time – a bit like a cork in a bottle. When the concrete walls are complete, rock is excavated below, and the collar guides the tank to its final position below ground level.

"When complete, the tank will be totally buried and the area will be reinstated and sown largely in grass. The only visible structure at the Brompton Road site will be the control building for the pumping station, which has been designed to resemble an old boat house with natural stone cladding to blend in with the natural environment."



The work at Brompton Road WwPS is part of a £4m investment by NI Water to upgrade the sewerage infrastructure in this part of Bangor. The project, which also includes the upgrade of Stricklands Glen WwPS, will reduce the risk of out-of-sewer flooding and environmental pollution during periods of heavy rainfall and will further help improve bathing water quality along the North Down coast.



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Komatsu Forest Sales Reflect Projected Forestry Sector Growth

Projections that forestry is set to become one of the major growth industries of the future are reflected in decisions by a number of leading contractors to invest in new, more modern equipment used in forest management and timber harvesting.

Notable recent sales have seen Wicklow-based contractor, Pat Doyle purchase a new Komatsu Forest model 901XC harvester with fellow contractors P.J. Hassett in Clare, Willie O'Dwyer in Kilkenny and Tony Codd of Millpond, Kilkenny all opting for Komatsu Forest forwarder models.

Used to haul felled timber to the forest edge for onward transport to sawmills, for Hassett the choice was an 845 model with O'Dwyer opting for an 835 model and Codd an 855 and 875 units.

Doosan Launches New HB-series Hydraulic Breakers

The new range of five HB-series breakers provides a novel concept with high performance and a simplified design, specifically optimised and fully certified for Doosan excavators with carrier weights from 1.2 to 15 tonne.

The high quality of the breakers is backed by an industry-leading 2 year warranty and they are available at cost-effective prices, providing customer benefits in terms of total cost of ownership. According to Doosan, all these features together are aimed at greatly exceeding customer expectations for hydraulic breakers.

The service life of the breakers is extended through the adoption of an advanced heat treatment process and quality proven materials for key components including the cylinder and piston. The energy of the piston stroke is accumulated by charged nitrogen

gas and the breakers use an inward valve system with a simple structure and fewer inner parts.

A urethane damper prevents vibration that might damage the carrier and improves operator comfort. The front head supports the breaker and assemblies with bushing, which buffers the shock from the tool. The low noise housing is ideal for working in urban zones, where noise levels must be controlled or where local regulation may require silenced breakers.

The HB-series range offers five hydraulic breaker models for use on Doosan mini-excavators and Doosan crawler and wheeled excavators, covering carrier weights from 1.2 to 15 tonne. Ideally suited for demolition work, the Doosan breaker range is also intended for general construction, rental, quarrying and mining applications.

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in profile

TEREX TRUCK'S GENERATION 10 TA400 MORE THAN WORTH ITS SALT AT CARRICK MINING COMPANY

IMAGES BY
CHRIS HEANEY

Irish Salt Mines, based at Kilroot, three miles northeast of Carrickfergus on the northern shore of Belfast Lough, has recently required yet another new Terex Truck's Generation 10 TA400 dump truck, supplied by Sleator Plant; it's their 14th Terex Truck's ADT since 1991, which speaks volumes about the quality and reliability of the brand, as Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes reports.

The Kilroot Mine produces around half a million tonnes of rock salt every year and is supplied to customers throughout Ireland and the UK by the company's sales division; the seam of salt now being mined stretches from County Antrim all the way across the north of England to north-east Europe and towards Russia. It's a challenging process, much of which is carried out some 450 metres underground, with the salt being loaded on to huge dump trucks and hauled to the crushing and

screening plant after which the finished product is transported along a 2km network of conveyors to the surface.

This new 38 tonne truck joins six other Terex Truck's ADTs, four of which are working constantly at the mine at any given time, transporting on average around 3,000 tonnes of salt every day from the mine face; the other two Terex Truck's remain on standby.

So why Terex Truck's? Comments company administrator Alwyn McCreanor: "Back in 1991 the entrance to the mine was so small that anything bigger than a Land

Rover had to be dismantled before it could negotiate the entrance and then reassembled once it was underground; at that time, Terex Truck's were the only manufacturer who were willing to work with us to manage our way through that challenge; we have, though, since opened up an entrance that will allow bigger pieces of equipment into the mine."

Adds Alwyn, who has been with Irish Salt Mines since 1978: "The Terex Truck's suits our purpose perfectly; it is a workhorse that doesn't have that many frills so there is less things to go wrong! The Terex Truck's ADTs are

just so reliable, and our operators love them, not least because of the comfortable working environment that the spacious cab offers."

Indeed, although the TA400 is robust and durable, this definitely doesn't come at the expense of operator comfort. The machine has a spacious, ergonomically designed cab with pressurised properties, which ensures operators are comfortable when behind the wheel. Acoustic insulation helps to minimise noise levels inside the cab while a high performance and easily adjusted heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system ensures a stable temperature.

Other features that help to deliver a comfortable work environment include a tilt/telescopic steering wheel, an adaptive air suspension operator's seat with adjustable armrests, anti-vibration



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TO CUSTOMERS
THROUGHOUT
IRELAND AND THE UK
BY THE COMPANY'S
SALES DIVISION**



mounts for the engine and cab, and cushioned stops on the steering cylinders. It's also been impressing Irish Salt Mines' new Mine Manager Jason Hopps who succeeds Derek Moore who held that position for around 25 years; he has now assumed a mine consultancy role. Jason was promoted from his post at the company as Mine Surveyor.

Service & Support

Alwyn is also complimentary about the service and support from Sleator Plant. "Fire is one of our biggest fears underground, but Sleator Plant have risen to the challenge and have made sure the electrics and hydraulics, for example, are well protected and sealed off, with heat shields being fitted,

so if there is an hydraulic leak it isn't going to spill over on to a hot manifold or a turbo, which helps minimise the risk of fire." Working underground means that the level of emissions from the ADTs becomes a priority, too. Says Alwyn: "Over the years we have been using Terex Truck's, the manufacturer has worked very hard to ensure emissions have been significantly reduced."

Indeed, the TA400 is powered by a fuel efficient Scania DC13 engine that develops gross power of 331 kW (444 hp) and a maximum torque of 2,255 Nm (1,663 lbf ft) and which is globally emissions compliant without the need for a diesel particulate filter. This is achieved via the latest generation selective catalytic reduction technology, combined with exhaust gas regeneration and a variable geometry turbo.

Telematics

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.

For safe, easy servicing, the TA400 has ground level test points, a fully tilting cab, an electronically raised hood and a full suite of on-dash diagnostic and machine health check readouts which help to maximize uptime.

So, exactly how tough and reliable are the Terex Truck's ADTs? We will give the last word to Alwyn: "There definitely is life after they have outlived their purpose at the mine. Take as an example our No 7 Terex Truck's ADT; it was sold at auction and today it is still earning its keep with a buyer from Holland."

Yanmar launches all-new C50R-5A tracked carrier

Yanmar Compact Equipment EMEA has unveiled a new addition to its class-leading tracked carrier portfolio. The next-generation C50R-5A combines compact dimensions, impressive power and unrivalled durability with a unique undercarriage that excels in even the most challenging conditions.

Featuring Yanmar's Stage V-compliant 111hp (83.2kW) 4TNV94FHT direct-injection engine, the C50R-5A delivers 410Nm of torque at 1700rpm. Fitted with a common rail system and full electronic engine control, power is delivered precisely when needed. The carrier can achieve travel speeds of up to 9.5km/h, while its 121-litre fuel tank ensures fewer refuelling stops.

The engine utilises Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) to reduce NOX, alongside a Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) and Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) technology to ensure minimal environmental impact. The Diesel Oxidation Catalyst within the DPF is maintenance-free, which helps the C50R-5A to achieve 500-hour service intervals.



The robust carrier is available in two different configurations, a standard three-sided model (C50R-5A) and a turning vessel (C50R-5ATV). The standard model can open each side separately (left, right, rear), boasts 658mm ground clearance and dumps at a 65 degree angle. On the C50R-5ATV, the entire vessel is mounted on a turning frame that can pivot 90 degrees to the left or right. This allows the carrier to precisely dump material while moving alongside a trench.

The C50R-5A can transport up to 3,800kg (standard) and 3,500kg (turning vessel). This, combined with its total width of 2.2 meters, length of 4.54 meters and ability to turn 360 degrees on the spot in seven seconds, perfectly demonstrates the carrier's class-leading performance.

This capability is, in part, thanks to Yanmar's all-new HST transmission. Automatic hydraulic pressure adjustments allows the C50R-5A to turn smoothly without stalling the engine, making it easier and faster to operate.

The C50R-5A's undercarriage uses a hydraulic tensioning system that significantly reduces downtime by eliminating the need to perform track tensioning, helping to reduce the total cost of ownership. Each roller is mounted on free moving bogeys to allow for better shock absorption, extending undercarriage service life and delivering a more comfortable ride. Its 450mm wide tracks also help to evenly distribute the carrier's weight – even fully loaded, the C50R-5A has a ground pressure as low as 32.4kPa.

Another highlight of the C50R-5A is its reversible suspension seat console. Not only does this mean that the operator can always face the direction of travel, but it significantly increases on-site safety. Space and legroom within the cabin are ample and all switches are located close to the LCD screen to improve visibility and ease of operation.

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Terex Ecotec has unveiled its new TMS 320 Metal Separator, this latest addition to the Ecotec product range has been described as 'the ultimate in mobile separation,' offering operators unrivalled application flexibility, production rates and serviceability.

A highly efficient drum magnet and eddy current rotor combined with superior material flow, ensure accurate material separation. The TMS 320 is ideally suited for metal recovery from compost, biomass, IBA (Incinerated Bottom Ash) and waste.

Tony Devlin, Business Line Director commented:

"The TMS 320 Metal Separator is a new and unique offering from Terex Ecotec and demonstrates our continued investment in new product development.

"It will further enhance our product range meeting both market and customers' needs. Manufacturing will take place at our Terex Campsie facility which has benefitted from further investment with the completion of a large capacity shed offering an additional

30,000 square foot which will support the ongoing growth and development of Terex Ecotec's expanding product portfolio."

Easy Set Up

The TMS 320 metal separator offers quick and easy set-up and will be ready to process in minutes with no tools required.

An intuitive push button control panel, variable speed drum magnet and eddy current belt, combined with a splitter system that offers accurate real time adjustment, enables the operator to easily configure the machine to suit a wide range of applications.



THE TMS 320 METAL SEPARATOR OFFERS QUICK AND EASY SET-UP AND WILL BE READY TO PROCESS IN MINUTES WITH NO TOOLS REQUIRED

In partnering with Eriez, a world authority in magnetic separation technologies, the TMS 320 incorporates the renowned RevX ST22 eddy current separator and rare earth drum magnet.

The RevX ST22 eddy current separator has a premium 22-pole neodymium rotor which spins at just 3000RPM. This rotor is encased in an ultra-thin carbon fibre shell, and a thin but durable PVC belt, ensuring that the intense field produced by the ST22 is fully employed to provide the most effective separation results.



The 2m wide high-strength neodymium radial pole magnet is utilised for optimum iron recovery.

Designed to provide operators with unrivalled levels of service access, all conveyors are built to a modular design allowing each one to be removed independently for ease of maintenance. The splitter system can be moved away from the eddy current unit to provide unobstructed access to both the splitter system and eddy current rotor. This innovative feature also enables the TMS 320 to fold within a 3m wide transport width and places it as a market leader.

Tracked & Static

Being electrically driven the TMS 320 can be powered by either the

onboard gen set or using mains electricity supply. This flexibility provides the end user with reduced operating costs, fuel usage, emissions and noise levels.

The TMS 320 is available in both tracked and static variants. The tracked unit is fitted with heavy duty crawler tracks and offers excellent site mobility making it a great solution for difficult terrain.



Metso Sales a Sign of Industry Optimism

Despite the regulations and restrictions under which the industry has been forced to operate, quarry owners and aggregates producers continue to display optimism that better times are just ahead.

Recent investments in Metso crushing equipment by a number of top-ranking operators are proving to be 'a bellwether of better times to come' according to their distributor in Ireland, McHale Plant Sales.

From Roadstone comes news that two Metso model LT1213S high-spec impact crushers have been purchased for service at their Feltrim and Belgard quarries. In Carlow, another two top-flight producers have added Metso units to their fleet.



At the Dan Morrissey Plazamont operation the choice was for a fixed position Metso GP100 cone crusher while, at crushing and screening contractor, David Condell's Hilltop Quarries, the preference was for a Metso Lokotrack LT200 HB mobile cone crushing unit.

Says McHale Plant Sales director, John O'Brien: "Buoyed to some extent by recent Budget announcements, it is gratifying to note that signals coming from the industry continue to have a positive ring despite the current situation."

IPS Ireland Increases Vehicle Fleet

Irish owned spare parts company IPS Ireland have increased their vehicle presence adding two additional parts vans to their fleet. The Access Platform Parts Specialists and supplier of all powered access equipment now have a total of four parts vans on the road supporting their customers throughout Ireland.

Comments Mark Lynn, Managing Director of Lynn Motors who personally delivered the new Peugeot Partner Professional vans to IPS Ireland's head office: "I have supplied all of IPS Ireland's vehicles – they are going from strength

to strength each year and it's brilliant to see local companies succeed, especially during difficult times we currently live in. I am already looking forward to further business ventures with IPS in the future."

IPS Ireland's Business Development Manager Trevor Lambe, who accepted the handover from Lynn Motors, added: "Having the additional vehicles on the road will give us extra scope to further develop IPS as a whole, and most of all will enable us to provide an even better service to our customers."

The growing company has been in operation for this past eight



Mark Lynn, Lynn Motors, and Trevor Lambe, IPS Ireland.

years, supplying access platform parts, consumables, workshop supplies and solutions nationwide throughout Ireland.

The rapid growth for IPS is down to their high level of service, 24/7 technical advice, quality of parts and competitive prices.

Doosan launches LIN-Q Smart Telematics

Doosan has launched the LIN-Q Smart Telematics System, an advanced Cloud based solution that remotely monitors a forklift truck fleet in real-time and sends information straight to a mobile phone, tablet or PC.

Using wireless communication (LTE, 3G, WiFi, GPS), the system automatically updates and reports on each individual forklift truck's performance – maximising efficiency, reducing costs and enhancing safety across the fleet.

This powerful 'always on' fleet management tool provides detailed information on service and breakdown history, battery charging/discharging, fuel efficiency and operating hours – including monitoring working/non-working hours within daily operations. Loading history and driving/idling data is also captured, allowing the optimum fleet size to be calculated, which could lead to significant

cost savings through removing unnecessary trucks or a review of replacements.

The service history management function offers vital information on replaced parts, downtime and service records – with notifications automatically sent when parts are due for replacement. The system presents all the information needed for effective forklift fleet management, maximising equipment uptime and delivering significant operational cost savings.

Enhance Safety

Aiding compliance to Health & Safety requirements, Doosan's advanced LIN-Q Smart Telematics System records vehicle speed and any shocks in real-time. Alerts are automatically sent to both the driver and manager when a speed limit is exceeded or if a shock is recorded. The system also enhances on-site safety and security by restricting vehicle usage to authorised drivers

only. And importantly, the system requires a driver to carry out checks on a vehicle before being permitted to operate it. The system enhances safety, helps prevent damage and preserves the value of the vehicle.

Improve Security

Helping businesses keep track of their valuable fleet assets, Doosan's LIN-Q Smart Telematics System logs each vehicles' location in real-time and issues a warning alarm if a forklift truck travels beyond its permitted working area or is operational outside working hours.

Monthly Reports

A regular monthly fleet management report is sent by email, offering detailed information on the operation of the forklift fleet – from operational performance, efficiency and uptime to managing consumables, service maintenance and impact reporting.

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*Model shown with optional accessories. United Kingdom Patent Publication No. 2583009A.

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TOWMATE
BUILT RUGGED

in profile

TOWMATE TRAILER LAUNCH SEES INDUSTRY COME TOGETHER TO PROMOTE SAFETY

TOWMATE
BUILT RUGGED

BY PETER HADDOCK

The launch of the new modular ATE (UK) Limited Towmate plant trailer range was recently supported by industry leaders Flannery Plant Hire, Dynapac and Wacker Neuson, following an ATE road trip, designed to show how versatile its new safety-focused modular trailer range can be.

Supported by operator and blogger Nick Drew, the launch saw ATE's MD, Steve Bradshaw and product specialist Glenn Pooley put the basic and premium model through their paces, loading excavators and a roller.

Launching a new trailer in a pandemic is not easy, but having spent two years developing the new range, Steve Bradshaw and the ATE team are already receiving orders and requests for demonstrations from businesses large and small. To find out about the reasons why ATE, which is known for

providing trailer spares has created its own range, I caught up with Steve at Flannery's HS2 depot where he was demonstrating the trailer to its Strategic Manager, Chris Matthew.

Says Steve: "Working with customers to provide spares for their trailers has helped us understand the challenges and frustrations trailer owners face with the current ranges on the market. When we decided to test the water and see if customers were open to a more modular trailer which can be adapted as their business or project needs change, we were surprised by how many people said they would buy one."

"Two years later and a lot of customer input, we have developed a trailer platform that is fully customisable and based on the principles of the popular children's toy Meccano, where pieces can be removed or added when needed."



Towmate Trailer: Nick Drew loading Premium trailer at Flannery.



Towmate Trailer: Dynapac CC900 roller on the basic Towmate plant trailer model

The core features that make the trailer different relate to how it solves the key challenges owners face in safe transportation, security and robust performance."

By looking at all aspects of the design we have and will continue to provide a kit of 'off the shelf parts' that can support its evolution. At the basic level, we have a trailer that has a bed size that is 1.3m wide and 2.8m long. That can be stripped back to weigh just 539kg so end users can transport heavier items safely.

Standard features include popup tiedowns rated to 2.5 tonnes, a gas strut assisted ramp and most importantly safe access and egress for the operator with integrated steps. This base platform can then be transformed into the ultimate premium trailer with so many different benefits that we have had to create a video to explain them all on our website."

Before Steve highlighted some more features, I watched Nick Drew load up a Flannery mini-excavator into the trailer and then spoke to him about the operator



Towmate Trailer: Wacker Neuson
new Electric Excavator EZ17E.

challenges he has come across in his career and his thoughts on the trailer. Comments Nick: "I have always been one to focus on keeping a machine clean and tidy so that you turn up on site looking professional, but of course when you have done a job, particularly in wet weather, the excavator gets very dirty.

"This is why I like what ATE has done with the steps on the premium model, as they go over the tracks, so I can get off the trailer without treading on the mud, which is also a slip hazard. The other thing for me is making sure the machine is secured properly on the trailer itself. Again, here you can front-load the excavator and use the two-blade locking mechanisms to do that job for you, by simply pushing them onto the blade.

"If you have several machines of slightly different sizes, you can also adjust the height of the step to fit bigger or smaller track sizes. One standout feature is the assisted ramp, which means you don't have to strain your back picking up the ramp and putting it down.

"This is great if you are working on a job solo, as you can manage the lift much easier

and the supporting attachments underneath the ramp are also out of the way, so you don't need to worry about damaging them.

"Nowadays with machines having tracking systems on them, I think thieves are warier of trying to steal a machine. But with more expensive attachments like hammers and tilt rotators used onsite, particularly by owner-operators, securing these items is more important than ever. This is why I like the bucket and hammer storage cage, as this is a visual deterrent and one that uses two padlocks."

As well as being able to talk with Nick, I was fortunate to catch a few minutes with Flannery's, Chris Matthew who had been part of the trailer demonstration on its HS2 depot, which is also accommodating its new operator training centre.

Chris added: "As a large plant hirer we are always looking for innovative new solutions that can support our staff and keep people safe on site. We also need products that can be multifunctional as we work with a wide range of equipment and attachments. The

fact you can add or take away elements to the trailer really appeals to us and with additional lighting solutions it makes for a good option for the winter months."

All in all, this is the first time I have looked in-depth at a trailer and I have to say there are many things to consider in a piece of equipment that is often overlooked. We talk all the time about safety features on the machine, but not the trailer that is transporting it. This is what takes up the strain of rough terrain and bouncing up and down curbs, for example. So it's good to know that even the tyres and pivot axle system arrangement has been specified and created and to cope with every eventuality, especially on the premium model.

Pedal Power Trail Gets Mini Dumper Productivity Boost

A trail construction specialist predicts its new Hinowa self-loading mini dumper will reduce the time needed to surface a major new mountain bike trail it is building by half.

West Wales Trails has been commissioned by Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to design and build a new 8km section of mountain bike trail around the Llys y Fran reservoir in Pembrokeshire, West Wales.

The company turned to Access Platform Sales (APS), the UK and Ireland authorised dealer for Hinowa, to purchase a Hinowa HS1102 tracked stand-on mini dumper with a self-loading shovel and variable width tracks.

The HS1102 mini-dumper can carry 700kg loads and is just 785m wide so is ideal for worksites where space is restricted.

West Wales Trails Director Matt Broome said: "We wanted to replace an old tracked dumper

and this project was the ideal opportunity to do so. The Hinowa mini dumper hasn't disappointed. It's an excellent machine and very rugged. It tracks twice as fast as our old dumper and its self-loading capability greatly simplifies our work process, reducing manual handling and improving safety.

"I'd say the Hinowa mini dumper will allow us to complete the trail surfacing element in half the time we'd have taken without it. That's important because we're working to a challenging deadline."

Without the Hinowa HS1102 self-loading mini dumper, West Wales trails would have had to use its tracked loader and a separate dumper to move and tip the trail surfacing aggregate.

"Now we have the Hinowa mini dumper we have been able to use our other loader for grading the track surfaces which adds another productivity gain," said Matt Broome. "Also, because the Hinowa is classed as



a pedestrian machine, it doesn't need to be operated by a qualified dumper driver, we can carry out inhouse training and use it more flexibly within the team.

"This project has already tested the Hinowa to its limit. We have clay soils, boggy peat, slippery tree roots, rocky outcrops, steep slopes and tight corners to negotiate and it hasn't missed a beat. Now we have the Hinowa mini dumper, I wouldn't have wanted to start this project without it. We wouldn't have made the progress we've made if we didn't have it."

Coronavirus & CapEx: a conundrum

Cancelled projects, interrupted supply chains, employee health and safety concerns - this is the reality for many construction companies following the coronavirus outbreak.

For companies without big financial reserves, there are big decisions to make about where best to allocate resources. Here Richard Taylor, Commercial Business Partner – Aftermarket & Supply Chain at Finning UK & Ireland, exclusive Cat equipment and parts dealer, shares guidance for construction companies' capital expenditure in the days of coronavirus.

In PwC's Covid-19 CFO Pulse Survey, 81 per cent said they were considering cost reductions as a result of the pandemic. 60 per cent said they are planning to defer or cancel investments, particularly in facilities, CapEx, operations and workforce. The absolute priority at this point for businesses is ensuring employee safety and security, with many businesses moving capital expenditure to the back seat and sweating their assets for the immediate future.

However, capital expenditure doesn't always have to be in something big, it could be incremental improvements in current assets. The first consideration is likely to focus on how many business objectives can be achieved with current equipment, and



how to make the best out of what you already have.

Construction businesses can look for ways to keep existing technology running for longer using servicing and maintenance. While during the pandemic many businesses switched to a run to failure approach, the coming months will see construction companies shifting back towards proactive, preventative maintenance, to ensure as much uptime and availability as possible.

When investing in new equipment, it is more important than ever that construction companies align their spending with the strategic goals of the business. Many companies are reassessing their markets, looking for new opportunities to dominate existing sectors, or low-risk ways to branch into new ones. Any investments outside of this core strategy may be too risky.

It is important to have a firm line of sight on how to support investments. While businesses previously ordered equipment on the assumption of winning a contract, more certainty is now required before taking the leap, particularly if it means purchasing new machines.

While cost is always critical when deciding on which equipment to invest in, it encompasses more than just the price tag. Being able to deliver on projects promised to customers depends on the business having equipment up and running, fully serviced and maintained. It is therefore also important to consider parts, servicing and warranty into the equation — every second a machine is down costs money in work that isn't being delivered.

Another decision is how to finance the purchase. In the present conditions, companies will be keen to avoid impacting

key metrics like debt that shareholders or investors would look at. However, many businesses now lack the cash flow to make up front investments. It may be that looking for finance options, like CAT Finance, could help companies take the leap.

Finning offers a "Buy now, pay later" 51 month fixed-rate plan on new Cat machines ordered by 31 December 2020. This means no payments for the first three months, followed by a monthly payment for 48 months. All that is required is a ten per cent deposit, VAT and a £175 administration fee in month four.

Throughout the pandemic, Finning has kept its lines open and its replacement parts in constant supply. We have over 500 engineers ready to dispatch to help customers keep equipment running and are flexible in our payment plans for new equipment.

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view from the cab

BUILD QUALITY, ROBUSTNESS & RELIABILITY PROVIDE BIG BOOST FOR HIDROMEK RANGE

Not so long ago Hidromek was a relatively little-known brand in this part of the world, but in the past year the range of wheel and tracked excavators in particular has become increasingly popular, not least because of build quality and reliability.

The Turkish manufacturer, whose machinery portfolio also includes backhoe excavators, material handlers, rollers, motor graders and loading shovels, sells into more than 100 countries on five continents.

According to Billy Murphy from Kelly's of Borris in County Carlow, who took on the franchise for the Hidromek range in the Republic just last year, sales of the brand are on the increase, and he adds: "Over the last couple of months, contractors are now specifically requesting information about the brand; awareness of the Hidromek name is clearly on the rise, and their range is very comprehensive."

He adds: "Customers had undoubtedly seen Hidromek machines at various trade shows and appreciated the quality

of what was something new, something different, so when we took on the brand contractors here began to take a closer look – and obviously liked what they saw, because our sales are definitely on the up."

So, what's the big attraction? "It has to be the build quality," says Billy. "The components are all leading brands, such as Isuzu engines and Kawasaki hydraulics which are already well known by our customers."

"The machines feature well designed, well fitted out spacious and comfortable cabs which represents great value for money – and their performance and reliability is up there with the best on the market. They come with a standard three years / 4,000 hours full warranty, so that speaks volumes about the brand."

"At the moment, we are concentrating on promoting the tracked machines and backhoe diggers, but we are very confident that as the name becomes even better known other products in the range will also sell well into the marketplace."





THE MACHINES FEATURE WELL DESIGNED, WELL FITTED OUT SPACIOUS AND COMFORTABLE CABS WHICH REPRESENTS GREAT VALUE FOR MONEY - AND THEIR PERFORMANCE AND RELIABILITY IS UP THERE WITH THE BEST ON THE MARKET

Latest Sale

One of Kelly's of Borris's latest sales was a Hidromek 230LC tracked excavator, acquired by contractors Michael Ryan & Son Plant Hire in Wexford, and they are delighted with its performance and handling; the company is mainly involved in agricultural contracts and ground works.

Comments Alan Ryan: "It packs plenty of power, has great hydraulics, very smooth – and very fuel efficient. The cab is so comfortable, offering an excellent working environment which is even more appreciated as the winter sets in."

Operator comfort is enhanced by the provision of a heated, air suspended seat that can be easily adjusted, and other driver friendly features include proportional control pedals and joysticks, throttle control dial, operator touch screen, interior light, cup holder and heating-cooling box – and thanks to the use of six silicone dampers, noise, shock and vibration are absorbed and prevented from being transmitted to the cab.

There's also good all round visibility from the cab, enhanced by the provision of side and rear cameras that help minimise any potential blind spots; the excavator is also fitted with LED headlights to improve night vision and for extra safety it features a swing warning system and a travel warning system.

It also has an automatic stop system that provides fuel saving by stopping the engine after the machine is on idle, thereby helping to decrease the operational costs to a minimum, and contributing, of course, to saving the environment.

Service & Support

Most of the maintenance can be easily carried out without getting on the machine, which shortens the service time and increases machine work time. Automatic greasing system ensures that all parts of the machine can be lubricated from one single centre.

Adds Alan: "We were initially attracted by the machine's build quality and were able to take the machine for a couple of days to



test it out before committing ourselves to the investment. We were very impressed with it – and with the support we have received from Kelly's to date; they provide a great back-up service and are only about 20 minutes away if ever we need them."

Liebherr's Latest Model Built for Destruction

The R 940 Demolition succeeds the R 944 C and arrives to line up alongside the R 950 and R 960 models. Built at the Liebherr-France SAS facility in Colmar, the three machines set new standards in efficiency and profitability with a package of model and equipment combinations to match any application.

Liebherr's award-winning Demolition Control System (DCS) keeps the operator aware at all times of the position of the demolition tool, minimising the threat of an error that might affect stability.

Real-time information on tilt angle and tool position is relayed to the cab and if a critical value is exceeded, the Liebherr Demolition Control (LDC) kicks in to inform the driver of every movement of the equipment.

Like its stablemates, the R 940 Demolition features a 30° tiltable cab to give the best view of the working area while the hydraulically adjustable undercarriage with variable track gauge and a removable counterweight make for easier road transport.

A cab air filtration system and a spray system for reducing dust in the work area are available as options and an air compressor for cleaning radiator and cab can also be fitted.



The Stage V Liebherr engine can output 200 kW and comes with a diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC), SCR system, particulate filter and, with no EGR valve, fuel consumption is lower and productivity higher.

Open-S – the open standard for fully automatic quick couplers

Open-S – a standard for fully automatic quick couplers for excavators – has been launched. Machine operators can combine machine couplers, tiltrotators and tools from different manufacturers who are in compliance with the standard and be confident that they will be compatible with each other. Products that comply with the standard are marked "Open-S".

"Open standards make everyday life easier, whether it's plugs for electrical sockets, computer connectors or excavator

quick couplers," says Stefan Stockhaus, CEO for Steelwrist AB. "Open-S also builds on the independent and established standard that already exists for quick couplers, the S Standard."

Together with Anders Jonsson, CEO for Rototilt Group AB, they are the initiators of Open-S. "We believe in healthy competition, where the industry's players compete to have the best products," says Anders Jonsson. "We don't want to lock customers into a closed interface. When customers buy a tiltrotator from Rototilt, they should feel confident that any hydraulic tool

that complies with the Open-S standard will fit the tiltrotator."

The standard is based on three pillars: Freedom for end-customers to choose the preferred equipment with reliable safety solutions and to benefit from continued technological development.

"Because we have agreed on how to connect the products, customers can freely choose from the product portfolio from the manufacturers that comply with the standard," explains Anders Jonsson. "It becomes clearer what fits together and which warranty provisions apply."

Both Steelwrist and Rototilt are seeing that more customers are adopting this type of solution. The Open-S standard makes it easier for contractors to take the first step towards a fully automatic quick coupler system.

Open-S is owned and managed by an independent organisation, Open-S Alliance, which in turn is led by a council of engineers from the member companies, currently tiltrotator manufacturers Steelwrist and Rototilt. And more members are welcome.

"Interchangeability is the point," says Stefan Stockhaus. "Any reputable manufacturer who believes in the usefulness of a common standard is welcome. We are already in talks with more manufacturers who want to join in the Open-S standard."

CIF and CEF Call for Companies to Redouble Covid-19 Safety Measures

The Construction Industry Federation and the Construction Employers Federation have jointly called on their members to collaborate on a cross border basis on tackling Covid-19.

The construction industry straddles both jurisdictions with contractors and employees crossing the border in both directions daily. Both industries have emerged from the previous lockdown with excellent records in terms of safety and low incidence of Covid-19.

The recent increase in Covid-19 numbers North and South of the border have led to the border counties of Donegal, Monaghan and Cavan being increased to Level 4 and further significant restrictive measures introduced in Northern Ireland.

To maintain low numbers of Covid in the construction industry as community transition increases, the representative bodies from North and South are calling on

their members to redouble their efforts to ensure employees adhere to their standard operating procedures whilst on site and general health guidelines in their communities.

Tom Parlon, Director General, CIF stated: "Construction across the island has performed well so far and we're asking our members to encourage their employees and their sub-contractors to keep disciplined when it comes to Covid-19 whether they are on site, off-site or on the way to site. Because of the strong ties across the border, we've asked our members to engage with Northern Irish contractors operating on their sites to ensure adherence with our SOP.

"As usual, the response has been positive and our industry, North and South is responding. Such is the importance of keeping Covid-19 out of our sites, we're finding companies are willing to put in place any measure that's viewed as helpful."

Mark Spence, incoming Managing Director, CEF, added: "The construction industry north and south on the island has led the way in adapting to the evolving safety measures required to keep our people and our communities safe.

"The latest escalation in Covid-19 cases on both sides of the border with related increased restrictions makes it more important than ever for everyone involved in construction across the island to reinforce compliance with the best practice guidance from CIF and CEF in each jurisdiction.

"The common principles whether on-site or off-site of hand washing, social distancing and face coverings remain vital to maintaining the relatively low incidence amongst the construction community whilst vitally protecting the wider community in which we work and live. Only by doing this can we protect lives, sustain economic activity and retain jobs in our industry.

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KOBELCO NINETY YEARS OF INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE

While it's true that 2020 has presented some unprecedented global challenges, it is also a year of celebration for Kobelco Construction Machinery (KCM). This year marks 90 years since the manufacturer created Japan's first electric mining shovel in 1930, an innovation that would go on to have a significant impact on both the business and the worldwide construction industry.

Kobelco's success can largely be attributed to the Japanese manufacturer's unrivalled reputation for building enduring, long-lasting, low maintenance machinery that can withstand some of the toughest job site conditions. For 90 years, quality has been Kobelco's priority and this philosophy has never changed, despite the ever-changing and increasingly difficult economy.

From the development of the first electric mining excavator and the introduction of the first hydraulic machine, Kobelco's history is packed with 'firsts'. In 1930, Kobelco created Japan's first electric mining shovel, which paved the way for all future Kobelco construction machinery and set the tone for decades of pioneering technological developments.

By 1960, Kobelco completed the Okubo factory and manufacturing of construction machinery began. Today, this factory still exists and is dedicated to the production of Kobelco cranes. It is one of four Kobelco factories in Japan.

In 1967, the first crawler-type hydraulic excavator was produced by using Kobelco-own technology, the H208, kickstarting another 40 years of Kobelco innovation with the release of the SK-New MARKII series of hydraulic excavators (1987), the urban-type hydraulic excavator "Acera" series (1989) and the "Beetle" series of short rear tail swing mini excavators (1996).



Today's Kobelco

Over the last two decades, Kobelco has remained at the forefront of excavator technology – its hi-tech Itsukaichi factory now plays a key role as the production base for Kobelco excavators and the development of advanced technology.

One of Kobelco's most important innovations to date has been the development of hybrid technology – Kobelco was the first major excavator manufacturer to instigate hybrid development in 1999. This forward thinking led to the reveal of a hybrid excavator (HE-01) in 2007, followed by sales of the hybrid excavator 80H (8-tonne class) in 2010. Demand for a larger category hybrid machine was realised with the SK200H-9 – Kobelco's first 20-tonne class hybrid excavator, before the SK210HLC10 was

launched in 2017 – the world's first hybrid excavator to use lithium-ion technology.

In recent years, Kobelco has also become synonymous with demolition technology. The manufacturer had carved out a reputation as a market leader for demolition equipment in Japan and even built (at that time) the world's highest building demolition machine (SK3500D) in 2006. However, Kobelco's product development teams wanted to find a way to maximise productivity on demolition job sites and set about developing a machine structure with a common-use type base boom and interchangeable attachments, allowing one machine to be adapted to multiple specifications. The SK350DLC-10, SK400DLC-10 and SK550DLC-10 demolition machines all feature Kobelco's proven NEXT system for both high elevation and foundation demolition work, giving the operator the ability to change tools on site and work at multiple heights with a single machine.

In 2007, Kobelco released a short rear tail swing hydraulic excavator with a new Integrated Noise & Dust Reduction (iNDR) cooling system. This superior method of noise suppression promotes low noise, exceptional engine cooling, enhanced reliability, minimal machine downtime and a more comfortable working

FOR 90 YEARS, QUALITY HAS BEEN KOBELCO'S PRIORITY AND THIS PHILOSOPHY HAS NEVER CHANGED, DESPITE THE EVER-CHANGING AND INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT ECONOMY.



environment for the operator. Today, this innovative technology can be found in many mini, midi and medium-sized excavators.

Today's Kobelco now operates in over 100 countries with almost 480 dealers and 8,000 employees worldwide.

Comments Kobelco Construction Machinery Co., Ltd. President and CEO Yoshinori Onoe: "Ever since producing our first large domestic electric shovel 90 years ago in 1930, we have continued to create a wide variety of products to meet customer demands by adapting to our environment and developing new technologies. This "user hands-on approach" has always been in our DNA – we continually strive to be a company that brings

satisfaction to our customers by always providing new and innovative solutions."

Kobelco in Europe

A major milestone for Kobelco in the last decade was the reestablishment of the Kobelco Construction Machinery Europe B.V. (KCME) headquarters in Almere, the Netherlands in 2013. Over the past seven years, this important base has provided an efficient and responsive service and full aftersales support for its European customers across 64 dealers and 270 outlets in 60 countries.

From Kobelco's parent company's infrastructure to its construction machinery products and aftersales service network, everything about Kobelco is built to last.

This important message is the key driver that fuels Kobelco's growth in Europe and can be seen in its reliable, Japanese-built machinery as well as the comprehensive network of trusted, authorised dealers and efficient parts and service distribution. KCME's commitment to the European market is also reinforced by its participation at key

European events including

BAUMA, Intermat and SaMoTer and dealer support activities.

KCME Managing Director, Makoto Kato: "Europe is a region of huge significance for Kobelco. Since our reestablishment in Almere in 2013, we have been working hard to build the foundations for a strong and successful business and are very proud of how much has been achieved over the past seven years.

"Kobelco has strong brand heritage and reliable products – our line-up now covers a significant range of machinery from the smallest SK08 mini excavator to the largest SK850LC for quarrying, demolition, forestry landscaping, earthmoving and utilities. However, a major part of our business is productive partnerships with our dealer network and we are pleased to have such a dedicated team of business managers and dealers to help showcase the Kobelco brand."

Michel Wieris is responsible for Kobelco's dealer network in western Europe: "Many of our dealers have been committed to the Kobelco brand since we re-entered Europe in 2013. These include Entrack and Beck in Norway, Kemp and De Bruycker in the Benelux, Molson and McSharry in the UK and Ireland. We're proud to see these dealers grow along with us, better servicing existing customers and managing the increasing demand for Kobelco machinery."



RAPID INTERNATIONAL CONTINUES EXPANSION WITH LAUNCH OF TWO NEW DIVISIONS

Rapid International, global manufacturers of mixing technology, recently announced the launch of two new divisions, Rapid Tumbler and Rapid Power Generation.

Rapid Tumbler supplies premium, lightweight concrete truck mixers to the UK & Ireland. Rapid Power Generation manufactures custom generating sets from 10kVA– 2500kVA and offers a range of service and maintenance options.

Rapid Tumbler offers new affordable, premium, lightweight truck mixers to the concrete industry in the UK & Ireland. Benefitting from Rapid International's half century of mixing



technology expertise, Rapid Tumbler offers the assurance of both quality and reliability.

No stranger to the truck mixer, Rapid International originally produced truck mixers in its early days before market

demands and trends channelled the focus on concrete batching plants, concrete batch mixers and high volume mobile plants.

Rapid Tumbler's range includes 4m³ to 12m³ mixers plus a 14m³ trailer unit. Engineered and manufactured using long life, high strength, Arcelor Mittal steel, the truck mixers feature premium components such as, Bosch Rexroth drives and ZF Germany gearboxes.

Mark Lappin, Managing Director – Rapid International Ltd, commented, "We're delighted with the launch of our new division, Rapid Tumbler. This further expansion compliments our current product range and allows us to offer even more to our customers

PREMIUM, LIGHTWEIGHT TRUCK MIXERS



Rapid Tumbler truck mixers are manufactured using the highest quality corrosive-resistant steel and are ideal for both high & low slump concretes.

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across the whole concrete industry. Having celebrated our 50th anniversary recently, it seems timely to re-introduce one of Rapid's original product areas."

Rapid Power Generation

Rapid Power Generation, formerly A1 Power Systems Ltd, manufactures standard and bespoke generating sets from 10kVA – 2500kVA. Manufactured using only premium Volvo, Scania and Perkins engines, Mecc Alte alternators and Deep Sea controls, Rapid Power Generation's range includes open set, soundproof canopied and containerised generator options.

With over 30 years knowledge and experience in the world of diesel power generation, Rapid Power Generation covers all aspects of the generator industry. All generators are complete with 1 years manufacturing warranty and all components are CE accredited. Rapid Power Generation's in-house team of experienced, qualified electrical and mechanical engineers have the capabilities and expertise to create a custom fit solution for every requirement.

Rapid Power Generation offers a comprehensive range of technical and after sales support, including 24/7 call out, maintenance contracts, load bank and overhaul testing.

With the increasing requirement for sustainable energy, Rapid Power Generation recently announced a new distribution partnership with Pramac - Generac, acting as sole natural gas fuelled generator distributors for both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Siena, Italy, Pramac manufactures and sells power generation systems and material handling equipment primarily under the Pramac and Lifter by Pramac brands.

The company seeks constant improvement in design, manufacturing and installation of its complete range of portable, mobile and stationary generators products. Pramac offers tailored power solutions that can be adapted to every specific requirement.

Pramac manufactures portable, mobile and stationary generators up to 4MVA, and exceeds the needs of many industries, including but not limited to, commerce, power plants, transportation, telecommunications, events, automotive, mining industry, tower lights and rental.



With the aim of pursuing further growth opportunities in the global power generation market, in 2016, Pramac signed an agreement with Generac – a North American power generation market leader. Together, the two companies have a combined total of 4,000 employees and are the world's third largest power generation group.

Rapid Power Generation's new range of natural gas fuelled generating sets offer a range of benefits including low NOx, CO2 and virtually no particle matter emissions, low noise output and reduced installation costs.



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New Merlo Telehandler Arrives



One of the latest newcomers to the telehandler sector is the new Merlo MF34.7 MultiFarmer, first versions of which are arriving into Ireland now.

Distributed by McHale Plant Sales of Birdhill and Rathcoole, the Italian-made telehandler-tractor hybrid is said to be the solution for performing work such as handling, lifting, towing, tillage and transporting loads.

At the front, it has a two-section, 7 metre telescopic boom that can be fitted with a myriad of attachments to transport silage bales and heavy loads in the normal way. At the rear, it has a conventional three-point linkage, hydraulic trailer pickup hitch and high powered mechanical PTO that works like a tractor for towing loads and operating trailed implements.

Power comes from a state-of-the-art 136HP four-cylinder turbocharged Deutz Tier 4 engine via CVTronic transmission to provide smooth acceleration without interrupting torque from 0 to its top speed of 40 km/h. Reduction in diesel consumption is managed by the EPD (Eco Power Drive) system.

To improve operator comfort, cab width has been extended and the layout redesigned. New enhancements include hydro-pneumatic suspended cab, joystick with reverse shuttle, inching control pedal, MCDC (Dynamic Load Control) anti-tipping system, optional 8.5" colour display and air conditioning.

The new Merlo MultiFarmer is described by McHale Plant Sales general manager Denis McGrath as a 'tractor in telehandler clothing – combining all the characteristics of a traditional telescopic handler with those of a tractor'.

In addition to the MF34.7, other new arrivals in the MultiFarmer range are the MF34.9 and the larger MF40.7 and MF40.9 – representing a modernised product offering that boasts many of the latest technologies found in the popular Merlo TurboFarmer range.

As with all Merlo telehandlers sold by McHale Plant Sales in Ireland, the new MultiFarmer comes on the market with a range of warranty and finance options available.

New Training Academy For Construction Professionals

SITECH UK & Ireland has launched a new training Academy to support operators using construction technology.

The Academy includes a selection of courses delivered through distance learning, practical demonstrations and face-to-face classrooms sessions. Sessions are suitable for everyone, from beginners to advanced users, meaning operators at all levels can refine their skills and expertise.

Machine control technology and site positioning systems provide construction firms with highly accurate data, lower surveying costs and improved efficiency,

giving businesses a competitive edge in a market that is rapidly digitalising. However, a certain level of operator skill is essential to achieve these benefits. Operators must receive thorough training to ensure that machine control hardware and software is used to its full potential and that the business achieves good return on investment.

The Academy involves a SITECH-certified series of face-to-face training sessions — all delivered in line with Government social distancing guidelines. The courses are split into several categories, including on-machine, off machine (site positioning), site software, surveyor, lasers

and levels, and professional services such as drones.

"Machine control technology gives businesses a huge competitive advantage and the ability to tender for large infrastructure projects. However, a key issue for operators is getting the right training from the start," explained David Allen, Technical Support Manager at SITECH UK & Ireland. "That is why we have devised such a thorough training programme, to make sure construction businesses can perform at their absolute best. We've thought about the individual too, all courses from basic- to advanced-level are available in visual and audio

formats to accommodate the individual learner."

"The course content has been developed by SITECH's experienced team and each trainer has been certified by Trimble's Train the Trainer course," said Ian Barnes, Head of Business at SITECH UK & Ireland. "But their knowledge isn't just academic — each trainer works hands-on with machine control, site positioning and Trimble software on a regular basis, which means we can guarantee a skilled and knowledgeable tutor for each course."

Whether you're just starting out or are an industry expert, the SITECH Academy can ensure that your skills and knowledge are at their best when using Trimble technology. Visit our website to book a course <https://www.sitechukandireland.com/training/>

Nordtrack mobile equipment breaks the milestone of 100 sold units

The new mobile crushing and screening range from Metso Outotec, Nordtrack, has passed the milestone of 100 units sold worldwide. The volume sales of the range started during 1Q2020.

"This is a remarkable achievement for a new product range; especially considering how the pandemic has impacted the construction industry around the world," says Vesa Tuloisela, Director, Nordtrack offering at Metso Outotec. "It strengthens our expectation that the potential Nordtrack customers appreciate the reliability and support of a premium brand. We believe that the demand for aggregate recycling equipment is on a steady path."

Sales and deliveries have started globally and the biggest demand so far is coming from North America and Europe. Customers have ordered Nordtrack crushers for C&D (concrete and demolition) waste sites and aggregate quarries, and Nordtrack screens for aggregate screening and industrial applications, such as mulch screening and top-soil pre-screening. Mobile conveyors are used as auxiliary equipment to complete the crushing and screening plants.

"It is a range which meets the needs of the small and medium sized contractors who are looking to expand their business in aggregates, whether it is recycling or

small-scale virgin aggregate production," Vesa Tuloisela describes. "The features and options of the range have been selected in a way that the equipment is easy to use and to move between worksites. We have plans to announce new features and range extensions in the near future.

"I want to express my warmest gratitude to all our customers and distributors who have welcomed Nordtrack. We continue to develop both the Nordtrack range and our Lokotrack mobile equipment portfolio to reach a more diverse customer base," he concludes.

See the Nordtrack equipment in action at metso.com/nordtrack.

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FROM GARAGE TO GLOBAL FORCE: JCB MARKS 75 YEARS IN BUSINESS

To say that JCB has come a long way since it was founded 75 years ago is something of an understatement. Sometimes with a company so successful and solid, like its products, it is easy to lose sight of its original roots and its early pathway to global recognition.

Known and respected the world over, the company was established on October 23rd, 1945 by the late Joseph Cyril Bamford in a tiny lock-up garage in the Staffordshire market town of Uttoxeter.

Coincidentally, it was the same day as his son Anthony, now Lord Bamford, was born. "Being presented with a son tended to concentrate the mind and when you were starting at the bottom, there was only one way to go and that was up," JC Bamford is quoted as saying back then.

Looking back, that was a rather profound thing to say. The foundation for the growth that was to follow was the manufacture of a tipping trailer made out of war time scrap which today stands proudly in the showroom of JCB's World HQ.

It was produced in his garage and sold for £45 at the town's market. The buyer's old cart was also taken in part exchange and Mr Bamford refurbished it and sold for another £45 – achieving the original asking price of the trailer.

By 1947 the company was expanding and because J C Bamford's landlady also disapproved of his Sunday working, he



Joseph Cyril Bamford.

moved a few miles down the road to a stable block at Crakemarsh Hall, which was owned by a Mrs Julia Cavendish, a survivor of the Titanic disaster. JCB also set on its first ever full-time employee, Arthur Harrison, who became foreman.

By 1950 JCB was on the move again, this time to the site of a former cheese factory in Rocester. The location had been identified by Bill Hirst, who revelled in the fact his workplace was now closer to home and enabled him to "spend an extra 10 minutes in bed." Bill had joined JCB as a

£1-a-week teaboy in 1947. He rose through the ranks to become Service Director.

1953 proved to be a pivotal year for new products when J C Bamford invented the backhoe loader with the launch of the JCB Mk 1 excavator. It was the first time a single machine had been produced with a hydraulic rear excavator and front mounted shovel. This ingenuity still bears fruit today: JCB has manufactured more than 750,000 backhoes and they are now made on three continents.

1953 was also the year that the famous JCB logo - recognised the world over - was first used on a machine and it was eventually registered as a trademark five years later.

JCB Aviation

With the launch of a range of new backhoes, by the time the 1960s arrived it was clear this machine was revolutionising the building industry, increasing productivity and reducing reliance on manpower.

As the new decade dawned, the company was also harnessing new tools to generate business and promote the brand.

In 1961, JCB Aviation was formed and the company's first ever plane, a twin-engine de Havilland Dove made its inaugural flight, with customers from Europe now able to make a return visit to the factory in a single day. JCB Aviation is older than many of today's airlines.

It was in 1962 that the JCB Dancing Diggers first took a bow and JCB's first ever overseas subsidiary in Holland was opened. A year later the JCB 3C backhoe, an acknowledged



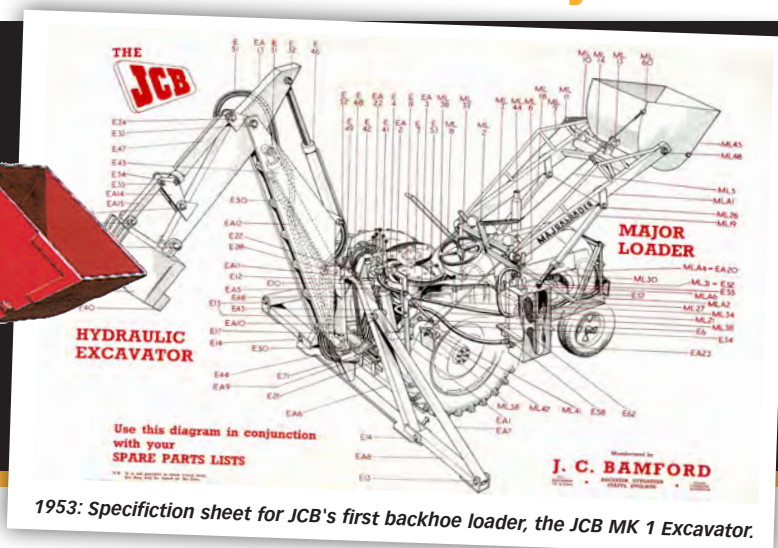
1945: Mr JCB's first product, a tipping trailer made from war time scrap.



1947: Anthony Bamford in his father's arm. From left are employees Bill Hirst, Arthur Harrison and Bert Holmes.



1953: the first backhoe invented by Mr JCB.



1953: Specification sheet for JCB's first backhoe loader, the JCB MK 1 Excavator.

design classic, was launched. Such was the growing success of the company that in 1964, with sales up by 60% to £8 million, employees shared in a £250,000 bonus. The news made national headlines and payouts were on such a scale that some employees were able to buy their first homes with the bonus they received.

Commented J C Bamford at the time: "I am giving you this money because I want you to share in the success of the company you have helped make." In the same year, JCB exported its first ever machine to the USA – a JCB 4C backhoe loader.

First Queen's Award

In 1969 JCB produced a record 4,500 machines and by now was exporting more than half of them. It was in recognition of this export success, that the company received in this year its first ever Queen's Award – the first of 27 such accolades.

It was a year for awards as J C Bamford became a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in honour of the company's export achievements.

As 1970 dawned JCB opened up for business in the USA, setting up a base in Whitmarsh, Baltimore to harness the huge growth opportunity North America offered.

New Era Dawns

Between 1971 and 1973 turnover doubled to £40 million. In 1975 JCB's Founder retired, telling staff in a farewell message: "Anthony faces the tough job of moving JCB forward through the next decades into a new century.

This is a demanding task but he has been well trained for it and is supported by a very strong team from works staff to management. There cannot be any limit to the successes."



1964: Mr Bamford is held shoulder high by employees Bill Hirts (left) and John Wheeldon after announcing a £250,000 employee bonus.

Fast forward to 2015 and JCB marked its 70th anniversary with a continued focus on product innovation as the wraps came off the brand new 3CX Compact backhoe loader, a machine 35 per cent smaller than its bigger brother and designed to work on increasingly congested building sites.

2016 was a year of milestones as the company celebrated the production of the

200,000th Loadall telescopic handler. It took almost 30 years for JCB to sell the first 100,000 Loadalls but it took less than 10 for the next 100,000 to be sold – testament to the growing importance of the product and JCB's strength in this sector. Today JCB is the world's number one producer of telescopic handlers.

In this year JCB also marked the production on its 100,000th mini excavator and celebrated 25 years of production of the revolutionary Fastrac tractor. It was also the year when the new JCB Hydradig was launched to international acclaim.

2017 was also a momentous year on two fronts: the launch a new range of JCB powered access equipment after two years of secret development. JCB was entering for the first time a market worth \$8 billion a year. The year also saw the company celebrate another Loadall milestone – 40 years since production started. Later in the year JCB marked the production of its 500,000th engine - enough engines to stretch from London to Paris.

If 2017 was a year of milestones, 2018 was certainly a year for exciting product introductions with the unveiling of JCB's first ever electric excavator leading the way. The 19C-1E electric mini excavator was developed in response to customer demands for a zero emissions machine which could work indoors, underground and close to people in urban areas. Once fully charged, it is ready to put in a full normal working day on the building site. The year also saw the launch of the hugely successful X-Series range of tracked

CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE →



1987 - a shot of JCB's World Headquarters from the air.

75 years



1977: The launch of the 520 telescopic handler revolutionised the placing and handling of loads.



1994: Saw the launch of JCB's smallest backhoe loader, the 1CX.



2016: This year saw the launch of the JCB Hydradig.



CONTINUED

excavators and the start of site dumper manufacturing at the World HQ in Rostech. JCB also announced a £50 million investment in a new factory to produce cabs in Uttroter. By 2019 the new electric mini excavator was in full production at JCB Compact Products in Cheadle, Staffordshire, with the initial first 50 orders delivered to customers. It was also

a year for records. In June of that year, JCB set a Guinness World Record for the fastest tractor at Elvington Airfield in Yorkshire. Called Fastrac One, the tractor reached a speed of 103.6 mph with motorbike racer and lorry mechanic Guy Martin in the driver's seat.

JCB then embarked on an ambitious plan to break its own record and developed Fastrac Two – which is 10% lighter and even more streamlined than its smaller brother.

In October, Fastrac Two hit an astonishing peak speed of 153.771mph on its way to recording an average of 135.191mph at Elvington. In 2019 Chairman Lord Bamford officially opened a brand new £50 million headquarters for JCB Germany.

The JCB story has been well documented up to now, and be assured, there will be many more chapters to the JCB story in the years ahead.



2020: JCB marks the manufacture of its 750,000 backhoe loader.



2020: Lord Bamford and his son Jo pictured with the prototype 20-tonne JCB 220X excavator powered by a hydrogen fuel cell.



2020: Happy birthday JCB... machines spell out the significant milestone.



2010 - JCB unveiled its new fuel-saving Eco backhoe loader.



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GLENN DRUMS RECYCLING LTD: WORKING TO HELP CLIENTS REDUCE THEIR IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Protecting the environment by effectively managing waste and taking every opportunity to recycle and reuse our resources can present many businesses with choices and challenges, so it is good to know there is expert help on hand.

Based in Armagh, Glenn Drums Recycling Ltd has been serving the packaging needs of companies throughout Ireland for over 40 years and since 2004 it has been specialising in drum disposal, reaundering and reconditioning, helping businesses meet rigorous regulations and environmental responsibilities.

With an ever expanding customer base, the company, which has a Waste Management licence from the NIEA, operates throughout the island of Ireland and will collect, wash, reuse and/or recycle industrial and chemical waste containers and packaging; its service covers IBC tanks, steel and plastic drums as well as the supply of reconditioned and new industrial packaging.

Comments the company's Business Development Manager Gareth Reville, who has over 20 years' experience within the IBC/Drum reconditioning business: "We take our legal and environmental responsibilities very seriously, so all our processes comply with the most rigorous national and international regulations and adhere to environmental best practice."

As its business expanded, the company found it necessary to open up a new state-of-the-art 12,000 sq m plant, which was licensed in 2017. Fully compliant with all waste management bodies, it includes



Glenn Drums Recycling Team.

warehousing and office space in addition to well equipped cleaning and shredding facilities as well as secure storage for toxic residue and hazardous waste. It is the only licensed purpose-built packaging recycling facility in Northern Ireland.

A family-run business operating in a highly competitive environment, the company certainly doesn't cut corners when offering its extensive services. "We place great value on our good name and we would never act in a manner that might cause harm or compromise the integrity of our customers," says Gareth.

Glenn Drums Recycling employs its own fully certified Dangerous Goods Safety Advisor (DGSA), which means both staff and customers get the right advice about all activities relating to the consignment,

carriage, packing, loading, filling, movement and unloading of dangerous goods.

"It's another indication of how we leave no stone unturned in our drive to ensure we provide a fully legal, compliant and ethical service to our customers."

Waste Removal

Disposing of hazardous and non-hazardous waste packaging in a safe and environmentally-friendly fashion can be a major challenge for many businesses, especially in the food, beverage and chemical industries, but working with Glenn Drums Recycling means you can both comply with the law and make financial savings. It provides a full 'cradle to grave' service with certificates of acceptance and disposal issued at each stage.





IT IS THE ONLY LICENSED PURPOSE-BUILT PACKAGING RECYCLING FACILITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

All the company's drivers have appropriate ADR licences and up-to-date ADR training for the transport of dangerous goods and containers, so you can be confident that all goods will be handled and moved with maximum safety.

The disposal process takes place in a specially designed facility, located in an area that is separated from other operations. This houses the complex machinery used to wash, recycle and recover non-reusable empty chemical containers. Containers are deep cleaned with a specialised treatment that removes all residues. The remaining plastics are shredded on site, then sent off to be recycled into secondary raw materials and products. Metals are also separated and sent off for further recycling.

The entire process is underpinned by an accurate 'track and trace' system which issues full documentation to show that waste has been disposed of efficiently and in line with current requirements. Plus, with the company's 24-hour collection and delivery service, containers can be removed or dispatched as and when the client needs.

Reconditioning

Whatever the size, 10ltr - 200ltr drums to 1200ltr IBCs and everything in between, and whether you're based in Malin Head

or Mizen head, Glenn Drums Recycling can collect, recondition and return steel drums, plastic drums and IBC containers.

The containers are washed, rinsed, pressure tested and their interiors hot air dried. Constant quality checks ensure that they emerge in pristine condition and fully compliant with all national and international regulations, ready for dispatch back to the customer or to serve the storage needs of other customers.

"Any reconditioned IBC containers that we offer for resale must meet our very stringent quality standards. For that reason, most of them come from established suppliers with whom we have long-standing relationships. Our bulk storage capacity means that we can hold sufficient volumes of these premium units to meet most demands, offering them at prices that are fair and competitive," explains Gareth.

Relaunders

Maybe your focus is to reduce business costs such as the purchase and disposal of new containers. Or perhaps you simply want to minimise your organisation's impact on the environment. In either case, Glenn Drums Recycling relaunders service provides the ideal solution.

Relaunders means cleaning, refurbishing and re-using your existing packaging stock, including metal drums, IBCs and plastic containers of various sizes. "We can launder containers at a fraction of the cost of purchasing brand new ones, so customers can save money and help the environment."

The process involves the removal of all labels and ink from their exteriors. Then they are washed thoroughly inside and out, removing all residues before being leak tested. Any necessary repairs are carried out and defective parts are replaced before being returned to the customer, clean and ready to be reused. Clients can even specify if they want the IBCs to be foil sealed, tamper proofed (air tight) and hot air dried.

Shredding & Crushing

When an IBC fails a pressure test, this indicates that it is no longer suitable for reuse, so Glenn Drums Recycling make sure it is disposed of in a suitable manner, being fed into a shredder and reduced into small plastic granules, a process that permanently destroys the container and, of course, protects the client's product name and brand identity.

Likewise, steel drums that are past their best are treated to a deep clean and decontamination process, before they are crushed and passed on to a metal recycling facility.



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



TOUGH DECISIONS IN CHALLENGING TIMES

As we manage our way through the continuing Covid 19 crisis our industry continues to play its essential role in delivering the materials that keeps our economy going. The extension to Government support through the Furlough Scheme by one month till the end of November is very welcome.

While feedback from MPANI Members shows business is brisk at present many businesses in the construction sector, including some in our own mineral products sector, have been faced with tough decisions about redundancies as uncertainty and fears grow about a downturn in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

The Association continues to give guidance to our Members on managing workplace safety and mental health matters and this information can be accessed and downloaded at any time through the Safe Quarry website at <https://www.safequarry.com/>

MPA has also recently launched New Workplace Transport/Pedestrian Interface Resources to Support Members in the Drive to Eliminate 'The Fatal 6' Workplace Transport and Pedestrian Interface has been identified by MPA's Health & Safety Committee as one of 'The Fatal 6' high consequence hazards that have been the main cause of fatalities and serious injuries and incidents over the last decade.

Developed by members of the MPA's Vehicles and Pedestrians Health and Safety Working Group the resources act as a tool for sites to help them understand and control the typical risks that they manage in environments where vehicles and pedestrians interact. They build on the easily deployable Clear, Simple, Smart resources on Isolation, Covid-19 and Mental Health and Wellbeing that have already been launched by MPA this year. Using 'guiding principles', cartoons, consistent messaging, posters and (with support from MPQC) training tools, managers can deploy the resources to help improve on site behaviours and safety practices as part of MPA's mission to eliminate 'The Fatal 6' incidents from operations. All these resources are available here on www.safequarry.com/Fatal-6/Fatal-6-Step-2.aspx.

The weeks and the months ahead will continue to be very challenging and that is why MPANI, along with other colleagues in the Northern Ireland Construction Group, having

been working with Government Construction Clients to ensure the construction pipeline is identified and kept flowing. Recently at the request of NICG the Department of Finance confirmed the planned spending in active contracts for the remaining period of this financial year (Oct 20 – Mar 21) to help the construction industry and its supply chain plan capacity and manufacturing output as they recover from the impact of the pandemic. The total value of capital work is estimated to be around £680 million to be carried out between now and March 31st 2021.

Good News for NIHE

The recent announcement by the Department for the Communities that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive is to undergo the biggest shake-up in its 50-year history is very welcome. The organisation will be split in two with its landlord arm becoming an independent mutual organisation.

This will enable it to borrow money and start building houses again which is great news for the Construction Industry and our MPANI material suppliers.

The view of many within the industry is that it's now vital that ministers extend this collective ambition to reforming the structure and funding model of Northern Ireland Water. Undoubtedly unlocking this before the end of current political mandate at the Assembly would set Northern Ireland up for a transformational period in terms of infrastructure investment.

As previously mentioned in the last edition MPANI submitted a detailed response to the Infrastructure Ministers independent panel on establishing an Infrastructure Commission here in NI. The Advisory panel have published their report and presented it to the Minister, Nichola Mallon, who has now taken it to her Executive Colleagues for support. We have been informed that there is cross party support for establishing a Commission and we look forward to further developments on this matter.

The CBI Infrastructure Group, on which I sit, has published its report setting out proposals on a shake-up of major planning processes. With a particular emphasis on projects of regional significance, the report sets out a series of recommendations to both streamline the planning process

and establish a new framework for more effective delivery of strategic infrastructure projects in the longer term.

Developed in partnership with Jim MacKinnon CBE, Scotland's former Chief Planner, the recommendations include the introduction of statutory timeframes for determinations, the use of processing agreements, and the development of a streamlined process for projects of regional significance. To view the CBI press release and download the report go to <https://www.cbi.org.uk/media-centre/articles/seizing-the-opportunity-to-level-up-the-ni-planning-system-cbi-northern-ireland/>. In addition to this the Infrastructure Minister has announced a review.

The Association also welcomed the announcement by Infrastructure Minister, Nichola Mallon, of her decision to approve the planning application for the extraction of sand from Lough Neagh subject to a number of conditions.

The Minister said, "I am an advocate for protection of the environment, and particularly a special one such as Lough Neagh. Taking account of all of the comments made, I have come to the view that there will be no adverse effect caused by the development on the Lough in terms of its integrity or other aspects of its designated status provided that suitable conditions and agreed measures are put in place. Given the importance of maintaining the integrity of the designated status of Lough Neagh, my final decision will issue only when the Section 76 Planning Agreement with the applicant and relevant parties has been concluded to my satisfaction. I look forward to a speedy conclusion of that process."

Transition Countdown

MPANI continue to advise Members on what they need to do as businesses to prepare for the end of the transition period. The Northern Ireland Protocol comes into force from 1 January 2021. For as long as it is in force, Northern Ireland will align with all relevant EU rules relating to the placing on the market of manufactured goods. You must show that your products meet those rules by using 'conformity markings.'

Recently published guidance from the Construction Leadership Council (CLC) for Placing Construction Markets on NI, GB and EU Markets highlights what

the construction industry and material manufacturers need to do following the end of the EU exit transition period on 31/12/2020, there will be three different product marks that manufacturers, and others in the supply chain, may need to apply.

The rules governing these marks will depend on where the product is intended to be used.

The three marks are:

- The EU's marking for product conformity (CE marking)
- The United Kingdom Conformity Assessed mark (UKCA mark)
- The United Kingdom Northern Ireland mark (UK(NI) mark), which is additional to the CE marking in some instances.

In circumstances defined by the regulations in force in each jurisdiction, the manufacturer may be required to use the services of a conformity assessment body as part of the demonstration of conformity.

These tasks are performed by organisations recognised within the specific jurisdiction:

- A UK Approved Body is designated by UK government for conformity assessment tasks required by regulations covering the GB market
- An EU Notified Body is designated by an EU Member State and recognised by the European Commission for conformity assessment tasks required by EU law, covering EEA countries and relevant law as adopted by the UK for the Northern Ireland market
- A UK Notified Body is designated by UK government by special dispensation under the Northern Ireland Protocol for UK conformity assessment bodies to provide conformity assessment for the CE marking for the Northern Ireland market only, provided it is accompanied by the UK(NI) marking).

The CLC guidance, taken from the UK Gov website, but specific to construction materials can be viewed and downloaded at https://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/EU-Exit-Business-Readiness-Standards-and-Alignment_-Conformity-Marking-of-Construction-Products_V1.pdf

The Government state that these arrangements will enable Northern Ireland businesses to trade freely within the EU Single Market, as well as enjoying unfettered access to the whole of the UK market. Furthermore any approvals or certifications secured in order to place goods on the market in the EU will be recognised when seeking to place the same goods on the market in the United Kingdom - avoiding the need for additional approvals to access the UK market.

For further information on the general arrangements for placing goods on the Northern Ireland market, see the guidance on placing manufactured goods on the market in Northern Ireland.

For further information on general requirements across the UK, see marking, labelling and marketing standards from 1 January 2021. Other useful links include:

www.gov.uk/guidance/placing-manufactured-goods-on-the-market-in-the-great-britain-market-on-1-january-2021 and www.gov.uk/guidance/placing-manufactured-goods-on-the-eu-market-on-1-January-2021

Age Profiling

Hopefully most of you will have had the opportunity to review the results of our 2020 Age Profiling Survey. The success and long term sustainability of any industry is dictated both by the quality of the people within it and its ability to attract qualified, enthusiastic young people with the right work ethic. The Association last carried out age profiling assessments back in 2015 and late 2017 and both highlighted the fact we continue to have an ageing workforce with ongoing challenges in attracting and recruiting young people into our Industry. It is concerning that the representation of over 46 year olds has increased by 3% from 39% to 42%.

While economic conditions are challenging due to the Covid 19 emergency and uncertainty over Brexit some within the precast sector reported increased recruitment of younger people while others particularly in quarrying, asphalt and concrete, continue to experience difficulties in recruiting younger people.

Once again the survey results, as we expected, show a continuing need to address the skills and succession issues the industry is facing and which, if not addressed, will further deteriorate and endanger the long term viability and sustainability of the industry. The current survey was carried out over the middle two quarters of 2020 with returns coming from 20 companies representing 3172 employees from a total industry direct workforce of around 5000, a 63% return in terms of employee numbers.

The survey encompassed the MPANI membership across the Asphalt, Quarrying, Ready Mixed Concrete and Precast Concrete sectors covering those employees involved in administration, operational, technical, sales and transport roles. This year we also asked Members to give us numbers of female employees and the activity they are engaged in. The results showed females represent just 11% of the total workforce. They are almost exclusively employed in

administration representing 69% of everyone in that activity. Alarming only 0.6% of the operational workforce is made up by females.

The survey results will now be used by MPANI to inform members and relevant industry stakeholders of the critical succession, skills and recruitment issues facing the industry with a view to formulating and implementing an industry wide plan to address these worrying trends.

The survey results again highlight the urgent need for a partnership approach and continuing work by the MPANI and other construction materials representative bodies such as the Institute of Quarrying, Chartered Institute of Highways, Concrete Society and Institute of Asphalt Technology.

This partnership led plan should take the shape of Building partnerships with the Further Education and Post Primary Education sectors, Government Lobbying for support and investing in more automated processes. We need to work with others, and in particular MPSkills in promoting apprenticeship schemes across all industry sectors we represent that will hopefully develop a conveyor belt of trainee managers who in time will develop skill sets and competencies which will secure the future sustainability of the Industry.

Although great progress has been made as an Industry we need a continuing commitment to raise the bar in relation to performance, health and safety, environmental best practice and communication with communities and thereby make the industry inherently more attractive for career minded and capable young people. To view the full report go to - <https://mcusercontent.com/0e749f02c5a58b746bd03b5a8/files/519f9491-76ef-419b-9079-255e7c8d3857/MPANIAgeProfile2020.pdf>

Industry Journal

By now most of you will have received hard copies of our impressive MPANI 2020/21 Industry Journal and have seen our new MPANI Promotional Video "Proud of our Past Building our Future" video.

Both resources highlight the essential industry we are by the products and services we offer and the role we have in sustaining jobs and being part of our local community.

Can I finish by thanking everyone for their continued support and encourage any of you reading this who are not Members of MPANI and not supporting the very important we do to protect our Industries license to operate to please consider coming on board and be part of the MPANI team working for solutions to the many current and future challenges ahead.



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Mining & Quarrying firms claim £5 million in R&D Tax Credit Claims

New statistics published by HRMC reveal that a total of £5 million was paid out to UK Mining & Quarrying firms in research and development (R&D) Tax Credits, according to statistics released this time last year.

The number of claims for the latest period stood at 50 but still only represents less than 1% of all claims across the scheme.

The figures were released as R&D Tax Credit specialists, The Momentum Group, launched its 'Rebound' support service which aims to assist businesses by maximising their uptake of all available grants and R&D tax benefits offered by the UK government.

Commenting on the latest statistics, Tom Verner, MD of The Momentum Group said: "These new figures for the Mining & Quarrying industry are welcome and reflect increased innovation specifically in areas such as the reduction of firms' carbon footprint.

"However, the industry still only represents less than 1% of claims across the scheme and we believe there are still a great many innovative Mining & Quarrying companies missing out on potentially tens of thousands of pounds in R&D Tax Credits.

"The 'Manufacturing', 'Professional, Scientific and Technical', and 'Information and Communication' sectors continued to have the greatest volume of claims, making up a total of 66% and 71% of the total monetary amount claimed for 2018-19."

Tom Verner added: "The launch of our Rebound support service comes in response to the dual challenge for businesses operating under the looming threat of a



Tom Verner, MD of The Momentum Group

no-trade deal Brexit and an ongoing global pandemic. We are all in this together and at Momentum we have been offering, and will continue to offer, free claims advice to companies during these pressured times.

"We believe in the 'bouncebackability' of businesses across the UK. That word was first coined by Crystal Palace manager, Iain Dowie when describing how his team went from the fringes of relegation to being promoted and I am confident Momentum can help businesses look to a brighter future after the unparalleled difficulties of 2020."

To further underline the commitment to research and development support, at the last budget Chancellor, Rishi Sunak pledged to increase spending on overall R&D to £22billion per year by 2024-25.

"Between the £38billion spent by the Government on Bounce Back loans for businesses affected by the Covid pandemic, and the potential tax relief

that can be claimed in R&D, there is so much support for businesses out there but awareness and understanding of the latter remains stubbornly poor.

"But often in uncertain times, businesses are driven to be more innovative and this work can qualify for R&D Tax Credits. 2020 has been an incredibly difficult year for business with Covid-19 generating great uncertainty and it is likely the monetary value of claims will be lower in the next period due to issues such as staff being on furlough. However, in our view, it is vital that companies thoroughly examine their R&D activities now to ensure all opportunities for support are explored.

"For example, a number of companies joined the fight against Covid-19 by switching production to make medical items, PPE and hand sanitiser. This work will have required a degree of R&D and it is right these companies receive the financial support they are entitled to.

"In addition, the government has committed to processing claims within 28 days, meaning successful claims could have an immediate positive impact on balance sheets at a time when cash flow is critical.

"Momentum can help, we recognise that businesses will know their own sectors inside out but often struggle when it comes to understanding what qualifies for R&D Tax Credit claims.

"Our Rebound support service aims to work directly with companies to conduct strategic reviews of their business before putting strategies in place to identify wide-ranging R&D and innovation opportunities."

Liebherr opens its doors to welcome its latest intake of bright young things

The start of the new school term also hailed a whole new beginning for Liebherr's latest intake of 5 apprentices, ranging from school leavers aged 16 to ex-servicemen aged 28.

Ordinarily, Liebherr would have been a significant presence at the career's fairs in schools and colleges in the environs of their Biggleswade HQ and is regularly invited to showcase its extraordinarily successful apprenticeship scheme and all that it has to offer young people.

This year however, for obvious reasons, recruitment had been driven directly from the Liebherr Job Portal and the interview process carried out entirely online. The vast majority of the apprentices stay on at Liebherr for many years beyond their original

contract and forge successful careers at the company.

Liebherr is one of the exceptions in the manufacturing industry who have pressed on with the scheme despite the challenges presented by Covid-19 and are in fact, looking to expand their UK recruitment drive in 2021.

Apprentices are taken on in Construction Equipment Maintenance Engineering, Welding/Fabrication, Paintshop and Business Support. Training includes a solid grounding in the technical aspects of their chosen apprenticeship with the necessary support to develop skills to some of the highest levels in the industry. Nationwide travel between Liebherr's operational facilities, exchange programmes and training at manufacturing facilities Europe-wide are also a vital part

of the scheme. All apprentices are assigned a dedicated mentor always there to lend an ear and to identify ongoing development needs. Additionally, apprentices all attend a local college on a part-time basis which lead towards their NVQ qualification.

The long running Liebherr National Apprentice Scheme can boast countless success stories: a Truck Mixer Workshop Apprentice has been promoted to 'Tech Desk' Product Support Engineer 4 years after joining the company; another has gone from Business Apprentice to Sales and Service Coordinator in Concrete Technologies whilst another is now a Credit Controller.

A Welding Apprentice is now a Workshop Engineer in Mobile Cranes and then a number of the Workshop Engineers have progressed through to being

Workshop Engineers in various departments. One has even been promoted to Workshop Supervisor after completing his apprenticeship only 3 years ago.

Tony Gribble, General Manager Aftersales of Liebherr GB, comments: Liebherr rightly view their apprentices as a key element of their annual recruitment drive and take the responsibility of moulding these young people's careers very seriously. We also continue to be longstanding and proud sponsors of the Construction Plant-Hire Association's Stars of the Future Awards which recognise and reward outstanding apprentices and trainees who not only bring ability and commitment to their learning and their work, but also possess those extra capabilities which mark them out as future leaders."

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Bobcat®

One Tough Animal

in profile

BOBCAT MINI EXCAVATORS IMPRESS CUSTOMERS AT SM HIRE

When Sam Neill set up his new plant hire business earlier this year, he took on board customer feedback before investing in rental equipment, which is why he had no hesitation in recently adding two new Bobcat compact machines, supplied by Northern Excavators.

SM Hire is located close to the Six Mile Water in Antrim and is steadily building up its stock and its customer base. The Bobcat E10z and E27z compacts are the first excavators in the fleet and they have been out on hire ever since he acquired them.

Sam Neill's first experience of the Bobcat brand was some years ago when working in partnership with his father in a building company, but he readily admits he wasn't that impressed so when he began to think about setting up the plant hire business Bobcat didn't initially feature in his plans.

"However," he says, "I began seeing Bobcats everywhere I went, so I decided to take a closer look, and it's a decision I haven't regretted. The brand has come on leaps and bounds since those early days, they have improved significantly, and my customers are big fans of the machines."



He adds: "I did consider other machine makes and indeed I could have gone for cheaper brands, but the build quality of those wasn't as good as the Bobcat which has plenty of power, better cabs and a better quality finish.

"These are issues that need to be taken into account when hiring out to customers; you want a robust, reliable machine that's not going to give you any problems, and Bobcat fits the bill perfectly. Quality definitely counts."

One of his first customers for the new Bobcats was a landscape gardener who opted for the 1.2 tonne E10z which he used for digging out post holes; he then hired out the bigger 2.7 tonne E27z.

"He's used different plant and machinery in the past, but has been well impressed with the Bobcat; there is a lot he likes about them," says Sam who plans to slowly build up his hire fleet over the next few months. "I will listen to my customers and find out what their needs are and then invest accordingly."



Sam Neill, SM Hire, Antrim.



keeps compaction to a minimum when crossing lawns and other established surfaces.

It also features the exclusive In-Track Swing Frame, which allows you to get closer to your work. The swing castings and cylinders stay within the tracks when you dig in an offset position.

Bobcat E27z

Meanwhile, the Bobcat E27z has the largest cab for this size of machine on the market. As a true zero house swing machine, the E27z offers the highest flexibility of movements when working close to walls, coupled with best-in-class 360-degree stability and a low weight for easy transportation.

With the optional long arm and a premium cab, the E27z offers the digging output and operator comfort of much larger excavators, making it a machine of choice for urban operating construction companies.

If your work require frequent pauses, the Auto Idle will make it easier – and quieter – to pause during your work, take a quick break or communicate with others on the jobsite. You'll save on fuel, too, for when machine functions aren't used for more than four seconds, your excavator automatically idles the engine until you start work again. When you move the joystick controls or initiate travel, the excavator automatically returns to the previously set throttle

position. Auto idle can be enabled or disabled, to suit your work pattern.

Auto-Shift travel moves your excavator out of high range and back automatically, giving you superb travel performance without having to manually downshift. It automatically transitions the travel motors to and from high range, producing greater tractive effort when you need it, without manual shifting. Simply select the travel speed range you want and go. The rubber track with directional lugs also provides a smoother ride and less vibration when travelling.

Bobcat E10z

So, let's take a closer look at his two new Bobcats. With a retracted track width of only 71 cm, the Bobcat E10z mini excavator can access difficult and cramped jobsites where exhausting manual labour is your only other option. This model navigates through narrower openings and can operate in more confined areas than other excavators. The zero tail swing gives you the greatest flexibility to pivot and deposit soil while offering the most protection against accidental contact with surrounding property.

The Bobcat E10 allows you to choose the position of your joystick controls: outward for comfort, or inward for passing through narrow openings. Its soft-grip pilot control joysticks provide the operator with effortless control of the boom and arm work group, while its canopy gives operators better visibility in confined areas. The lightweight design, which is ROPS, TOPS and FOGS certified,

SM HIRE IS LOCATED CLOSE TO THE SIX MILE WATER IN ANTRIM AND IS STEADILY BUILDING UP ITS STOCK AND ITS CUSTOMER BASE. THE BOBCAT E10Z AND E27Z COMPACTS ARE THE FIRST EXCAVATORS IN THE FLEET

Executive Hire Show reschedules to April

Due to continuing uncertainty around the COVID-19 pandemic, and following discussions with exhibitors, supporters and partners, the Executive Hire Show organisers have taken the decision to reschedule the 15th annual hire event from its original dates in February 2021 to 28th and 29th April 2021. The show will take place at its established home at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry.

The Executive Hire Show has long been a key event on the exhibition calendar and is at the heart of the UK plant and tool hire sector. Since the Show's inaugural event back in 2007, it has grown and evolved to cater for the ever-changing demands of the Hire sector.

The organisers of the event felt that it was important to get back to business, safely, securely, and in line with strict government guidelines to the benefit of exhibitors and visitors alike and stage a Covid-safe exhibition.

Chris Moore, Executive Hire Show, publishing and events director explained the decision: "I have not taken this decision lightly and have consulted



with event managers, hirers and many of our commercial partners and all have agreed with this prudent measure and have confirmed that they would rather the event is moved, and that stringent safety procedures are implemented, than the show is postponed to any later in the year, or indeed cancelled.

"I appreciate that this decision will impact on organisations and visitors' travel plans. However, the health, safety and wellbeing

of all Executive Hire Show attendees and exhibitors has to be our number one priority and I hope people will understand why we have had to take this course of action in the face of unprecedented circumstances.

"By moving the event to April 2021, we are confident that we will be able to deliver the same fantastic experience as always. To which end, I am delighted to report that the show is already over 70% booked."

Following consultation with exhibitors - the feedback received has been incredibly positive and the decision to reschedule the Show has been met with overwhelming support.

If you were thinking of exhibiting at the EHS and would like further information contact show director, Chris Moore (07772993023) at c.moore@hgluk.com or sales manager Lee Westney (0207 973 4632) at l.westney@hgluk.com.

New Date for CPA Conference and Introduction of Webinar Programme

The Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) has announced that the 2021 CPA Conference will now be held on Thursday 14th October 2021 at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre in Fillongley near Coventry.

The conference was scheduled to take place on Wednesday 28th April 2021, however in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the long-term uncertainty regarding when mass gatherings can take place, it has been decided to postpone the event to later in the year.

The CPA Conference is a one-day event organised by the CPA, the leading trade association for the plant-hire sector in the UK. The CPA has over 1,700 members who supply 85% of hired plant to the construction industry.

In order to address some of the key issues for the construction plant sector prior to the CPA Conference taking place in October 2021, the CPA is introducing a six-month webinar programme.

CPA Chief Executive Kevin Minton said: "In this time of uncertainty, it is in the

best interests of everyone if we move the conference to October 2021. We look forward to coming back bigger and better than ever before with a programme that engages and addresses the issues of our time, whilst also looking ahead to the post-COVID age. Some issues won't wait for the rescheduled CPA Conference in October 2021, so we are introducing a programme of webinars over a period of six months, to address some topics of immediate relevance and concern that we would have covered in at the Conference in April."

The CPA webinar programme will kick off on Thursday 19th November 2020 with the theme of 'Brexit: What do you need to do to prepare?'

This will be followed by a webinar on Thursday 21st January 2021 with the theme of 'Reducing Emissions and Working Towards a Zero Carbon Future' and sponsored by Genquip Groundhog. Other webinar themes will include skills and a focus on independent hirers. Details of the webinars will be announced on the CPA website at www.cpa.uk.net.

The 2021 CPA Conference will be the sixth CPA Conference to be held. Over the years, it has become established as an essential entry in the calendar for senior figures in the plant-hire sector. Previous speakers have included representatives from clients such as HS2 and Highways England, contractors such as Skanska and Laing O'Rourke, major plant-hire companies and other bodies such as the Police and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

The 2021 CPA Conference will be hosted by Merryn Myatt who hosted the event in 2019 and introduced a brand-new format with a series of panel speakers. Merryn is a former television newsreader, presenter and journalist, having worked on local and national radio and television, including being senior presenter on The Money Channel. Merryn will encourage debate and audience interaction through a series of panel discussions with key people from across the industry.

As well as attending the Conference, delegates will also have the opportunity to visit a number of exhibition stands.

Lynch adds 34 Caterpillar machines to its fleet

UK nationwide plant hire and haulage specialist Lynch has added 34 new Caterpillar machines to its commercial fleet, an investment of £2.6 million.

Finning UK & Ireland, exclusive distributor of Cat products, delivered the machines to the firm's headquarters in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, where they are already on hire. These new additions enhance Lynch's offerings to its customers.

"Choosing Caterpillar machines is a common-sense commercial move for us," commented Chris Gill, director at Lynch. "We have a long, established and amicable working relationship with Finning, and Caterpillar machines are especially durable and reliable so we can offer our customers the best quality and value for money. The exceptional build quality and durability of the machines means they keep their residual value, which is good for the customer, but also a sound investment for us."

"The investment comes off a great start for Lynch on HS2, and some of these machines are being placed straight onto the project."



This investment in Cat machinery is in preparation for further HS2 works with our customers firmly in mind. We're focussed on providing the most technologically advanced fleet available on the market."

The new arrivals include five new dozers including the Cat D6XE electric dozer, the world's first electric drive dozer which offers unparalleled levels of torque and traction control, along with one of the latest next generation Cat D5 dozer's, introduced to

the UK earlier this year. Ten additional 308 excavators completed the excavator delivery.

The new machines also include two Cat 730 articulated dump trucks, specially designed for work on tight roads or quarry switchbacks, and two Cat CS66B rollers with their innovative vibratory soil compacting mechanisms.

Three Cat 432 backhoes, which offer ultimate versatility in a multitude of applications in one convenient package, also joined the convoy to Lynch, along with five Cat 313 FL HSR excavators, ideal for excavating projects large and small.

"We're very pleased with the support from Finning, both throughout the sales process and afterwards to ensure we have a package that's tailored specifically to meet our needs and those of our customers," continued Chris Gill.

"Maintenance is absolutely vital to keeping our machines running, and Finning's proactive Finsight machine monitoring system is invaluable, as Finning help us to ensure our equipment is operating smoothly and efficiently. This is especially useful as a plant hire business because we have machines all over the country and for our customers it means there's little risk of machine downtime."

Hire Awards of Excellence 2020 winners announced at virtual awards ceremony

Winners of the Hire Awards of Excellence were announced at a virtual awards ceremony, live streamed to more than 50 companies from within the hire industry for plant, tool, equipment and events sectors on 16th September 2020.

Outgoing HAE EHA CEO Graham Arundell received the Outstanding Contribution to Hire award, as he made the announcement, association chair, Brian Sherlock, said: "Since January 2007, Graham Arundell, as CEO of the association has increased member numbers, restructured the organisation to meet the challenges faced whether that was the financial crash of 2008, driving more commerciality within the association or giving us a voice within Government and the market. I would like to thank him on behalf of the Board and members of HAE EHA for his dedication and drive which has seen the organisation change fundamentally since he has been in position."

Successful companies on the day included Sunbelt Rentals,

who collected the awards for Website of the Year and SafeHire Event Hire Company of the Year; AFI Uplift who's staff members received individual accolades for both Young Apprentice of the Year and Workshop Manager of the Year and Cardiff based independent Mile Hire who were awarded the coveted SafeHire Plant, Tool & Equipment Hire Company of the Year Turnover Up To £10 million.

Travis Perkins were also big winners on the day, receiving the awards for Best Use of New Media and SafeHire Plant, Tool & Equipment Hire Company of the Year Turnover Over £10 million. Commenting on their success, Catherine Gibson, tool hire managing director at Travis Perkins, said: "It's a huge honour to have received two acclaimed awards in such highly contested HAE categories. It is truly great to be recognised as the benchmark and gold standard. Our safety initiative, based on the key insight and root cause of safety incidents, was implemented by a knowledgeable team who worked tirelessly to ensure Travis Perkins set the right example."

"The same desire to push boundaries also applies to how we utilise new media channels, being able to showcase the breadth of equipment available via a highly engaging digital video. We are delighted to be receiving these two accolades and well done to the Travis Perkins teams across Tool Hire operations, marketing, safety and group technology services."

Individual Awards

On the individual award front, Rob Thompson, general manager, GoHire was the recipient of this year's Hire Manager of the Year and Hire Achiever of the Year awards, and was clearly thrilled to have his accomplishments acknowledged, saying: "Winning both Hire Manager of the Year and the overall Hire Achiever of the Year awards is a huge honour. I was watching the live stream with family and work colleagues, when both awards were announced everybody was ecstatic. I have already received numerous congratulations from clients and staff."

Whilst the finalists and wider hire industry were obviously sad not to have been able to celebrate together, feedback for the virtual awards ceremony has been incredibly positive.

Commenting on its success, Graham Arundell, CEO, HAE EHA said: "We just couldn't let 2020 end without recognition for everyone who had put a lot of time and effort into their submissions for this year's Hire Awards of Excellence. It was a different format from our usual awards evening, certainly from an organisational perspective but shows what can be achieved. We would certainly not hold back from using this technology in future if necessary, plus some of our VR developments would significantly enhance the production and viewer experience. Onwards now to 2021, time to start preparing your entry!"

All the winners and a replay of the virtual Hire Awards of Excellence 2020 can be viewed here.

<https://awards.hae.org.uk/#info>



Balloo Hire Keeps the Lights on with Trime

Balloo Hire Centres recently secured a new deal with Glendun Plant and Trime to supply a substantial order of 'X-ECO' Lighting Towers, enabling Balloo Hire to further meet the demands of the hire market across Ireland.

The deal represents the largest single order placed with Trime for lighting towers

on the Island of Ireland, and one of the largest in the UK.

Dermot Cunnie Glendun Plant commented: "The X-Eco has proven to be a hit with the hire and event industry due to its 'ready to rent' specification, and with contractors due to its quick set up, sturdy design and ease of operation. The X-Eco is the number one lighting tower in the UK and Ireland – its reliability and reduced whole

of life cost contribute to its 'market leading' position."

Mark Grundy, Balloo Hire General Manager, added: "We noticed an increase in customer demand for lighting towers so therefore decided to expand our current fleet by investing in multiple new machines. The choice to go with Trime was made on quality, reliability, user experience, serviceability and versatility. We were impressed with the

dealer backup offered from Glendun Plant and overall level of customer service received."

Balloo Hire have had a long relationship supplying lighting towers to the construction, event, utility, and domestic sectors throughout Ireland. They have experienced a recent growth in terms of demand in this market, and therefore see an opportunity to supply customers with Trime Lighting Towers.

Paul Gaze Appointed Hire Industry Supremo

Paul Gaze has been appointed CEO Designate of Hire Association Europe (HAE) and Event Hire Association (EHA), following Graham Arundell's decision in January to step down as the Chief Executive Officer after 13 demanding years at the helm.

Paul took over the hire industry hot seat on September 1 2020, after joining HAE EHA as Commercial Manager in 2018 and quickly making his mark by helping to transform the training and skills development programmes, setting up a career path for members, widened the training offer and introducing a vocational assessment centre.

He has a great understanding of and insight into the issues within construction and is considered a skilled relationship builder with an ability to bring about consensus across general and specialist sections of the industry. Paul is passionate about training and development and an outstanding advocate of providing opportunity for industry to excel in a constantly changing environment.

To support cross sector working he introduced the Hire Skills Pledge to promote careers, recruitment and development. Paul led the further development of Virtual Reality training and the HAE Direct Business, supporting members with safety guidance and information. He has also taken an active

role in supporting industry committees, forums and groups including the Technical Safety Panel, Digger and Dumper Safety Group, Construction Dust Partnership, and the Build UK CITB Reform Group.

His impressive pedigree of 30 years' experience in the construction industry in a range of technical and managerial roles in both the public and private sectors – prior to joining HAE EHA he spent more than a decade at the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) – made Paul the ideal candidate for the position, said Brian Sherlock, Chair HAE.

Brian explained: "HAE EHA has experienced a very successful past decade under Graham Arundell's steady hand and the post of CEO designate provides some big shoes to fill. As an ambitious and innovative organisation we're looking forward to Paul putting his skills and experience to excellent use: continuing to build the Association and support its members by developing training and enhanced services as well as providing operational resources to support the hire industry."

He added: "The Board would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Graham Arundell for delaying his retirement, in order to support the Association during the pandemic. We are pleased to confirm that he will continue in a part-time position for the remainder



Paul Gaze.

of the current fiscal year to ensure that a seamless transition of leadership occurs."

On his appointment, Paul said: "I'm thrilled to be named as the new CEO Designate and eager to continue the advancement of the business strategy and specific services within that. Such proactivity, especially in these unprecedented times for the Tool, Plant & Equipment Board, Event Equipment Board and the Supply Chain Industry Board, will be critical to the Associations' support of their members."

Paul holds a BSc (Hons) in Building Management from Northumbria University and an MBA from the University of Sunderland Business School. He is also a Chartered Builder and Chartered Building Engineer.

For more details visit www.hae.org.uk

PLANTFORCE RENTALS

NEW INNOVATIONS IN GPS MACHINE CONTROL

Plantforce Rentals, in partnership with BAM, Leica Geo-Systems and SMP, have launched first in the UK trials of a semi-automated excavator and tilt rotator combination powered by Leica's new innovative MC1 GPS machine control platform.

Trials commenced on the 2nd November 2020 on site with strategic partners BAM Construction, on a civil engineering and road construction project in Southampton. Trials are planned to continue across varied strategic sites in the UK over the coming months.

Comments Plantforce Rentals Operations Director Sam Mercer: "Plantforce Rentals has a great record of showcasing and presenting new technology/solutions and bringing them into the hire market, we pride ourselves on operating one of the largest fleets of technology focused excavators and dozers in the UK.

"We were privileged to be chosen by Leica Geosystems to be involved in a new trial of a semi-automated excavator with GPS and tilt rotator combination, working with strategic partners such as BAM, Kobelco and SMP, with months in the planning we have now began trials of the new machine on various BAM projects, Bam being the perfect partner for the job with their wealth of industry and technology knowledge.

"We are very excited to see the future of machine control advancing at such a fast rate for our customers, and as a supplier to some of the largest infrastructure



projects we feel it's our duty to push such innovations to the forefront of the industry."

The system

The advanced GPS platform solution automatically controls boom, bucket, and tilt rotator functions to dig faster and more accurate to the target design surface and cross slope. The new semi-automatic functionality enables the operator to execute complex tasks, reduce manual controls, increase productivity, speed and accuracy of the work, even for less experienced operators.

"Automating the excavator on a jobsite will increase productivity and accuracy, decrease operator fatigue and fuel consumption. I am convinced that a more focused and alert operator is a safer operator,

decreasing the risk of accidents and costly rework errors," explains Kris Maas, product management director in the machine control division at Leica Geosystems.

The new solution is developed through the hydraulic controller and requires the installation of a hydraulic control unit.

The advanced 3D excavator machine control solution offers several new functions:

- Simple engagement of the auto function by pulling the stick.
- The cross-cut surface protection prevents the operator from digging into other parts of the design surface.
- The solution automatically adjusts the bucket height to minimise over-excavation and costly rework.
- Intelligent slope detection to automatically snap to the correct slope of the surface under the bucket.
- Rotation controlled cross-cut, combining the auto bucket and the auto tilt functions to match the target surface regardless of the bucket rotation.

The Machine

A specifically chosen Kobelco SK210 was retro fitted with P4 hydraulic pump system, a fully installed Leica MC1 machine control platform with valve control unit and an SMP ST22 Tilt Rotator, and vinyl wrapped in partner branding.



Atlas Copco's new ZenergiZe energy storage systems deliver in a compact package

Atlas Copco has launched ZenergiZe, a new range of lithium-ion energy storage systems that can be used as a standalone solution or combined with generators to create a hybrid power solution.

ZenergiZe delivers zero CO₂ emissions, zero noise, and have virtually zero maintenance needs, enabling operators to minimize environmental impact while benefiting from a low cost of ownership. Atlas Copco is the first global generator manufacturer to address the market's needs with such a concept.

The ZenergiZe range features two models, ZBE and ZBP. They offer rated powers of 15kVA and 45kVA, and energy storage capacities of 45kWh, capable of delivering small-medium power with long autonomy. The versatile energy storage systems can be used together with a generator to enable smart load management. Alternatively, they can serve as the primary source of power when used in the island mode. For example, it is ideal for powering a transmitter with 5kW over 8 hours. The ZenergiZe units are an ideal way to meet operating and safety restrictions in noise-sensitive environments such as events and metropolitan construction sites, to power remote telecom applications, or to resolve low load problems.

Designed with sustainability in mind, the energy storage systems enable users to minimize the environmental impact of their operation by significantly reducing fuel consumption and emissions. In the hybrid mode, using a ZenergiZe unit in combination with a QAS80 generator, operators can



reduce fuel consumption by up to 50 percent over 12 hours compared to using a larger stand-alone QAS125 generator.

Furthermore, during its lifecycle, a ZenergiZe unit only emits 50 percent of the emissions of a standard standalone generator, saving approximately 100 tons of CO₂ – the equivalent of planting 450 trees (assuming a tree life of 30 years). When used in the island mode, the CO₂ savings can reach up to 100 percent if the unit is powered by renewable energy sources.

With a footprint of just 1.4 m², the ZenergiZe range is ideal for applications where floor space is limited. The use of high-density lithium-ion batteries means that they are 70 percent smaller and lighter in weight than traditional standalone generators, allowing transport without any specialist equipment. In the hybrid mode, when used

together with a generator, they enable smart load management by helping the generator reach the peaks of power. This optimizes the generator's performance and extends its lifespan, allowing its size to be reduced by 40 percent.

To further enhance ease of use and reduce the total cost of ownership (TCO), the ZenergiZe storage systems require virtually no maintenance. The lithium-ion technology facilitates a lifespan of 40,000 working hours in normal conditions, with an overload capability of 150 percent. In low load applications, a ZenergiZe unit can provide the required power for more than 12 hours without needing to be recharged.

The simple recharging process takes only 1.5 hours, and the lithium-ion technology enables charging using various energy sources such as a generator, the grid, or renewable energy. Additionally, the ZenergiZe units offer a wide usable energy range compared to other technologies and can maintain performance in ambient temperatures of -20°C up to 50°C.

"At Atlas Copco we are driven by innovation and are ultimately looking to deliver sustainable value to our customers," says Barbara Gregorio, Product Marketing Manager – Innovative Energies & Digital Solutions at Atlas Copco's Power and Flow Division. "The market is demanding cleaner energy and power sources, and electrification is a key technological trend for industrial machinery. Advances in lithium battery technology mean that we are now able to deliver a product with the high reliability that our customers have come to expect from us."

Versatile Colt 1000 Screen Makes an Impact

P&L Barton provide plant and services on a sub-contract or hire only basis, offering a wide range of services to the construction, groundwork, civil engineering, quarrying, recycling and haulage industries.

Based in Carnforth, Lancashire, the company operates a diverse selection of modern well-maintained equipment to ensure clients are supplied with reliable and efficient hire solutions and in recent years EvoQuip has become part of the fleet. They took receipt of their first EvoQuip Colt 1000 from Blue Central in June. Since then the machine has been on hire contacts in multiple configurations to suit the required job sites.

One recent application has been to produce limestone walling stone for one of their regular clients where space was limited. P&L Barton set about reconfiguring the Colt 1000 so that both conveyors discharged out the same side into



segregated areas, maximizing the area available, eliminating double handling and showing how versatile the Colt is.

Commenting on the Colt's performance, Richard Barton, Plant Manager at P&L Barton said, "The Colt 1000 is the perfect machine for us due to its flexibility. Being suited to scalping and fine screening and the ability to quickly convert from 3 way to 2 way split and to swap conveyor configurations

means it's suitable for many applications and job sites."

In the short time that P&L Barton have owned the Colt 1000, the machine has been out working on various projects. "We have been able to run the machine in 2 way split on one project then convert it so that mids and fines are discharged on the same side on a really compact site, and in standard set up on another site. With the range of media options available I don't think there is any job she can't do."

Gabrielle Stewart, EvoQuip Product Manager said, "The Colt 1000 is one of our best-selling products, customers regularly comment on being impressed by the performance of the aggressive screen-box and have found it to be excellent in multiple applications."

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. The Colt 1000 achieves a compact footprint maintaining the ethos of the EvoQuip range while achieving versatility and mobility. Flexibility is enhanced with configurable conveyor options and two-way split conversion.

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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view from the cab

'FIRST' CASE 1121G PROVIDES QUARRY WITH IMPRESSIVE POWER & PERFORMANCE



Cowan Bros recently delivered what is the first of the new CASE 1121G wheel loaders to be sold in Ireland; it is now earning its keep at FP McCann's Knockloughrim Quarry where Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the 'view from the cab.'

The Case 1121G not only looks impressive, but with a best-in-class breakout force more than 56,000 lbs, and strong, powerful load sensing hydraulics, its performance at the quarry is also impressive, working a demanding 12 hours a day servicing the company's busy concrete and black top plants.

Specifically built for high capacity production environments where truck loading, material carrying and stockpiling is required, the Case 1121G full size wheel loader, according

to FP McCann's Quarry Manager Chris McCloy, is 'ticking all the right boxes.'

He adds: "We've only had it for a few weeks, and we are very happy with it, as is the operator. In the 40 years he has been with us this is his first Case and he was a little apprehensive at the beginning,

but having spent some long days with the machine he is more than delighted."

The company had no hesitation in investing in the loading shovel which boasts an operating weight of 28 tonnes and a 5.5 cubic metre capacity bucket because they have had plenty of experience of the Case brand.

"We've been operating two Case 1021 loading shovels at the quarry and they have served us very well, so we had every confidence in taking delivery of this new model with its heavier operating weight and loading shovel," says Chris.

"The cab provides the operator with a pleasant, warm and well-ventilated working environment. He has great all-round visibility, and we added some extra lights to cope with the darker winter days."





THE CAB PROVIDES THE OPERATOR WITH A PLEASANT, WARM AND WELL-VENTILATED WORKING ENVIRONMENT. HE HAS GREAT ALL-ROUND VISIBILITY, AND WE ADDED SOME EXTRA LIGHTS TO COPE WITH THE DARKER WINTER DAYS.

intuitive, comfortable, and operator friendly cab of any CASE wheel loader to date – a strong statement from a company already recognised for superior operator environments. Access to the cab is easier and safer thanks to the optimised handrails and the pull-type handle.

An 8" LCD monitor offers simple controls and greater insight of loader functions and activities. The latest in electro-hydraulic controls and a membrane keypad further simplify operation, while an active suspension premium seat features electronic auto-weight adjustment, a dynamic dampening system and a low frequency shock absorption system. Combined with the suspended cab mount this reduces the noise and vibrations the operator is subjected to. Oh yes, and the seat includes heaters which warm it up in the cold winter mornings.

Automatic bucket control features like "return-to-dig," "return-to-travel" and "height control" also make the operator's life easier. In addition, the machine features an electro-hydraulic, load sensing hydraulic system that allows for improved functionality as well as precise bucket and loader functions that produce less heat, require less fuel, and provide speed and control options ideal for high-capacity work. A one-piece rounded windshield and multiple rear-view convex mirrors, along with a rear-view camera that feeds the monitor, ensures full 360° visibility, and an HVAC system mean you can stay comfortable and engaged throughout those long shifts.

The cab, too, offers plenty of space for the operator's bits and pieces. Multiple storage areas enable you to store documents, beverages and personal objects conveniently. It even has an electrically powered cool box to keep your lunch fresh all day long!

Serviceability

The unique design of the CASE cooling cube, with five radiators mounted to form a cube instead of overlapping, ensures a constant flow of fresh and clean air from the sides and from the top to maintain constant fluid temperatures.

The cube structure provides easy access to radiators for a more effective cleaning and improved serviceability: additional cleaning can also be easily done manually, with separate access to each radiator.

The positioning of the engine at the rear and the easy-to-open electric hood provide fast access to the service points. Jumper cables are available as standard for jump starting the engine if the battery is low.

Don't be surprised if you don't see any safety handrails around the hood or steps behind the rear wheels, all service points are easily accessible at ground level. You can do a fast visual check of the hydraulic and transmission oil levels. The three drains are grouped together on the left side, so that fluids are easy and quick to replace.

Chris also praised dealers Cowan Bros for their continued support and back-up service. "Over the years we have built up an excellent working relationship with the team there. A reliable aftersales package is everything because in our business we cannot afford any unnecessary downtime and we have always found Cowan Bros to be there when we need them."

Operator Friendly

So, let's take a closer look at the new Case 1121G, which is powered by a Cursor 9 engine, with 6 in-line cylinders and an 8.7 litre displacement, designed to deliver both fuel efficiency and reliability with plenty of power available.

With its higher breakout force which results in more digging and lifting capability than the 1021s, it also features the most



HERBST TIEFBAU OPTS FOR THE NEW **HYUNDAI HL955A** WHEEL LOADER

Herbst Tiefbau is a civil engineering business run by Christian Herbst and his six-man professional team – the company operates in Epfach, which is one of the most beautiful landscapes in Germany.

For the first time in the company's history, Herbst has ordered a brand-new Hyundai HL955A wheel loader based solely on the advert and data sheet for the machine, from Hyundai dealer, Fischer & Schweiger GmbH in Zusmarshausen.

Herbst said, "I was confident enough to place this order based on the data sheet as I have known Georg Schweiger of Fischer & Schweiger for many years. We have been doing business together since 1996 and things have always worked out well."

The company needed a new wheel loader for road construction, work in gravel pits and loading construction materials. Herbst chose the latest model of Hyundai's A-series, equipped with a stage V engine. The new star of the fleet arrived in January 2020, with a standard bucket, central lubrication and rock tyres. The machine operates for around 400 hours a year at various job sites.

Christian Herbst often operates the wheel loader himself and is very pleased with its



performance, he said, "I operate graders, wheeled excavators, including Hyundai machines, and wheel loaders myself, so I am familiar with the workings of all machines. With this knowledge I know first-hand how good the (Hyundai) machines have become in terms of hydraulics, electronics and ergonomics. I am very satisfied with the new Hyundai HL955A. The 2.8m³ bucket is perfectly suited for our operations, and with a weight of 15 tonnes it can easily be transported to the job site on our low loader without needing a special permit."

Key Features

The Cummins B6.7 engine, with the all-in-one exhaust aftertreatment system, brings many advantages to the brand-new wheel loaders. The engine is Stage V certified and is also easy to maintain thanks to its diagnostics connection to Hi-Mate, its long service intervals and the DPF.

The exhaust aftertreatment system does not require manual DPR regeneration.

The IWM (Intelligent Work Mode) menu allows for three engine modes – Power, Power Smart and Economy – to provide full engine power or reduced fuel consumption, depending on the application. Power Smart Mode results in reduced energy losses and an average of 3% - 5% fuel savings. In addition, engine power is optimised to deliver higher torque at lower rpm.

The spacious operator cab features an electro-hydraulic, ergonomic joystick to comfortably control all functions of the mast. Joystick steering is optional. The premium seat comes with a four-way air suspension (up/down and front/back), and the fully adjustable armrest results in higher operator comfort and less operator fatigue.

Hyundai A-series wheel loaders are equipped as standard with a rear-view camera. The optional AAVM four camera system takes safety to a higher level. It informs the operator when people or hazardous objects are detected. The camera system comprises two major features: AVM (Around View Monitoring) and IMOD (Intelligent Moving Object Detection). Four cameras film on each side of the machine, enabling the AVM system to offer a 360° overview of the machine's surroundings. IMOD indicates all movements around the machine.



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- ✓ Access to quick service requirements through the wide dealer network and an excellent genuine spare parts guarantee delivered in 24hrs.

As an operator the HL960A's features will make your working day more comfortable:

- ✓ Its large spacious cabin features state-of-the-art noise and vibration reduction technology, while the high-quality adjustable seat provides comfortable reach to all controls.
- ✓ Safety is priority – and the HL960A offers an optional all-round 360° viewing camera which delivers excellent visibility.
- ✓ The soft end stop function reduces the hydraulic speed of the cylinder as it reaches the end of its stroke. This lessens the shock load of the stroke for increased operating comfort and better material retention.

In other words, the A-Series offers you higher productivity, greater comfort, increased uptime and an improved TCO (Total Cost of Ownership).

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Komatsu 'Just The Cheese' For Award-Winning Wicklow Producer

In what represents a significant investment in their business, Wicklow Farmhouse Cheese has acquired a new Komatsu WA100-8 wheel loader that company founder John Hempenstall says will be an 'essential link in our production chain'.

Proving to be 'just the cheese' for the award-winning cheese makers, the unit is fitted with interchangeable loading bucket, silage grab and front lifting forks. It will be used on 'yard and warehouse duties' centred around the management of their large 170-strong Friesian herd.

A family business established in 2005, Wicklow Farmhouse Cheese is located at Curranstown, near Arklow, where the Hempenstall family has operated a dairy farm for the past 50 years.



Sold in supermarkets and specialist stores throughout Ireland, their products have acquired a reputation for quality and taste, varieties including Wicklow Blue Brie, Wicklow Bán Brie, St. Kevin Brie and a selection of Wicklow Gold Cheddar cheeses. Handmade on the farm, their

distinctive range has won numerous awards including gold, silver and bronze in national and international competitions.

Supplied to them by Komatsu distributor McHale Plant Sales of Birdhill and Rathcoole, the Komatsu WA100-8 wheel loader was developed for farm and agricultural applications from a machine originally conceived for construction use.

Praising John Hempenstall for his decision to acquire a machine with the robust features to serve their needs for generations, McHale general manager Denis McGrath said: "their decision to invest in their future in this way reflects the importance that Wicklow Farmhouse Cheese attaches to quality in all matters".

Latest Wheel Loaders Unveiled By Wacker Neuson

Wacker Neuson offers the right wheel loader for any type of application, from the emission-free electric wheel loader in the 2-metric ton class to the all-rounder WL34 and up to the 10-metric ton class. The largest model WL110 and the wheel loader WL34 have been available since April.

Wheel loaders are an indispensable part of many fleets and are true multi-talents in a wide variety of application areas such as, for example, gardening and landscaping and municipalities. For all application cases, Wacker Neuson has the right solution, now with 14 different wheel loader models, from two to eleven metric tons operating weight.

The wheel loader WL110 is ideally suited for heavy material handling. This is ensured by a combination of a powerful 156 HP engine and a large hydraulic pump (180 l/min). With the heavyweight by Wacker Neuson – with a tipping load of up to 7.7 metric tons and a bucket capacity of 1.8 cubic meters – companies are raising their productivity.

For example, for material handling in building and civil engineering, municipalities, or gravel plants, where gravel breakers must



be loaded with large amounts of heavy gravel, the operators benefit from the higher tractive forces and travel speeds of the machine, which the innovative transmission ecospeedPRO, a variable hydrostatic high-speed transmission, makes possible.

The powerful wheel loader WL110 is additionally equipped with an articulated joint and an oscillating axle in the rear, which make it on the one hand maneuverable and compact, and on the other guarantees optimal traction, for example in gravel plants.

For an even safer and more efficient working principle during material transport, the large cabin of the WL110 ensures that:

The operator always has the optimal view of the attachment and its surroundings, which for one makes working safer, and additionally results in time and cost savings. Also, the ergonomic comfort cabin offers the operator plenty of legroom, a practical layout of operator's controls and a comfortable operator's seat.

The digital 7" display gives him the most important information at a glance: Besides the standard displays, the active functions are also displayed in the cockpit, for example the electric functions that are switched on. The "Jog Dial" control element enables the operator to carry out sensitive work while saving resources.

When necessary, Jog Dial can be used to manually set the flow rate of the hydraulic oil and track it on the display. This way, every attachment can be operated with the individually required amount of hydraulic oil, which ensures increased efficiency and protects the attachments from overloading.

Time-tested

With the new model of the time-tested and proven wheel loader WL34, Wacker Neuson offers an even more performance-efficient all-rounder suitable for a wide range of transport work. With the update of the machine, the wheel loader can be used even more productively: The increased tipping load of up to three metric tons makes the wheel loader particularly sturdy and the work thus even safer.

Customers simultaneously benefit from the increased performance along with the usual compact dimensions: For example, the new model also has a clearance height of under 2.2 meters (with a low operator's canopy), which also makes it ideal for applications indoors or in industrial buildings, garages, road and highway construction, and gardening and landscaping. In addition, the wheel loader is equipped as standard with a spacious comfort cabin, ensuring fatigue-free work. Companies also benefit from short and efficient maintenance times due to the practically arranged service accesses.

Up To 10% Fuel Savings As JCB 457 Loader Gets Engine Change

JCB has updated the 457 wheeled loading shovel to meet the upcoming EU Stage V emissions legislation. The company has moved from the previous MTU engine to Cummins power, as currently used in both the 427 and 437 models.

The 457 is now powered by a QSB6.7 diesel engine, equipped with a single module after-treatment, containing a diesel oxidation catalyst, selective catalytic reduction (SCR), a diesel particulate filter (DPF) and an ammonia slip catalyst (ASC).

The move brings an increase in overall engine power, from 192kW (258hp) to 210kW (282hp).

However, the 457 will be equipped with two power modes, that can be activated from the cab by the operator to reduce the engine's output to 167kW (224hp) for lighter operating duties. In addition, the machine will now be supplied as standard with a five-speed Powershift transmission, in place of the previous four-speed unit.

This combination will deliver a better range of speeds to suit a wide range of applications, but will also benefit from reduced fuel consumption of up to 10% as the loader will be able to operate both in low-power mode and with optimised efficiency through the use of better-spaced transmission ratios. In addition, the 457 will feature an auto engine shut-down feature, that can be adjusted by the operator, resulting in further fuel efficiency and reduced emissions, prolonging service maintenance. The machine will continue to use JCB's Command Plus cab, but will benefit from improved KAB seating, in both the Deluxe and Super Deluxe specifications. JCB has also taken the opportunity to focus on external build quality, with improvements to the engine canopy fit, mudguards, rear grille



latching and cooling pack sealing. Steering now benefits from end-damping, to improve ride comfort and the wide-core cooling pack that was previously an option on the 457 will become standard equipment on the revised loader.

New options for JCB's largest loader include a roof-mounted forward-facing camera, for use with larger buckets and longer loading arms in lighter materials. The forward camera comes with a secondary colour screen in the cab, alongside the standard rear-view monitor.

Power boost

Though staying with Cummins as engine supplier, JCB has also taken the opportunity of EU Stage V compliance to boost the power output of the 437 model. The 437 now comes with 145kW (195hp), up from 136kW (183hp), while the 427's engine delivers 123kW (165hp).

The smaller loaders will also be supplied with a five-speed Powershift transmission as standard, up from the four-speed in the previous models,

while the 437 engine will benefit from a low-power mode, both models feature an automatic engine shut-down facility, to improve fuel efficiency and further cut emissions. Both the

427 and 437 will be offered with the forward-facing camera option and both loaders benefit from the build quality fit and finish improvements seen on the larger loader.





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TOBROCO-GIANT'S G RANGE GIVES LOCAL SALES A BOOST AT BPS

Over the past year, Tobroco-Giant has introduced around 16 new models, including its first 5 tonne machine, with the manufacturer making great strides on the sales front here, thanks in no small measure to dealer Ballyward Plant Services.

In the five years since BPS took on the franchise for Northern Ireland, the company, headed up by Robert McAlerney, has significantly grown sales of the Giant wheel loader and telehandler ranges throughout the Province.

Among recent sales was a new five tonne compact and easily manoeuvrable G5000X-TRA wheel loader, acquired by County Down based Demesne Contracts, who have built up a strong reputation within the Civil Engineering and Street Works Sector.

"This is our second Giant machine and replaces a smaller model we had in our fleet," says Demesne Contracts' Simon Davidson. "It has more lifting capacity than the previous and can move almost twice as fast. It has an excellent build quality, a great cab, an all-round, easy to operate loader that represents excellent value for money - and we cannot fault the service we get from BPS; it is first class."

Ideal for extremely heavy work, the G5000 X-TRA has become extremely popular for construction work and ground care, with a tipping load of 4,700 kg. It is driven by a powerful and reliable 55 kW / 75 hp diesel engine from Kubota. The engine is equipped with a catalytic converter and soot filter and meets the latest, EU Stage V, clean engine standards.

A comfortable working environment has been created in the cab so long working days are no problem. The steering column is adjustable and all necessary information can easily be read from a central display. While using the joystick, the operator can



rest his arm on ergonomically shaped armrest. All key functions are close to the joystick so that they can be easily operated.

The articulated pendulum joint gives the G5000 machines extreme manoeuvrability, accuracy and off-road mobility, while all-round visibility gives the operator an excellent view on his work and allows safe and precise operation.

Easy to Transport

Ken Turley who established Down Hire Centre Ltd more than 25 years ago, has an extensive range of machines and tools for hire, including excavators, dumpers, mixers, scaffolding, power tools, trailers, ladders and access equipment.

He has three Giant wheel loaders and a Tendo telehandler in the fleet, all of which are proving popular with a broad range of customers, from farmers to building contractors. "They specifically request the

Giant brand when they contact us and the machines are easy to transport, some can be moved with just a van and trailer," says Ken.

Kevin Clarke runs KC Hire, a family business based in Newry, which was first started in 1991 and today caters for all types of customers - from D.I.Y enthusiasts to experienced builders, and from factories to farms.

He currently has five Giant machines in the fleet. "The customers are attracted to the machines' versatility, compact dimensions and reliability," says Kevin. "We cannot fault the loaders. We invested in our first one three years ago just to see how it would perform and we have been adding the Giant brand to our fleet ever since."

Expanding Range

As we mentioned earlier, some 16 new models have been added to the Tobroco-Giant portfolio over the past year, with





the emphasis on the G range. So, let's take a closer look at some of those.

For years, the V452T was the best-selling model from the Tobroco-Giant model range. With the arrival of the G2700 models, the machine has received a worthy successor. Not only is the G2700 more powerful when it comes to engine power and traction. Due to a higher operating weight, the tipping loads have increased considerably. This makes the G2700 a modern powerhouse with compact dimension.

The G2700 is available in four different models, all driven by a 3 cylinder Kubota engine with 50 hp. In addition, all models are powered by a hydrostatic all-wheel drive with automotive steering.

The G2700 can be used for all sectors -from construction and earth-moving to landscaping and agriculture - and can be used all year round. Using the hydraulic quick coupler, it is possible to change tools within seconds and adapt the machine to the current work.

The articulated pendulum joint gives the G2700 a small turning circle, which allows the machine to operate in confined spaces. This system also gives the wheel loaders a lot of stability because it ensures that all four wheels remain on the ground, even when working on uneven terrain.

Agile loader

Also introduced earlier this year was the G3500 X-TRA, an articulated loader that was just what the customer demanded! Because building sites are often very narrow and there is not a lot of space to work in, customers asked for an agile loader with a narrow wheelbase that can lift and transport heavy loads. The G3500 X-TRA distinguishes itself by a high tipping load (4,100 kg) compared to its own weight (3,700 kg). Depending on the choice of tyres, the loader has a width between 134 and 165 centimetres. The height is below 2.27 metres so narrow and low passages are no problem and the machine can be used inside as well.

The G3500 X-TRA is powered by a new 48.5 kW/66 HP diesel engine from Kubota. The

engine is equipped with a catalytic converter (DOC) and soot filter (DPF) and is prepared for Stage V emission regulations. Whether transporting large quantities of loads or rough-working activities, the hydrostatic 4-wheel drive with automotive control (Bosch Rexroth) and 100% switchable lock on both axles prevents the machine from



losing grip – even on loose soil. A driving speed of 30 km/h allows customers to travel fast from one building site to another or to transport materials in no time.

A wide range of attachments transforms the G3500 X-TRA in a multi-purpose machine. Attach pallet forks and the G3500 X-TRA will transport complete pallets with cobblestones or move barriers. Change the attachment for a sweeper and keep building sites clean and tidy. Or use a snow blade during the winter season to keep roads and sidewalks free from snow. By choosing the right attachment it is possible to adjust the

G3500 X-TRA to all working conditions and the machine can be used all year round.

Working at Height

For working at heights, Tobroco-Giant has also introduced the compact and versatile GT5048, taking the design of this all-rounder to the next level through the extensive knowledge gained with its predecessor, the 4548 TENDO HD. By combining this knowledge with the latest technologies, a modern 2x2 metre telehandler has been developed with a lifting height of 4.8 metres!

The GT5048 is powered by a new and over 10% stronger Kubota diesel engine with 36 kW / 50 hp. This provides more pulling power at the bottom, gives a lower noise level and also increases the driving speed to 28 km/h. The telehandler has hydrostatic all-wheel drive with automotive steering through 8-ton axles and a heavy planetary final drive.

Thanks to the four-wheel steering, the machine has a limited turning circle (inner radius of 1,200 mm). This makes it easy to work with the machine in small spaces or indoors.

First Electric Loaders

With the G2200E and G2200E X-TRA Tobroco-Giant now has its first electric loaders. The G2200E models combine the best of both worlds with the advantages of an articulated loader and near-silent operation and zero emissions. Making the compact loaders ideal for indoor applications or construction sites in urban areas.

G2200E loaders are standard equipped with a 48V lithium-ion battery that fills the space traditionally used for the engine. With two separate electric motors, 6.5 kW to drive the machine and 12 kW for the hydraulics, there is always enough power to perform tasks precisely. With a lifting height of 2.85 metres and capacity of 1,650 kg, the G2200E is perfect to use when height is important. The G2200E X-TRA has a lifting capacity of 2,200 kg, lifting height of 2.45 metre and is specifically developed for extremely heavy work and work within construction and earthmoving.

view from the cab

CAT 988K WHEEL LOADER 'THOROUGHLY IMPRESSES' AT LAFARGE CEMENT

It seems Cat wheel loaders rule supreme at Lafarge Cement in Cookstown, part of Aggregate Industries which is on the frontline of the construction and infrastructure industries, producing and supplying an array of construction materials, from aggregates, asphalt, ready-mixed concrete and precast concrete products.

Its quarry and plant in Cookstown operates virtually round the clock, including holidays such as Christmas and New Year's Day, and in all sorts of weather, so it is essential only the most robust and reliable machinery will do, which is why the Caterpillar brand features prominently at the rock face.

The company operates two Cat wheel loaders – a 988H and a new 988K which was acquired from dealers Finning & Ireland last August; it now has around 1400 hours on the clock, with no major issues being reported.

"The 988K replaces a 25 year-old 988F which had over 32,000 hours on it," says Quarry Manager Brian McDonald. "The new Cat is a big step

up, we are thoroughly impressed by it; we've noticed a massive difference in power, we can load up the dumpers faster, and there's more comfort features in the cab for the operator."

The Cat 988 has been an industry leader since it was introduced in 1963. This latest generation 988K is currently being used loading up rock at the quarry face. The nature of the task means that the loader could be working on up to four different faces on various levels in separate areas of the quarry during the day, so it is continuously moving around; excavators just wouldn't work on the site.

A few extra features over and above the already high level of standard equipment have been added to the heavy duty Cat 988K, mainly to cope with the challenging conditions at the quarry.

"While the wheel loader has good ground clearance, the terrain tends to get very muddy under foot, which is why we have added chains to the wheels to provide better traction; the chains also gives it added weight, leading to even better stability," explains Brian. "We also fitted extra side guards to the front



wheels to prevent a build-up of mud that would clog up the loader lift cylinders. In addition, significant investment was made to upgrade to an extra heavy duty rock bucket, as well as extending the height of the fall-over guard to give added protection against rock spill from the bucket."

Good visibility from the cab, which is safe and easy to enter and exit thanks to well thought out design features, is essential on such a busy site, and the Cat 988K doesn't disappoint. "Having a clear all-round view from the cab is very important, especially from a health & safety perspective. The Cat 988K features a radar reversing system which our previous machines didn't have."

Power & Efficiency

The 988K is powered by a Cat C18 ACERT engine; electronic fuel control ensures optimum performance and throttle response, delivering up to 20 percent greater fuel efficiency, compared with the 988H. Additional fuel savings accrue with the 988K ECO Mode (on-demand throttle), engine-idle shutdown system, and engine-idle kickdown/auto-resume system. Greater fuel efficiency and lower emissions significantly reduce the carbon footprint.

That fuel efficiency hasn't gone unnoticed at Lafarge Cement. Comments Brian:



John Francis (Finning UK & Ireland) with Brian McDonald (Quarry Manager) & the Lafarge Cement Cookstown team.

view from the cab

THE NEW CAT IS A BIG STEP UP, WE ARE THOROUGHLY IMPRESSED BY IT; WE'VE NOTICED A MASSIVE DIFFERENCE IN POWER, WE CAN LOAD UP THE DUMPERS FASTER, AND THERE'S MORE COMFORT FEATURES IN THE CAB FOR THE OPERATOR



"There's no doubt it is easier on fuel. The machine it replaces was using around 35 litres an hour compared to about 29 to 30 litres, so that is a significant saving on fuel."

The patented Optimized Z-bar loader linkage replaces the 988H mono-boom design and expands 988K versatility. The new design, using solid steel lift arms in either a standard or high-lift configuration, reduces machine height at maximum lift yet increases dump clearance. The design also shortens machine length for greater manoeuvrability.

The exclusive Cat impeller clutch torque converter uses a lock-up clutch, providing direct drive to boost fuel economy, trim cycle times, and reduce heat, especially in load-and-carry applications. The system allows operators to balance rimpull and hydraulic power for optimum loading efficiency, and the Automatic Retarding Control (ARC) system utilises the optional compression brake to maintain desired downhill speeds and reduce service brake wear.

Cab Features

The operator station in the spacious, well ventilated and comfortable cab features the Cat Next Generation Vital Information Management System (VIMS), which provides expanded capabilities, including real-time fuel consumption and fuel efficiency (material

loaded per unit of fuel) data, through an interactive touch screen. In-cab sound levels are considerably reduced—to 71.1 dB(A), down from 74.2 dB(A) in the 988H, and the cab temperature control system is automatic and continuously variable. The Cat Comfort III seat features integrated controls for smooth and comfortable operation, while transmission controls, integral with the STIC steering lever, allow convenient travel control.

For added safety, a remote panel houses a stairway light switch, engine shutdown switch, and lockouts for the transmission and engine starter. A second panel provides convenient access to the battery disconnect switch and a jump-start receptacle. Routine maintenance points are easily accessed, including hydraulic pressure taps and oil sampling ports.

The Cat 988K represents a significant investment, so one would expect a high level of after-sales and support from the dealer, and Finning UK & Ireland scores highly in all respects.

Service & Support

"Their service is second to none," says Brian. "A case in point was a recent



problem with one of the other Cats. The 988H suffered a major fault which required parts coming from England; that was on a Tuesday, and the team at Finning had the machine back in action by the Thursday, so that was an excellent turn-around.

"Because our operation is continuous, our cement plant never stops, we cannot afford any unnecessary downtime, it has to be kept to an absolute minimum, so we cannot fault Finning for the reliable service they provide."

New Sliding Bogie Tipper with Hydraulic Drive Axle

Crick Trailer Sales, the specialist division of Dennison Trailers, has launched a new sliding bogie tipping trailer with hydraulic drive system from SAF Holland.

Combined with the trailer's innovative chassis design, operators can now easily transport up to 50 per cent more aggregate in a single journey when compared with a standard 8x4 rigid tipper, regardless of adverse weather conditions, tight spaces or difficult off-road terrain.

The sliding bogie tipper can be shortened to deliver greater manoeuvrability, a tight turning circle and superior stability. Its low unladen weight means the trailer can transport a payload of up to 29.5 tonnes in its extended position – meeting all legal requirements to run on UK roads at the maximum 44 tonnes – compared with the 19.7 tonne payload capacity of an 8x4 rigid tipper running at 32 tonnes.

With the addition of the SAF hydraulic drive system, the trailer can maximise payload capacity even in the most challenging off-



road environments. Operators can activate the rear hydraulic drive axle wheels via a button in the cab, which redirects the hydraulic power for the tipping PTO to the rear axle. This delivers 600 Newton metres of torque for extra traction.

Complemented by the trailer's superior tipping stability, construction teams can rely on deliveries without the risk of complications or delays due to challenging ground conditions. When tested by the MIRA for tipping stability, the trailer remained planted on the ground at 8.5 degrees with a load of 28.9 tonnes

locked inside. With its larger diameter tipping hinge bar, wide chassis centre and shortened tipping length, the sliding bogie tipping trailer exceeds the requirement set to obtain class A certification for tipping stability by 13 per cent.

Scott Pagano, Technical Sales Representative, Crick Trailer Sales, comments: "In recent years, articulated tipping vehicles have been gaining popularity in aggregate sector operations, as there are clear savings to be made from larger payloads and fewer journeys. The unique chassis design of the sliding bogie tipper also ensures higher levels of safety for operators and greater manoeuvrability, which makes the vehicle easier to drive.

"Now, with the addition of the hydraulic drive system from SAF Holland, our sliding bogie tipping trailer delivers the complete package when compared with an 8x4 rigid tipper. In addition to greater tipping stability, the trailer is equipped with all the extra traction operators need when faced with the most adverse off-road ground conditions."

As well as greater manoeuvrability and stability off road, using larger articulated lorries for deliveries in urban areas has been found by Transport for London to cut CO2 emissions by up to 32 per cent and the number of construction lorries on the roads by up to 37 per cent.

Engcon's new standardisation advances excavation safety

Since its inception 30 years ago, Engcon has been actively involved in driving safety development in the excavation industry. This year is no exception: Engcon is now offering the Quick Hitch Standard Control (QSC) its safe locking system as standard on all tiltrotators with Engcon's control system. In short, the current system for controlling the bucket lock under the tiltrotator is being replaced by Engcon's standardised locking panel.

Engcon's strategy is to continually improve the excavators' everyday lives with more efficient, flexible and safer solutions. This means, among other things, providing

access to smart solutions for everyone, by offering them as standard. The automatic quick mounting system, EC-Oil, has previously been added as an option at no extra charge. Further increasing safety, Engcon will offer the safe locking system QSC under the tiltrotator as standard.

The current system for controlling the bucket lock under the tiltrotator will be replaced with Engcon's standardised locking panel, directing the driver's actions by means of an alert system to ensure correct positioning. In this way, Engcon simplifies the handling of the bucket lock – the hitch control function is standardised, regardless of the make and

model of the excavator.

This minimises the risks of dropped or swinging tools.

"We usually compare it to the fact that the accelerator and brake pedals would have different placements in a car depending on which car brand it is. In short, if a driver who changes from one excavator to another and can operate it in the same way, the risk of making mistakes with serious consequences is greatly minimised", says Martin Engström, Product Manager at Engcon.

Unique safety function

In addition to the standardisation of the locking procedure, it is also impossible to activate the bucket lock under the tiltrotator while

the bucket is hanging in midair – a safety function that is unique to Engcon's locking solution.

"This reduces the greatest risk that a bucket or a tool is accidentally dropped when up in the air. Which can prevent both injuries and deaths," says Martin Engström.

The locking system, QSC, together with Engcon's quick hitch Q-Safe, also has an audio visual warning system. The system warns with sound and light alarms if the bucket is connected incorrectly. As an accessory you can also order a safety function that locks the excavator's turning movements, which further increases safety.

"To sum up, we continue to standardise for maximum safety and to prevent unnecessary accidents due to mistakes, stress or improper handling. And not only that, it costs nothing extra", Martin Engström concludes.

CASE appoints new Head of Europe for Construction Equipment businesses

CASE Construction Equipment has appointed Federico Bullo as the new Head of Europe for Construction Equipment businesses. Federico has held various positions in the company, most recently as Vice President, General Manager, Naveco Ltd. in China.

He takes over in this role from Jose Cuadrado, who will retain his current responsibilities as Global Head of Aftermarket Solutions & Digital - Construction Equipment at CNH Industrial.



Federico Bullo

BRUCE MODULARWASH PLANTS ARE A PROVEN SOLUTION

BRUCE Materials Processing Solutions continue to grow and innovate as a business after 62 years in the industry. The company aim annually to set the bar a little higher by providing a highly professional and reputable service.

As specialists in the manufacture of aggregate and sand washing and classification equipment, combined with their knowledgeable UK dealer network, Bruce modular wash plants are a proven solution in the mineral extraction industries.

Working closely with customers from initial design and concept through to final commissioning, the company's team of fully qualified and experienced in-house engineers deliver aggregate and sand washing equipment that are bespoke to each client's requirements.

Utilising the Bruce modular design approach, proven technologies and branded components, has led to successful installations globally.

"Our programme of continuous improvement has facilitated significant advances in the



range of machinery that we manufacture, most notably the Bruce Washpod.

"Now featuring the Dual Shaft Logwasher, Dual Cyclones and a larger de-watering screen area, the Bruce Washpod continues to be the machine of choice for operators seeking in-spec aggregates and sands in one neat and compact package."

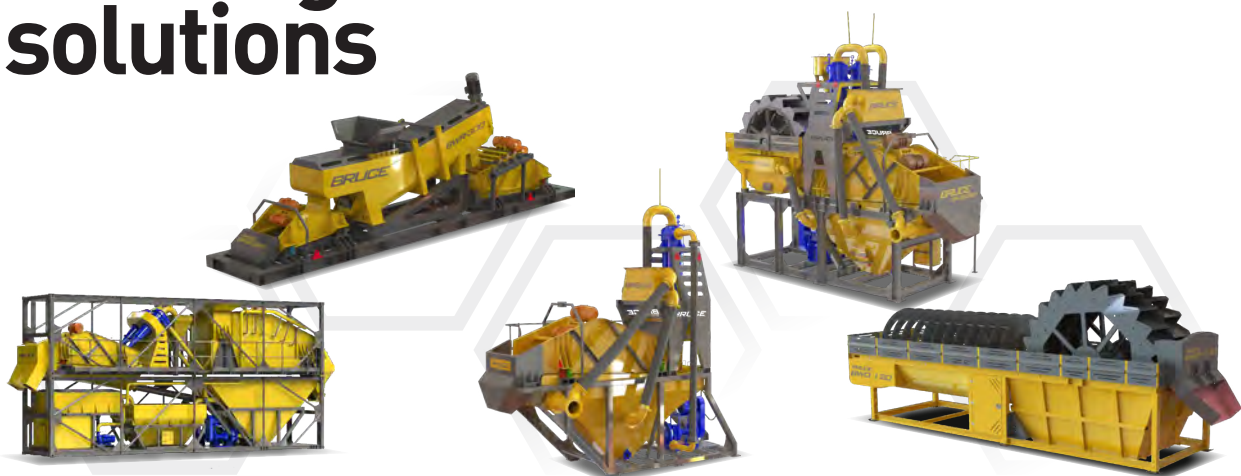
In addition to the Washpod, Bruce Engineering offer a full range of washing solutions

including the Bruce SandPod and BWS range of cyclone sand plants. Furthermore, the Bruce BWB Waterbath has proven a huge hit in the waste recycling industry by offering a simple but effective aggregate clean up system.

"As a certified Hardox Wearparts centre, we continue to incorporate Hardox steel extensively on all our equipment as well as providing a complete Hardox Wearparts service."

intelligent washing solutions

BRUCE
MATERIALS PROCESSING SOLUTIONS



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› WASHING/FEEDING/SCREENING/RECYCLING/ENGINEERING/WEARPARTS

BOBCAT 'NEXT IS NOW' SET TO REINVENT COMPACT INDUSTRY

Bobcat is launching new products, entering new markets and offering even more innovative customer solutions than ever before. In the company's first 60 years, Bobcat created the Global Compact Equipment Industry and changed how the world works. That was then. With 'Next is Now', the company is reinventing everything.

The products were unveiled at the company's largest ever virtual launch event recently in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Roy Haaker, Vice-President of Sales and Marketing for Doosan Bobcat EMEA, said: "Inspired by the 'Next is Now' philosophy, Bobcat is launching an unprecedented number of new products and product categories. In this first phase, Bobcat is making launches in twelve different categories and covering 48 products in total. As well as the product categories, which will enter the market with immediate effect or very shortly, Bobcat is presenting new technology, showing the industry where it will be heading now and in the future."

Models in the new R-Series compact loaders range comprise the S66 and S76 skid-steer loaders and the T66 and T76 compact track loaders - the company has already begun making deliveries of the machines.

John Chattaway, Loaders Product Manager at Bobcat, commented: "Utilising decades of experience, Bobcat has always made the toughest market-leading loaders on the planet. This continues in the new R-Series loaders, which have been completely redesigned from the ground up with a focus on quality, reliability, durability and first-class comfort. The new R-Series represents the next stage in the evolution of the compact equipment industry.



The new R-series tracked loader T66 at work.

"The new R-Series loaders are also distinguished by a new naming system, which now uses two digits in the name rather than the three used in previous models. This also serves to separate the new R-Series loaders from our M-Series machines."

To ensure optimum performance and comfort, the stability of both types of loaders has been further improved with longer wheelbases and track footprints compared to the previous generation machines. The higher stability combined with enhanced efficiency from the hydraulics provides class leading push and breakout forces and increased lift capacity, resulting in higher productivity even on the toughest jobs.

The longer wheelbases and tracks also ensure a smoother ride. The new T66 and T76 compact track loaders have a solid undercarriage system as standard, but can be equipped with the optional 5-Link

Torsion Suspension Undercarriage as an option guaranteeing an even better ride, tackling rough terrain with ease, feeling less bumps and avoiding material spillage.

Stability and productivity can be further enhanced by the optional Auto Ride Control feature available on all R-Series loaders. This feature reduces material spillage and also increases operator comfort by offering a smoother ride.

All R-Series machines come as standard with a fully enclosed one-piece deluxe cab with HVAC, a 5-inch Deluxe Display and an LED lighting system. Available options are the Clear-Side cab, which has mesh-free side screens to aid visibility, a rear-view camera that connects to both the standard 5-inch and the optional 7-inch touch display, as well as the Premium LED light package. The standard suspension seat can be replaced with a cloth heated air-ride seat option.



Bobcat's new compact wheel loader.



The versatile R-Series wheel loader in action.

INSPIRED BY THE 'NEXT IS NOW' PHILOSOPHY, BOBCAT IS LAUNCHING AN UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF NEW PRODUCTS AND PRODUCT CATEGORIES



Bobcat's L23 small articulated loader.

Mini-Excavators

Meanwhile, Bobcat has also launched its new R2-Series generation of 5-6 tonne Stage V compliant mini-excavators – the new E50z, E55z and E60 models. The R2-Series machines offer many new state-of-the-art features and options such as Bobcat's unique award-winning Advanced Selectable Auxiliary Control (A-SAC) system and the innovative Automatic Track Tensioning System (ATTS) technology. Deliveries of the first R2-Series mini-excavators will begin early in 2021.

In the E50z and E55z, Bobcat's unique Zero House Swing (ZHS) feature adds another level of protection to the standard zero tail swing design, providing full peace of mind when operating the machine near walls.

With ZHS, the rotation of the upper structure of the E50z and E55z remains fully within the footprint of the tracks. This includes the boom swing offset cylinder, front corners, handles, lights and even the door in both open and closed positions.

The E50z ZHS model is an easy-to-use, robust machine optimised for specific rental industry

needs while introducing the next level of operator comfort and features required by demanding owner-operators. The weight has been increased and optimised in the E50z to maximise stability, which has allowed Bobcat to provide a long arm as standard equipment. The E55z is a premium performance model - it is the largest and most powerful Bobcat machine with the ZHS design.

The new E60 is the R2-Series flagship model in all aspects - this conventional swing model features a more powerful engine, a larger cab and other new unique features. In the E60, a tail overhang of only 280 mm allows the machine to be operated in confined spaces. This ensures the machine is an ideal tool for highly demanding applications where performance has a priority.

All three excavators offer a best-in-class roomy cab with space where the operator really needs it, with more headroom, legroom and plenty of storage areas. A comfortable seat that can be optionally heated and fitted with a headrest ensures operators will enjoy working a full day in all of these new

machines. The new 5-inch display panel and the optional 7-inch touchscreen display with integrated radio and rear view camera takes comfort and visibility to the next level.

European Market

To expand the company's loader product portfolio and to strengthen the company's position as the world leader in compact equipment, Bobcat is entering the European wheel loader market for compact wheel loaders (CWLs) and small articulated loaders (SALs).

Bobcat is entering the CWL market with two models, the L65 and L85, designed and built by Bobcat at the company's campus in Dobruška in the Czech Republic, and for the SAL market there are also two models, the L23 and L28, designed and built by the company in Bismarck in North Dakota, USA.

Bobcat will be providing more detailed specifications of the CWL and SAL ranges at the commercial launch date, which is planned for early 2021.

R2-Series generation
of 5-6 tonne Stage
mini-excavators



GENIE® HYBRID BOOM LIFTS ARE ECO FRIENDLY & VERSATILE



Regulations regarding CO2 emissions and noise are becoming much stricter in many towns and cities - as in London where there is already an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) - where access for certain diesel vehicles is restricted - and the same rules will undoubtedly apply not just to trucks, vans and cars, but to a whole array of powered equipment.

That means contractors will be under pressure to adapt to these new constraints, as will rental companies who will need to offer their customers equipment that complies with this new legislation to maintain their business activity.

Focusing on bringing versatile, productive, eco-friendly solutions to the market, Terex recently launched its latest Genie® Z®-45 FE hybrid articulating boom lift which joins its sister model, the Genie® Z®-60 FE; and the company says it will be adding more new models the boom range.

Neither purely electric nor fully diesel, Genie® hybrid FE technology marked the introduction of a new family of 100% hybrid-powered boom lifts. Putting an end to batteries that run low, it offers a "2-in-1" solution that is both environment-friendly and highly versatile to adapt to an extremely wide range of applications.

This latest Genie® Z®-45 FE boom lift, which was previewed at Bauma last year, offers a maximum working height of 15.92 m (51 ft 8 in) a maximum horizontal outreach of 6.94 m (22 ft 9 in), a maximum up-and-over reach of 7.50 m (24 ft 7 in) and a market-leading 300 kg (660 lb) maximum lift capacity in the 16 m (52 ft) hybrid boom lift class.

"Serial" hybrid technology, the system used by Genie®, is designed to optimise energy consumption in real-time. Whether used in conventional diesel or new-generation 100% electric mode, this technology does away with wasted energy thanks to an "intelligent" power system that only utilises the energy needed, which increases the machine's power efficiency.



Genie® FE hybrid boom lifts combine an electric motor, that also works as a generator when the machine is operated in hybrid mode, as well as a diesel engine. The electric motor/generator feeds the battery and drives a hydraulic pump that powers the machine's lifting movements. The battery also powers the unit's four AC drive motors that also serve as generators by recuperating energy produced during braking, which charges the battery and the electric engine.

As applies to any electric-powered machine, the battery needs to be recharged, but much less often than with conventional electric machines. The reason for this is that,

when the machine is operated in hybrid mode, the diesel engine automatically takes over from the battery when the level of charge declines, driving the hydraulic pump directly and recharging the batteries.

The battery regenerates the energy produced when braking or descending inclines to maintain its level of charge, which maximises the time the machine spends working in full electric mode. Even the hydraulic system is specially designed and adapted to increase efficiency. The hybrid system continuously maintains the battery level of charge while the machine is in operation to offer an economy of up to 65 litres of diesel per week.

For work in city and town centres, Genie® FE booms are capable of performing a multitude of tasks without CO2 emissions or noise, making them an ideal solution for work at night, as they are for projects within pedestrian zones and in shopping centres where they are particularly well suited for work on upstairs floors such as in departmental stores for example.

For applications outside city centres they provide the ability to work non-stop indoors and out on jobsites where electric power is not available. And since there always comes the time when electric or bi-energy machines need recharging, Genie hybrid technology is by definition a must-have.

As part of their 'go-anywhere' capabilities, these robust four-wheel drive machines travel faster than typical diesel-powered units. Operators will also appreciate their full-time active oscillating front axle system that increases wheel contact on rough terrain, as well as their fully protected AC motors that offer the ability to work under water up to 1 m (3 ft 3 in).

Using a control system that is very similar to all Genie® booms, hybrid Genie® boom lifts are easy and intuitive to operate, which reduces the amount of time dedicated to training. The simplicity of their design also minimises maintenance time and costs.

NEITHER PURELY ELECTRIC NOR FULLY DIESEL, GENIE HYBRID FE TECHNOLOGY MARKED THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW FAMILY OF 100% HYBRID-POWERED BOOM LIFTS.

GENIE® Z^R-45 FE

Working height: 15.92 m (51 ft 8 in)
Horizontal reach: 6.94 m (22 ft 9 in)
Up and over clearance:
7.50 m (24 ft 7 in)
Jib: 135° (+70°/-65°)
Platform rotation: 160°
Lift Capacity: 300 kg (660 lb)
Weight: 6,577 kg (14,500 lb)
Floor loading (tires pressure):
8.07 kg/cm² / 791 kPa

GENIE® Z^R-60 FE

Working height: 20.16 m (65 ft 7 in)
Horizontal reach: 11.15 m (36 ft 7 in)
Up and over clearance:
7.39 m (24 ft 3 in)
Jib: 135° (+70°/-65°)
Platform rotation: 160°
Lift Capacity: 227 kg (500 lb)
Weight: 7,756 kg (17,100 lb)
Floor Load (pressure/
surface): 9.14 kg/
cm² / 896 kPa



AWARD WINNING HOUSE DEVELOPER OPTS FOR TWO NEW **MANITOU** TELEHANDLERS

JH Price & Sons have been building quality homes across Northern Ireland for more than three decades, using the best materials, tradesmen and equipment, which brings us to their recent investment in not one but two new Manitou telehandlers, supplied by dealers Northern Lift Trucks.

The two MT1840s have been proving their worth on a prestigious development of 71 detached and semi-detached homes at Laurel Bank which is nestled in the beautiful County Down countryside at Moneyreagh; the company has won a number of NHBC 'Pride in the Job' awards for its excellence and quality.

So why Manitou? Comments Henry Price: "We've used the brand before and it served us very well, so we had no hesitation in



making this new investment; the Manitou MT1840s are ideal for our type of work.

"The machines have a reach of almost 18 metres, which is what we need on this housing development. When you are sending up materials to that height you

need a safe and stable telehandler; we've had other machines on site but they didn't perform as well as we were led to believe. The Manitou telehandlers don't disappoint; they are versatile and reliable."

The MT1840 is also a very comfortable machine, with a spacious cab and controls that can all be worked from the joystick. Equally at home on the flat or on rough terrain, it has a generous ground clearance and tight turning radius, so manoeuvrability never becomes an issue on busy or restricted sites.

"The Manitous are fitted with good heavy industrial type tyres which cope very well with all sorts of ground conditions, adding to manoeuvrability and stability, even when the machine is fully extended," says Henry.



telehandlers

keep the other on the steering wheel at all times for improved safety and efficiency.

Safety & Precision

The joystick itself is easier to operate than traditional models, with your hand coming to rest on top. With the joystick controls, the driver can precisely and safely place the load where it is needed, first time every time.

Another notable feature over the competition is the ability to always put the jack legs down, which gives you extra reach to make a full lift; the Manitou MT1840, as we mentioned, has a lifting height of almost 18 metres and can easily handle three quarters of a tonne at full horizontal reach of just over 13 metres; its maximum lift capacity in close is four tonnes.

The driver can also calibrate the telehandler's safe load indicator from the dash, without the need of an engineer, while the machine also features an Easy Connect System (ECS) which is a simple device that you can use to easily connect and remove hydraulic attachments.

Just press a button in the driver's cab and the hydraulic pressure begins to decompress on the attachment line. The ECS makes connecting and removing attachments a breeze, saving the operator time and trouble.

The four-wheel drive MT1840 has three steering modes – grab

steer, two wheel steer and four wheel steer – and offers the driver a host of in-cab comfort and safety features, such as a fully adjustable seat, onboard diagnostics, optional air conditioning, a storage box underneath the cab, a standard immobiliser and an automatic handbrake which is activated when the machine goes into neutral.

First Class Support

"We've dealt with Northern Lift Trucks in the past and they haven't disappointed us. They offer a great back-up service, with a really good team of fitters, not that we have required their services a lot, but we know they will respond promptly if we ever have a need," says Henry. "Aftersales support has been first class."

WE'VE USED THE BRAND BEFORE AND IT SERVED US VERY WELL, SO WE HAD NO HESITATION IN MAKING THIS NEW INVESTMENT; THE MANITOU MT1840S ARE IDEAL FOR OUR TYPE OF WORK

All-round visibility from the cab is also excellent, essential when operating in such a busy environment with lots of other workmen around, even in wet weather thanks to standard wipers at the front, rear, side and roof, all of which contributes to the health and safety of those working in close proximity.

It is also easy to operate, thanks to the joystick switch and move (JSM) feature, which is unique to Manitou. It enables the driver to effectively control boom movements and machine drive forward and backward movements with one hand, leaving him free to



NEW YEAR ARRIVAL FOR ALL-ELECTRIC **MERLO** E-WORKER TELEHANDLER

The highly-visible green liveried Merlo telehandler range is set to take on a second 'green' dimension with the arrival into Ireland early next year of an all-new, all-electric battery powered Merlo e-Worker model.

Manufactured in two model variants – a 2-wheel drive 25.5-60 version and a 4-wheel drive 25.5-90 version – the new e-Worker has a 2500kg capacity, 4.8 metres height and 44/60 kW/HP power output which, at an average 6 kW/h consumption, translates into a working span of 8 hours.

Suitable for on-road and off-road applications, the e-Worker has a distinct edge when working in enclosed environments such as warehouses, grain stores, industrial and underground environment where low noise and zero emissions are a requirement.

Distributed here by McHale Plant Sales, it boasts a number of features, safety and comfort being high amongst them – for example, it meets all active regulations for frontal tipping prevention and offers maximum driver comfort and visibility thanks to its easy-entry 785 mm wide cab.

Its compact dimensions add to its manoeuvrability and handling in tight spaces while its versatility is seen in the wide selection of attachments it is designed to handle. Another key attribute is its efficiency – its battery powers the hydraulic pump for arm movements while motors power its traction and movement.

With order books already open ahead of its early-2021 arrival, McHale Plant Sales general manager Denis McGrath says: "on smooth roads and surfaces or out in rough terrain, the e-Worker range in two or four-wheel drive format is wholly configured to meet the needs of owners in an increasingly climate-aware Irish marketplace".

THE E-WORKER RANGE IN TWO OR FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE FORMAT IS WHOLLY CONFIGURED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OWNERS IN AN INCREASINGLY CLIMATE-AWARE IRISH MARKETPLACE



Continuing to gain in popularity, as evident by a record 7% increase in turnover at the company last year, Merlo enjoys an over 40% share of the Italian market and league topping performances in a number of international markets. In

Ireland its popularity within the construction sector is increasing as interest in their highly versatile Panoramic and Roto ranges continues to grow. Another feature of the e-Worker range success is reflected in its

growing tally of international awards the latest being an EIMA International 20/21 Mentions award secured on top of recent gold medals for Innovation presented in Verona and a Grand Prix Matériel award presented to them in Paris.

INSPECTEC BECOME ALL-IRELAND DEALERS FOR ALMACRAWLER RANGE

Inspectec, based in Kildare and with more than 20 years' worth of experience in the industry delivering skilled and independent inspections of all types of machinery, has formed a new partnership with AlmaCrawler.

The company, which also provides construction equipment consultancy, will be promoting AlmaCrawler's range of self-levelling scissor lifts and telescopic boom lifts on crawlers to the Irish market, as well as providing a full service to AlmaCrawler products in Ireland.

Commenting on the new partnership, sales director for Inspectec, Dan Daly said: "We are delighted to be the approved dealer for the complete AlmaCrawler range for the whole of Ireland. AlmaCrawler designs and builds a premier machine and we have already sold our first unit with significant interest for more models. I am confident



Dan Daly, Sales Director, Inspectec.

that this relationship between our two companies will help Irish businesses reach new heights."

Added AlmaCrawler general manager, Andrea Artoni: "This will strengthen our presence in Ireland, starting with the availability of AlmaCrawler products and spare parts in the

country, through expanding our professional customer service with the Inspectec team, to providing a better service for our longstanding and new customers who have chosen or will chose AlmaCrawler products."

Following a series of virtual negotiations, AlmaCrawler

and Inspectec have reached an agreement, both confident that the partnership will be able to offer Irish customers an innovative solution for working at height.

AlmaCrawler export area sales manager Oana Samoila said: "We are very satisfied to further expand our efforts in Ireland and to have entered into this partnership with Inspectec. Every new dealer who joins our network receives comprehensive support in terms of marketing and sales, technical training and the after-sales process management, so they can immediately start working competently with us."

AlmaCrawler has been constantly growing since it rolled out its first self-levelling scissor lift in 2013, and with more than 30 dealers worldwide and further new appointments in the future, the company expects to consolidate its European markets and improve overall market share.



IPAF RELAUNCHES PORTAL IN DRIVE FOR BETTER ACCIDENT REPORTING

The International Powered Access Federation (IPAF) has relaunched its worldwide accident reporting portal as part of a major drive to gather the best quality data from around the world, in order to analyse the data and uncover what it can teach us about improving safety in powered access.

To mark the revamped accident reporting portal at www.ipafaccidentreporting.org, IPAF hosted a free webinar looking at the latest available data in granular detail to explain how the findings can be used to influence safety campaigns and best practice, technical guidance and inform IPAF's internationally recognised training programme.

The webinar, which was hosted free online and is now available as a recording online via www.ipaf.org/resources, saw presenters outline how IPAF's worldwide reporting project already helps reduce accidents through intelligence.

Peter Douglas, CEO & MD of IPAF, gave an overview of IPAF's accident reporting project,

which he helped to initiate while serving as a member of the IPAF UK Country Council in 2012, and explained why every IPAF member should be actively engaged in this life-saving intelligence-gathering exercise.

The new IPAF reporting portal makes it easier to report an accident or near miss – near-miss information being “surprisingly useful in preventing more serious accidents”. It works on multiple devices, allows multiple users per company, and has a feature for users to register subsidiary companies.

This allows access, reporting and analysis across a group of companies in one or more countries, linked to one parent company, enabling firms to compile their own company or group safety analysis, while creating an anonymised, up-to-the minute database for real-time analysis by our experts.

The new portal launches in English but will see additional languages added through the rest of 2020. The old portal is available until the end of 2020, but IPAF is encouraging anyone wishing to

report an accident or near-miss to use the new portal right away.

Meanwhile, Brian Parker, set to join IPAF next as the organisation's new Head of Safety & Technical and a key part of IPAF's Accident Project Work Group, looked in depth at anonymised and previously unpublished data including the latest statistics for 2019.

Deciding purely to focus on the data reported by IPAF's UK members, he was able to take a granular look at some of the common underlying causes of accidents, locations and types of industry or activity in which they occurred.

While slightly over 60% of all the data gathered via the reporting project is from the UK, this proportion is decreasing all the time as members in other countries commit to using the portal and updating the project with detailed information about incidents.

Brian explained how data given via the IPAF portal tends to be more detailed and useful than those gleaned from national



Brian Parker.

databases such as OSHA accident reports in the US. In fact, much of this third-party data has to be laboriously reviewed and cleansed to make it suitable for use in IPAF's analysis.

He underlined his presentation with a plea for all IPAF members to engage with the newly redesigned reporting portal, in order for IPAF to gather the best quality data and produce the most usable, industry-facing reports possible.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of IPAF accident reporting

Analyses incidents during:

- operation in the workplace
- maintenance and delivery process
- Identifies typical incidents
- Most frequent injury type for each job category



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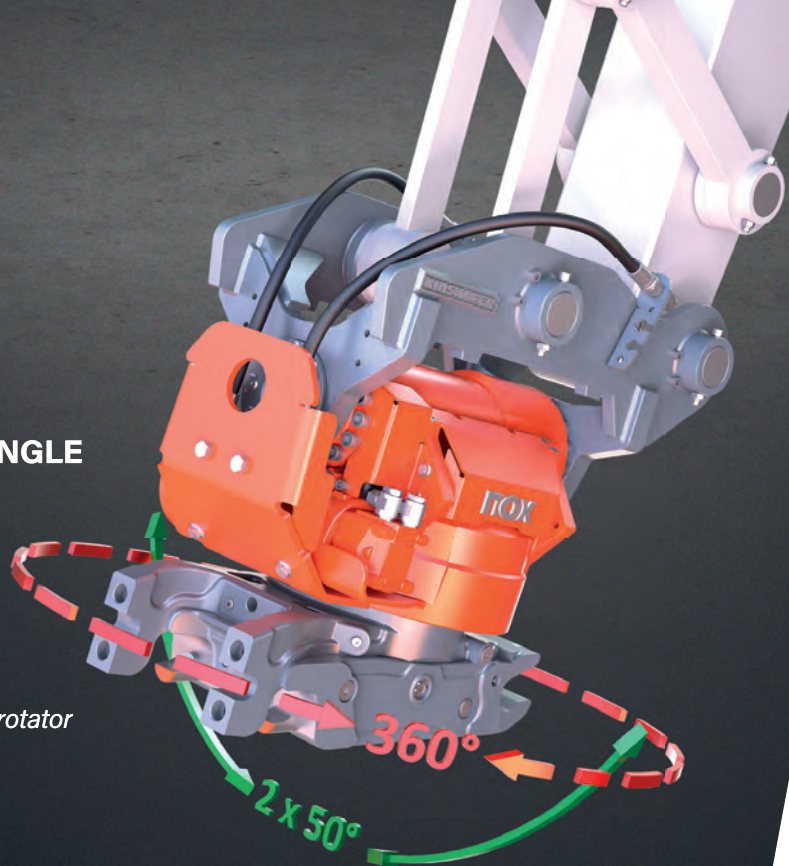


IPAF Webinar - Reducing accidents through intelligence 17-29 screenshot.

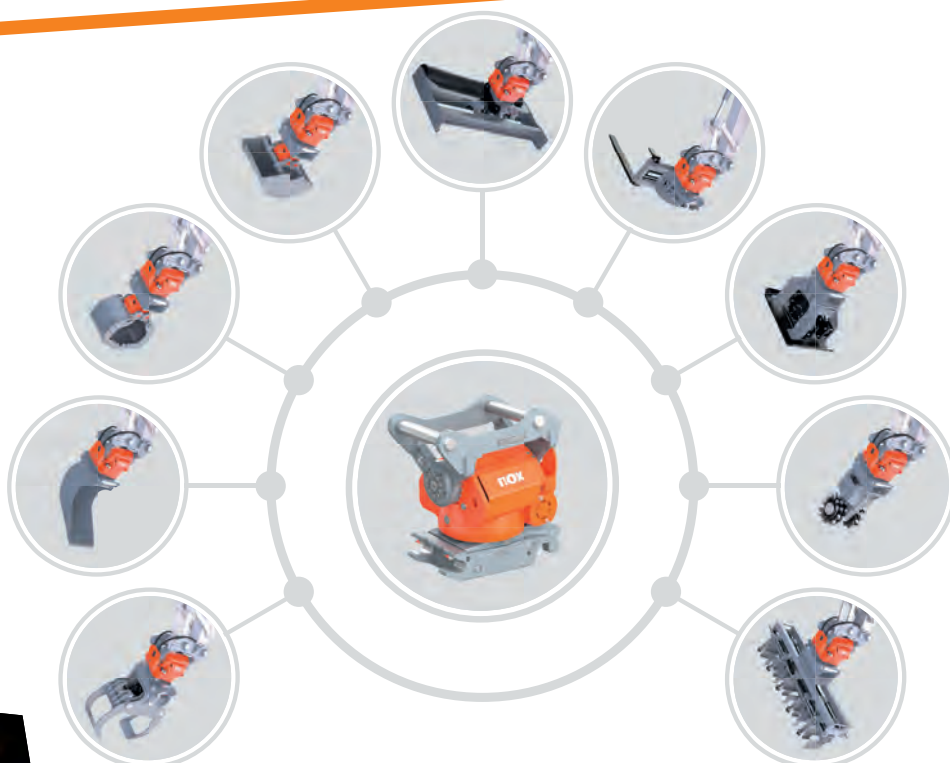


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CUSTOMERS FULL OF PRAISE FOR KINSHOFER NOX TILTROTATORS

When County Donegal based Construction Plant Services (CPS) which was set up in 2005 by Declan and Donna McGowan, took on the agency for the Kinshofer NOX range of tiltrotators at the beginning of 2020 they had no idea that an imminent global pandemic would seriously impact businesses up and down the whole country.

Lockdown followed in March and has been with us more or less ever since, but says Declan: "While the timing of taking on Kinshofer wasn't the best, the quality and sheer versatility of the product range has shone through, and that has translated into steady sales ever since."

He adds: "Because it is one of those products that you really need to see in action to appreciate the benefits we are putting a demonstration package together to allow operators the opportunity to test it out for themselves."

"Excavators can have some blind spots, but with the NOX tiltrotator, it doesn't have to move around as much, which is a huge safety benefit, especially if others are working in close proximity."

He has fitted a Kinshofer NOX Tiltrotator on to a Case excavator which can be taken out on loan for a few days by operators interested in taking the next step.

"It does represent a big investment, but operators will see a big saving on labour and will be able to complete projects in much less time than with using a traditional digger. In my experience once an operator has used the NOX tiltrotator himself he will immediately see the benefits," says Declan. "It is not something you can simply sell from a brochure; you have to see it up close, you have to put it on trial."

And that has proven to be the case, as Declan Sherrin will testify. He runs a contracting business from Plumbridge in County



Tyrone, undertaking a variety of projects – from agricultural to groundworks – and earlier this year he was persuaded to try out a NOX which CPS had fitted on a Kubota excavator.

Mightily Impressed

Initially, he wasn't convinced he had a need for it, but after a week using it he was mightily impressed and placed an order for a Kinshofer NOX TR14, designed for excavators in the 10 to 14 tonne range. It is fitted with an SVAB L8 joystick equipped with a High flow swivel and can deliver 130 lpm to his attachments. The tiltrotator has been set up in such a way that Declan can easily switch it between his JCB and his Case excavators, depending on his needs.

He has been using it now for a few weeks and says: "I did find the controls difficult to master, but I'm getting there. It has made my excavator more versatile; I can undertake





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WHILE THE TIMING OF TAKING ON KINSHOFER WASN'T THE BEST, THE QUALITY AND SHEER VERSATILITY OF THE PRODUCT RANGE HAS SHONE THROUGH, AND THAT HAS TRANSLATED INTO STEADY SALES EVER SINCE

work with it that I couldn't have done with a traditional bucket, and quicker, too.

"It also cuts down on labour; one man can accomplish the work of two, in effect," adds Declan who bought a New Airman Ax38u back in August from CPS when they took on the Airman dealership, Declan has become a repeat customer since purchasing his Case 130D along with various attachments for his machines from CPS.

Most Advanced

There is no doubt the NOX tiltrotator is one of the most advanced and flexible tools for excavators -and with a 360° continuous rotation and tilting angles of up to 2 x 50°, it can reach places conventional machines could not. This cylinderless solution features a very compact design with a narrow width and without any protruding parts.

The flexible tool is extremely service friendly, as there are only two greasing points, there are less wear parts, the hydraulics are integrated into the solid cast housing, and



the entire installation can be managed in a fast and easy way. The patented tilting function is provided by the elliptic piston design with only one thread. Due to the

closed system, the risks of damages are reduced, and the tilting force is constant.

Quick coupler and attached tools are also operated comfortably and effectively by means of the smart NOXPROP control system: tilt and rotation are controlled by proportional solenoid valves and can be run simultaneously.

The extra function is controlled proportionally, too. A separate display module is included. The system has been engineered to facilitate the control of ten valves.

"I had been aware of Kinshofer attachments for years," says Declan McGowan. "Before taking on the agency we did our research, met with company officials last year in England and found them good to deal with, and we haven't looked back since. The product has big potential, and it is attracting more and more interest in this part of the world. Like I said, it represents a significant investment, but it will pay for itself in no time."

INNOVEX PIPE PUSHER ATTACHMENT SAVES TIME, MONEY & MANPOWER

As excavator attachments go, the Innovex Pipe Pusher has to be way up there with the most innovative and yet simple to operate; it has certainly revolutionised the way utility pipes and cables are inserted, saving contractors valuable time, manpower and money.

Innovex excavator powered pipe handlers and pipe pushers

now available for hire from Plant Services Ireland in Co Meath; the attachments offer a safer and more compliant way of inserting new PE pipe, approved to work on both live and dead insertion.

By simply attaching the Pipe Pusher to the excavator arm you take away the manual handling and injury risks associated with pipe insertion; it

is fully operated from the safety of the excavator cab and can be employed right across the utilities sector – and it can be customised to specific requirements.

Lightweight, safe and easily transportable, the Pipe Pusher attachment can be used to efficiently install short or longer sections of 55mm to 800mm pipe; tough and resilient, it will successfully deliver in the most challenging environments and can be fitted to excavators from 1.5 tonne up to 24 tonne, a process that is simple and fast.

But don't take our word for it. There are many satisfied users already, among them Northampton based MUL Utilities who recently completed one of their most challenging and complex projects to date at Hyde Park in London. "We couldn't have done it as effectively and efficiently without the Pipe Pusher," says Jerry Murray, who heads up MUL along with his brother Christy. "Used correctly and in the right hands it really does make life so much easier; it is a great piece of kit. I couldn't imagine doing without it now."

The project was to replace a major gas mains with 700 metres of new 800mm pipe under Hyde Park in London. From there new pipe was also inserted in different stages from Piccadilly Underpass, beneath Knightsbridge and right across to Brompton, Fulham and Chelsea Hospital and on to the Thames Embankment, a total distance of almost three kilometres.

"Using the Pipe Pusher, attached to a 21 tonne Komatsu excavator, also cuts down on manpower; in fact, it can accomplish the work of two or three men," says Jerry, a native of County Mayo. "It takes something like 50 seconds to insert 12 metres of 800mm pipe, so you can accomplish the job so much faster. You also have more direct control which leads to better safety on the site."

Warren Snowden, Operations Director – RD Utilities Ltd, agrees: "The Innovex Pipe Pusher is a brilliant piece of kit. On one project, we had to push through in one hit circa 1200m in one go so as not to excavate in the fairways of a golf course.

"We were using one of Innovex's competitor's machines at first and the





The pipe pusher in action on the Hyde Park project.



Efficient and safe to use, as illustrated here on the Hyde Park project.

seals kept blowing and the pusher was losing grip because of the weight of pipe we were trying to insert. Eventually we came to a standstill, this is when we called in Innovex. The Innovex machine got us out of a tight spot and finished the job much to everyone's amazement. We will definitely be using Innovex again in the future."

And adds Kevin Moran, Operations Director – Medway Civils & Utilities Ltd: "We bought 7 Innovex Pushing units to use on SGN and cannot fault them in any way. We still have them and they are in use most days, we have not had any issues with breakdowns or hoses. I would highly recommend this product as we have had other types in the past – the Innovex Pusher is head and shoulders above others on the market and very simple to use."

The Pipe Pusher attachment has also proved an invaluable tool in other major projects

up and down the country, one case in point being on a major mains replacement contract in the North West and West Midlands involving the decommissioning and replacement of a 6.7km long at-risk 8" iron gas main with a modern, durable PE pipe.

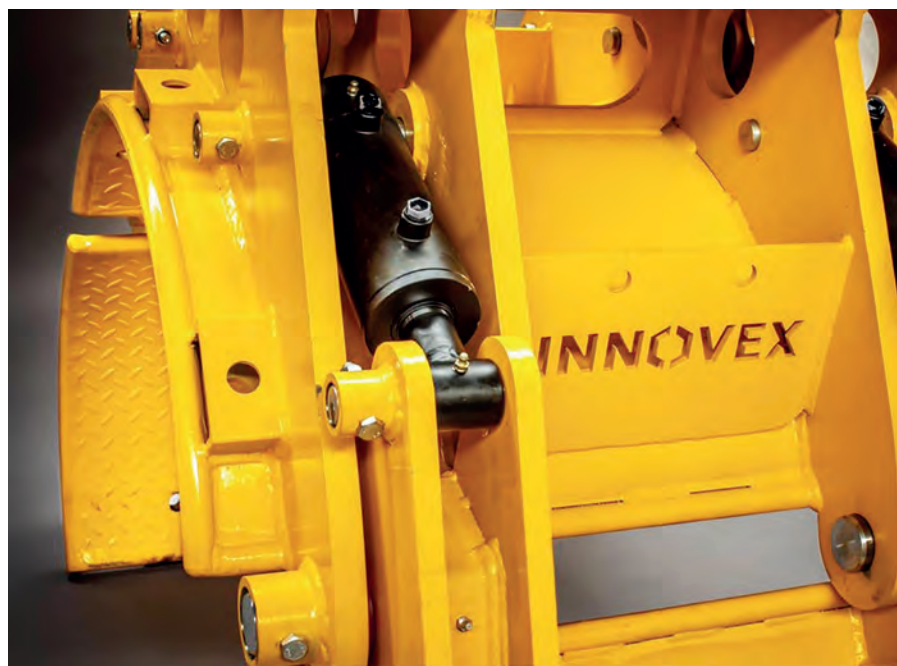
Working on behalf of Cadent Gas, the team at Network Plus encountered a number of challenges along the way, not least having to cope with the asset's deterioration which was more critical than initially thought – on top of the discovery of 1,200 litres of water 1300m along the pipe.

This was quickly rectified, with the main replacement being delivered through dead insertion using a pipe coil trailer and an Innovex attachment to push the new 125m and 140m pipes into the 8" iron main.

The project delivered with no accidents, incidents or utility damages on site and through the dedication and commitment of the teams, working late nights and weekends, the project was completed ahead of schedule and below budget.

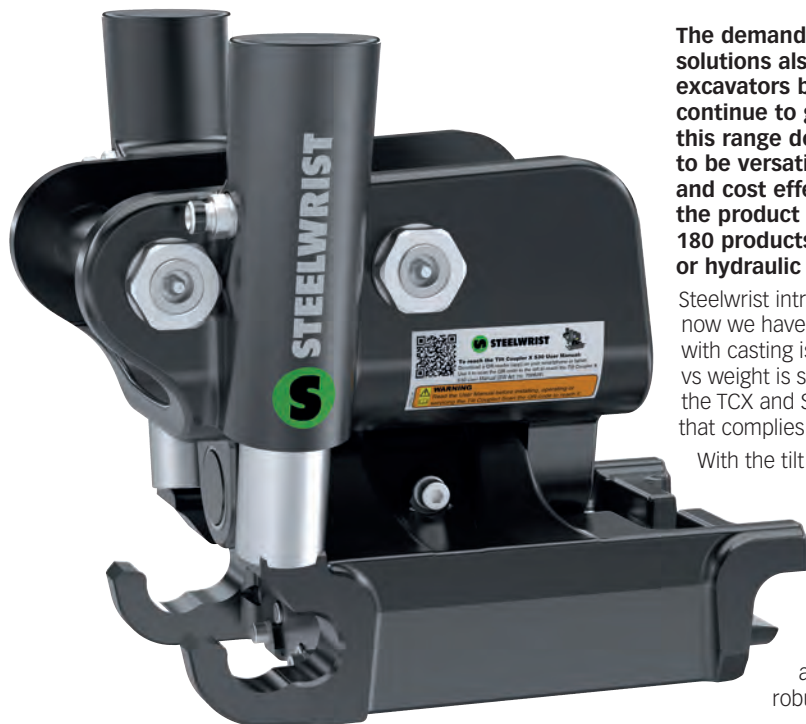
PIPE PUSHER BENEFITS AT A GLANCE

- Quick, simple installation and mounting
- Durable & robust even in harsh environments and conditions
- Faster, Safer / dead insertion and enables longer sections of pipe to be inserted easily
- Action can be reversed to pull back if an obstruction is met, something not possible with other insertion methods.
- Lightweight and compact design for ease of storage and transportation
- Reduces manual handling & is a safer/more compliant way of inserting PE Pipe Simple to operate - training sessions and certification available
- Unique Damage Prevention Bushes (DPB's) preventing any damage to pipework through user error. If excess pressure or incorrect directional force is applied, that would ordinarily put the pipework at risk, the DPB's will absorb the force and lock in place, therefore preventing any damage to the pipework.



attachments

Steelwrist expands the product offering for mini-excavators



The demand for more versatile solutions also for the very small excavators below two tons continue to grow. Solutions in this range do not only need to be versatile but also robust and cost effective and as a result Steelwrist is now expanding the product portfolio with fully casted TCX S30-180 and S30-180 products. Both types can be delivered with manual locking or hydraulic locking depending on customer needs.

Steelwrist introduced the first steel casted quick coupler in 2012 and by now we have thousands of casted products in the field. The advantages with casting is by now well understood where the combination of strength vs weight is superior compared to welded solutions. Additionally both the TCX and S30 quick coupler comes with a Front Pin Safety Hook that complies with the new regulations for quick coupler safety.

With the tilt coupler you get a safe quick coupler solution and a tilt function that makes your excavator far more versatile. Installation is easy and the compact TCX has a low weight. It is suitable for excavators from 0 to 2 tons and available as direct mounted with S30 coupler, both manual and hydraulic. The TCX replaces the TMX tilt coupler in the product offering.

The fact that the S30 quick coupler and TCX tilt coupler are free from welding, has large pin contact surfaces and optimized material thickness, creates an extremely robust design which will ensure a longer lifetime.

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GROUNDFORCE EXCAVATOR ATTACHMENTS: REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The continued trend in construction to re-imagine manual power tools by connecting them to an excavator's hydraulic system has opened up a whole new world of possibilities; this has led to an extended range of excavator attachments becoming widely available and Groundforce are leading players in the UK supply chain.

Increased activity in construction, together with an inevitable increase in waste, may lead one to assume that the use of powerful excavator attachments would merely add to an already spiralling environmental crisis: but it does not automatically follow that these high powered machines are necessarily adding to the problem.

Efficiency and cost effectiveness are keywords when describing excavator attachments due to their wider capability and high power. Attachments speed up on-site tasks when compared to traditional manual methods; this benefits the environment due to the time reduction and better, safer use of human resources. Because excavator attachments are more powerful than their distant manual cousins, it could be assumed that they will have a negative impact the environment, however built-in contemporary design features mean they run more quietly and economically, therefore getting the job done faster with less disturbance, especially important when operating in domestic locations.

Demolition and the environment

The amount of waste produced as a result of construction work and demolition amounted to 180 million tonnes in 2007 according to the EU Environment General Directive. Although there is a need to manage this waste more effectively, it also follows that there is a need to mitigate the amount of waste produced in the first place.



The use of Multi Processors and Hydraulic Breakers allow for a much more precise method of demolition than was previously possible. For example, Multi Processors can be adapted to separate reinforcing bar from concrete, or can slice effortlessly through I beams and steel tanks etc. This means rather than wholesale destruction of buildings and structures, operators can concentrate specifically on particular sections. In addition, interchangeable jaw sets and tooling means materials such as reinforced concrete and steel on structures can be individually targeted.

When we consider that that demolition waste has an extremely high recycling potential, it is clear that minimising the initial production of waste during the demolition process can only help in the quest for sustainable construction.

Recycling and re-use of materials

The environmental standard ISO 14001 states: 'By managing the use of natural resources, energy and waste you can improve your corporate image and credibility...'

Successful tenders increasingly result from a company's attitude to environmental management, with customers expecting and insisting on the highest of standards of environmental awareness. Waste management plays a key role in this area and recycling should begin its journey during the initial construction or demolition stage and Groundforce Ireland supply a number of attachments that can help to make this happen.

Using tools such as Hydraulic Breakers, allow for different categories of materials, such as steel or concrete to be collectively stored for further processing. Depending on the waste product, other excavator attachments such as Selector Grabs or Digging and Rehanging Clamshells can then process and move huge volumes of material with ease.

Hydraulic Magnet attachments combine excavator mobility with hydraulic power and are ideal for any situation that requires steel recycling such as in scrapyards and during infrastructure works. Groundforce Ireland supply magnets with lifting surfaces between 720mm and 1450 diameter and with a lifting capacity ranging from 80 to over half a tonne. These high powered magnets make transportation more efficient, meaning fewer movements and in turn less energy consumption in the overall process.

Carbon reduction

It is clear that market pressures and the obligation to protect our environment by reducing carbon footprint and the efficient handling and recycling of waste is paramount.

Throughout Ireland, Groundforce supply a growing portfolio of excavator attachments to help safely complete projects and are committed to prioritising the environment as a central focus.



STRENGTH IN DEPTH

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GEITH UNVEIL VERSATILE AND INNOVATIVE TILTING QUICK COUPLER

Geith's latest innovation is the new GT (Geith Tilting) Quick Coupler, suitable for excavators ranging from two tonnes up to 27 tonnes.

The GT quick coupler allows operators to tilt any attachment or bucket up to 180 degrees 'with peace of mind', says the manufacturer.

ISO13031 compliant, the new GT quick coupler features a variable pin centre design, which enables operators to easily pick up and switch a range of OEM attachments. As well as that, the coupler can reverse buckets, allowing operators to excavate under pipes and against walls.

The GT quick coupler's compact design not only minimises the tip radius extension, but also utilises a mechanism that allows for more control of attachments with minimal drift.

Geith say they have brought 60 years of experience and expertise to this new tilting coupler and the result is "one of the safest, most productive couplers on the market with superior durability," and that it can "dramatically increase your productivity."

With immediate availability not be a problem as the company holds a large stock, the GT quick coupler has a number of build in safety features, including front & rear safety locks backed up by two powerful springs which retains the attachment rear pin in case of cylinder failure. These powerful spring activated safety locks work in all dirty environments unlike gravity systems.

Benefits

It is also a versatile product, with major benefits enabling operators to:

- Dig level foundations without having to level the machine tracks
- Carry out landscaping with minimum disruption to the ground
- Reduce waste and manual labour when filling pea gravel around pipes and manholes
- Carry out rock breaking at the sides of deep trenches where standard couplers can't reach
- Expand the working envelope of the machine when hedge or brush cutting
- Tilt any of your attachments not just your grading bucket



ISO13031 COMPLIANT, THE NEW GT QUICK COUPLER FEATURES A VARIABLE PIN CENTRE DESIGN, WHICH ENABLES OPERATORS TO EASILY PICK UP AND SWITCH A RANGE OF OEM ATTACHMENTS



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MAKE THE SWITCH TO MORE ADVANCED QUICK COUPLERS FROM MILLER UK

The compact excavator global market is currently witnessing a considerable rise in demand and new compact excavators entering the market are being designed to meet the earth-moving requirements of the future. Moreover, the function of changing the attachments on compact excavators is enabling the process of high-level excavations.

Over the last decade, full-sized excavators have readily adopted quick couplers which made the machines more productive, safer and more fuel efficient. Recently, comfort features from full-size excavators are also seeping down into compact excavators.

One of the major technologies that is making a leap in compact excavators are quick couplers. As a result, quick couplers are becoming more popular, among both the owner-operators and large fleet managers. Miller UK has spent the last five years working on the science behind every element of the quick coupler in order to improve efficiency and safety on construction sites. The aim of the research and development team from Miller has been to address the benefits of using more advanced quick couplers for the compact excavator market and how they can impact safety, productivity and versatility on a project just as much as having the latest machinery.

The findings from the design and development work has led to Miller introducing their ground-breaking new Miller GTS series, a range of fully hydraulic quick couplers suitable for excavators



from 1 to 6 tonnes, which offers the lowest, lightest and safest quick compact coupler in the marketplace delivering a wide range of OEM pick-ups for any attachment within the same class all from the comfort and security of the cab.

Improving Efficiency

Comments Barry Robison, Director of Marketing and Product Management for Miller: "In today's climate, we understand that reducing costs and improving efficiency are key to ensuring profitability. More than ever the performance of the compact excavator is essential to the day to day productivity of job sites and that there is increasing economic pressures on the operator to get more done in a day.

"Historically the compact coupler market has been dominated by manual couplers due to their lower initial investment costs,





MILLER GTS RANGE OF COST COMPETITIVE COMPACT QUICK COUPLERS ALLOWS OPERATORS TO UTILIZE THEIR FULL ARRAY OF ATTACHMENTS QUICKLY AND SAFELY - WORK FASTER, NOT HARDER

fewer internal components and generally lighter overall weight. While investment in fully hydraulic quick coupler technology is sometimes seen as a cost burden in reality more and more owners are seeing it as having significant cost and productivity advantages over a manual coupler."

He adds: "For example, when operating with a Manual coupler you either need an additional ground worker to carry out the physical attachment changeover or if in some case you are working alone the excavator operator is required to physically leave the cab of the machine and use manual force to position the pin into place, causing the change out process to take longer."

Clearly, a Miller GTS compact quick coupler is an investment that adds convenience and flexibility to your compact excavator in just about every application. It can save valuable

time on site switching between a bucket, ripper, rake, mechanical grabs, etc. and as such can be transformational for decreasing the time it takes to tackle a job that requires different attachments.

"In some case we have had customers saving over an hour a day from faster changeovers and reduced double digging due to the increased versatility on offer from his compact quick coupler," says Barry. "If you want to increase productivity of your compact machine, a Miller GTS compact quick coupler is a must-have piece of equipment at a cost you can afford."



20 years

LC TYRES SERVICING THE CONSTRUCTION AND QUARRY SECTORS FOR TWO DECADES

When LC Tyres was first established 20 years ago to specialise in serving customers in the construction and quarrying industries, it had just one van on the road. Today, it has an extensive fleet operating out of centres in Navan, Dublin, Portlaoise and Swinford offering a nationwide service that also includes Northern Ireland.

With a fleet of eight fitting trucks equipped with cranes and 14 vans, LC Tyres are able to provide a prompt response countrywide for punctures and specialised tyre fitting.

LC Tyres' comprehensive service goes much further than that, though. Comments Managing Director Liam Coyne: "We also have tyre vulcanising plants in Mayo, Meath and Dublin for those tyres that can't be repaired on site – and we offer customers a free tyre loan system while their tyre is being vulcanised."

Additionally, the company supplies Tyrol tyre sealant, which can seal up to 6mm holes, and for those operating in



In the beginning, the company had just one van on the road servicing on site.

harsher conditions, foam filled tyres can also be provided.

Adds Liam: "With our in house tyre software we also provide a monitoring service where users can see on line the cost per hour of every tyre in the fleet and also compare how different types are performing so we can supply the tyre best suited to a customer's specific needs."

LC Tyres are Agents for SG solid tyres for large machines and Emerald Fork lift tyres. In 2005

they were appointed agents for the Techking OTR tyre range; in 15 years on the market, Techking has proven to be very popular, giving great cost per hour numbers and proving to be very strong in adverse conditions.

Galaxy Range

This year, LC Tyres are introducing the Galaxy range of construction and forklift tyres. A brand used as OE by a lot of manufacturers, it already has a reputation in Ireland for strength and value.

The Galaxy brand can be defined by two simple words: "work tyres" and they can be found on equipment in over 120 countries spanning six continents.

All Galaxy off-the-road tyres are Purpose Built – Application Specific. What does this mean? Focused on application based product development, its engineering teams have successfully put together a comprehensive line of advanced tyres for a wide range of industries including construction, mining, forestry, agriculture and industrial. Drawing on decades of experience in the industry, its tyres have been perfected through years of intensive research and development.

Each and every Galaxy tyre exceeds international quality standards set by different organisations and their quality parameters are checked by conducting tests in the field and laboratory. Galaxy tyres are synonymous with hard work which is why hard working people choose Galaxy tyres to help them get the job done.



Part of the OTR tyre service fleet in Navan.



INTRODUCING **GALAXY** CONSTRUCTION RANGE

BEEFY BABY II SKIDSTEER

Is the lowest cost per hour R-4 tyre in the market, thanks to the Beefy Baby II's wear resistant compound, superior tread design, super sidewall and rim shield protector.



GALAXY SUPER INDUSTRIAL LUG R-4

Many of the Galaxy-branded backhoe tires are made heavier and beefier, with more plies than other tires in order to provide superior strength and a longer life. The design of this tire has won it the distinction of being selected as an Original Equipment choice by several world-class manufacturers.



THE GIRAFFE XLW TELEHANDLER

The Giraffe XLW features an all new, "multi-purpose" design, making it the optimal Telehandler tire. The Giraffe XLW is engineered using a neutral casing design which minimizes stress on the tire and thereby increasing reliability and tire life. The wide, flat tread design provides superior stability. The XLW's center tread blocks deliver excellent wear and ride comfort characteristics on hard surfaces while its aggressive, open shoulder lugs provide excellent off-road traction.



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Above is small sample of Galaxy Construction range

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HYDREMA 912F A POPULAR 'NEWCOMER' AT LOWRY CONSTRUCTION

Lowry Construction has a long-established history stretching back to the Sixties when the company was originally founded in Castlederg, County Tyrone. Since then it has grown steadily to become one of the leading contractors in Northern Ireland, utilising the best personnel and best equipment available. As Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes reports, the company has invested in its first Hydrema machine, a 912F articulated dump truck, from dealers Ballyward Plant Services.

The Hydrema dump truck is currently being utilised on a social housing development in Dungiven and has been impressing its operators.

"We have a fleet of dumpers working across a number of contracts, ranging from one tonne to six tonnes, and a few nine tonnes machines," says the company's Stephen Lowry. "The Hydrema 912F, at 10 tonnes, offers something a little bigger and better.

"It definitely suits the site we are working on, and with its bigger wheels it travels a lot better than a traditional site dumper. It is also very easy to operate, so it is very popular with our drivers who also appreciate the comfortable and spacious cab which will be much appreciated during these winter months."

Adds Stephen: "It is a very stable machine, no matter how rough the terrain, and visibility is also great, and further improved with the provision of the rear-view mirror and reversing alarm, which contributes to safe operation on our busy site."

Robust & Tough

So, let's take a closer look at the Hydrema 912F. As any user already knows, they are tough and reliable. They are well built, efficient workhorses that can be depended on.

As Stephen pointed out, the cab provides an excellent and comfortable working environment, with user friendly controls. The dump truck is easy to manoeuvre, making it very versatile, especially on sites that have restricted space.

Of course, it's not difficult to see why the cab appeals. All the instrumentation is ergonomically placed and the steering wheel, seat and arm rests are fully adjustable to suit the individual operator. A joystick is installed as an integrated part of the right armrest. From here you operate the main dumper functions such as tipping, gear selection, forwards



/ reverse and differential lock. This provides easy control at your fingertips.

An air-conditioning system is incorporated as standard, with 8 air nozzles placed throughout the cab, which is also fitted with automatic entry/exit lighting for safer night-time operation, and to reduce vibration the cab mountings are spring dampened.

Safe & Stable

Good stability, even when fully loaded, can be attributed to its articulated and oscillating pivot point.

The centre pivot with hydraulic stabilisers automatically transfers the weight to where it is needed for added stability. This, in turn, coupled with a low turning radius of just 6.1 m, increases manoeuvrability.

The chassis design ensures that the front and rear wheels are running in the same track, while the standard twin

tyres gives outstanding traction with minimum ground damage. Due to a low net weight the dump truck has very low ground pressure - down to 85 kPa - when carrying a full load of 10 tons.

Together with tracking of the wheels this ensures minimal ground damage which is great for working on sensitive surfaces like landscaping and for environmental work.

The truck is fitted with an automatic tipping throttle, where the machine will automatically increase the engine speed when the tipping function is activated to quickly raise the body and thereby increase the efficiency.

The ground clearance when tipping is 110 cm, which provides the opportunity to unload the material over edges, or in high piles in order to save space. In addition, the body is designed with rounded corners so even wet and sticky material will easily slide off when tipping.

Available as an option - and not specified in this case by Lowry Construction - is the MultiTip, where the dump truck can turn the body 90 degrees to each side and deliver the payload anywhere you want in the 180 degrees area with high precision.

MultiTip makes several working situations easier. For example, when tipping a certain amount of payload sideways, whilst moving forward, or into a trench. MultiTip also allows you to work in very narrow conditions.



All Round Visibility

We have already alluded to the visibility from the cab, which is always vital, especially when working on busy sites, and as the drivers at Lowry Construction have come to appreciate, the Hydrema doesn't disappoint.

With a rear-view camera and a reversing alarm, the operator is aware at all times of what is happening around the machine. It helps, too, that the engine is placed behind the cab, which gives an unobstructed forward view from the driver's seat for even safer operation.

To increase the visibility of the dump truck, optional orange flashing LED lights can be mounted both at the front and rear; up to 4 rear facing LED working lights can also be fitted to make working easier during the dark hours.

Power & Performance

A well proven 6 speed ZF Soft-Shift transmission offers full auto or manual shift. This intelligent transmission will automatically shift two gears in the right conditions to smoothly increase acceleration regardless of the payload.

A state of the art 147 hp Cummins engine offers one of the best power-to-weight ratios on the market. Whether the machine is working on steep gradients or in poor ground conditions, the 912F has

the power to cope. The high torque offers more power at lower revs, which improves fuel economy and noise levels.

Service & Support

And when it comes to servicing? Well, that is simple. Opening the large bonnet gives easy access to the different service points: engine, oil level, hydraulic system, etc. The two front fenders have integrated storage and built-in battery housing.

So, would Lowry Construction consider a second Hydrema? Comments Stephen: "As I said, this is the first experience we have had of the brand and we are impressed, so, yes, if the need arose we would definitely put the Hydrema high on our list."

As for the service and support received from Ballyward Plant Services, Stephen is also complimentary in his comments. "We dealt with them a while back, the service was good then, as it is now. We were under pressure for prompt delivery of the dump truck and Robert at BPS pulled out all the stops to ensure that happened."



Planning Approval for Lough Neagh sand extraction

After a six year legal battle, Infrastructure Minister, Nicola Mallon has approved the planning application for the extraction of sand from Lough Neagh, used mainly by the construction industry, subject to a number of conditions.

This follows the Minister's careful consideration of the Planning Appeals Commission's (PAC) report on the Public Local Inquiry which was held in June 2018. The proposal is located in the north west corner of the Lough which is a designated Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar site and Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI).

Minister Mallon said: "This approval was a finely balanced decision where I had to weigh up the various benefits with the potential for harm to the designation features of the Lough.

I carefully considered both the findings of the independent Public Inquiry and further representations received from interested parties alongside the recommendations of my planning officials. The PAC report also recommended that planning permission should be granted.

"I am an advocate for protection of the environment, and particularly a special one such as Lough Neagh. Taking account of all

of the comments made, I have come to the view that there will be no adverse effect caused by the development on the Lough in terms of its integrity or other aspects of its designated status provided that suitable conditions and agreed measures are put in place. Given the importance of maintaining the integrity of the designated status of Lough Neagh, my final decision will issue only when the Section 76 Planning Agreement with the applicant and relevant parties has been concluded to my satisfaction. I look forward to a speedy conclusion of that process."

The application covers the extraction of sand and gravel from within two distinct areas totalling some 3.1km², in the north-west of Lough Neagh situated approximately east of Traad Point, north of Stanierds Point, west of Doss Point and south of Ballyronan.

Ireland's industrial power couple steps partnership up a gear

Industrial power couple, DiPerk Power Solutions and Perkins Engines, have switched their partnership up a gear.

DiPerk Power Solutions has recruited a team of highly skilled engineers who will operate out of its new base in Dublin, at the Aerodrome Business Park in Rathcoole. Providing on the ground support to help customers choose the right Perkins' products for their machines, the team will also be equipped with the latest diagnostics tools to give on the spot support so to get the best possible performance out of their engines.

The two companies already have an established connection - DiPerk Power Solutions has been sole distributor of

Perkins products in the UK for the last 17 years and is one of the largest distributors of its products globally.

"DiPerk Power Solutions has unrivalled knowledge and understanding of Perkins products," commented Emma Jenkins, Dealer Principal for DiPerk Power Solutions. "Having a base in Dublin enables us to service the needs of our Irish customers directly and personally. There's a lot of ground to cover and with different industry sectors we feel it's important to have a team with the right experience and skills to provide informed, pertinent front-line support to help keep our customer's operating.

"We've hand-picked the team because of their experience and

knowledge in our customers' sectors. Many have worked on construction sites, big infrastructure projects or in agriculture, which helps them understand customers' needs and how important it is to provide the right products and support to keep sites operational. They can provide real-time support to customers on practical issues such as the importance of fluid analysis, Stage V emissions regulations and the pitfalls of purchasing non-genuine products."

Irish customers will also have access to the cutting-edge products the two companies provide. The recently launched Perkins MyEngineApp, for example, is free to download and available on Android and Apple

devices. The app enables machine operators to access information about their engine - whether they have just one piece of equipment or a small fleet of Perkins powered machines. Working in conjunction with the Perkins Smart Cap, an oil filler cap that can be fitted onto most Perkins' engines, it enables the operator to monitor engine-life and keep track of performance so they can manage the maintenance, service and repair more efficiently.

DiPerk Power Solutions will provide customers in Ireland with a 365 day-a-year breakdown service and a 24-hour engineering support offering support on all aspects of installation and operation from repairs to remanufacture.

The Institute of Quarrying and Institute of Asphalt Technology Formalise Collaboration

The Institute of Quarrying (IQ) and the Institute of Asphalt Technology (IAT) have signed a memorandum of understanding which builds on the long-standing collaboration between the two organisations.

As part of the new memorandum of understanding (MoU), IQ and IAT will provide joint cooperation to develop a focused solution for key issues within the construction materials industry and strive for improvements in the dissemination of knowledge and learning.

James Thorne, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Quarrying, says: "Both organisations have proud histories of supporting their respective members and have long

worked together in supporting the whole industry in key areas such as education"

"This agreement will facilitate further cooperation and development on topics of mutual interest, as well as the organisation and mutual support for training and education activities such as courses, seminars and conferences."

The MoU has been signed by IQ President, Martin Riley, and IAT President Tony Sewell. Speaking about the signing, Martin Riley says: "The agreement signifies the next phase in the relationship between our organisations. With many crossover areas of interest and challenges affecting professionals working within both mineral extractives and asphalt technological industries, it's a strategic partnership that will enable us to

continue to deliver best value training and development opportunities to our members."

Tony Sewell adds: "We value the strong relationship we already have with the Institute of Quarrying and welcome this opportunity to promote sustainable development and education."

Founded in 1966, the Institute of Asphalt Technology is the professional body for persons working in the field of Asphalt Technology and for those interested in all aspects of the Manufacture, Placing, Technology and Uses of materials containing Asphalt or Bitumen. The Institute of Quarrying is the international professional body for quarrying, construction materials and the related extractive and processing industries, with over 6,000 members in some 50 countries of the world.



ACTIVELY, PRACTICALLY, WE'LL HELP YOU THRIVE AGAIN

These challenging times are affecting us all in many different ways.
But we're here to reignite your plans – with expert advice and
support, to help you look forward again with confidence.



Close Brothers
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PLANT SERVICES IRELAND NOW OFFERING PRONAR TRAILER RANGE

Plant Services Ireland, located in Co Meath, are the Irish distributor for Pronar Trailers; the manufacturer's range is certainly comprehensive and includes hook lifts, single, double, and three axle models, as well as tandem and drop-side dump trailers.

The latest Pronar T286 hook lift, for example, is a versatile product that can be used in various applications in agricultural, construction, municipal, forestry or horticulture, with features that greatly enhance its functionality and range of use.

The lower frame is made of durable closed profiles which ensure durability and rigidity of the structure. With hydraulic shock absorption cylinders made of high quality steel, the drawbar is about 40 % lighter than a similar construction with usage of steel spring and in addition it is more functional and equally durable. Its hydraulic system enables smooth height adjustment of the towing hitch to the tractor hitch.

The central hydraulic system is electronically controlled via a wired desktop. All hydraulic systems responsible for handling the container have been combined into one central system and it requires two hydraulic wires to be plugged to the tractor. Comfortable and functional control panel with LED display enables easy and efficient operation of this system.

The trailer is also equipped with sensors that protect against potential damage and prevent initiating "prohibited" function. Two



hydraulic tipping cylinders are used. This solution is used in automobile versions of hook lift trailers. Both cylinders lift the container at the same time so that loading and unloading the container runs seamlessly. Each of the tipping cylinders is equipped with

a brake that in the last phase of the loading limits the speed of the trailer's chassis.

An hydraulically retractable rear bumper on the hook lift makes the trailer operator's work easier and increases road safety, while an hydraulic container lock protects the container from slipping and jumping while being transported on the trailer.

Main features of the trailer include:

- Two hydraulic tipping cylinders
- Telescopic hook frame with hydraulic cylinder with 1300 mm skip
- Chassis frame made of closed profiles
- Drawbar with hydraulic shock absorption cylinders
- Passively steered rear axle
- Hook with height adjustment
- Hydraulic retractable rear bumper
- Hydraulic container lock
- Central hydraulic system powered via wired desktop

T285/1

Another popular trailer in the range, available from Plant Services Ireland, is the Pronar T285/1, which can be used throughout whole year in agriculture, construction and waste management. It is the perfect solution for customers looking for universal and durable equipment for various tasks.

The T285/1 has greater load capacity than its predecessor (increased by about two tons) which was achieved by introducing a wider





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IRELAND, IS
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T285/1, WHICH
CAN BE USED
THROUGHOUT
WHOLE YEAR IN
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AND WASTE
MANAGEMENT**

axle system, which is 1810mm. The trailer is made of closed steel profiles to provide excellent durability, while the rear steered axle in tandem suspension additionally reduces tyre wear and fuel consumption.

With more than 30 additional options available, you can tailor it to your individual needs and being equipped

with a modern hydraulic system it can easily connect to smaller tractors.

Cattle Trailers

Pronar has also just started mass production of a new cattle trailer. The T046H is their fourth cattle trailer. Its construction combines high loading capacity with manoeuvrability,

ensuring cattle is safe during transportation and can be easily loaded and unloaded.

The new construction was created in consultation with the end users from Poland, Germany and Austria, with the first public launch of the product taking place last year at Agritechnica fairs in Hannover.



THE NEW MODEL OF HOOK LIFT TRAILER T286

**T286 is the latest model of
Pronar's hook lift trailer.**

**The hook lift trailer PRONAR T286
is a completely new design that can
be applied to various works in
agricultural, construction, municipal,
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recycling & waste management

NWP supports Belfast Trust to maintain mental health provision during COVID

Natural World Products (NWP) has partnered with the Belfast Trust to support the provision of key services for those experiencing mental ill health during COVID-19.

The firm which converts household food and garden waste into organic, peat-free compost has donated the equivalent of over 1,500 bags of its New Leaf Compost product for use by Day Opportunities centres across Belfast.

The compost has facilitated the creation of a horticulture garden at the Everton Complex in north Belfast and has assisted with the creation of surrounding outdoor gardening spaces for complexes at Ravenhill in south Belfast and Whiterock.

NWP General Manager Patrick Kelly said: "Having worked with the Trust previously supplying several hundred tonnes of compost for an Acute Inpatient Mental Health facility, we learned a lot about their work with Day Opportunities, and so we wanted to donate our compost this time to assist with its services. "With the Everton Complex helping around 200 people every year for the past 30 years, we were honoured to play a part



Nicola Smith, right, of NWP joins Suzanne Wilson, Head of North Belfast Day Opportunities as the firm delivers compost for use by the Trust to create horticulture gardens at its Day Opportunities centres across the city.

in the supply of vital mental health services to those within our very own community during such challenging times.

"It's satisfying to know that the produce that will eventually grow from using our compost in the horticultural garden will then be utilised on site by service users.

Head of North Belfast Day Opportunities Suzanne Wilson said: "NWP's donation of New

Leaf Compost has supported the development of a mental health garden helping highlight the many benefits associated with horticultural therapy.

"The produce will be put to great use through our various activities here at Day Opportunities including our 'Cook It' programme. These activities offer practical, creative and therapeutic support for our

service users and provide a range of opportunities for them.

"There is a range of research supporting the idea that spending time outside is good for our bodies and our minds. It has been shown that horticultural therapy can help reduce depression, anxiety, and stress through the release of mood-enhancing endorphins as well improve self-esteem, self-confidence, and communication skills.

"North Belfast Day Opportunities provides a stepping-stone for our users helping to facilitate their personal rehabilitation and equip them for normal life and we are grateful to NWP for their continued support."

Patrick added: "At NWP, we are proud of our community roots, so it is especially rewarding to see our compost make such tangible benefits to people within our society. It's the definition of a circular economy and we are proud to be a part of it."

The firm processes 200 thousand tonnes of food and garden waste annually, which is then converted into high quality organic compost to be used by councils, agri-growers, and the horticultural sector across Northern Ireland and further afield.

New joystick steering tested in waste handling environment

Finning UK & Ireland is trialling two Cat® 950M Wheel loaders with joystick steering at Veolia's recycling depot in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. Joystick steering brings better manoeuvrability, improved safety and more comfort to employees in the waste management and recycling sector.

The new Caterpillar joystick steer feature is unique in its class bringing lots of benefits to the operator including making the steering of the machine easier and lowering the risk for repetitive strain injuries. The joystick is mounted to the side of the seat, so it swings with the seat when the machine moves, which is ergonomically better than having a fixed steering wheel. After a day of manoeuvring a Caterpillar with a joystick, operators have reported a reduction in arm fatigue, which is a very significant health and safety benefit.

In machines with a joystick, the steering wheel is removed, which gives the operator more visibility. The operator can see other

people much better, work more precisely and safely. The feedback the joystick gives to the driver is force and speed sensitive. There is even a switch to select gears and buttons to choose between forward, neutral and reverse.

Larger Caterpillar machines already have joystick steering fitted as standard. For the recycling and waste sector, medium-sized machines are often the preferred customer choice, the Cat 950M wheel loader in particular is favoured for its versatility. It is the ideal machine for shifting material at recycling or waste transfer and processing sites. For these machines steering wheels are currently fitted as standard but the joystick is an optional extra.

"I believe joystick steering will become as common as seatbelts," explained Gary Lambert, key account manager for industrial and waste at Finning. "In waste management, companies used to be hesitant to introduce entirely new technologies. They saw it as a training issue," continued Lambert.



"For us at Veolia, the trial was very successful," explained Robert Oliphant, Head of Fleet & Support Services at Veolia UK & Ireland. "The Caterpillar articulates at the same speed as the joystick which gives the operator much greater responsiveness. The joystick is very intuitive and the machine basically goes where you point it.

"The Veolia plant in Kirkby-in-Ashfield has a lower staff turnover than other recycling plants, so this is the perfect environment to test such machines," continued Oliphant. The site also operates in a confined space, which normally necessitates a lot of wheel turns. With the joystick, the many tiring wheel turns are a thing of the past - now it is all in the wrist."

Warrenpoint Wastewater Treatment Works Being Upgraded

NI Water has taken a major step forward in the £6m upgrade of Warrenpoint Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) with the 'seeding' of the new Activated Sludge Plant (ASP).

Building work at Warrenpoint WwTW was undertaken by Dungannon-based GEDA Construction, while Newry-based Water Solutions Ireland (WSI) were responsible for the extensive mechanical, electrical and process-related work at the site. Project management was carried out by Belfast consultancy firm McAdam Design.

The extensive programme of improvements at the Mound Road site forms part of the EU-funded Shared Waters Enhancement & Loughs Legacy (SWELL) project, which aims to improve water quality in Carlingford Lough and Lough Foyle through the upgrade of wastewater assets on both sides of the border.

The seeding of the new Warrenpoint plant – the process whereby flows are introduced to the new infrastructure to initiate the biological treatment process – took place over a number of days and involved pumping more than five million litres of wastewater into the new tanks.

Explaining how the process works, Tomasz Piadlo, NI Water SWELL Project Manager said: "The new Activated Sludge Plant at Warrenpoint is a substantial structure built to replace the smaller 40-year-old tanks on the site. With twice the volume of an Olympic-size swimming pool, the new ASP is equipped with three aeration lanes, each with over 300 diffusers, which distribute oxygen into the tanks to break down the bacteria in the wastewater.

"This process forms part of the secondary treatment stage at the new WwTW. Before the wastewater arrives at the ASP it goes through a preliminary treatment phase, where a new balance tank helps control the flow and a new inlet works ensures the wastewater is screened before it passes to the new ASP."

The seeding of the ASP marks the first step in the commissioning of the upgraded Warrenpoint WwTW, which WSI are due to complete by the end of October. Early indications show that the final effluent – the treated wastewater being discharged to Carlingford Lough – is of a much higher quality as a result of the significant investment being made under EU's INTERREG VA Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

Overall the €35m SWELL project involves a total of eight wastewater infrastructure upgrades, as well as catchment studies and ecosystem modelling, within the Carlingford Lough drainage basin (within Newry, Mourne & Down and Louth council areas) and the Lough Foyle drainage basin (comprising Derry City & Strabane and Donegal council areas). The improvements to the wastewater assets will help contribute to raising the current EU Water Framework Directive status of 'moderate' to 'good'.

The four-year project – which is being led by NI Water working in partnership with Irish Water, the Agri-Food & Biosciences Institute (AFBI), Loughs Agency and East Border Region – will culminate in the development of a unique environmental legacy model that can be used to achieve further improvements in water quality in the shared waters of Carlingford Lough and Lough Foyle in the future.

Match-funding for the SWELL project has been provided by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in Ireland and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland.

Minister Gets Guided Tour of Plaswire Ltd in Lurgan

During a tour of Plaswire Limited in Lurgan, Environment Minister Edwin Poots met with Chief Executive Andrew Billingsley and senior management to discuss the importance of recycling to the local economy.

The plastic waste reprocessing facility processes other commercial plastics such as old aircraft interior furnishings. In keeping with circular economy principles, the waste plastics are shredded into small plastic pieces that can then be used as raw materials in the creation of new plastic products thus saving resources and reducing plastic ending up in landfill.

Officials within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs have also held preliminary discussions with Plaswire around the potential for processing end of life fishing gear to reclaim otherwise difficult to recover and recycle plastic content.

The company is currently seeking options for diverting low grade plastic waste away from landfill, including proposals to manufacture recycled construction products



Environment Minister Edwin Poots (right) pictured with Andrew Billingsley (centre), Chief Executive of Plaswire Ltd and Mario Staron (left), Plaswire employee, during a visit to Plaswire Limited in Lurgan.

to replace concrete, as well as localised energy generation avoiding the need for export.

Minister Poots said, "My emphasis for recycling is to realise the value of it to the local economy and thereby deliver both environmental and economic benefits.

"The Northern Ireland household waste recycling rate for 2018/19 is 50%, meeting the waste management strategy target of 50% by 2020 nearly

two years ahead of schedule. I will build on this success."

Plaswire is also exploring the process of Pyrolysis, which uses high temperatures to convert waste plastic back into its building blocks. The process is also referred to as thermal cracking.

Commenting, the Minister said, "It is important to apply the waste hierarchy and only waste which cannot be prevented, reused or recycled should be considered for energy recovery.

"My officials have been engaging with a number of companies in relation to this and other processes of waste treatment which could assist Northern Ireland in moving away from landfill and incineration."

During the visit, the Minister also discussed the review of the PRN (packaging waste recovery notes) system to incentivise local reprocessing/recycling. The system ensures that 'obligated producers' meet mandatory recovery and recycling targets by requiring them to prove, through the purchase of PRN's, that they have financed their prescribed tonnage of packaging recycling each year.

Minister Poots added: "I recognise that plastic waste is a scourge and we must find better ways to deal with it so it does not end up as harmful plastic pollution. Other UK administrations have introduced or consulted on the introduction of legislative measures (bans) on single-use plastics and I and my officials are presently looking at whether it would be appropriate to introduce similar measures for Northern Ireland.

"Whilst this legislation has an important role, changing mind-sets and lifestyles away from single use and thoughtless disposal is equally, if not more important."

EURO AUCTIONS' LEEDS SEPTEMBER SALE SEES INTERNET ACTIVITY REACH RECORD HIGH

Euro Auctions, Leeds, recently hosted one of its largest auctions on record, attracting a good local audience whilst online bidding from global buyers was exceptional.

The sale held over three days attracted the biggest online audience in Euro Auctions recent history, showing a true appetite for good used equipment and machinery. Seen as a true 'home sale' with over 540 vendors, from 23 countries, 87% of those sellers were from the UK.

With close to 5,200 lots of construction machinery, agricultural equipment, and industrial plant for sale, Euro Auctions proceeded with its traditional format of a mix of bidding from the floor on the day, in addition to inviting bids from a global audience via the online bidding platform.

The hammer total for the four days was £33.5 million, with prices strong, and bidding robust. For this sale, close to 4,000 buyers registered to bid, with approximately 600 choosing to bid in person, on the day, from the floor, with 86% bidding online which, for an open sale with buyers attending on the day is the way bidding is moving since Covid.

But it was the home market that monopolised the day, with 95% of buyers coming from Europe, which included UK as the top-bidding country, snapping up close to 50% of all lots. Registrations to bid came from 88 countries from around the globe, such is the power of the Euro Auctions brand and the global marketing reach.



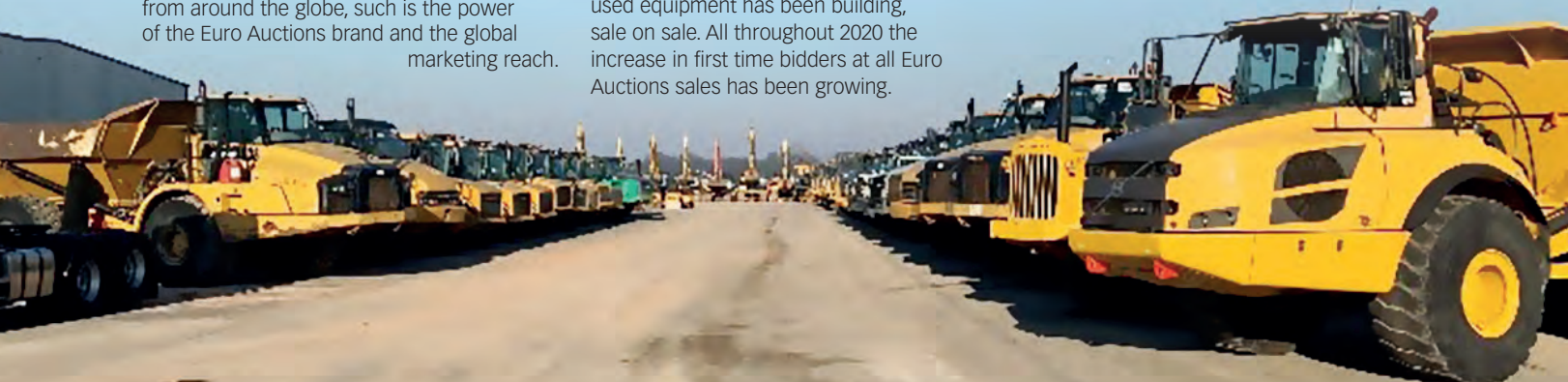
With increasing demand for good quality used machinery, the first-time bidders registering for this auction have increased sale on sale, with over 4,000 new bidding accounts registering during the last five sales in 2020.

All Euro Auctions sales are unreserved, and when the hammer went down, all 5,000 plus lots were sold, with prices being strong, and clearly a great deal of interest from eager bidders.

Jonnie Keys comments, "Since the advent of Covid, the demand for good quality used equipment has been building, sale on sale. All throughout 2020 the increase in first time bidders at all Euro Auctions sales has been growing.

"We still believe that this is due to the slow-down and eventual halt of the manufacturing of new equipment due to the pandemic. We saw the same pattern in 2008 and 2009 following the last downturn. If users are replacing their fleets, or buying for projects, the current activity shows auctions are a good place to attend for that one-stop shopping experience."

Keys continues, "New buyers and consignors also like our fair and transparent fee structure, where





there are no hidden extras and with our staff really engaging with both buyers and sellers. In addition, in a time when more consignors are looking to turn iron into cash, they put their trust in Euro Auctions sell their equipment for fair money, with the funds from this sale helping to keep their businesses afloat across the UK and Europe.”
More information: www.euroauctions.com

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RITCHIE BROS RECORD-BREAKING AUCTIONS SHOW THE STRENGTH OF PRE-BREXIT CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

One part of the economy for which doom and gloom predictions have not materialised is the used construction plant sector, as Ritchie Bros. has witnessed with its recent auctions in September.

The world's largest heavy equipment auctioneer switched to online-only auctions in the pandemic and has seen record-breaking auctions all over Europe, including in the UK.

The auctioneer has held auctions in June and September

at its Maltby site in the UK, seeing massive increases in the number of items sold, indicating equipment utilization is at peak levels, with the market showing a strong appetite for used machinery.

The high level of auction lots has been driven by the need to release capital for fleet renewals and a change in focus for an industry that is now more driven by asset utilization, as Rupert Craven from Ritchie Bros. UK explains: "With infrastructure and housing projects driving demand

for plant and HS2, in particular, focusing on emissions and productivity, we are seeing a need for plant operators to invest in new equipment and a reduction in the average fleet renewal cycle.

"Also, when it comes to buyers, due to a squeeze on the availability of new equipment with factories catching up from lockdowns, there has been a surge in demand for younger equipment, which meets the emissions standards demanded by larger projects. This favourably impacts bidding

activity and, therefore, the returns for articulated dump trucks, technology-enabled excavators from 20 tonnes and above, and other in-demand items."

September auction facts

- Intensified bidding activity pushes up price levels. UK equipment was 2% cheaper for overseas buyers due to changes in the pound.
- The UK and The Netherlands auctions were held in the same week in September, with 6,500 lots sold. UK equipment



owners also sold items at the Moerdijk, The Netherlands auction as a gateway to the European market.

- Equipment buyers embraced e-commerce amid the COVID-19 pandemic, with nearly doubling bidder registrations compared to the September 2019 auction

Changing behaviours

Rupert Craven, who's been working in the heavy machinery industry for 20 years, has seen the mentality of the market change during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Businesses now look much harder at lifecycle costs, utilisation, and equipment valuation. Particularly with the latter, more businesses are calling us to guide them through the process of fleet evaluation and disposition options that can include selling newer equipment by utilising our data to obtain the best prices."

An interesting new phenomenon is that companies in the UK and Europe 'buy for the job' and resell. Adds Rupert: "We have witnessed plant being bought



for a six to twelve-month job and then being resold at our Maltby auction with residuals holding up very well."

Where the auctions pre-COVID were attended both in-person and online, they're now only held online with an easy-to-use bidding system that is open for several days. Although born out of necessity, the online-only auction format attracted a record number of participants and generated strong returns for sellers.

"What is also interesting is the change in the online bidder profile, which again has been dramatic, as more people get comfortable with doing business online. There are now many more bidders globally and a large increase in individual bidders, following the other trends we are seeing.

"What is clear is the construction and plant sector is in much better shape than most commentators predicted and in some cases with large infrastructure projects, we

are even into boom times, the likes that have not been seen since the motorway building era. And of course, we can't underestimate the continued global demand for equipment that has been well looked after by UK plant operators."

Global Reach

Ritchie Bros. conducts numerous auctions across the world and is currently in the final stages of a major redevelopment of its new 20-hectare site at the old Maltby Colliery, South Yorkshire, where it conducts auctions throughout the year. The auctions continue to be held online only for now, with interested buyers viewing items both on the website and the auction yard.

The next Ritchie Bros. auction in Maltby will be held on 26th & 27th November, presenting an opportunity for businesses to sell before the end of the year or add items to their fleet.

For more information, visit rbauction.co.uk

UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION – Online Timed Auction

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2018 KOBELCO SK140SRLC-5



2011 HITACHI ZX210W-3 4x4



UNUSED 2020 VOLVO EC55D



2008 TEREX DEMAG AC50-150



2019 CATERPILLAR 730 6x6



1 / 9 – 2016 JCB 9T 4x4



2018 JCB 531-70 4x4x4

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COMMITMENT TO HISTORY KEY FOR TWO NEW PARTNERS

McCLOSKEY INTERNATIONAL AND TBF'S IRISH ROOTS RUN DEEP

Founded in 1985, McCloskey International started as a custom fabrication and design house in Ontario, Canada focused on production of stackers for Powerscreen, and introducing its first stockpiling conveyor in 1986.

In 2004, McCloskey purchased Viper International in Clonoe, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland and started to develop a new range of vibrating screens. The S range, produced at this site, launched into the market in 2007, along with a new range of scalping screeners. With the acquisition of Viper, a new chapter began for the company and the success story has continued to unfold throughout the world.

With some of the world's most advanced screening designs and technologies coming out of the area, the establishment of advanced manufacturing facilities and a sales support team in Coalisland created the groundwork for the company's rapid growth within, and beyond the borders.

In 2008 crushers were added to the product lines, and with overwhelming market demand a new crusher finishing building began construction in Canada in 2010, along with a new service and custom building addition started the same year.

Expansion continued in N. Ireland as well with two new facilities, including a spare parts division and a state-of-the-art paint shop, opening in 2016. New office facilities opened at the Clonoe location totaling 60,000 sq. ft.

In 2017, to accommodate continued growth, the 120,000 sq. ft. factory opened at Granville, Co. Tyrone, in N. Ireland. The site provides space for 4 manufacturing lines producing screeners, crushers and washing systems in addition to a final testing area.

McCloskey equipment is sold by close to 100 dealers and distributors around the globe, and ninety percent of McCloskey's equipment is exported. On October 1, 2020 McCloskey welcomed its newest distributor, TBF Group,

who offer a full suite of products, parts and service for the Ireland market.

TBF Group has a rich history, having been involved in the automotive and plant industries throughout the island of Ireland since 1958. Established in Garvagh, the company has grown to include depots in Dublin, Mullusk and Portadown. They are an authorized Hitachi® dealer, also offering and servicing Bell dump trucks, DAF trucks, Thwaites dumpers, Bomag compacting equipment, Cummins engines, Doosan Portable Power, Palfinger cranes and Montabert Breaker products.

TBF prides itself on world-class equipment sales and support in the construction, quarry, roadbuilding, and forestry sectors, among others. McCloskey equipment will play a key role in the growth of the crushing and screening systems product line offered by the company's dedicated plant division, TBF Construction Machinery.

Seamus Doherty, Director for TBF Construction Machinery, commented on the new relationship, noting that "we pride ourselves in supplying premium brand franchises, which McCloskey International certainly is, and we look forward to building a great relationship."





**ON OCTOBER 1, 2020
MCCLOSKEY WELCOMED
ITS NEWEST DISTRIBUTOR,
TBF GROUP, WHO OFFER A
FULL SUITE OF PRODUCTS,
PARTS AND SERVICE FOR
THE IRELAND MARKET**

McCloskey has a strong commitment to after sales support, with parts depots situated for rapid dispatch in N. Ireland, Canada and the United States. Working with dealers like TBF Group, who share the commitment to excellence throughout the lifecycle of the product, has been key to the product's success in the market.

McCloskey's dealer network ensures that customers are supported by factory trained field service technicians for After Sales Support. McCloskey's trained service technicians familiarize the dealers and customers handling the equipment to ensure customers receive as much use and value out of their purchase.

After Sales Support begins the day you purchase your McCloskey equipment and through the product's life cycle. The support and service offered is what makes McCloskey a trusted partner - from commissioning to consignment.

TBF Construction Machinery stands firmly behind the product lines it represents as well. Parts and service departments can be found at each of the five depots across Ireland, with experienced and knowledgeable staff available in store or by phone. Dedication to aftersales support has served the company well for over 60 years and many long-lasting and

trusted relationships have been built with both manufacturers and customers in that time.

TBF is an authorized McCloskey dealer, with an in-house delivery system of aftermarket parts and services for all McCloskey equipment as well as fully equipped service vans.

TBF Group has a diverse portfolio of customers within the private and public sectors, across multiple industries including utilities, house building, roadworks, demolition, quarrying, haulage, and transport. Their

strong history of customer support in the quarry and construction industry is delivered through their broad coverage across Ireland from depots in Dublin, Mallusk and Garvagh.

Doherty added, "TBF Construction Machinery 'The Brand to choose First' has maintained a name for quality and excellence. We take great pride in our people, the high-quality brands we represent, and the after sales support which helps maximize our customers' profitability and keeps downtime to a minimum. We are excited for the growth this partnership will bring."





2007 Doosan DX480LC.



2008 Komatsu WA480-6.jpg



2014 Komatsu PC210LC-10.



2015 New Holland LM7.35.



2018 Komatsu PC138US-11.



DEPOT LOCATIONS

Unit 525
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Rathcoole, Co Dublin, Ireland.

Birdhill, Co Tipperary, Ireland

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Web:
www.mchaleplantsales.com



2007 Komatsu HM400-2.



2012 Komatsu 901TX.1.jpg



2014 Komatsu PC360LC-10.



2015 Komatsu PC240LC-10.



2016 Komatsu PC210LCI-11 - GPS.



2016 Powerscreen Premiertrack 400.



2019 Terex Ecotec TDS820.



2019 Terex Ecotec TTS620T.

Streumaster Releases New Generation of Binding Agent Spreaders

Streumaster has added new models to its MC and TC series that raise the bar when it comes to filling, spreading accuracy, and user-friendliness.

In particular, the high-speed filling device on both sides, the self-cleaning metering feeders, and the new control panel ensure that the binding agent spreaders – which are designed as trailers or to be mounted on a carrier vehicle – deliver high-performance, high-precision spreading results.

The new binding agent spreaders can be conveniently filled from both sides thanks to two generously sized filling connectors. They come standard-equipped at the rear of the machine, enabling the silo trucks to drive directly up to the binding agent spreader and fill the container even when space is limited or traffic is moving.

The new high-speed pneumatic filling device and new container



design ensure that the filling process is completed quickly and that the binding agent is evenly distributed throughout the inside of the container. Each of the filling connectors is designed to handle up to 2 tons of binding agent per minute. In addition, an optional automatic filter system is available to make the filling process dust-free.

High-Precision

The fully automatic binding agent metering system ensures that

the binding agent is discharged precisely, irrespective of the machine's travel speed. In combination with the Weightronic electronic weighing device, it is possible to simultaneously calculate both the distance travelled and the area covered with binding agent. In this context, the system regulates the spread rate continuously and fully automatically.

The metering feeders in rotary design are one of the new

binding agent spreaders' notable highlights. Thanks to a special housing with pressure and release zones and flexible chambers, the metering feeders are self-cleaning. This guarantees an even, high-performance process with high spreading accuracy. In addition, the spreading unit's three partial spreading widths can be controlled separately, making it possible to adjust the spread rate of each section individually.

Easy Operation

Streumaster's new control panel combines all of the binding agent spreader's operating elements into a single unit. Individual operating values and function keys can be created via the 12-inch colour display's user interface.

In addition, the control panel features a split-screen mode that allows the operator to display the different camera images from the optional camera/monitor system.





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Sany SY26U sold to Owen Caffrey, Co Louth Ireland by Sleator Plant.



SK10SR going to Ross Hire & Drain Services, Co. Roscommon from McSharry TRACK.



New Komatsu PC360LC-11 sold to Dermot Creedon by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



New Hidromek 62ss back hoe sold to Gareth and Michael Murphy Tarmacadam in Co Cork.



A new Giant D263SW Xtra for Reel-Tech, from Ballyward Plant Services.



New Case CX37C supplied by Cowan Bros to Mark Wilson, Dungiven.



Mill Contracts collecting their new Adler K600/135 sweeper from Ballyward Plant Services.



Garden Escapes collecting their new Giant G2200xtra from Ballyward Plant Services.



New Merlo TF33.7G sold to Grange construction by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



2 x Mecalac MBR 71 Rollers and 2 x Mecalac Trailers on there way to Mason Bros in Wales from Sleator Plant.



SK55SRX-6 x 4 units on their way to the OPW from McSharry TRACK.



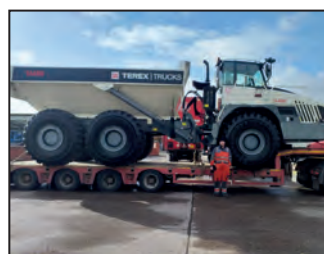
Paul Cullen taking delivery of new PC228US-LC-11 for McGreevy Construction from Jayme Carvill of WAC McCandless.



New PC138US-11 ready for delivery to McKinley Contracts from WAC McCandless.



SK45SRX-6 going to Ross Hire & Drain Services, Co. Roscommon from McSharry TRACK.



Terex Truck TA400 sold to the Irish Salt Mines by Sleator Plant.



New Ital Tower Astrid Led Tower sold to Mp Hire Sligo.



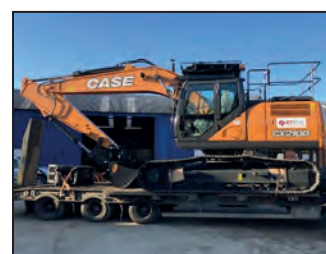
New Hammer Grp 100 selector grab sold to Molloy Metals Wexford.



New Case CX90D supplied by Cowan Bros to a customer, Ballygawley.



New Komatsu D85PX-18 sold to Roadbridge by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



New Case CX210D supplied by Cowan Bros to Atmac Construction Ltd, Omagh.



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New Case CX19C supplied by Cowan Bros to S McLaughlin, Claudy.



2 x Genie GS1932 sold to Briggs Equipment by Sleanor Plant.



SK140SRLC-5 going to John Orme Civil Engineering Ltd., Co. Clare from McSharry TRACK.



New Chicago Pneumatic 2.5 Compressor sold to Coffey Construction Galway.



Michael Lavelle collects his SK17SR from McSharry TRACK.



Jonny and Martin Leonard of FAL Hire with their new V20 Generac from Sleanor Plant.



New Case SR130 supplied by Cowan Bros to Buchanan Family, Dungiven.



New Komatsu PC138US-11 sold to Brendan McGrath by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



2 x Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 & Hitachi ZX135US-6 - Glenveagh Contracting Ltd, Maynooth sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



A new Giant G5000xtra for Demense Contracts from Ballyward Plant Services.



New Hidromek 300LC sold to Booth concrete in Co Laois by Kelly's of Borris.



New Epiroc HC350 sold to G. Hill Pipe & Civils by WAC McCandless.



New PC55MR-5 sold to Hugh Fitzpatrick by WAC McCandless.



A new Adler K600/180 sweeper out for delivery to Shine's Agri, from Ballyward Plant Services.



New Hammer Fx 700 sold to John Madden and Sons, Galway.



A new Hydrema 912F ready for delivery to Lowry Construction, from Ballyward Plant Services.



2 x Thwaites - Treaty Plant Hire, Limerick sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



New Epiroc SB152 sold to SC Tarmac by WAC McCandless.



New Yanmar SV18 loaded and being delivered to K Hamilton contracts by Crumlin plant sales.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 & ZX225USLC-6 - Power Grid Civils, Omagh sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



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Bomag BW80AD-5 - Moneyreagh Contracts & Plant Hire Ltd, Comber sold by TBF Thompson (Garvagh) Ltd.



Another new Ausa for Dromad hire supplied by Crumlin Plant Sales.



3 x New Ital Tower Astrid Led Towers sold to Jon's Civil Eng Duleek Co Meath by SME Plant Sales.



New Case 1121G supplied by Cowan Bros to F P McCann, Magherafelt.



Komatsu WA480-8 sold to Harrington's by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



New Hammer SB 200 sold to CA Hire, Virginia Co Cavan by SME Plant Sales.



Hitachi ZX160LC-6 & Montabert XL1900 - McBride Contracts Ltd, Kilrea sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



New Hammer Grp 150 selector grab sold to Oxygen Environmental Dublin by SME Plant Sales.



Hitachi ZX38U-6 - Shields Plant Hire, Kingscourt, Co Cavan sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



New HD465-8 recently sold to Robinsons Quarry Masters by WAC McCandless.



Paul Murney, Murney Joinery & Build, Kilkeel, Co. Down with this SK28SR-6 from McSharry TRACK.



New Yanmar VIO50 To DAC contracts supplied by Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Hidromek 230 LC sold to Alan and Michael Ryan in Co Wexford.



Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 - Office of Public Works, Kilkenny sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



Hitachi ZX33U-6 & Montabert SC16 - Damien Galligan, Drumhilla, Co Cavan sold by TBF Construction Machinery.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to D Kernohan, Broughshane.



New Ital Tower Astrid Led Tower sold to Gannon Crushing Galway by SME Plant Sales.



New yanmar VIO50 To KC hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Messers high tip track dumper for KC Hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Case SR175 supplied by Cowan Bros to D Murphy Contracts, Armagh.



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Hitachi ZX130LCN-6 & Hitachi ZX85US-6
- Lynch Brothers, Buncrana sold by TBF
Construction Machinery.



New Yanmar for Durnin construction supplied
by Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros
to Karl Rankin, Strabane.



New Komatsu PC360LC-11 sold to P
McCaffrey & Sons by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



Hitachi ZX65USB-5, ZX55U-6, ZX33U-6 - Fox
Building & Engineering Ltd, Omagh sold by
TBF Construction Machinery.



New Case CX145D supplied by Cowan Bros
to Lynch Bros, Buncrana.



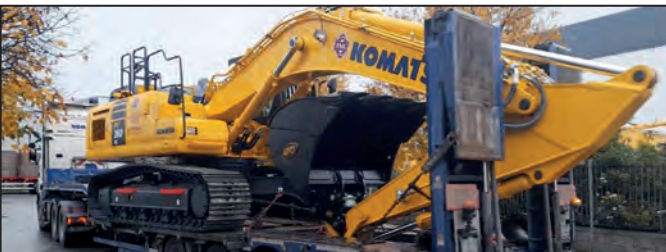
2 Genie S65XC sold to Briggs Equipment by
Sleator Plant.



New Hidromek 230 LC being delivered to
Green DCBM in Wexford by Kelly's of Borris.



2 Genie GS1932 & a Genie GTH2506 Telehandlers sold to Haven Hire by Sleator Plant.



New Komatsu PC360LC-11 sold to P McCaffrey & Sons by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



Metso Lokotrack LT116 sold to Shillelagh Quarries by McHale Plant Sales Ltd.



Yanmar SV08, Yanmar SV16, Yanmar VIO26 Joins the fleet at Dromad hire supplied by
Crumlin Plant Sales.

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