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Mar-Apr 2017

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Showtime has arrived – and no, we’re not talking about the latest developments on the political front; we will leave that to others! What we ARE talking about is the latest ConExpo Exhibition in Las Vegas where we spent a memorable few days – and you can read all about it in this bumper issue.

Closer to home, the annual Balmoral Show is fast approaching, and it is shaping up to be the biggest and best ever, with many of our regular plant & machinery exhibitors planning to make a welcome return to the event which will run for an extra day this year; again, we have a sneak preview of what’s in store, and a look forward to the CQMS show in County Offaly.

While there may be some negativity being aired following the recent Assembly elections, that’s not the case across many sectors of our industry. Even the local construction sector is expected to return to growth this year despite the many challenges. One report predicts it will expand by an annual average of 1.6% over the five years to 2021, close to the UK rate of 1.7%.

Another encouraging indicator is from our local auctions. A recent two day Euro Auctions event in Dromore, County Tyrone, achieved a final hammer total of €6.65m. As the organisers stated, the sale has again proved the level of demand and interest that used UK equipment generates in the domestic market.

Also in this issue, we report on a new milestone being reached by manufacturer CASE, and from JCB we hear about a series of new international product launches.

We also turn the focus on the world of tipplers and heavy haulage and we have updates from the CIHT, CIWM and IMQS, as well as our regular news from QPANI.

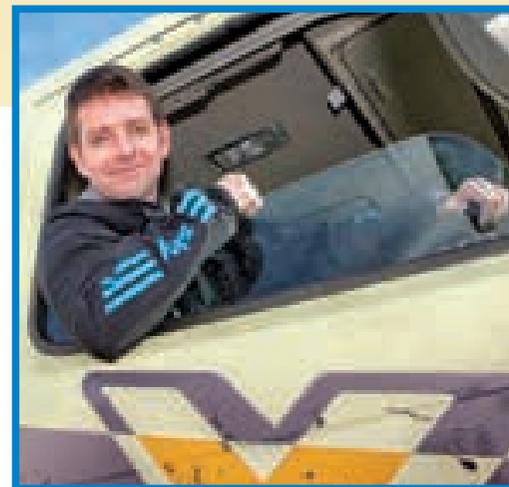
In our ‘View from the Cab’ series, we have been hearing about a Hidromek 300LC excavator and a LiuGong 856H Wheel Loader; operators of both are suitably impressed; find out why!

Preparations are well underway for this year’s Plant & Civil Engineer ‘Plant, Construction & Quarry’ awards and we have a number of exciting new categories including ‘Construction Fleet of the Year,’ ‘Apprentice of the Year,’ and ‘Excellence in Customer Service.’ You’ll find all you need to know elsewhere in this issue.

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

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

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

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NI Water Holywood/Kinnegar Network Upgrade Completed

NI Water and its contractor GEDA Construction, have recently completed work on the multi-million network upgrade / environmental improvement scheme in the Holywood/Kinnegar area. The project involved a major programme of sewer laying, tunnelling work and the construction of a major pumping station.

A detailed investigation was carried out into the local network following longstanding problems with odours in the vicinity of Kinnegar Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). This confirmed that three Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's) discharged into the lagoons adjacent to Kinnegar WwTW.

The man-made lagoons which are owned by NI Water were a significant cause of the odours, and a major construction project was developed to divert these three CSO's away from the Kinnegar lagoons on to a new Pumping Station for onward pumping and treatment at Kinnegar Wastewater Treatment Works. Phase one of the project was completed in Summer 2016 and successfully diverted two of the three CSOs. Phase 2, completed in December 2016 saw the removal of the third and final CSO discharge from the lagoons. Bill Gowdy NI Water Director of Engineering Procurement said: "NI Water is pleased to announce the completion of this

complex engineering project, which involved the construction of sewers and tunnels in the vicinity of the A2 Belfast / Bangor Road and railway line, as well as a major pumping station. "The project encountered some unexpected difficulties, however the NI Water project team rose to the challenge working closely with TransportNI, and other key stakeholders to quickly provide an alternative solution, whilst continuing to ensure disruption to customers and commuters was minimised. "The project will improve wastewater services for customers and reduce the risk of environmental pollution by diverting CSO discharges to the new wastewater pumping

station adjacent to Kinnegar Wastewater Treatment Works. These improvements to the infrastructure in the area will reduce the likelihood and severity of odours in the future." Modifications which had already been carried out to the outlet of the lagoons reduced the frequency and severity of odours being released to the atmosphere. This work along with increased sewer network maintenance, and the removal of the three CSO's has made a substantial improvement to the condition of the Kinnegar Lagoons. Based on studies and monitoring to date, the view is that the lagoons should be permitted to continue to cleanse and regenerate naturally. Now that all overflow discharges have been diverted to the WwTW, NI Water will continue to monitor the odours in the area and the lagoons to ensure natural regeneration occurs as anticipated.



The lagoons pictured before and after the regeneration.



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McHale Expands Parts & Service Team

McHale Plant Sales has appointed Simon Moynihan to the position of Parts and Service Sales Representative.



From Bweeng, near Mallow, Simon, in his new role, will visit customers and dealers across the country to give advice and assistance where needed and to represent all of the manufacturers, products and services that McHale Plant Sales distributes.

Prominent within his brief will be Komatsu and the range of products manufactured by its affiliates, Lehnhoff, Hensley and KVX. Other key products within his brief are Metso, Merlo and Zetor, the latter supported also by a national main dealer organisation.

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Norwest Plant Sells First Doosan Excavator-Trailer in UK

RJB Civil Engineering Ltd, based at Bacup in Lancashire, has purchased the first Doosan wheeled excavator and trailer combination in the UK from Norwest Plant Ltd, the Authorised Doosan and Bobcat dealer for North-West England and North Wales and part of Northern Ireland based Ballyvesey Holdings Ltd

Jonathan Campbell, General Manager of Norwest Plant, said: "We are very proud to be the first to deliver a Doosan Excavator-Trailer combination in the UK and this was down to the hard work of the team at Norwest Plant, comprising Sales Manager, Garry Wheawall; Aftersales Manager, Ciarán Waldron and engineer, Ged Rimmer.

"We have invested heavily in our aftermarket offering with the appointment of several key new staff in the last two to three years. We firmly believe our customers deserve 5 star aftermarket care and we trust that we can deliver this level of service to them."

According to RJB Civil Engineering Ltd, an excavator and trailer set-up of this type increases health and safety on site and provides substantial savings for contractors in terms of reduced personnel, downtime and hire machine costs.

Popular in the Scandinavian market, this is the fourth excavator-trailer combination to be purchased by RJB Civil Engineering and it comprises a new Doosan DX160W-5 Stage IV compliant 16 tonne wheeled excavator and a modified Bigab hook lift trailer. RJB Civil Engineering approached several manufacturers to provide the excavator-trailer system but impressed by their solution, the company chose the team at Norwest Plant and Doosan to provide the perfect machine and trailer combination for its needs.



With the new Doosan Excavator-Trailer combination are (left to right) Ged Rimmer Norwest Plant engineer; Ciarán Waldron, Aftersales Manager and Garry Wheawall, Sales Manager at Norwest Plant.

The blade on the DX160W-5 was modified to allow the trailer coupling to be mounted, with additional hydraulic circuits and controls in the cab fitted by Norwest Plant to allow for the trailer brakes and trailer tipping.

Robert Banham, Managing Director of RJB Civil Engineering, said: "We have had our faith in Norwest Plant and Doosan duly rewarded with the finished article and together with input from our clients, we have been able to enhance the design compared to the previous units we purchased.

"The excavator-trailer combination increases health and safety by removing the need for banksmen and other personnel on site and with less people, there is less chance for accidents and injuries to happen. By using the trailer to bring materials on to sites which are unloaded by the excavator driver, this removes the need and cost of hiring an additional tractor-trailer combination for this purpose,

again increasing safety and productivity and decreasing downtime for the contractor."

Norwest Plant incorporated an innovative Bluetooth transmitter/receiver system to facilitate the trailer lighting, removing the need for additional wiring. The excavator was also fitted with a Geith quick hitch, rotation piping, vandal guards, hand rails, a seat belt beacon and Chapter 8 conspicuity livery just to name a few of the special features on the system.

Robert Banham added: "The Geith quick hitch system is another important ingredient, again removing site personnel from the process, allowing the excavator driver to quickly interchange between attachments brought on to site in the trailer, without having to leave the cab, an important added safety feature for contractors. I have also been impressed by the increased capability and extra power available on the new Stage IV excavator from Doosan."

Plant Hoses Win City Council Contract

Plant Hoses Ltd has won the tender for the supply and installation of hydraulic hoses and services to Belfast City Council.

Since its establishment in 2002, Plant Hoses in Mallusk has been one of the pioneers of on-site hose replacement but following a successful buyout last year, the new management team has identified several additional services which will see the range of complimentary products offered to the transport, construction & quarrying, manufacturing, aerospace, marine and agricultural industries expand greatly.

Over the years many companies have offered on-site, van based hose replacement services. Keeping one or even two vans busy in Northern Ireland is a relatively simple, though an increasingly rate based task but when demand grows, committing to purchase, and then keeping four or even five vans on the road, yet staying profitable, can start to become challenging as has proved the case for so many companies in the past.

Plant Hoses started with just two vans on the road, but recognising that downtime was increasingly unacceptable

to contractors and users all over the Province and the Border Counties, the company now has seven vans and has grown steadily to become the largest provider of hose repair and replacement services.

"That fast, decisive reaction is the key to our continuing success," says managing director Noel Hynes. "We recognise that when a breakdown occurs, customers cannot afford any unnecessary delays in getting machinery up and running again."

He adds: "Our engineers are fully trained and skilled to meet all

the relevant industry standards to ensure repairs are carried out with minimum downtime and inconvenience – and we also offer preventative measures and pre-agreed maintenance contracts to ensure breakdowns are less likely to occur."

That strategy and approach to business, coupled with quality workmanship and innovative solutions, has enabled Plant Hoses to establish an extensive customer base. All its hoses come with a one year warranty - and you can be confident of quality, as Plant Hoses only use genuine German manufactured Stauff products.

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Contractor appointed for £105m Leisure Transformation Programme

Belfast City Council has announced the appointment of a contractor for the delivery of the next phase of the council's £105m Leisure Transformation Programme.

Heron Brothers Ltd will now begin work on the largest single capital contract ever let by the council. This involves the construction of three new leisure facilities across the city replacing the existing facilities at Andersonstown Leisure Centre, the Robinson Centre and Brook Activity Centre.

The two stage design and build contract was awarded following a competitive tender exercise. Preparatory works are already underway at the Robinson Centre, with building also scheduled to start this summer at Andersonstown and Brook. All three new centres are due for completion by summer 2019.

In line with the council's 'Social Clause Policy' Heron Brothers will also be required to deliver the contract in such a way so as to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits for Belfast and its people through

training and employment opportunities and, where practical, using local suppliers for goods and services.

Each of the new centres will have a unique selling point with the new Andersonstown Leisure Centre focusing on family fun leisure waters, the Robinson Centre becoming the aquatic centre for the city, and the new Brook Leisure Centre targeting outdoor sports provision. Each centre will also have a range of associated facilities such as fitness suites and exercise studios.

These redevelopments represent the next phase of the council's £105m Leisure Transformation Programme which is designed to transform the council's ageing leisure estate.

Groundforce & MEIC deliver secure solution to sensitive water scheme

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

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

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

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

The site is within a Special Area of Conservation with unusually high numbers of otters, crayfish and lamprey in the river and

badgers in the surrounding fields and woodland. Pollution control and habitat preservation were therefore given top priority.

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

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

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

Support for these cofferdams was provided by Groundforce's heavy duty hydraulic frame, Megabrace, with 150-tonne capacity HSK150

hydraulic props installed as knee-braces across the corners.

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

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

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

MEIC Ltd's main concern was to ensure safe working and environmental protection on the small and very confined



site. After consulting with Groundforce, it was decided to use sheet piling to create the cofferdams which, in the end "proved to be the backbone for the safety and success of this project," according to MEIC project manager Eoin Delaney.

"The high water table was factored into the design of the shoring system with water ingress minimised to such an extent that it was much easier to dewater than anticipated. There was complete confidence in the safe access provided to the excavations themselves due to the strength system. And as the sheet-piles were kept in place for approximately three months it was crucial that workers could confidently work within these underground work-zones productively and safely."



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view from the cab

The LiuGong 856H Wheel Loader: An Invaluable Asset

When Behan Land Restoration in County Kildare wanted to add a wheeled loader to their machinery fleet they had no hesitation in opting for a LiuGong 856H. Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been getting the 'view from the cab.'

Acquired from dealers FJS Plant, the LiuGong 856H has already proved itself to be an invaluable addition at Behan Land Restoration's former Blackhall quarry at Punchestown which takes in thousands of tonnes of construction and demolition waste every week for processing into backfilling material.

Site manager Jason Griffith is delighted with the LiuGong 856H's performance, saying it is worked very hard on a daily basis stockpiling recycled material from a crushing and screening operation.

"It's a powerful machine which has been a godsend; we just don't know how we would do without it now," says Jason.

The 856H is powered by a Cummins QSB6.7 engine that delivers a combination of high performance and low fuel



consumption, featuring as it does a high pressure common rail fuel injection system, along with a variable geometry turbocharger and coupled with a ZF 4WG200 automatic shift transmission.

With four forward gears and three reverse gears, the transmission is optimised for balance, responsiveness, maximum traction and less slip even on soft and muddy terrain.

"We were initially attracted to the wheeled loader because it represented great value for money compared to other makes and seeing it in operation every day on site

we know we made the right decision. It is a very rugged and reliable workhorse, well suited to working in tough conditions such as at the quarry here," adds Jason.

"Another factor was the dealer. We have a very good working relationship with the team at FJS Plant. Having dealt with them previously, we know how dependable they are as far as support and service are concerned. They are only ever a phone call away should we need them."

With an operating weight of 17,800 kg and a standard bucket capacity of 3.3m³ that can tackle anything at any time, there's no doubt the 856H wheel loader, which fully complies with EU Stage IV emissions regulations, is a stand-out addition to the LiuGong range.

Functional & Comfortable

"It has a very functional and comfortable cab that offers a good working environment as well as excellent all round visibility, which is important when operating on a busy site."

Indeed, the certified FOPS/ROPS features an air suspension seat and an adjustable steering column, while the finger-controlled joysticks and forward, reverse and kickdown functions are within easy reach of the operator.

There is also a rearview camera, heated mirrors, a large storage area and, as Jason mentioned, a large curved front glass for superior visibility. There are four viscous silicon rubber mounted shock absorbers, and the air recycling ventilation system



view from the cab



ensures a non-stop supply of fresh air inside the cab. The AC is equipped with eight outlets for rapid temperature control, and the easy-to-replace air filter prevents coarser dust and particles from entering the cab. Operability is further

enhanced with LiuGong's intelligent load sensing hydraulics. The Rexroth piston pumps supply power to the working functions based on demand, ensuring fast response, smooth operation and reduced fuel consumption.

“ Like I said, it has been a tremendous asset to our busy operation here – and it comes with an impressive three year / 3,000 hour warranty”

Jason Griffith, Site manager

Easy Maintenance

As with all LiuGong wheel loaders, the 856H has been designed to be easy to maintain, with minimal potential for downtime while working day after day, week after week, month after month.

For example, it features an SKF automatic greasing system and remote pressure checking points. The cooling fan is driven by a hydraulic motor to ensure the regular temperature of the core components, and the electrically controlled reversible function blows air in the opposite direction for effective self-cleaning performance.

Featuring a tilting engine hood, servicing is also made easier with LiuGong's ground maintenance principle, which means that the operator can check and replace filters and fuels while still standing on the ground.



PLANTWORX host new Event Arena - The Hub!

The next big event in the construction show calendar is the 3rd biennial PLANTWORX Construction Machinery exhibition, which is just months away, and will take place at its established home at Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground in Leicestershire on 6th, 7th and 8th June 2017.

Hosted by the CEA (Construction Equipment Association), the event is on target to exceed the number of exhibitors at the last show and is already 86% sold with 278 exhibitors. 74 exhibitors are brand new to the event which is 27%.

The show will be 20% larger than the 2015 show – with an impressive 140,000 m² of space.

Without modern, efficient plant the construction industry wouldn't be what it is today. It's machinery that makes it possible to create structures and infrastructure, on time and within budget, so it's vital for construction industry professionals to stay up to date with the latest developments.

PLANTWORX is an outstanding opportunity to do just that. The event is the leading live action plant exhibition in the UK and showcases all the latest equipment with live demonstrations.

PLANTWORX has also become the home of innovation and new technology. Companies are investing more into R&D than ever before as customers' demand more efficiency, productivity and safety features from the machines they buy for their fleets

– the show is the perfect platform for exhibitors to showcase these products to the UK market.

New at PLANTWORX 2017 is 'The Hub' which is an event arena located at the heart of the show where visitors can take a break from the hustle and bustle of the show. The Hub will 'celebrate' innovation and new technology - activities from The Hub and from the main-showground will be broadcast onto outdoor screens with live video roaming.

All PLANTWORX Innovation Award Winners will be invited to exhibit their winning product in this area and take part in the 'People's Choice Award' where visitors to the show will be encouraged to vote for their favourite product, machine or service.

Productivity will also feature and there will be a focus on Inbuilt Technology where visitors will be able to take a 'walk around' machines which are fitted with the latest in technology solutions for a busy construction site that will improve profit margins and help complete projects safely, on time and on budget.

Security and safety will form part of The Hub which will include exhibits and demonstrations from the CESAR Equipment & Registration Scheme for the Construction & Agricultural Industries and CITS (Combined Industries Theft Solutions).

Additional features will include environmental solutions, machine simulators, autonomous machines and operation, drone demonstrations and much more. An undercover seating area will

be located in the center of the arena and other facilities will include a wifi Hotspot so visitors can catch up on emails etc, catering and the PLANTWORX Bar which will open at 4.30pm daily.

On the final day of the show (Thursday 8th June 2017) The Hub will play host to the Primary Engineer and Secondary Engineer Celebration event where 26 local schools will be showcasing their STEM engineering projects.

PLANTWORX has recently launched a new website where you can find out more about the event. There's also a directory of 2017 exhibitors where you can plan your visit to the show by getting all your 'favourite' exhibitor details emailed to you. Registration for tickets to visit the 2017 show is now open – tickets are free.

The PLANTWORX team have confirmed that pre-registration numbers are up on the same period in 2015 which is an excellent indication that there's confidence in the Construction Equipment sector.

FREE TRANSPORT

Visitors flying into East Midlands Airport can pick up a free shuttle bus to the PLANTWORX event. All you have to do is Pre-Register online and select the 'Register for transport from East Midlands Airport' option in the registration form and one of the team will be in touch to arrange a pick up. <http://www.plantworx.co.uk/visit/register-for-your-ticket/>



Leigh Harris

CASE Appoints New Business Director for the UK and Rol

CASE has appointed Leigh Harris as Business Director for the UK and Rol.

Previously Director of Network Development EMEA at CASE Construction Equipment for the past three years, Leigh also brings 10 years of experience in the construction equipment industry to his new position with CASE.

Leigh said: "I am looking forward to my new role. This is an exciting time for CASE and we have all the right elements in place to further strengthen the CASE brand. With a strong CASE dealer network, a reputation for quality and more new products on the way, we plan to grow our CASE business in the UK/ROI still further."

Andy Blandford, Vice President CASE Construction Equipment EMEA said: "Leigh is the natural choice for this role – he knows the UK market, our customers and dealers well and he has ambitious plans to grow our CASE business in the UK still further."



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Hydrema Making a Positive Impact with Local Contractors

The Hydrema range of dump trucks is making a positive impact with Northern Ireland based contractors.

Supplied here by dealers Ballyward Plant Services, the latest Hydrema to enter service with a locally based contractor is a 912F, the most popular of the two Hydrema models in the UK.

County Down based contractors PF Murphy & Sons find the Hydrema 912F ideal as they require a high mobility dump truck able to carry a large payload compared to standard forward-tip models.

While forward-tip models are finding favour in the cost conscious UK market, the Hydrema wins hands down on many fronts including its performance in poor ground conditions.

"We already operate a nine tonne swivel skip dumper, but we needed something with a bigger capacity and the Hydrema fitted the bill perfectly," says Finbar Murphy. "Plus the fact that the Hydrema holds its value very well, so when we come to trade it in in a few years' time, we know it will have paid its way."

Like many contractors on this side of the Irish Sea, Murphy's have gone where the work is, so the Hydrema is currently employed on a pipeline contract in Oldham in the North West of England.

Murphy's are also operating a bigger 922 Hydrema which they acquired secondhand, so they were well aware of the brand's performance and reliability, and the excellent support and service provided by Ballyward Plant. Where the Hydrema cannot be beaten is the operator comfort afforded by the spacious and well appointed ROPS/FOPS cab. Sitting low on the chassis and offering amazing all round visibility, the cab is a very comfortable place to spend a shift.

Constant four-wheel-drive ensures the vehicle will go anywhere it is pointed to, and thanks to the perfect driveline set up the truck is able to offer high speed travel across uneven ground.

Ever since their introduction in 1983 the UK market has been a very popular and important one for the Danish owned Hydrema brand which is manufactured at the company's production facility in the former East German town of Weimar.

The UK was the first market to readily accept the radically different design concept for carrying smaller amounts of material. Initial supplies of the vehicles were brought into the country by current UK Sales Director Tim Wadsworth's late father who worked for Browns of Otley, the original importer for the range.

Serviced by Hydrema UK, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Danish company, the

trucks are favoured for their ability to keep going when others can't, thus increasing the muck-shifting season, something the UK traditionally suffers from.

The UK bound trucks are now fitted with stage 4 final compliant power plants in the form of a Cummins QSB 4.5 for the 10 tonne capacity 912F and a larger QSB 6.7 in the 922F. Both engine options offer excellent flexibility and fuel economy producing 147 and 296hp respectively. Both trucks have DOC and SCR with AdBlue systems fitted to meet Stage 4 regulations.

A consistent, high quality paint finish is achieved thanks to the state-of-the-art facilities ensuring a top quality product leaves the factory every time. Each truck undertakes a series of tests and evaluations before being shipped. A series of four, six hour checks and tests are carried out on each truck to ensure all systems are working correctly and that the truck will be in perfect condition when arriving with its new owner.

The current stage 4 compliant 912F models come in three chassis variants; standard, front suspension (FS) and high mobility (HM) with the 6x6 922F being available in three width options; a narrow axle 2.55m version and a standard machine with either 600-60 or 800-45 tyres.



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CASE REACHES NEW MILESTONE AS IT AIMS FOR FURTHER GROWTH

CASE Construction Equipment has reached an important milestone of 175 years of developing practical and effective solutions for construction businesses worldwide, as Plant & Civil Engineer's Justin Carrigan reports following a recent trip to Turin in Italy.

During our visit to the CNH Industrial Village in Turin, CASE unveiled its new mini excavator range and upgraded backhoe loaders as company representatives discussed the brand's readiness for a new year of growth.

Over the years CASE has grown and evolved with its customers, shared their challenges and, anticipating their needs, provided the solutions.

As it celebrates this important 175-year anniversary, CASE is ready to take up the challenges of the future. It has ensured the growth of its wide tracked excavator offering with the extension of its long-standing strategic alliance.

It is looking forward to exciting new product launches, starting with a brand new mini excavator range and the upgrade of its successful T Series backhoe loaders. More new product introductions will follow, maintaining the CASE product offering at the forefront of the industry.

The all-new C Series mini excavator line features 6 models ranging from 1.7 to 6.0 tonnes. These are the first products of the new range, which will be extended with additional models during 2017. The new C Series raises the bar compared to the previous range, with better performance, a rich array of features, and even greater comfort and safety – all contributing to outstanding productivity.

Gaston Le Chevalier de la Sauzaye, CASE Product Marketing Manager for mini excavators, commented: "The mini excavator is an essential product line for construction businesses: they account for the biggest industry volumes by far at 53,000 t units for Europe – and the market size is increasing each year. With the new C Series range, we deliver what our customers tell us they need most from this product line for their business: outstanding productivity, comfort and safety."

The new mini excavators are loaded with features that will make the operator's work easier, more comfortable and more productive. They include the new easy-to-read digital cluster that provides useful information and warning lights; the standard Engine Start Limitation (ESL) anti-theft system; the hydraulic Quick Coupler for fast attachment changes; the electric refuel pump and many more.

Meanwhile, the upgraded T Series backhoe loaders presented the opportunity of

Tier 4 Final compliance to introduce improvements and more choice for customers, as well as the new CASE livery.

The new models achieve the demanding emissions standards with CASE's unique SCR-only solution, which ensures a powerful performance with outstanding fuel efficiency – and no need for Diesel Particulate Filter or regeneration. The efficiency of the Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) after-treatment system has been optimised so that Tier 4 Final standards are achieved without a Diesel Oxidation Catalyst.

This reduction in the number of components has enabled CASE to rationalise the engine layout. The after-treatment system has been repositioned externally providing better access to the engine, the electronic module and fuses. The new layout facilitates servicing, resulting in lower Total Cost of Ownership.

In addition to the new engine layout, the exhaust pipe has been moved to the right-hand pillar, improving visibility.

BIG INVESTMENT

CASE has also made significant investments in its San Mauro Excavator Hub and Lecce Wheeled Equipment Hub which have undergone major redevelopments. The CASE Excavator Hub has completed the integration of tracked excavators with Sumitomo



Heavy machines in production



// On the interior design our aim was to use our experience to improve the comfort and quality of life on board by the use of specially developed seat trim and materials. While the interior trim colours have been modernized to give a contemporary feel, we wanted to create a strong family feeling across the product line-up."



Mini excavator interior

company profile

technology into its production processes. This plant now serves all European markets with crawler excavators featuring its technological partner's technology and produced with the same processes and with key components sourced from the same suppliers.

The facility has also started production of four models of the brand new range of mini excavators for markets worldwide. The investment in redeveloping the facility and the in-depth revision of its processes according to World Class Manufacturing principles has led to the plant achieving Bronze Level certification, which recognises that it is operating to the industry's highest standards for the integrated management of plants and processes. With this achievement the San Mauro excavator Hub joins the Lecce Wheeled Equipment Hub in the ranks of Bronze Level plants.

STYLING AND LIVERY

CASE has also strengthened its dealer network through new appointments and the introduction of a dealer continuous improvement and certification programme and refocused the brand's identity on its strong heritage and values. The most visible sign of this focus is the new livery that is being introduced for all products reflecting the values of the brand including its practical, hands-on approach.

The new styling and livery, which were developed in collaboration with CNH Industrial's Design Centre, make a strong brand statement. The 2D CASE lettering of the decals uses the same font as the brand logo for consistency, while the reflective white colour makes the brand name and model number much easier to read from a distance.



The mini excavator production line

They not only increase the brand's visibility on the machines; they are also consistent with the CASE values of being direct and to the point.

The new Power Abe metallic badge is proudly displayed on every machine, celebrating the CASE brand's rich heritage and looking forward to the future. The new dark grey colour of the lower part of the machines confers a greater sense of solidity and strength. Careful attention was also devoted to the machines' interiors, which have been renewed to create a styling specific to CASE that is shared by all models – from the common seat design to the dashboard and interior colours.

David Wilkie, Director CNH Industrial Design Centre explained: "Our aim with this project was, on the exterior, to create a design language that reflects solidity and



Gaston Le Chevalier, CASE Product Marketing Manager for mini excavators

precision, while giving a look specific to the CASE brand that reflects its history and its values and that is common to all models.

"On the interior design our aim was to use our experience to improve the comfort and quality of life on board by the use of specially developed seat trim and materials. While the interior trim colours have been modernized to give a contemporary feel, we wanted to create a strong family feeling across the product line-up."



A CASE CX26C at work

Major Wastewater Project in Bangor Scoops Excellence Award

Following on from their previous success, the NI Water team working on the Bangor Sewerage Improvement Programme have been named winners of the prestigious UK CEEQUAL 2016 Outstanding Achievement Awards in recognition of their project management work to upgrade a Pumping Station at Luke's Point, Ballyholme in Bangor, as part of the overall programme of improvements.

The scheme which upgraded the sewerage infrastructure in the Bangor area will

improve the water quality in Ballyholme strand and help to meet Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) Standards.

Work is currently underway on a further stage of this overall project to construct a pumping station at Castle Park, Bangor which involves the construction of a large (25m diameter, 13m deep) underground storage tank. This will replace the existing Castle Park Waste Water Pumping Station, as well as providing additional stormwater storage.

This CEEQUAL award aims to assist clients, designers and contractors to deliver improved

project specification, design and construction of civil engineering projects. It celebrates the commitment of the civil engineering industry to achieve high environmental, economic and social performance. It rewards project and contract teams that go the extra mile to achieve distinctive environmental and social performance in their work.

NI Water, AECOM and BSG Civil Engineering worked closely together to deliver a high profile scheme which demonstrated effective teamwork, excellent communication and commitment to protecting the environment.

Bill Gowdy Director of Engineering Procurement said: "This award is a great achievement for the Luke's Point team who reached the pinnacle of UK best practice in project management for this scheme. The team successfully overcame many engineering and environmental challenges to complete a successful sustainable sewerage Improvement Project.

"Collaborative working, careful planning with TransportNI and other utilities and stakeholders, as well as a proactive approach to communications with the local community ensured that the project ran smoothly with minimal disruption in the local area.

"The work at Luke's Point is part of the overall Bangor Sewerage Improvement Project, which is an ongoing project that represents an investment of approximately £12 million to upgrade and increase the capacity of the sewerage infrastructure in the area, achieving compliance with NIEA standards and EU directives for bathing water quality.

"We worked closely with our entire project team to achieve this award, including colleagues across our business, as well as our contractor BSG Civil Engineering and AECOM."



The Luke's Point project team receive their CEEQUAL Outstanding Achievement Award 2016 at the Institution of Civil Engineers Head Quarters Westminster, London. (L-R): Chris Gibson, Thomas Telford/ICE, David McCune AECOM, Sam McManus AECOM, Joseph Martin AECOM, Grahame Millar NI Water, Samuel Donaldson AECOM, and Davy McGrath NI Water.

Keyway Mark 50th Anniversary With 50 Caterpillar Machines

National plant hire specialist, Keyway Ltd, has invested in 50 new Caterpillar units to celebrate its 50th anniversary, in its first major deal with Finning UK and Ireland for 30 years.

Keyway Ltd has decided to increase its fleet as part of a major expansion plan, which includes the opening of a new site.

After its recent deal, Keyway now boasts a Cat fleet consisting of two Cat 308E2s with the latest new variable-angle-boom (VAB) and one Cat

972M Wheel Loader with CPM (Cat Production Measurement) technology. The fleet also includes 20 Cat Utility Rollers, two Cat D6Ts, two Cat CS66B Soil Compactors and 21 Excavators, including five Cat 305Es, eight Cat 308E2s, four Cat 320ELs and four Cat 312Es.

Commenting on the deal, Eamonn McGurk, Managing Director of Keyway Ltd, said: "The move to Caterpillar is a big deal and very few people get an order for this amount of machines from us. We have grown a lot since the 1990's and with our current expansion



plans, we went to market to make this major fleet purchase.

"At the end of the day when we made our decision to buy Cat, 70% was down to the product and the rest was down to Finning. The team worked with us to put together a compelling deal and we opted for some of the kit to have an additional service package with Finsight monitoring and RMI

contracts, the entire deal was supported by Cat Financial."

Added Bryan Gulliford, Territory Account Manager of Finning UK and Ireland: "This is the largest single unit deal for the southwest team this year and to a significant plant hirer. We hope that this deal will be the start of a very prosperous and great relationship between both companies going forward."

investment

Long Term Investment Pays Off for Strickland MFG

Long established company Strickland MFG are delighted to be the first choice when it comes to many of the UK & Ireland's leading plant hire companies. Having worked hard over the last 15 years to perfect their product line, they are now seeing positive results from this investment.

2017 sees Kubota UK yet again collaborate with GAP Group in taking in excess of 900 machines ranging from the micro through to the KX080.

Ken Stewart, Group Procurement Manager for GAP Group, is tasked with the big job of choosing what machines he puts into his hire fleet. Coupled with his decisions on machines is the job of choosing the best attachments to be fitted to these machines. Ken specifies Strickland MFG buckets on all his machines.

"Availability, quality, service and value for money are key factors that I take into account when making my decisions on machine and attachment purchases", says Ken.

"Both Kubota UK and Strickland MFG come up trumps on all these areas. The fact that Strickland MFG is prepared to bespoke our buckets sets them apart from others. Their reaction times are second to none. They work closely with Kubota UK to achieve the delivery timescales I set both companies."

Adds Nicola Troy, National Key Account Manager for Strickland MFG: "Working with blue chip companies such as Kubota UK and Gap is what we as a company have been striving for. To be recognised as a market leader by companies such as GAP and Kubota UK is a great compliment. Supplying the volume of buckets for the 900 plus machines that Gap will take this year is no mean feat, but we are confident that we have the tools in place to achieve this."

P Flannery Plant Hire is another of the big Plant Hire players who choose Strickland MFG for their buckets & attachments. Whether it is through the OED or direct, Flannery's will always choose Strickland's for their buckets. John Musetti, Senior Plant Manager for P Flannery, feels that Strickland are a cut above the others when it comes to service.

"I know that when I pick the phone up to Strickland's that within our required deadlines, I will have what I need, where I need it, to the P Flannery specification," says John.

Nationwide Plant Hirer, Morris Leslie, have been using Strickland MFG buckets & couplers within their fleet for in excess of 3 years.

Morris Leslie opt to fit the Martin style bucket to their 5 & 8 ton machines. Strickland MFG IS able to accommodate them with this requirement, fitting a "mix-match" coupler to these machines and Martin style buckets.

Strickland MFG is not afraid to hold stock. They look at what the market requirements are and make decisions based on this information on what stock to hold. The fact that they are prepared to hold large volumes of stock at their facility in Evesham means that they can react quickly to customer requirement. Given the fast pace of the construction industry, this level of service is invaluable to industry leaders.

It is not just buckets and couplers that Strickland MFG can offer. Check out their complete product range on their website, www.stricklanduk.com

Strickland MFG will be exhibiting at a number of shows this year including CQMS '17 in Tullamore, Co Offaly (April 21st & 22nd) & Plantworx at Bruntinhorpe Proving Ground (June 6th – 8th).





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JCB International Product Launch: ON-SITE SAFETY TAKEN TO NEXT LEVEL WITH LAUNCH OF NEW SYSTEM

JCB's recent International Product Launch event certainly underlined the fact that the manufacturer never stands still, as Plant & Civil Engineer's Justin Carrigan discovered.

One of the many highlights of the event was news that JCB is launching a brand new safety system for its wheeled loaders which reduces the risk of on-site collisions between man and machine.

The JCB Proximity Braking System (PBS) - which has been developed in collaboration with FCC Environment (UK) - automatically sounds an alarm in the cab and applies the vehicle's brakes if a person enters a pre-set exclusion zone around the machine. In addition the system automatically puts the vehicle into neutral and applies the parking brake.

In harmony with this, the at-risk pedestrian is also warned of the danger of a moving machine through a vibrating transponder attached to their safety helmet.

The new PBS system is being launched as an option on JCB's flagship wheeled loader, the mighty 19-tonne JCB 457, with plans to roll out the feature to the rest of JCB's wheeled loader range.

JCB Chief Innovation and Growth Officer Tim Burnhope said: "Safety on-site is of paramount importance and we are delighted to launch the new JCB Proximity Braking System which drastically reduces the risks to pedestrians."

JCB PBS uses triple antennas mounted on the wheeled loader, which generate



JCB 541-70 Industrial DualTech VT Loadall

a detection zone around the machine. Operatives on site are equipped with a vibrating transponder, usually attached to a safety helmet. If the person enters the safety 'bubble' around the machine, the transponder will vibrate to warn the operative that they've entered a danger zone.

At the same time, the transponder also communicates with the machine, triggering an audible alarm in the cab and alerting the operator to the potential collision, whilst automatically applying the machine's braking system, bringing the loader to a halt. This potential collision is then recorded on the machine's MCU, with date and time information, so that further investigation can be carried out as to why the individual entered the machine's danger zone. This can be used to highlight further safety improvements that can be carried out on site.

The JCB Proximity Braking System can be fitted to multiple machines on a single site. It is particularly suited to heavily trafficked working areas, such as waste and recycling projects.

WHEELED TELE LOADER

Among other new products from JCB is a TM320 telescopic wheeled loader designed specifically for the construction and industrial sectors. The JCB TM320 combines the central driving position and all-round visibility of a wheeled loading shovel with the reach and lift versatility of a telescopic handler - a combination that creates a formidable machine for re-handling and loading operations.

The TM320, which sits alongside the existing TM320 Wastemaster, has a maximum 3,200kg lift capacity, which is available to a full lift height of 5.2m as well as from ground level. It delivers a maximum 1,750kg of lift capacity at full forward reach of 2.95m ahead of the front wheels.

HIVIZ LOADALL

JCB has also launched a new 18 metre Loadall model, the 540-180 HiViz, expanding what is already the world's biggest range of telescopic handlers.

The 540-180 offers greater performance and lifting capability than its 17 metre stablemate the 540-170 - despite being 20% smaller in overall dimensions. Its launch brings to 30 the number of Loadall models in the range.



JCB Chairman Lord Bamford



JCB Chief Innovation and Growth Officer Tim Burnhope

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product launch



New JCB Quickhitch



JCB 403 wheeled loader

The 540-180 HiViz has been specifically built to meet the needs of rental companies and contractors, offering reduced cost of ownership, faster cycle times and best in class visibility, with improved lift height and increased forward reach. At just 2.35m wide and 6.26m long it is possible to move two machines on a single curtain sided truck or low loader, reducing transport costs.

COMPACT LOADER

Another new JCB product is a compact wheeled loader that combines outstanding powertrain components with a new cab design, control features and layout. The JCB 403 is a 2.5-tonne articulated chassis wheeled loader, capable of working efficiently in confined locations.

With parallel lift, hydraulic attachment pin operation and joystick hydraulics and transmission control all as standard, the new 403 is a very well-equipped compact loader. The low operating weight of the JCB 403 makes it possible to transport the machine on a trailer behind a 4x4 or light commercial vehicle. However the machine delivers strong performance, with a payload of 610kg (521kg with long arms) and a full turn tipping load of 1,219kg (1,041kg).

LOADER UPGRADES

JCB has also upgraded two of its mid-range wheeled loaders, with new control and information features, including the ability to perform routine service checks from the CommandPlus cab. The JCB 411 and 417 loaders, which are now powered by Tier 4 Final engines, adopt many of the features first seen on the company's flagship 457 loader.

The JCB 411 and 417 are designed and equipped primarily for hard surface applications, operating in bulk stores and carrying out routine handling and loading tasks. These agile loading machines have a commanding driving position that makes it easy to position and manoeuvre them in the most restricted working environments.

QUICK HITCHES

JCB Attachments, meanwhile, is introducing two improved hydraulic hitches for JCB's mid-weight JS excavators. The hitches, which meet the ISO 13031 standard, have been designed to suit machines in the 13-14 tonne sector and the 20-22 tonne market. Depending on operation, a hydraulic hitch can save up to 25% of total machine operating time compared to direct mounting or a mechanical hitch.

ACCESS MARKET

In another new development, we learned that JCB intends to become a major player in the \$8 billion powered access market by entering the sector for the first time with the launch of a brand new range.

The company has been developing and engineering a line-up of powered access machines in secret for the past two years. Today the wraps come off an initial nine all-new electric scissor models.

By the end of 2017 the newly-launched JCB Access business will be offering a total of 27 new platforms, including scissors, articulated booms and telescopic boom machines.

JCB Chairman Lord Bamford said: "The access market is a truly global market and offers immense opportunities for growth for JCB. It's a market that is ripe for a new supplier with the ability to offer industry leading, round-the-clock-product support. JCB's 770 dealers with 2,200 depots can deliver the back-up that global customers expect." The new JCB Access products - designed in-house to meet the needs of rental companies and contractors worldwide - will initially be offered in the UK, France, Germany and North America.



JCB enters powered access market



The JCB Proximity Braking System (PBS) uses triple antennas mounted on the wheeled loader



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Edge Innovate's New Website Goes Live

EDGE Innovate have launched a new updated website which provides a clean, modern and simple layout with an intuitive navigation system.

The new website - www.edgeinnovate.com - has a fresh, modern look and feel which works seamlessly across a range of platforms.

The new site represents a significant modern redesign of their website and provides more comprehensive pathways for direct users to the right products through three main funnels - by industry, by function and by application.

With 24 different products making up the EDGE product line-up; products have now been categorised into five specific functions; Shred, Screen, Separate, Stack and Size. This new function enables customers to quickly navigate the site to find relevant product information and select the correct product that fits with their desired need and application.

"With the implementation of an aggressive product development programme, the family of products on offer from EDGE Innovate has continually grown from its inception in 2008. The old site did not give visitors a true representation of that growth. We wanted the new site, not only to provide visitors some context of the development of the EDGE brand and its success to date, but to also provide a true illustration of the product portfolio available and to showcase its wide range of applications and industries that EDGE



products can be seen benefiting," commented Adrian Donnelly, Marketing Manager.

The new site has brought together; product descriptions and specifications, media, company history and available opportunities that make the new site more valuable to partners, customers, the media, job seekers

and other interested parties. There is a stronger emphasis on working images and video footage across the site along with an all new media section, which brings together our latest blogs, upcoming events, brochures and case studies from EDGE customers throughout the world; all of which can be filtered by date, machine type or application.

Genie Regional Sales and Dealer Manager For UK & Ireland



Lee Edwards

Terex Aerial Work Platforms (AWP) has appointed Lee Edwards to the position of Regional Sales and Distribution Network Manager for the Genie brand in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Lee joined the company last summer as southern territory sales and dealer manager in the UK.

Based in Grantham and now reporting directly to Jacco de Kluijver, VP Sales & Marketing for Terex AWP for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Russia (EMEAR), in his new role Lee is responsible for national Genie customer accounts in the UK and Ireland while managing the UK and Ireland sales team to ensure a high level of customer support and help further expand their business. He replaces John Chandler who has left the company to pursue other opportunities.

"As I told Lee, we have never seen such a fast promotion in our company, but it is all well deserved. In the short time that he has been with us, Lee has demonstrated a professionalism, strong business acumen and in-depth understanding of our market and industry culture that is valued by our customers and team. I am particularly delighted that Lee has accepted to take on this key role," says de Kluijver.

"Lee's background is a great fit with the Genie approach. I have every confidence in Lee's skills in guiding our sales team to offer customers the right solutions to support their business and rise to new challenges successfully. I am pleased to welcome Lee as our new leader for the UK and the Republic of Ireland, and also thank John for his dedication to Genie while working for our brand."

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CITB NI award top GCSE Construction candidates at Annual Awards Ceremony

CITB NI have recognised those who got top accolades in GCSE Construction and the Built Environment in 2016 at the Annual Chartered Institute of Building Awards held at Nutts Corner Training Centre.

The GCSE in Construction and the Built Environment has been developed by CCEA to help students develop knowledge and understanding of the construction industry and have opportunities to apply their developing knowledge and skills in relevant, enjoyable and work-related contexts.

First place was awarded to Thomas Mauer, Ballymena Academy, second place Tiernan Allen, St Mary's College Irvinestown and third place Shane Dillon, St Patrick's Grammar School, Armagh.

The students were invited to the annual Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) Awards hosted by CITB NI which awarded those professionals who gained CIOB status throughout the year and included a presentation from local construction company O'Hare & McGovern on 'The Irish Football Association's National Football Stadium Redevelopment at Windsor Park.'

On presenting the awards, Barry Neilson, Chief Executive, CITB NI, said, "Congratulations to all the students who excelled in GCSE in Construction and



Pictured are GCSE Award winners Shane Dillon, St Patrick's Grammar, Armagh (3rd place), Thomas Mauer, Ballymena Academy (1st place) and Tiernan Allen, St Mary's College Irvinestown (2nd place) pictured with Gerard Graham, Chair of CIOB Belfast Hub and Barry Neilson, Chief Executive CITB NI

the Built Environment. We are delighted that you chose to study a topic that reflects an ever changing construction industry. Many other students are choosing this topic to study at GCSE, there are currently 34 schools offering the subject and in 2016, 593 pupils sat the exam.

"We provide help and guidance on the topic via our textbook and we hope that by studying and excelling at this level you

may possibly consider a career in a dynamic industry with lots of opportunities to choose from."

"We were encouraged to see moderate and sustained output growth within the Northern Ireland construction sector last year however the rate of growth is less than the rest of the UK. With Brexit, the impact of apprenticeship levy and a forthcoming election it will be interesting times ahead for

the industry. Construction literally shapes the towns and cities we live in, it has built the world around us and developed landmarks that will outlive those who constructed them. Construction is a rewarding industry with a variety of opportunities on offer from project management to onsite roles with prospects for career enhancement and good earning potential."

Slight upturn in local construction industry forecast for 2017

2015 was the first year since 2007 that Northern Ireland's construction industry had finally seen some decent growth, largely driven by good performances in the housing and public non-housing sectors.

Strong growth has not been sustained in 2016, however, with the outturn for the year as a whole likely to show a modest fall – but the industry is expected to return to growth in 2017 and expand by an annual average of 1.6% over the five years to 2021, close to the UK rate of 1.7%.

These are lower growth rates for both the devolved nation and the UK than those predicted last year for the 2016 to 2020 period as the events of 2016 have injected

a considerable amount of global uncertainty into the system, leading to more cautious predictions for the economic outlook.

Employment growth is projected to average 0.4% a year over the 2017 to 2021 period, a little below the UK rate of 0.6%. The difference between the annual average output and annual average employment growth rates implies a productivity gain of around 1.2% a year in Northern Ireland, slightly higher than the implied UK gain of 1.1%.

Northern Ireland's ARR (annual recruitment requirement), at 710 for the 2017 to 2021 period, represents 1.1% of base employment, a little lower than the UK ratio of 1.4%. This is a significantly lower

ARR than estimated last year for 2016 to 2020. The highest requirement in terms of ratio to base employment is for bricklayers (6.3%) and roofers (5.2%).

Barry Neilson, Chief Executive, CITB NI, said, 'Whilst output, employment and annual recruitment forecasts are not as buoyant as previously forecast, due to the events of 2016 and the uncertainty of their impact, we are still facing potential skills shortages in some occupations such as bricklayers and roofers. CITB NI will continue to work alongside the industry to ensure that sufficient numbers of people are trained to meet the demand and that those already working in the industry have the right skills and qualifications to deliver upcoming construction projects.'



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Gordon Best, QPANI

We Need Certainty and Leadership

The current political mess we find ourselves in has generated an enormous sense of frustration within the business community. With our economy showing signs of growth, with Belfast building again, with increased private sector investment and significant construction growth expectations south of the border and the significant challenge of Brexit WE NEED CERTAINTY, WE NEED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP if we are to achieve the Northern Ireland we all want for ourselves and our children.

I don't know if any of you took the time to read the Open Letter that the Business Organisations circulated just before the election calling for respect and compromise and the re-establishment of our Executive and Assembly as quickly as possible. Business and civil society wish to make their voice clear to our local politicians. Given the seismic challenges that the EU referendum presents, business has three specific "asks" for our politicians:

- Deliver a power-sharing Devolved Government this month that works for all the people of Northern Ireland – that is what we all democratically voted for back in 1998 and that is what has since delivered peace and increasing prosperity to this region;
- Use those devolved power-sharing arrangement for the greater good – maintain the peace, compromise where necessary, show mutual respect and sensitivity to all communities, and work in partnership with business to deliver more economic prosperity for all; and
- After this election, our devolved government ensures that Northern Ireland's economic, social and political interests are accurately and clearly represented at both the UK and European level seeking to ensure a the minimum level of disruption .

As the parties are now engaged in negotiations lets hope the wise words and advice in our collective letter are listened to and acted upon. The coming weeks will tell.

PRIORITIES

One of QPANI's top priorities in 2017 is to increase our membership by 10%. I am delighted to report that two new affiliate members, Close Brothers and Momentum R&D have joined already this year and we look forward to working with them both and encouraging our members to avail of their services. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of

our Associate and Affiliate Members for their continued support and I know they recognise the importance of QPANI and the work we do to defend the right to operate for the Industry that their business have a large stake and investment in.

QPANI as part of the Northern Ireland Construction Group are currently involved in discussions with the Central Procurement Directorate and other Public Sector Clients. The discussions and subsequent agreed actions will address what actions both industry and government can take to develop a more sustainable construction industry within the context of the wider delivery of NI Programme for Government outcomes. The reality is that most of the challenges we face in the Construction Industry such as sub-economic tendering, prompt and fair payment, skills shortages and legal challenges could be solved if we had increased workload and investment in infrastructure.

SPENDING

In Northern Ireland over the last 5 years we have spent half per head of population on infrastructure investment of that in Scotland and England. (2,072 per head of the NI population in 2012 compared to £4,119 for Scotland and £4,247 for the UK as a whole).

Let's take maintenance. We should be spending, according to the SM funding plan, some £135 million per year on maintaining what is the largest asset the public sector manages, our roads, worth some £33 billion. We are not. We have consistently spent less than £100 million per year resulting in a current underspend of just short of £1 billion. TNI own stats show that for every £1.00 we spend below the SMFP it costs NI PLC £1.26. £ 1 MILLION spent of resurfacing activity sustains 13 jobs, on minor works type activity £1 million spent sustains 22 jobs.

Figures from the annual alarm survey in GB show that planned preventative maintenance resurfacing is 20 times less expensive per square metre than reactive work, such as patching and filling potholes. Proactive long-term planning lies at the heart of good asset management. The vast majority of respondents to the ALARM survey stated that security of funding helps to provide a better and more durable network, with more than 60% agreeing that five years is the optimum term to plan maintenance spending.

Any new Executive and Infrastructure Minister will have to think outside the box and innovate in terms of financing

future investment, water charges, road tolls and other forms of private finance should not be ruled out.

We consistently spend more on legal aid every year than we do on maintaining our roads! QPANI have offered solutions to a long list of Ministers in the past. Fundamentally we need longer term maintenance contracts of 4 years with spending being front loaded to ensure most of the work happens in the better weather and longer days. We are working hard with TNI to simplify the procurement process and ensure better value for money and win win for both contractor and client.

EXPECTATIONS

While the expectations for the next 12 months are more positive than what they have been for some years the Industry faces a growing threat from a very militant and vociferous environmental lobby who are basically "at war" with the Mineral and Aggregates Industry and those Government Departments that regulate it. I would warn of the risk of complacency and a belief that we can operate the way we always have. This Industry is under attack! Make no mistake about that and I would urge those companies, plant and service providers who depend on the Aggregates and Minerals Industry for the survival of their businesses to please consider joining QPANI to support us in our efforts to protect the "right to operate".

QPANI have had a number of meetings with senior officials in the Department of Infrastructure and the Department of the Economy about the need for a Northern Ireland Minerals Forum. This forum would be similar to the Minerals Forum set up in GB under the banner of the CBI Minerals Group and led by MPA.

There is a real need for a structured and sensible debate to take place in Northern Ireland about the current and potential economic and social benefits a developing and successful Minerals Industry means for the NI economy. We would see the make-up of the group being from Department of Infrastructure, Department of the Economy, Minerals Industry, Politicians, Strategic Planners, Local Authority Planners and Environmental NGOs. This is very much in its infancy but there is definitely a commitment to take this Minerals Forum forward.

Folks, thank you again for your continued support. Lets hope for better and more profitable times ahead.

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HIDROMEK 300LC LEAVES LASTING IMPRESSION



Dave Harrower has a lifetime of experience operating a wide range of excavators over the years, but the Hidromek 300LC is the one, he says, that will leave a lasting impression. Plant & Civil Engineer's David Stokes has been finding out why.

Hidromek might not be a name that readily comes to mind in this part of the world when thinking about construction machinery, but that is steadily changing, as we have quickly discovered.

Founded as a small workshop in Ankara in Turkey in 1978, today Hidromek, with its production of excavators that are completely designed and manufactured in-house and exported all around the world, has grown to become the number one Turkish construction manufacturer – and it's easy to see why when you speak to those like Dave Harrower who are already familiar with the brand.

Supplied by UK distributors Buntons from Bradford, the 30 tonne Hidromek 300LC is currently paying its way on a water treatment works project in Sheffield where we caught up with Dave to get his 'view from the cab.'

"The Hidromek is quite simply an exceptional machine," says Dave. "It compares very favourably with anything I have ever operated in terms of performance, handling and reliability. It is a well balanced machine, and produces plenty of power when you need it."

Adds Dave: "Unlike other machines, it is not overburdened with technology, so it is easy to operate. I have driven every machine you can think of, and have seen big technical advances over the years, but it seems Hidromek has gone back to basics without

/// I work long hours on the excavator in all sorts of conditions, so having a comfortable cab is vital, and the Hidromek does not disappoint in any way"

Dave Harrower

view from the cab



compromising on handling or performance. It is very impressive."

Practical Cab

The cab on the 300LC has been designed to allow the operator to work comfortably even under the hardest conditions. It is large enough to enable the operator to enter the cab easily with plenty of clearance.

Other features enhancing operator's comfort are the ergonomic seat and front console. The standard operator seat of the 300LC can be adjusted in nine different positions and is designed to enable the operator to work without fatigue and comfortably with high performance for long hours.

In addition, the joystick console and seat can move independently from each other which allow the operator to adjust the most suitable position for him, while the seat is equipped with a seat belt as a safety precaution.

The cab is supported by six silicon viscose mounts that dampen the effects of noise, shock and vibrations regardless of working conditions of the machine which also features a high capacity air conditioning system to create the optimum working environment for the operator.

Fuel Efficient

"I work long hours on the excavator in all sorts of conditions, so having a comfortable cab is vital, and the Hidromek does not disappoint in any way," says Dave. "It is also very fuel efficient. It has a 486 litre tank and I can get a good week's work out of that before refilling."

Dave is also complimentary about visibility from the cab. Good visibility, of course, is essential when operating on busy or restricted sites as he often does. On the Hidromek, to further enhance visibility, it is possible to open the windscreen by sliding it towards the roof, while the rear window may be removed and kept under the operator seat.

Isuzu Power

The machine is powered by a six cylinder, water cooled Isuzu turbo diesel engine specially developed for excavator applications and complies with current EU Emission standards. It is characterised by high performance, long life, and reliability and is well proven in many different markets around the world.

The direct fuel injection and intercooler features not only offers less fuel consumption but also increases the power and torque produced by the engine by providing more efficient combustion.

Without doubt, the 300LC is a rugged workhorse, and has been designed to be just so. All fabricated parts including boom, arm, bucket, undercarriage, lower and upper frames, for example, have been produced as heavy duty type, enabling it to easily cope with the toughest of working conditions.

Hydraulics

Dave was also quick to point out what he called 'the excellent performance' of the hydraulics, adding: "I'm not getting any gravitation on the machine. Every motion and every movement on it is absolutely intricate."

Machine performance and pump life have been maximised by using two axial pistons and variable displacement hydraulic pumps from Kawasaki. It is possible to generate the necessary flow rate when required thanks to the negative control feature. By matching the power generated from diesel engine and the power required by the hydraulic pump under increase load, engine stalls are prevented.

The main control valve ensures, as Dave said, sensitive and vibration free operation in each combined movement. The operator is able to focus only on his work since the priority at the arm, boom and swing movements are provided automatically by the control valve, thus maximising efficiency.

The re-regenerative system prevents cavitations during boom, arm and bucket movements and increases both the life of the hydraulic system and speed of the machine. Thanks to the two-staged main relief valve, it is possible to increase the power whenever is required.



Balmoral Show Shaping Up to be Another Record Breaker

Organisers of the annual Balmoral Show are anticipating another record year, with over 700 stands to mark the 149th event which has been extended to four days between 10th and 13th May.

Once again the agri and construction equipment sectors will be well represented by exhibitors who enjoyed tremendous success at the 2016 show which attracted more than 90,000 visitors.

Among those returning this year are expected to be McSharry Bros, Glendun Plant, Northern Lift Trucks, Finning Caterpillar, Sleator Plant, TBF Thompson, Northern Excavators, Pat O'Donnell, D A Forgie, WAC McCandless, Wilsons of Rathkenny, Alan Milne, Johnson Gilpin and Cowan Bros, so there certainly should be plenty to see – and it's good to know that many visitors are attracted to the show primarily because of the various machinery displays!

The addition of the Eikon Centre - the multi-million pound exhibition and events venue situated in the heart of Balmoral Park – has been a big bonus at the showgrounds, and it will be well utilised again at this year's event.

Apart from all the traditional features at the show, this year will see a brand new addition – a Health & Fitness Village, being organised and staged by the publishers of Plant & Civil Engineer magazine, Hillsborough based 4SM NI Ltd.

The Health & Fitness Village, housed in a large marquee in a prime position at the showgrounds, aims to provide a health focused platform filled with products and



Looking four-ward to a four day Balmoral Show in 2017 is (L-R) Cormac McKervey, Ulster Bank Senior Agriculture Manager; Rhonda Geary, Operations Director, RUAS; Richard Donnan, Ulster Bank's Head of Northern Ireland and Colin McDonald, RUAS Chief Executive.

services on how to be more active and live a more healthy and fulfilling lifestyle.

Also featured will be all the traditional regulars such as Balmoral food village, Craft village, a wide variety of the best livestock, parades of prize winning animals, sheep shearing competitions, top international riders from home and abroad who will

be competing in seven International competitions which take place over the four days, plus the ever popular Tesco children's farm and displays of vintage machinery.

Colin McDonald, RUAS Chief Executive said: "We are delighted to officially kick-off the countdown to Balmoral Show 2017 and are looking forward to making the 149th





Who will be a trade stand winner this year? Best Trade Stand in 2016 not displaying equipment or food was awarded to Moore Concrete.
Pictured are Keri McGivern, Wilbert Moore and Jeff Haslett with RUAS President Billy Robson and Trade Stand Judge Denis Dooley from New Forest Show

Show our best yet. We are really excited about having a four day Show this year and hope that the extra day will attract even more visitors to Balmoral Park.
"With the increase in size and scale of the Show, new attractions, and the legacy created from the Year of Food and Drink, 2017 is set to be the most important yet and we are thrilled to have Ulster Bank on board again as

our principal sponsor and for playing such an integral role in enabling us to grow the Show."
Richard Donnan, Ulster Bank's Head of Northern Ireland, said: "We at Ulster Bank are very much looking forward to once again being centrally involved in one of the biggest events in the Northern Ireland calendar."
"Balmoral Show epitomises everything that is great about our local food and agriculture

industries and sponsoring the Show symbolises our continuing strong support for this hugely important sector. We will be at the Show to demonstrate the real and meaningful help that we can provide to our customers in these sectors and beyond."
All that's now needed, of course, to make this another unforgettable four days is a little bit of sunshine!

BALMORAL SHOW 2017
BALMORAL PARK
10th - 13th MAY
Ulster Bank

Get ready for the Balmoral Show
BALMORAL PARK, LISBURN

Pre-Show tickets now on sale www.balmoralshow.co.uk

The Hitachi ZW Wheel Loader: Hard Working and Hardwearing

Sit inside the cab of a ZW wheel loader and you'll see that it offers exceptional all-round visibility. Switch on the engine and you'll hear that it's the quietest machine on the market. When you start work, you'll feel the benefit of the comfortable seat, easy-to-use controls and smooth operation.

With substantial loading capacity, powerful digging force and impressive travel speeds, the Hitachi wheel loaders are extremely productive. Fuel-efficient and easy to maintain, they offer reduced running costs. Used with a variety of attachments, these machines are easily adaptable for different tasks.

Take the popular ZW310-6, with its generous bucket capacity, for example. Like all in the Hitachi range – available from dealers TBF Thompson who will be exhibiting at the Balmoral Show – it has been designed and engineered to withstand challenging working conditions thanks to a variety of features that enhance its durability.

These loaders are suitable for loading trucks in quarries, waste handling applications and road construction projects. The quick power switch increases engine output when more power is instantly required or when driving uphill.

Fuel Efficient

Compared with the previous model, the ZW310-6 works with greater fuel efficiency and reduced running costs, which is thanks to the lock-up transmission and Stage IV-compliant engine. It also



releases fewer emissions due to the SCR system without DPF, which reduces nitrogen oxide from exhaust gas.

Safe and reliable

The ZW310-6 offers 360° visibility from the cab, which makes it one of the safest in the industry. Visibility has been enhanced by the curved rear engine hood as well as the rear-view camera. This model is also incredibly durable, thanks to the robust frame, engine, high-quality radiators and other components.

An optional Joystick Steering System ensures the smooth operation and exceptional control of the ZW310-6. It can achieve high levels of productivity with effortless steering.

The engine cover has been designed to open fully for the convenience of technical support. Many components can be easily accessed from ground level, which helps to

ensure routine maintenance is carried out quickly, resulting in a reliable performance.

Satisfied Operators

Not surprisingly, operators of the ZX310-6 are full of praise for the machine.

"It's early days, but first impressions are superb. The setup is far superior to anything we have ever had before and the engine seems incredibly powerful," commented one operator.

Added another: "Not only is it precise, but it offers an incredible breakout force. In my opinion, the cab is particularly spacious and the visibility is excellent. I was pleasantly surprised by the Hitachi wheel loader, and didn't expect such a high level of quality."

"We selected the Hitachi wheel loader because of its reliability, flexibility, efficiency and the machine has great visibility and a spacious and comfortable cab. I was surprised by the excellent quality of the machine, its smooth operation and overall performance."

Extended Warranty

Incidentally, every new Hitachi ZW-6 wheel loader is covered by a full manufacturer's warranty. For extra protection, Hitachi also offers a unique extended warranty called HELP (Hitachi Extended Life Program) which increases protection for machines, regardless of working conditions or application. HELP protects new Hitachi wheeled loaders for 36 months – or 5,000 hours, from the date the machine is delivered.



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BALMORAL SHOW IS BACK and TBF THOMPSON is on track for a fantastic four-day show!

From the 10th – 13th May, it's going to be a busy stand packed full of the biggest and brightest in plant and quarrying machinery.

As well as world-class models from Bomag, Cummins, Montabert, Palfinger and Thwaites, we will be showcasing the latest additions to our product range - the new Cummins generator together with an exciting array of excavators and wheel loaders from the innovative Hitachi -6 series.

So get up close to a Cummins generator, sit behind a Bomag roller, admire our hardy Hitachi excavators and enjoy the fun of the fair with our very own staff from TBF Thompson.

Look forward to meeting you!



Electric load carrier concept wins prestigious global award

The HX1 prototype autonomous, battery-electric, load carrier from Volvo Construction Equipment (Volvo CE) is taking the industry by storm.

The machine has picked up another two awards: the International Quality Innovation Award and the Innovation of Innovations Award. In December, the HX1 was awarded the Swedish Institute for Quality's (SIQ) Quality Innovation of the Year Award in the Potential Innovations category. The HX1 is one element of an electric site research project that is

predicted to reduce carbon emissions by up to 95% and lower total cost of ownership by 25%. The project aims to electrify a transport stage in a quarry – from excavation to primary crushing and transport to secondary crushing.

"Volvo CE is committed to exploring the technology of the future, so we are extremely proud to win these awards which recognise our innovative capabilities," says Patrik Lundblad, chief technology officer at Volvo CE. "The HX1 is part of a complete site solution which combines electromobility,



automation and intelligent machines and forms part of Volvo CE's long term ambition to achieve sustainable transport solutions. These awards are a tribute to the hard work and vision of Volvo CE's skilled employees who continuously push the boundaries of technology and innovation."

Jungheinrich continues commitment to promoting fork lift safety

Jungheinrich UK has confirmed that it will sponsor the Fork Lift Truck Association's National Fork Lift Safety Conference for a third consecutive year.

Taking place on Wednesday 20th September 2017, the award-winning conference sees delegates from across

the country assemble to hear materials handling experts share knowledge, experiences, case studies and practical advice on the key issues affecting fork lift truck safety in the workplace. Announcing the news, Jan Lorenz, Managing Director, Jungheinrich UK, said: "Workplace transport accidents involving fork lift trucks, as we

learned at last year's Conference, are on the rise, so it's important to ensure safety is at the forefront of executives' thinking."

Safety Conference 2017 will feature presentations from industry experts, special guest speakers, a Q&A session, and more. There will also be case studies from several fork lift

managers. Consistently rated as a crucial part of the event, these presentations explain the ways in which companies have successfully improved safety on their sites – often at little or no expense.

The event takes place at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre, near Coventry.

Sleator Breaks the Border with Genie

Since being awarded the sole dealership in early 2016 for Genie across the whole of Ireland, Sleator Plant has enjoyed tremendous success. The plant sales company, working out of Mallusk, just north of Belfast has enjoyed a renaissance over the past 2-3 years under the management of Jonathan Campbell with success not only with Genie but also record-breaking orders for Terex dumpers and Terex Trucks.

However, the Co Antrim based company has seen their Genie machine sales rocket over the past 12 months as they have become the sole Genie dealer for all of Ireland.

Jonathan Campbell mentions, "We were delighted to become the only Genie dealership in both Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland; Genie is a world-renowned brand and we are only too happy to play our role in ensuring the brand makes it's way back to the top of the access market in Ireland. The Genie products are second to none with their reliability and importantly for a lot of our customers the residual value of any Genie always remains very strong which gives our customers piece of mind when they make a purchase."

Sleator Plant have enjoyed increased sales of the Genie product over the past 12-18 months with a number of multiple deals won. Jonathan says the success has been greatly appreciated, "Our Genie sales have increased dramatically since January 2016 with sales up



75% on 2015. The most popular scissor lift is the GS1932 but we've seen enquiries for not only scissor lifts but also boom lifts increase. The Z45 and Z62 have been good sellers for us and enquiry levels for these machines are high. The one thing we have done at Sleator is ensure we have a strong stock holding so we can react quickly to our customers needs."

Sleator Plant have had considerable success on both sides of the border, Jonathan goes on to explain, "Since Brexit in June 2016, we've seen the pound weaken dramatically. This has enabled ROI customers the opportunity to avail of the currency fluctuation and get considerable value when purchasing their Genie machines from us in Northern Ireland – we are only too happy to supply."

The team at Sleator Plant have done an excellent job bringing Genie back to the fore both in Northern Ireland as well as Southern Ireland amidst strong competition. Jonathan is clearly an ambitious individual and has

ensured the team at Sleator share his vision. "We have enjoyed huge success initially with Terex dumpers and we are now seen as the industry leader in Northern Ireland with the highest dumper sales in the province. We have also managed to grow Terex Trucks market share in Northern Ireland to just under 50% which is a phenomenal achievement given where Terex Trucks were prior to us taking on the dealership. The key to this success is the team is extremely hard-working, we listen to our customers and we give them what they want. It is that simple."

It is clear to all within our industry, Sleator Plant have enjoyed a change in fortunes over the past couple of years with the emphasis on their after-market support and the company has invested heavily in this side of the business. Jonathan continues, "We recognised early on that the aftermarket side of things at Sleator wasn't quite right. We set about with a blank canvas and decided how we'd like our business to run. We primarily went about this task by viewing our company from the customers' perspective and identified key features that a plant customer would want from a dealership. We feel we have put key personnel in place with Aaron McCaul managing the aftermarket function helped by Mark Cobain managing the parts side of the business."

It's exciting times in the industry when a strong product like Genie is backed by a strong dealership in Sleator Plant which can only be of benefit to the customer!



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No Task Too Small or Too Big for Faresin Telehandlers

Whatever your telehandler requirements, Faresin have it covered - with 53 models in the range, available from WAC McCandless, the sole distributor for Northern Ireland and parts of the Republic, including Dublin.

Extending from 6 metres to 17 metres, the range is aimed at both the Construction and Agricultural sectors and includes heavy lift machines up to 7 ton capacity.

Faresin's 6.26 telescopic handler, for example, is the most suitable model where space is at a premium. Its 70 HP Yanmar engine provides all the power needed for handling operations.

Telehandlers in the compact range provide the safety of a stable machine, coupled with superb ease of manoeuvring thanks to their reduced turning circle. These models feature increased ground

clearance to help you drive on challenging ground.

Models in the Heavy Duty range are ideal for the agricultural, housing and construction sectors, offering power, precision and control. Available in various transmission types

with a maximum speed of 40 Km/h and four driving modes, lifting capacity extends from 6 to 7 tons with a maximum height from 9 to 10 metres.

Meanwhile, Faresin's Big Range, thanks to front stabilisers and side levelling, is the ideal choice

for material handling operations requiring a higher reach.

The structure of the boom has been built in two sections for a length of 14 metres or three sections for 17 metres and is designed to ensure maximum functionality.

All Faresin telescopic handler ranges are equipped (or can be equipped) with a hydrostatic transmission and mechanical gearbox. This type of transmission compared to mechanical-only or powershift transmissions ensures better sensitivity and management of movements - ideal for repositioning material.

The machine can be accelerated or decelerated simply using the accelerator pedal, thereby minimising the use of the brake. Faresin's hydrostatic transmission can achieve a maximum speed of 30 km/h and two hydraulic gears or 40 km/h with two hydraulic and two mechanical gears.



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Atlas Copco

Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster welcomes Massey Ferguson as new Platinum Sponsor

The Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster say they are delighted to announce Massey Ferguson, one of the world's leading tractor brands, as a brand new platinum sponsorship for the association.

The announcement will see the company continuing to support a number of exciting activities for young people in rural areas across Northern Ireland including the Agri-Conference and the AGM.

Roberta Simmons, YFCU President said: "We are delighted to have Massey Ferguson on board as a platinum sponsor. As a major agricultural equipment manufacturer around the world and as a leading tractor Brand it is a pleasure to have them associated with the Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster and to play such a large role in two of the most anticipated events in the YFCU calendar."

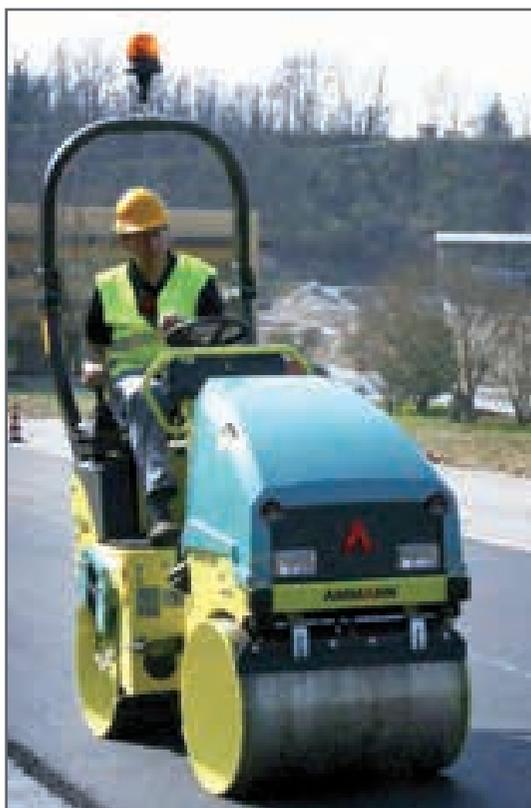
Lindsay Haddon, Advertising and Sales Promotion Manager, Massey Ferguson added, "We are delighted to become a platinum sponsor of the Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster. Massey Ferguson is firmly focused on the new generation of farmers, and inspiring young people about the business



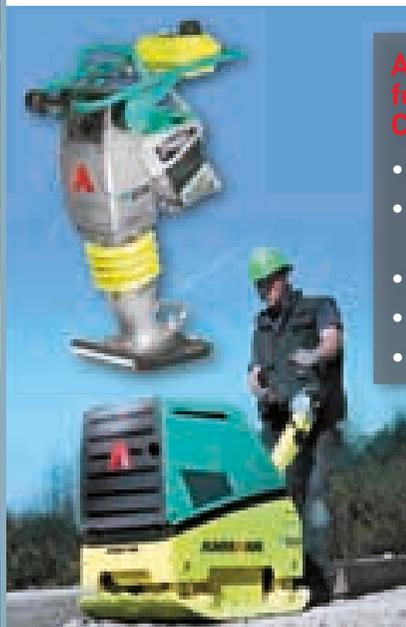
Pictured (L-R) are: Sean McAvoy, Massey Ferguson; Roberta Simmons, President YFCU; Lindsay Haddon, Massey Ferguson and Robert McConaghy, Chairman YFCU agriculture and rural affairs committee.

of agriculture. The company has always had a vested interest in the issues and concerns facing the future generation of farmers, which

is why we support Young Farmers' Clubs of Ulster. We look forward to working with YFCU to strengthen this worthwhile partnership."



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Kubota's M7001 Series wins prestigious global award



Kubota has received the prestigious iF DESIGN AWARD for its M7001 Series tractor. Kubota's M7001 won this award in the Vehicle discipline.

The M7001 tractor won over the 58-member jury, made up of independent experts from all over the world, with its high efficiency engine of up to 170 CV. The competition was intense: over 5,500 entries were submitted from 59 countries in hopes of receiving the seal of quality.

"It is a great honour to receive the iF Design Award, a symbol of excellence esteemed worldwide. The M7001 Tractor is the first step towards realising Kubota's emergence

as a major global brand. Our innovative designs will be an ongoing contribution to the strengthening of our brand as we continue to create products that earn the trust of an ever greater number of customers," said Hisato Kato, Kubota's Design Centre General Manager.

The M7001 range is manufactured in France and stands out for its convenient lifting capacity and versatility for precision farming. The Kubota M7001 Series also features innovative SCR and DPF technology combined with a 6,1L diesel engine and its efficient air filtering system that reduces emissions, exceeding Stage IV emission standards. Thus, environmental friendliness is guaranteed.

Cut costs this Spring with Kubota's cashback mower offer

Kubota's popular ride-on mower cashback programme is back by popular demand again this year, offering professional lawn-keepers the chance to take advantage of this fantastic incentive scheme.

The leading groundcare manufacturer is offering cashback opportunities across a number of its powerful, versatile and economic ride-on mower solutions, allowing operators to achieve high quality finishes quickly and efficiently, for less. The incentive is open to anyone who purchases a T or GR Series ride-on mower from a Kubota dealer across the UK.

Available from the 1st February until the 30th June 2017, customers can claim a significant £300 cashback on the GR2120(S), whilst £200 cashback is available on both the GR1600(ID) and T1880 ride-on mowers.

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Rototilt's new light-weight captures the market

Rototilt's new product, the R3 tiltrotator, designed for the increasingly popular 6-12-tonne segment, is now being delivered.

Available from Cullion Plant in Dungannon, the R3 can handle machine weights up to 12 tonnes and comes with advantages, such as Rototilt's intelligent control system, ICS SecureLock™ (which confirms an attachment is correctly attached), a high-flow function and integrated swivel.

"With R3 we offer a product that handles a 16% greater breakout force than its predecessor, RT30. "We have subjected the R3 to gruelling field trials, over a long period, after which our test drivers have reported perfect results," says Sven-Roger Ekström, Product Manager Rototilt.

Like the other models in the R series, R3 has an integrated swivel. This provides a very robust design, capable of

handling large loads. What makes the R3 different from other R models is a unique high-flow swivel technical solution, which makes it possible to further increase flow up to 80 l/min. R3 also enables greater flexibility

with different control systems - being able to use the ICS control system is new in this segment.

"The goal was to produce a tiltrotator that would be the best in its class and we have succeeded."



THE HX AND HL RANGE OF EXCAVATORS AND WHEEL LOADERS JUST GOT BIGGER!

Hyundai is introducing three new excavators including two short tail machines - HX380 L, HX235 LCR, HX145 LCR. Also two brand new wheel excavators - HW140 and the HW210. New to the HL range of wheel loaders are the HL940 TM the HL955 TM tool master machines the HL940 and the HL980.

SlurryKat develops new range of tractor drawn low loaders

As part of its continuous new product development Co Armagh based SlurryKat has launched a new series of tractor drawn low loaders.

There are currently two models in the range at 16 tons and 24 tons but other sizes can be made to suit customer requirements. The trailers are suitable for a range of applications, such as excavator/wheel loader transport, bale handling and potato box transport.

The trailer chassis' are built with high tensile steel full length H beam section which allows for better chassis performance when heavily loaded. Tread plating is used on the beaver tail and ramps for extra grip when loading expensive machinery and equipment. High tensile steel is also used in all the box section cross members and side



supports which run along each side of the bed.

These are manufactured from laser cut flat high tensile steel rather than the conventional approach of channel section. This allows track width of axles to be maximised and gives a lower set floor, lower centre of gravity and therefore more stability when towing.

All the axles used are built to a high speed specification with spring suspension. The drawbar is also fully sprung to soften the ride for the towing tractor and fitted with a high tensile towing ring.

In order to increase safety on the road, the trailers are fitted with LED road lighting systems and air/hydraulic brakes. Each trailer is finished in two pack

high durable paint. A front headboard and a tool box are also fitted as standard.

The standard models available include a 16 tons tandem axle 18' flat with 5' beaver tail and a 24 tons tri-axle 21' flat with 5' beaver tail. All weights quoted are nett payloads on each model and not gross weight as seen with other manufacturers.



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Ashfield & Wilson Return to Show with Best Selling Kramer Machines

Returning to the Balmoral Show after making a highly successful debut at the event in 2016 are Ashfield & Wilson who since being appointed a Kramer dealer for Northern Ireland and the border counties just over three years ago have taken brand awareness here to a new level.

Kramer, of course, has been a familiar name in this part of the world since the 1980s, but to some extent it had dropped from the radar for a few years. Its return to the Balmoral Show in 2016 was widely welcomed, with positive customer feedback.

"Last year was the first time we had been present at the show in over 20 years. Our stand attracted both former and new customers and we did a lot of good business from the event. It was great to see Kramer back at the show after a long absence and in such a prominent position. We had loads of people visiting the stand to see again the Kramer range of products and recalling the good old days when they

first saw the machines over 30 years ago," comments Andrew Farquhar, Sales Manager.

"On our stand this year will be the best sellers in the range - the Kramer 8095 T, 8085T and 5085T. Also on display will be the new compact telehandler range. In addition, Kramer representatives from the UK will again be present on the stand to answer questions and to point out major selling points on these machines."

The German made Kramer is the only machine on the market with a rigid frame and offering four-wheel steer and grab steer, making it superbly safe, stable and manoeuvrable on all types of terrain. In the Kramer range there is virtually a machine for every possible job, such is the versatility of the brand.

Ashfield & Wilson, of course, is a long established company going back more than four decades, providing agricultural sales and service to the farming communities in Tyrone, Fermanagh and Armagh.

The company is well situated to serve a much wider customer base from a prime location just off the M1 junction 15 at Dungannon.



Its modern, purpose built workshop is manned by highly trained technicians, all of whom have an extensive knowledge of the company's entire product range of wheel loaders, telehandlers, tractors and other machinery. The importance of an excellent service department has always been a source of pride for Ashfield & Wilson, with service vehicles able to provide 'on site' standard servicing and repairs, in addition to repairs and servicing in the workshop.

"Recognising that downtime must be kept to a minimum has resulted in an efficient professional approach from our experienced servicing team," says Andrew.

Availability of Kramer machines and spare parts will never be a problem as Ashfield & Wilson carry comprehensive stocks.



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Trailertek Expand Brian James Trailers Dealer Network Across Ireland



It's been a story of steady progress and success since Trailertek were appointed as the distributor for Brian James Trailers in Ireland in 2012, and the expansion of the dealer network north and south continues apace.

Trailertek's strong sales performance can be attributed in no small measure to the reputation of Brian James Trailer as a premium quality product and the wide product range available.

The Brian James Trailers product range includes six Commercial & Multi Purpose models – Connect Compact,

Shifter, Tipper, Connect, All Plant and Digger Plant - and the European market leading range of Vehicle Transporter models which is widely accepted as the industry's top quality product.

Trailertek's Managing Director Clive Latimer is confident that the expansion of the dealer network in Ireland will build on the success of recent years by continuing to increase sales annually.

New dealers have been appointed in a number of locations including Byrne Trailers, Bunclody, Co Wexford, Eakin Bros, Claudy, Co Londonderry, The Trailer Company, Limerick City and Hanlon Machinery Ltd, Dundalk, Co Louth.

The new dealers join the existing established dealers, Trailertek (NI) Ltd, Lurgan, Co Armagh and Trailerstuff Ltd, Killybegs, Co Donegal.

Recently appointed dealers have reported an encouraging level of interest and sales enquiries since commencing trading, with sales for this year already ahead of target.

The dealer network expansion will continue with further

appointments to be announced in South Dublin, Cork and the border area; these appointments are expected to be confirmed in the near future.

When the expansion plans are completed the dealer network will comprise seven dealers in the Republic of Ireland and three in Northern Ireland.

"A strong dealer network is key for the continued success of the Brian James Trailer product range in Ireland and vital for customer confidence and satisfaction," says Clive Latimer.

Full details of the dealer network in Ireland are available on Trailertek's website: www.trailertek.ie



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M Large and Greenmech Prepared For 2017 Chipper Battles

Being ahead of game in most aspects of the industry, it should come as no surprise that GreenMech are introducing new safety feature before legislation covering it.

With immediate effect, new folding in-feed hoppers and bottom bar safety mechanisms are being introduced to products including Arborist 130, 150, 190 and Quadchip 160. Likewise, these same features will be adopted on the Arbtrak 150 and 190 models.

To differentiate the specifications of these new machines, all of which are available from Newtownabbey based M Large, GreenMech chippers will now come in a new livery styling adopting a blend of the traditional GreenMech green, together with a grey chassis, in-feed chute, outlet flap and control panels, plus red feed rollers. LED lighting will come fitted as standard, as will lockable tow hitches and detachable lighting cable connectors.

NEW ADDITIONS

Being welcomed to the GreenMech range are two new models: the new Arborist 200 and ArbTrak 200 models have a larger in-feed envelope and by incorporating 'horizontal' in-feed rollers, have a significant increase

in performance and throughput over the existing 190 model. GreenMech's 200 series is also capable of handling more awkward shaped material and is therefore showing greater daily output with minimum input.

The 190 range will still be sold in international markets where it remains popular, but will be replaced by the 200 specification in the UK.

Both these new models will incorporate the folding in-feed and bottom bar safety mechanism and the new style GreenMech livery and updates as mentioned above. The 200 also sports a new, aggressive engine cover, designed to increase air flow for engine cooling and to give a more stylish appearance, in line with other GreenMech products.

PEACE OF MIND

GreenMech has also launched a new Disc-Blade sharpener, which makes it very simple for multi-users to quickly sharpen blades with minimal downtime. GreenMech's unique disc-blade system already offers significant cost benefits over traditional straight blade chippers but the new Disc-Blade sharpener has cut servicing time even further.



GreenMech offers a full, three-year, unlimited warranty on all its products. The warranty is not limited to specific operating hours and is truly a full-year warranty, which should appeal to contractors and hire companies. Best of all, the prices remain the same as instructed in the September 2015 price list. The Arborist 200 and ArbTrak 200 will be the same as the equivalent 190 models.

"Maintaining stock levels is vitally important in this business," said Michael Large.

"People don't want to wait weeks for their machine to arrive, or for a demonstration – they need an immediate response, which is what we can offer them.

"We look forward to challenges ahead in 2017 with in the wood chipper market, and have no doubt we can provide the best machines, the best deals and the best service."

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Spence Engineering Return with Varied Display

Manufacturers of Excavator Buckets & Specialist Equipment, Spence Engineering will be returning to the show with some of its latest and innovative products.

Back on the stand this year, as always, will be company founder Eric Spence who will be accompanied by son Paul, whose two boys, Aaron and Kyle will also be in attendance, making three generations of the Spence family.



"Aaron joined the business five years ago, while Kyle joined two years ago," says Paul. "They are both on the shop floor and in the design area and are making good progress; they'll be instrumental in taking the company forward in the future."

As for the show itself, the Spence Engineering stand will feature products from the heavy duty buckrake range as well as telehandler and excavator buckets and a selection from the specialist attachment range.

"We are regular exhibitors at the show and are hoping to have a few surprises on the stand which we are trying to present and promote in a way that's different from other years," adds Paul. "Balmoral Park lends itself well to plant and machinery displays and the venue is attracting bigger numbers of visitors, which can only be a good thing."



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A Busy Start to 2017 for inspHire

Leading hire management software provider inspHire has had an incredibly busy start to 2017. They launched a new WebPortal and enhancements to inspHire Mobile at the Executive Hire Show, as well as revealing a brand new global website.

As leaders of innovation and a company that is consistently updating its product offering to incorporate the latest technologies, inspHire's eye-catching new website compliments their company values by clearly displaying their forward-thinking, global approach.

With offices in the UK, USA, Netherlands and Australia, Managing Director at inspHire, Graham Dobbs says, "We're an innovative, forward thinking company, offering hire businesses globally, cutting-edge solutions to help streamline their processes, no matter their industry or business size".

Featuring on the new website is long term inspHire customer, Chippindale Plant. The informative case study video, made specifically for the website, provides the perfect example of how inspHire software has revolutionised the way a successful hire business works on a day to day basis.

Hire Show

For the 11th consecutive year, inspHire exhibited at the Executive Hire Show. The show is the perfect platform for displaying new product development and innovation,



which is why inspHire launched its advance WebPortal, alongside introducing exciting enhancements to inspHire Mobile.

Graham Dobbs, inspHire Managing Director says, "We're passionate about hire and are always working to incorporate the latest technologies into our products. inspHire Mobile and WebPortal provide hire businesses with the real time data and mobility needed to improve operational efficiencies, equipment utilisation and customer service".

WebPortal

The advanced WebPortal comprises of a modern, eye catching interface and many intuitive features that will bring a vast amount of benefits to both hire businesses and their customers. This platform allows customers to self-serve 24/7, from either desktop, tablet or mobile within a branded, personalised facility that is designed to improve customer service and greatly reduce hire desk admin.

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A Stelco 'First' for Cormac Coogan Plant Sales

Cormac Coogan Plant Sales recently delivered its first big Stelco hammer to a quarry operation in County Laois.

The SEL950S has been fitted to a 20 excavator working at Ashvale Haulage's sand and gravel quarry at Borris-in-Ossory, County Kildare based Cormac Coogan Plant Sales took on the Stelco range just a couple of years ago as part of all-Ireland dealer, Clough based DS Hammers, distribution network.

"We are delighted to have delivered our first big Stelco rock breaker," says Cormac, who successfully beat off the competition, and added DS Hammers' Darryl Rogan. "The smaller breakers in the range have always been popular, but we believe there is a good market here too for the large models, as Cormac is now discovering."

What sets the Stelco apart is the advanced hydraulic technology that allows lower oil flows than other hammers, thus achieving optimum excavator performance and reduced fuel consumption.

Innovative dampening materials within a fully enclosed robust



The new Stelco SEL 950S hammer from Cormac Coogan Plant is Richard Poole, who along with brother Richard heads up Ashvale Haulage.

structure minimises noise pollution and improves operator comfort, while Advanced Valve Control technology enables the hammer to be adjusted to achieve optimal working conditions; long stroke with maximum power or short stroke with maximum frequency. The robust Stelco hammer range consists of 13 models to suit excavators ranging from 0.5 – 75 tonne. The hammers, built in Korea under licence for Stelco Europa, represent excellent value for money, without compromising on quality.

Your Chance to Play A Round at the Inaugural Plant & Civil Engineer Masters Golf 2017!



How's your swing? Got a good handicap? Want to pit your putting against some of your industry colleagues? Well, you have a unique opportunity to do just that – at the inaugural Plant & Civil Engineer magazine's Masters Golf Day being held on Wednesday, June 21st, 2017

Following the phenomenal sell-out success of our sister magazine Export & Freight's now annual Masters, we are staging the first ever Plant & Civil Engineer four-ball golf day on the challenging and award winning 18-hole Faldo Championship Golf Course at Lough Erne Resort in Fermanagh.

Response for the 2017 Masters is expected to be brisk, so you will need to hurry book your place if you want to put your 'talents' to the test on a course that has hosted top players like Rory McIlroy, Padraig Harrington and Darren Clarke – and there are still a few sponsorship opportunities available; you may, for example, want to sponsor a hole to get your company name out there!

Voted "Golf Resort of The Year" in 2010, this is a truly testing course, which was designed by six time Major winner Nick Faldo. It enjoys a spectacular setting on a private 600 acre peninsula between Lower Lough Erne and Castle Hume Lough, with stunning views from every vantage point.

Apart from the golf, you'll enjoy refreshments on arrival, pre-dinner drinks, a four course evening meal, including wine - and an exclusive first hole PGA professional

video analysis of your play! There'll be some rather special 'light' entertainment to round off the day and, of course, the all-important prize giving ceremony, with lots of golf goodies up for grabs, too.

Of course, you don't even have to be a golfer to be part of the occasion! Quite a few have already booked for the evening dinner as they see it as a great opportunity to do some serious networking in relaxed surroundings – and there will also be a full programme of non-golfing activities to enjoy during the day if you don't want to play a round.

Non golfers can take part in an adventure day at Todd's Leap in Ballygawley. Todd's Leap, of course, is one of the largest outdoor activity centres in Ireland and voted the Number One activity and adventure centre in the country.

Adventurers will enjoy 8 miles of rough and tough off-roading over mountainous, hill and river terrain as well as clay pigeon shooting; a Hill Rally Stage Event and Zip Lining over a half mile course.

Meanwhile, should you want to stay the night at this Five Star resort – the ultimate expression in old world heritage and new world luxury - we have secured special overnight rates. It promises to be one of the best networking opportunities you will get all year.

For more details, see elsewhere in this issue or contact Justin, Mags, Helen or Garfield on 028 9268 8888.



Construction Industry Federation's New President Calls for Government Support

New CIF President Dominic Doherty has called on the Irish Government to work with the construction industry to create an ambitious strategy that delivers sustainable growth, exports and jobs across Ireland.

Dominic Doherty is a graduate of both Bolton Street and Trinity College Dublin and has been the joint Managing Director of John Flanagan Developments since 1989. He is the former Chairman of the Irish Home Builders Association and brings a wealth of personal experience, spanning more than three decades, to the role.

"The Government is turning to construction to deliver ambitious targets in the delivery of world class infrastructure, housing and the specialist buildings that attract and retain global companies to Ireland," he told

a recent meeting of leading construction executives. "They must set out with industry a growth strategy that builds our capacity to deliver the sustainable level of 25,000 housing output required annually and the €43billion infrastructure set out in the Government's Public Capital Programme.

"DKM consultants estimate that achieving these targets would see the construction industry grow from €15bn to €20bn by 2020, generating around 110,000 jobs. This could be a transformative period for the Ireland's economy and society if our industry is supported in the same way Ireland's food, med-tech and financial services industries have been over the past 30 years.

"I believe that industry and Government must collaborate to set out an ambitious strategy for construction similar to those established with the food and financial services industries. The

prize is a dynamic economy and society with connected and thriving regional economies that provide opportunity for people to work and live in communities around Ireland. The price of inaction is a continuing housing and homelessness crisis, the decline of rural Ireland and a congested capital choking under the weight of producing over 40% of Irish GDP."

The industry currently accounts for 7% GNP and the widely-accepted level in a developed but growing economy is 12-15%. The CIF believes that this gap can be filled by supporting regional construction companies to deliver housing and infrastructure outside the Greater Dublin area. The industry currently employs around 140,000 people directly, far more than any other sector in Ireland. So, the potential for regional job creation is huge. In 2017, the CIF is calling for a significant increase in

capital expenditure in the upcoming review of the public capital programme.

"This review coupled with the imminent National Planning Framework will be seminal for Irish economic development over the next few decades. We must get it right. The Government must help ensure that the construction industry has the capacity to deliver in the coming decade.

"However, currently housebuilding, particularly outside Dublin, isn't viable. Housebuilders cannot gain access to finance at the right terms from banks or other sources. How can we have balanced regional development if there are no construction companies capable of building outside our major urban centres? In addition, infrastructure funding is at record lows and any increase in the budget will not be felt by the civil engineering sector for 2-3 years due to lead in times."

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DONNELL & ELLIS

Geared Up for Another Busy Year Ahead

Regular investment in its facilities, fleet and associated equipment continues to pay dividends for award winning heavy haulage experts Donnell & Ellis.

The Omagh-based company, named Plant & Civil Engineer's 'Heavy Haulage Company of the Year' for the second successive time in November past, says the year ahead is shaping up to be every bit as busy as it was throughout 2016.

Now operating out of an 11 acre site previously occupied by Nestle on the Beltany Road on the outskirts of the town, the company's expertise has been put to good use in a number of areas in recent months, not least in the transporting of heavy wind turbine blades to various sites, including a large number to an extensive windfarm in Ballycastle.

Comments the company's Paschal Doherty: "We employed several of our specialist loaders to transport the blades from Larne Harbour; most days we ran three vehicles in convoy, together with two escort vans and a police escort for the duration of the journey. Advanced planning meant that the operation ran smoothly."

It's an area where Donnell & Ellis have become increasingly knowledgeable, and with more and more windfarms coming

on stream in a sector that is set to grow during 2017, the company is well placed to serve customers' specific needs.

EXPORT MARKETS

Another successful and well established area for Donnell & Ellis is in the movement of crushing and screening equipment on behalf of a number of leading manufacturers based in County Tyrone who are continuing to enjoy success in the export market.

Donnell & Ellis have been employed for many years transporting quarrying machinery from the local production lines to ports across England for onward movement by deep-sea vessels into Europe and beyond.

"The fact that we now have plenty of yard space on our new site here has also proved a bonus as we can offer customers short term storage for their machinery ahead of any scheduled transportation," says Paschal. The site, which also accommodates 24/7 rest and refreshment amenities for drivers, is also more conveniently situated, offering better access to the road network, both north and south.

REPEAT BUSINESS

The heavy haulage sector is a competitive one, but Donnell & Ellis have been able to stay not only on top of their game, but ahead in their field of expertise by

continually investing in the business. It is a strategy that has enabled the company to retain a loyal customer base from which it constantly wins repeat contracts, a testament to the high level of customer service provided by Donnell & Ellis.

The company operate a modern 30-strong fleet of trucks and around 100 trailers that include flatbeds to fit all types of loads, low loaders for particularly heavy goods and step frames for easier access with a load capacity up to 150 tonnes.

The fleet and its professionally trained and qualified team of drivers can handle indivisible loads, abnormal and heavy loads, tracked and wheeled vehicles, construction and plant machinery, even boats and other heavy cargoes. Whether it's one large unit or several small, heavy units that you have, nothing is too big or heavy for the company to handle.

A new eight-axle all-steer trailer was recently acquired to add to the versatility of the fleet and several new trucks and other trailers will join the line-up in the coming months as the company looks forward to another busy year ahead.

"We have enjoyed a good start to the year. January, for example, is traditionally slow, but not this year and hopefully that trend will continue throughout 2017," says Paschal.





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QPANI Business Debate and Annual General Meeting

QPANI recently held a business debate and its Annual General meeting in the Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim. Just under 60 members engaged in the business debate covering skills, infrastructure and energy challenges facing the Northern Ireland economy.

A panel, made up of QPANI Regional Director Gordon Best, Manufacturing NI CEO Stephen Kelly, ICE Regional Director Richard Kirk, and CBI

Senior Policy Advisor Iain Hoy gave their perspective on skills and apprenticeships.

"It looked at how we might increase the take up of apprenticeships at all levels and in all sectors, infrastructure priorities and how we fund them and why we need an energy plan and a stated energy policy to drive appropriate investment in the energy grid and achieve the best possible deal for both large energy users and the

domestic customer," commented Regional Director Gordon Best.

"What was evident from the debate was the close working relationship and united voice that all the representative organisations on the panel have and the evidence that progress, although frustratingly slow was being made on all the issues discussed."

The AGM highlights were a number of changes to the Executive Committee. One of its founder and longest serving members on the Executive Committee, Johnny McQuillan, has decided to step down. He is being replaced by John McQuillan (Contracts) Director Paul Brogan, former Chair of the Asphalt and Aggregates Committee.

QPANI say that on everyone's behalf it would like to pay tribute to Johnny for his years of service and wise council to QPANI and his direction and guidance to the Association's Regional Director when Johnny served as Chairman from 2007-2009.



Johnny McQuillan, former QPANI Chairman and long standing Executive Committee Member who has stepped down from the Committee.

"We wish him well and look forward to Paul Brogan playing an important role on the Executive Committee in the coming years.

"We are also delighted to welcome back Paddy Clarke who will be representing F P McCann on the Executive Committee following the standing down of Hugh McCann. It is also great to welcome Damien Keenan, P Keenan & Sons, onto the Executive Committee. As a younger, up and coming Director within the Industry we are sure Damien will be making an important contribution to the work of the Executive and wider QPANI for many years to come."



The top table.

QPANI Host Concrete and Masonry Seminar

The QPANI Concrete Development Group recently hosted its third Concrete and Masonry Seminar.

The event, held in the Ramada Plaza, was very well attended by wide range of industry professional including architects, students, government departments, housing association managers and local council officials.

Speakers, Dr Andrew Minson and Elaine Toogood of the Concrete Centre, gave excellent presentations when they brought the dull subject of concrete very much alive.

Concrete Development Group Host Housing Association Managers

QPANI members, Creagh Concrete, Acheson & Glover and Northstone recently hosted visits by Housing Association Managers.

The visits took place at the companies production facilities in Toomebridge where the Housing Association visitors were introduced to the manufacture and materials testing of precast concrete, concrete roof tiles and concrete brick and paving.

The feedback from the visits was very positive and no doubt we will planning more in partnership with the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations.

MPA publishes new Charter, Vision for 2025 and new Strategic Priorities

The Mineral Products Association has developed a new Charter for its producer members, founded on a new vision for 2025.

The Charter will be the vehicle for achieving the new vision by 'Driving Change, Raising Standards and Improving Perceptions'.

Seven new strategic priorities will sharpen the focus of the work of the association and ensure that the work of the sector is able to adapt to change more readily. Each priority drives a series of objectives, 27 in all, and 10 new targets will enable MPA to measure progress.

The Charter forms part of a new Members handbook which 'clarifies, simplifies and consolidates' expectations

members have built for themselves over many years of policy development.

The handbook brings all policy, guidance, campaigns and initiatives and other useful information together into one place for the first time.

Commenting, Nigel Jackson, Chief Executive of the Mineral Products Association said: "The development and publication of the new Charter by MPA members is a key moment for the industry. Now that MPA represents over 90% of the non-energy mineral extraction and mineral products sector, it has a unique opportunity to harmonise thinking and behaviours in a way which can improve industry performance in key areas whilst improving perceptions

externally. Getting 'everyone on the same page' with a unified ambition for the future has been a key aim of the MPA Board for many years and was one of the primary drivers behind the creation of MPA.

However, publication of the Charter is only the 'end of the beginning'. It is what happens over the next few years that will determine whether the sector can raise its game and becomes rightfully recognised and valued for the great and essential work that it does and is an industry that will attract the brightest and the best for the future."

The official launch of the Charter will take place on 7 June at Mineral Products 2017 conference, which will be held at the QE2 Conference Centre.

ARE YOU THE BEST? PROVE IT!

Enter online at www.plantandcivilengineer.com

CLOSING DATE for Entries 15th SEPTEMBER

PLANT & CIVIL **engineer**

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY **AWARDS 2017**

GALA DINNER **THURS 23RD NOV 2017** CROWNE PLAZA BELFAST

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

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2017

Cowan Bros NI **CASE**
CONSTRUCTION

sponsored by



Plant Hire Company of the Year

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

Leica
Geosystems



sponsored by



Innovation of the Year

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

sponsor to be confirmed



Excellence in Customer Service

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

Close Brothers
Commercial Finance

sponsored by



Construction Company of the Year

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



sponsored by



Construction Fleet of the Year

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



sponsored by



Special Recognition Award

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

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

sponsored by



Quarry of the Year

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

sponsor to be confirmed



Apprentice of the Year

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

SO HOW DO YOU ENTER?

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

Here are some points to consider:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

sponsor to be confirmed



Fleet Management Company of the Year

This award is open to contractors operating any size of plant, machinery or truck fleet, plant hire outlets or other fleet focused businesses within the construction sector. Entrants should be able to demonstrate how they have employed telematics systems or other technologies to efficiently manage, monitor and protect their assets and operators, both on and off site.

sponsor to be confirmed



Plant / Machinery Manufacturer / Supplier of the Year

This award is for the plant or machinery manufacturer or supplier who can demonstrate their products are of an exceptional quality. Judging criteria will include performance and reliability, driver or operator safety and comfort, fuel efficiency and aftersales support. Customer testimonies can accompany any submission.

sponsored by



Student of the Year

This category is open to students working in a civil engineering environment or other associated activities within the construction sector.

The winning student must demonstrate a high degree of dedication and commitment to the industry, outlining why he or she chose this particular career path and detailing their current and future goals. Employer references can be included in this entry.

sponsored by



Civil Engineering Company of the Year

This Award will be presented to the organisation who can report on successful involvement within a wide variety of civil engineering projects including planning, construction and maintenance of fixed structures or public works throughout the island of Ireland, Great Britain, or worldwide. The information provided should demonstrate high levels of skill within project management, procurement, innovation and specialist projects. Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

sponsored by



Health & Safety Award

This Award will be presented to the company who demonstrates best health and safety management practices in the plant, quarry and construction industries. The company must have implemented detailed health and safety measures that incorporate a high level of management and workforce involvement. The company must demonstrate how it assigns H&S responsibilities and maintains competence across its organisation. Customer testimonies may also be submitted.

sponsored by



Specialist Contractor of the Year

This category is open to contractors involved in any sector of the industry, including Civil Engineering, Highways, Quarrying, Utilities, Construction and Groundworks.

The award will be presented to the contractor who has successfully demonstrated or employed specialist, individual, unique, and/or innovative skills on any project or scheme within the last 12 months.

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High Achiever of the Year

This category is for the individual or company that has achieved outstanding success such as in sales, contract wins, company expansion / development or other areas of business over the past 12 months.

It is open to any individual or company currently active in the construction, civil engineering, quarrying and plant & machinery sectors. The winner must highlight the area in which they operate, level and type of achievement, and outline any relevant factors or reasons that contributed to that success.

ENTRY FORM

HOW TO ENTER:

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.plantandcivilengineer.com

AND FILL IN YOUR DETAILS & SEND ENTRY ONLINE

You can also submit supporting corporate material – brochures etc, including photographs of projects, services or products. You can enter any number of categories but bear in mind, it is left to the judges opinion to reallocate any entry which may be more suitable to another category or an additional category.

The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. All entries are private & confidential. The winner will remain confidential until the event.

All entries/nominations should be received by 15th September 2017 via online submission at www.plantandcivilengineer.com or email to justin@4squaremedia.net or post to 4 SM (NI) Ltd, 12 Main Street, Hillsborough, Co Down, BT26 6AE.

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

PLANT & CIVIL engineer

PLANT, CONSTRUCTION & QUARRY AWARDS 2017

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

Book your table
immediately
to avoid
disappointment

Held in Belfast's luxury Crowne Plaza on November 23rd 2017 the awards ceremony starts with a superb Gala Dinner.

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

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

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

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

at the **Plant & Civil Engineer** Plant, Construction & Quarry Awards 2017 in the Crowne Plaza, Belfast on Thursday 23rd November 2017 at 7pm for 7:30pm sharp.

Name of Company: _____

Invoice Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Contact Name: _____ Tel: _____

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

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

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

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CONEXPO 2017 DELIVERS A RECORD BREAKING SHOW

Con-Expo has become the international gathering place every three years for the construction industries; the 2017 event held recently at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, was another record-breaker, as Plant & Civil Engineer's Justin Carrigan discovered.

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

With around 2.50 million net square feet of space, occupied by over 2,500 exhibitors, among them some well established manufacturers from this part of the world, there was plenty to see, including new product launches and demonstrations.

Here, we take a look at some of the new products launches, and present a pictorial review of the show...





JCB

JCB hosted its North American debut for the ground-breaking JCB Hydradig 110W, a brand new tool-carrying solution, bringing innovation and engineering excellence to the growing compact wheeled machine sector of the market.

The revolutionary machine, which was on static display and featured in the demonstration area, has a sturdy all-wheel drive, four-wheel steer chassis, based on JCB's proven Loadall telescopic handler concept. This delivers three-mode steering for maximum manoeuvrability and stability when travelling at speed.

Power comes from JCB's proven Ecomax Tier 4 / Stage IIIB Interim diesel engines, delivering 81kW (108hp) and industry-leading levels of low rpm torque. The engine achieves the Tier 4 Interim emission levels without an expensive Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF), reducing cost and complexity for the customer.

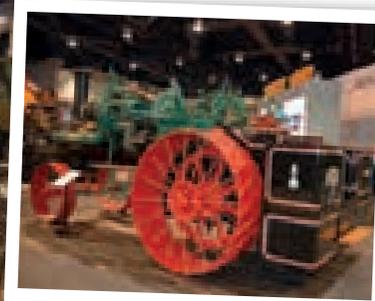


CASE

CASE made major product introductions in the categories of mass excavation, compaction and compact equipment. New models previously introduced and brand new to the market included the all-new G Series wheel loaders, featuring new powerful and practical innovations.

Designed to succeed in any specialty application, every element of the G Series wheel loader line was analyzed and engineered to work together to provide real-world benefits that exceed industry standards for the lowest total cost of ownership. Highlights of the G Series Wheel Loader line include: best-in-class breakout force, patented SCR engine technology and an all-new cab with improved ergonomics for operator comfort.

Also on show were the CX490D and CX500D excavators, and the SV340 skid steer – and the company introduced a first-of-its-kind crossover/concept vehicle.





Caterpillar

Caterpillar had some 40 machines on display in two different exhibit areas, making their presence among the largest at the show.

Eight Cat machines made their public debut and a half dozen more machines introduced recently were on display for the first time.

The newest Cat machines included excavators, wheel loaders, a dozer, an articulated truck, a telehandler and cold planers. Caterpillar also introduced new remote control technologies and connectivity technologies at the show.

In the large North Hall exhibit, the display focused on excavating, grading, paving and aggregates mining and handling, while another show area featured small machines used in building construction. A handful of large machines displayed in the Gold Lot represented general construction and aggregates product lines.

New machines included the M317F Wheeled Excavator, a compact radius design that expands versatility and enhances productivity in tight work areas.

Also in the spotlight was the new 986K which replaces the H Series model, while the 950 GC made its North American debut, being displayed alongside the full-featured 950M. The 950 GC gives wheel loader owners a choice when determining the best machine for their business.



Bobcat

There was a full array of Bobcat equipment, including skid-steer, compact tracked and all-wheel steer loaders; compact excavators, telescopic handlers and attachments for use with these machines.

Bobcat offers 12 skid-steer loader models and the A770 all-wheel steer loader covering operating weights from 1268 to 4643 kg and rated operating capacities from 343 to 1850 kg. Complementing these wheeled machines, the company also offers the MT55 mini-track loader and a comprehensive range of compact tracked loaders comprising six models from the T110 to the top-of-the-range T870 model.

The Bobcat compact loader range appeals to customers in many sectors from construction, demolition, landscaping, agriculture, horticulture, equipment rental to recycling and general industry.





Kobelco

Kobelco's stand included new and specialty excavators, and the debut of various specialty machines for demolition and forestry.

Over 20 machines were displayed, including: an expanded line of compact excavators, new and upgraded SR Series excavators, and the revolutionary Generation 10 models.

In addition, Kobelco highlighted what it called 'the unmatched power, efficiency, safety, durability and machine control capabilities' of its excavators and showcased the company's exclusive iNDR Cooling System, NEXT-3E and Generation 10 technologies.

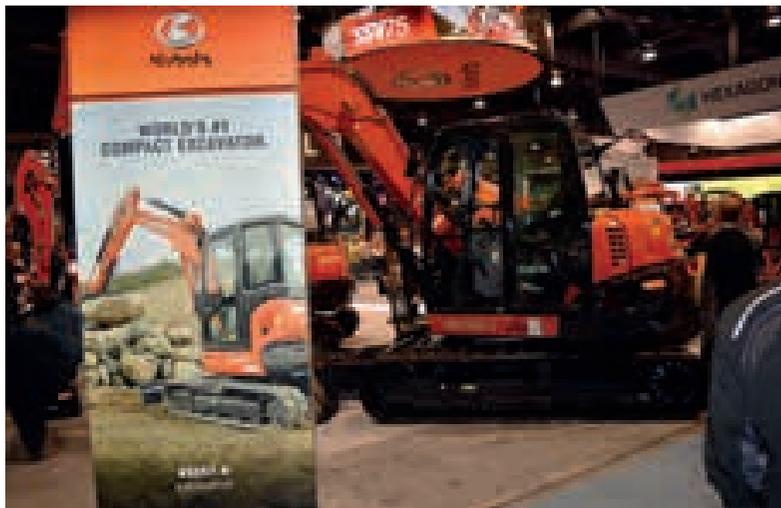


Kubota

Kubota introduced the new 5 litre engine "V5009". Mass production will start from 2020, and the engineering support work starts before to match the application. This engine will be supplied for construction and industrial machines.

Also on show was Kubota's addition to its KX excavator line, the 3-ton-class KX033-4. It has a 24.8-gross-horsepower engine. The compact excavator has a 8,138-pound breakout force and a digging depth of 10 feet 6 inches. To ease attachment use, a diverter valve allows auxiliary hydraulic oil to be diverted without removing the thumb attachment. Compared to previous models, the unit has a roomier cab, large entrance, increased legroom, digital panel and enhanced ergonomics.

Other machines on display included the new SVL75 high-flow compact track loader, plus the KX080-4 and KX040-4 compact excavators.



Hyundai

Hyundai Construction Equipment unveiled four new equipment models and introduced important upgrades to many current models, including the new Hyundai R30Z-9AK compact excavator.

A full-line manufacturer of wheel loaders, excavators, compaction rollers and forklifts, Hyundai also debuted additional models in its HL900 series of wheel loaders, 9A series compact excavators and its HR-9 series of tandem-drum compaction rollers. Hyundai also unveiled Tier 4 Final engines and other upgrades to its full line of compaction rollers, as well as a new boom offering for its HL900 series wheel loaders.

"Hyundai's presence at the show turned a lot of heads," said Corey Rogers, marketing manager, Hyundai Construction Equipment Americas. "This was our best opportunity to demonstrate the unique qualities of our products, our people, our dealers and our customer support to the industry."



Anaconda

Anaconda Equipment International had two machines on show: the new 'TD620 Tracked Trommel' and the ever popular 'DF410 Tracked Screener'.

The TD620 model has been newly introduced following demand from customers who require a machine to handle larger volumes and feed size than those offered by the highly successful TD516. A modern control panel allows operators to easily configure the machine to suit required applications. The control system features; a drum load sensing system, forward and reverse 4 wheel drum drive with variable speed control and variable speed control on all conveyors to optimize throughput requirements. The load-sensing material feed enables an optimum utilization of the large screening surface.

The DF410, meanwhile, is a compact work horse screening and stockpiling up to 250TPH. This entry level screener is ideal for those restricted by working in urban areas.

EDGE Innovate

For EDGE Innovate, this was the third time running at ConExpo, where they showcased a range of their material handling and recycling equipment.

Included were the latest additions to the Edge Recycling Range; the MC1400 Material Classifier and the FreeFlow 186.

EDGE Innovate boast that the new MC1400 will provide operators with the ability to extract impurities from highly contaminated material in just one pass. The EDGE track material classifier utilises controlled air flow as a separation medium, and provides the ideal solution for the cleaning of compost and biomass fractions with its ability to separate heavy and mid-weight fractions from lights.

The MC1400 will allow operators to separate up to four different fractions as standard; lights (plastic, paper, film) mid-weight (wood) and heavy fractions (aggregate, glass, etc.). Ferrous metal will be extracted via the magnet head pulley found on the heavy fraction discharge conveyor with the option of attaching an additional magnet to the mid-weight conveyor.

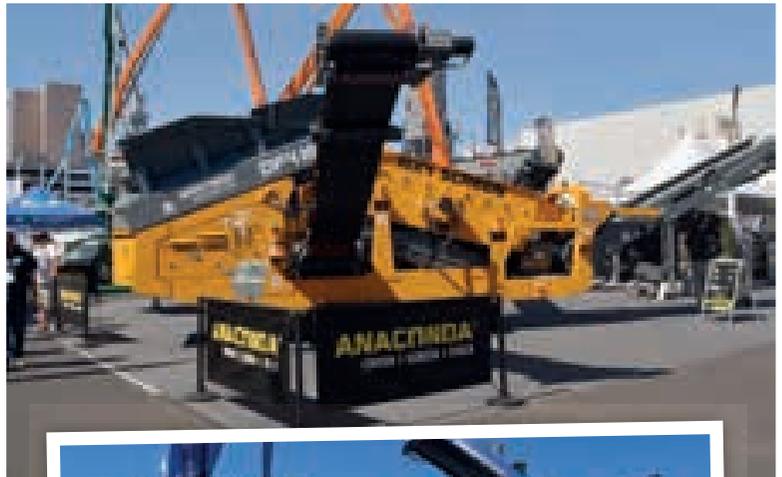
With the capability to accept a larger piece size of up to 400mm (16"), EDGE Innovate states that the MC1400 is not only ideal for organic recycling and biomass fractions but also extracting valuable commodities from construction and demolition waste.

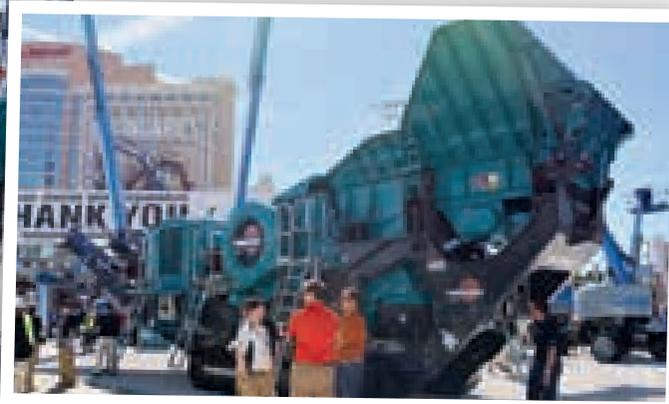
Topcon

Topcon's Positioning Systems booth featured a complete line of end-to-end hardware and software solutions. There were stations situated around the booth with information about all the latest Topcon innovations. Whether it is surveying, excavation and mass haul, dozing, mass data, 3D paving and more — Topcon clearly has it covered.

Popular with visitors was the SmoothRide Theater showcasing the revolutionary new complete paving system that uses a combination of core Topcon technologies designed to deliver the smoothest surface possible, while efficiently managing the quantity of material for each project.

The Dozer Arena, meanwhile, highlighted the latest in Topcon machine control including 3D-MCMAX - maximising speed and blade response, while eliminating the need for a mast on the blade.





Powerscreen

Powerscreen exhibited three machines: Powerscreen® Premiertrak™ 600 jaw crusher, Powerscreen® Warrior™ 600 screen and Powerscreen® Warrior™ 2400 screen.

Comments Colin Clements, Powerscreen Global Product Line Director: "Conexpo proved the perfect platform for Powerscreen to showcase our innovative products to the market and our strong display of machines did just that."

With over 50 years powering the industry, Powerscreen have developed and maintained an aggressive position in the mobile crushing and screening industry. They were able to fully demonstrate the versatility of their portfolio with the three machines at Conexpo which illustrated compact design with the Warrior 600, their branch into diesel-electric machines with the Premiertrak 600 and the daddy of all screens – the Warrior 2400.

Rapid International

Making their 8th appearance at the show, Rapid International Ltd displayed its Rapidmix 400CW mobile continuous mixing plant.

The 400CW is popular with both civil engineering and road contractors alike. Indeed, Rapidmix is hailed as the most mobile mixing plant available on the market, offering fast mobilisation via a fully self-contained and hydraulically self-erecting system. Rapidmix offers the highest outputs available for a machine of its type, up to 600 tonnes per hour. Rapidmix is ideal for semi dry mixing applications such as RCC (Roller Compacted Concrete), CTB (Cement Treated Base), soil stabilisation, soil cement, Betonite and many more.

As a long standing exhibitor, Rapid's very first appearance 23 years ago in 1993 paved the way to successful sales partnerships still in place today. As a result of these partnerships, the very first Rapidmix continuous mixing plant was sold to the US market in 1996 and is in fact still operational today in Florida, 23 years later. This is testament to Rapid's commitment to manufacture machinery that's built to last.





Terex Finlay

On display, too, at the show was the Terex® Finlay I-140 direct drive $\varnothing 1270\text{mm} \times 1240\text{mm}$ ($\varnothing 50'' \times 48''$) horizontal impact crusher. With variable speed, it gives operators unprecedented levels of production in recycling, mining and quarrying applications. The robust and proven Terex® CR032 chamber gives excellent reduction ratios and high consistency of product shape.

A significant engineering approach being introduced in this model is the material flow through the plant. The flow of material has been significantly improved by increasing the width of components as the material moves through the machine.

The machine features an advanced electronic control system that monitors and controls the speed of the rotor and regulates the heavy duty vibrating feeder (VGF) with integrated pre-screen to maintain a consistent feed of material into the impact chamber for optimal crushing conditions. Material from the integrated pre-screen can be diverted to a stock pile via the optional by-pass conveyor, or it may join the crushed product on the main belt.

Terex Washing Systems

ConExpo saw TWS showcasing its FM120-2G Sand Recovery Unit which is a one of Terex Washing Systems most popular compact sand plants. The plant has the ability to produce two clean and dewatered sands on a small footprint.

The FM120C-2-G consists of an 8m³ sump tank which receives the two slurries from the rinsing screen e.g. 0-2mm and 0-5mm. The sump tank is split and has 2 Linatex pumps which pump the slurry to two Hydrocyclones (Coarse 500mm (20") Diameter and Fine 375mm(15") Diameter). The Cyclones remove the unwanted material below 75 micron (200#) which is fed through the top of the cyclones to the Ponds/water treatment. The clean underflow is delivered to the 12'x5' dewatering screen through a rubber lined underflow box. The high frequency dewatering screen produces 5g of energy via two vibrating motors.

The FM120C has an integral blending chute which allows operators to divert some fine sand into the coarse to produce the desired product(s). The FM120C-2G like all TWS products is robustly designed & manufactured with a combination of rubber, ceramic and polyurethane wear protection. The FM120C-2G also has integral galvanised stairway and walkway to allow full access for serviceability.



Tesab

With a strong presence in the US market, Tesab brought along a number of their most recent product developments - including the new 700i Jaw Crusher for its official US launch.

Tesab also had a section of the stand dedicated to its Materials Handling Products as well as a pre-show evening for new and existing customers devoted to showcasing how the Tesab brand produces Reliable, High Performance Crushers, Screeners and Bulk Handling systems that provide the best solution to get the best out of your business.



Metso

Metso unveiled what it called game-changing crushing technology for the aggregates industry. The launches included one of the most significant product innovations for the industry in decades: a revolutionary crusher that remarkably increases uptime while cutting operational costs.

"With unparalleled features that boost profitability and operational flexibility, Metso is delivering what's next in crushing technology," said Simon Pelletier, SVP, USA & Canada at Metso. "As a leader in the aggregates industry, we continually strive to meet and exceed our customers' expectations through the development of future-focused, innovative technologies."

In addition to the two major product launches at the show, Metso exhibited a broad range of equipment and wear and spare parts, all designed to help make aggregates production operations more efficient and assets work harder.



Wirtgen Group

Over 60 products – many of them new to North America – were demonstrated by the Wirtgen Group, including innovative machines and technologies for road construction, road rehabilitation, mining and processing of minerals and mineral raw materials, as well as recycling of construction materials.

No fewer than six cold milling machines, a slipform paver and a texture curing made their U.S. debuts. The new high performance cold milling machines included the W 250i and W 220i, the W 150 CFi and W 120 CFi, as well as the W 60 Ri and W 35 Ri from the latest small milling machine generation.

The SP 64i slipform paver was also presented for the first time. It joins the models SP 61i and SP 62i in forming the new SP 60 series that ultimately will replace the globally successful SP 500. The SP 60 series combines the wide-ranging applications of the SP 500 with the state-of-the-art technologies of the next largest series, the SP 90.



Hamm

As a world market leader for asphalt and soil compactors, Hamm brought a number of innovations to Las Vegas, including the new tandem rollers of the HD+ Series, and the super-compact HD CompactLine.

Hamm has extended the successful H Series soil compactor range with new models in the class up to 84 inches. With their wide variety of equipment options, they can be customised for machine leasing as well as for earthworks contractors.

Hamm also presented a new pneumatic rubber-tired roller whose weight is extremely easy to ballast.

The new models of the DV+ and HD+ tandem roller series – as well as the H Series soil compactors – make use of the innovative Easy Drive operating concept.



Kleemann

Kleemann presented its latest development for efficient use in quarries: the MOBICONE MCO 11 PRO mobile cone crusher. The robust plant is equipped with a low-consumption diesel-electric drive that permits operation with an external power supply.

The integrated Continuous Feed System (CFS) guarantees optimum crusher utilization so that up to 470 tons of material can be processed per hour.

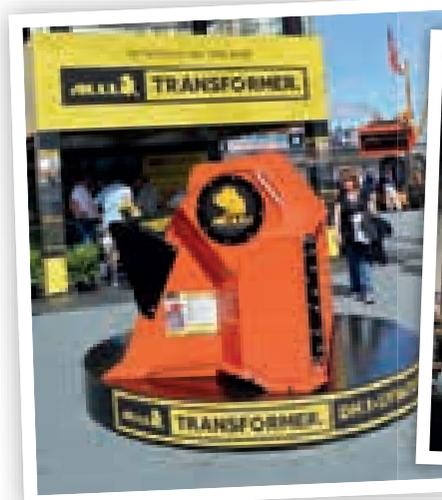


ALLU

The ALLU Group focused on its Transformer Series, showing how its screening buckets can help transform businesses.

The ALLU Transformer Series comprises of an excavator/loader/ tractor mounted bucket which screens, crushes, pulverizes, aerates, blends, mixes, separates, feeds and loads materials. This results in the feed material being effectively transformed into highly valuable products, making your business more efficient, and more profitable.

Catering for applications of all sizes, and capable of processing any material that can be screened and sorted, the ALLU Transformer Series comprises of the compact DL & D Series as well as the truly massive M Series.



Palfinger

Palfinger introduced the innovative PK 165.002 TEC 7 loader crane. Designed for carrier vehicles with a maximum permissible gross vehicle weight of 32 tonnes, the PK 165.002 TEC 7 achieves a new dimension in terms of weight saving.

The PK 165.002 TEC 7 combines extraordinary strength with a large reach, yet is 800 kg lighter than its predecessor, the PK 150.002. Palfinger also debuted its newest innovative service truck solution: PAL Pro 39. PAL Pro Mechanics Trucks are true crane bodies designed for mobile heavy equipment service providers.



Steelwrist to launch Powertilt with Front Pin Lock technology

The demand for safe couplers on Powertilt solutions has been steadily increasing over the last years. In order to respond to this customer demand Steelwrist is now launching a Powertilt solution with Steelwrist patented Front Pin Lock technology.

The new Powertilts were first displayed together with Yanmar Construction Equipment at the Samoter fair recently in Verona, Italy.

Up to now Steelwrist has been supplying symmetrical quick couplers to Powertilt AG that has delivered the complete unit including the tilt engine to dealers.

The Steelwrist Powertilt is a marriage between the original tilt engine from Helac Corporation and the safe Front Pin Lock coupler technology from Steelwrist. The big advantage with the Steelwrist Powertilt is that the customer gets a safe and robust coupler which live up to all safety requirement without the need for a sensor based control system.

The Steelwrist Powertilt can be used on any excavator with two hydraulic functions available.

"When you don't need the full blown tiltrotator the Steelwrist Powertilt is a great



solution. With more than 50000 Helac tilt engines in the field, our customers will get a robust solution that goes hand in hand with our steel casted couplers. We are extremely happy to be able to broaden our product portfolio with the Powertilt", says Stefan Stockhaus, CEO of Steelwrist.

The range will cover excavators from 2-20 ton and are available with symmetrical couplers S40 to S60. Deliveries start in March 2017.

"We are very happy to see that Steelwrist chose the Helac-Powertilt engine in their Tilt/Coupler solution. With the Front Pin Lock technology the customers will get a very simple and safe solution - something that we know is in high demand from our customer base", says Rolf Hefti, CEO of Powertilt AG.

As our photographs show, the Steelwrist was recently featured on a JCB digger in Jeremy Clarkson's Grand Tour show on TV.



Euro Auctions Hold World's Largest Ever Crane Auction

A two day public 'disposal auction' that included 130 cranes (from 220 ton down to 35 ton All Terrain and City cranes) plus more than 500 significant lots of general construction equipment from the administration of Hewden Stuart Ltd has been held by Euro Auctions at the Newark Showground in Nottinghamshire at the request of the administrators at Ernst & Young.

It was the single largest collection of used mobile cranes ever assembled for sale in one place, anywhere in world.

Topping the list of items being auctioned were two 220 ton all terrain Tadano cranes only registered in 2016 which feature a 68m main boom, an 11.1m boom extension, and a 76m maximum lift height. Then there were 23 other 100+ ton cranes most of which are low hours, only a few years old and offer various radius and maximum lift heights.

Below this were 57 cranes in the 50-100 Ton bracket and 45+ units in the versatile and highly sort after 30-50 Ton general purpose category. The crane sale included a host of accessories, such as ballast, test weights, slings, mats, chains and shackles.

Earlier, three, one day sales held in Redruth, Newton Abbot and Swansea, during week

commencing 16th January, collectively saw over 700 'smaller item' lots sold; achieving a total hammer price of over £4.1m.

Euro Auctions was appointed just days before Christmas by S.J. Woodward and C.P. Dempster of Ernst & Young LLP, the Joint Administrators, to dispose of the cranes and



general construction equipment assets of HS Realisations Ltd (previously known as Hewden Stuart Ltd) the hire company that entered administration on 22nd November 2016.

Almost 200 bidders attended the first auctions in person, with approaching a further 500 choosing to register and bid via

the internet. This split is also reflected in the sales, with a floor total of over £1.7m and almost £2.4m being transacted online. The UK accounted for the highest number of bidders and buyers, as expected, but consignments are also being shipped to a host of European countries, with a number also going to the Middle East, the USA and the Pacific rim region.

"We're delighted with how this disposal process has commenced and there are still thousands of items of general construction equipment still to go under the hammer from the Hewden inventory. These include excavators, dumpers, rollers, telehandlers and other popular machinery, many of which are low hours, well maintained pieces of equipment and these will be auctioned over the next couple of months," stated Jonnie Keys, Operations Manager for Euro Auctions.

Neil McIlwaine, Euro Auctions' Hewden Project Manager added: "The disposal of the Hewden assets will culminate in a final sale at the Euro Auctions 60 acre sale site in Leeds later in 2017."

Details of further disposal sales, along with a full sale inventory is currently being posted and updated on the Euro Auctions website (www.euroauctions.com).



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Wednesday 5th - Friday 7th April 2017 @ 8.30am



2011 Hyundai R320LC-9



2009 Hyundai Robex R290LC-7



2014 Hitachi ZX250LC-5B - choice



2012 Komatsu PC210LC-8



2007 Volvo EC210CL



2013 Hitachi ZX130LCN-5 - choice



2012 JCB JZ140LC



Unused Bobcat E85 - choice



2012 Komatsu PC88MR-8 - choice



2014 Kubota U55-4



2009 CAT D8R



2011 CAT D6T



2014 Doosan DA40 - choice



2012 Volvo A40F - choice



2012 Volvo A35F - choice



2012 Bell 1706E



2007 Volvo L90F



2015 Genie GTH4018R



2016 JCB 535-140



2013 JLG 3614RS



2011 CAT 432E



Unused Bobcat T590



2016 Bomag BW213D-5



2014 Terex TV800



2003 Extec C12

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IMQS Annual General Meeting

The IMQS Annual General Meeting was held recently at the Spa Hotel together with two additional events; a Seminar by Dassault Systemes/Geovia and a Presentation by the Kilroot Salt Mine.

The AGM included the Honorary Secretary's Report, the Treasurers Report, a short address by the President and the election of

the Council for 2017. There was also a Report on Mines Rescue.

Geovia Seminar

The seminar by Dassault Systemes/Geovia on Mining and Quarrying software took place in the afternoon and was attended by more than 30 people, who were treated to an excellent demonstration by Rob Allen, Geovia Sales Manager for Western Europe and Clara Simon, Mining Knowledge Consultant.

The topics covered were:

1. SurPac, a quarrying software package
2. MineSched, a mining and quarrying scheduling package
3. A Virtual Mine Tour.

Kilroot Salt Mine Presentation

The Kilroot Salt Mine team consisting of Jason Hopps, Project Manager and Minerals Surveyor and John Kelly, Consultant

Geologist, SLR, delivered a very interesting presentation on recent developments at the Kilroot mine over the past ten years. The topics covered were

Exploration Programme & Reserves

30 Year Mine Extension

New Mine Access Tunnel

The presentation was well attended by 30 people who were very engaged in a lively Q&A session

The list of Council Members can be seen on the IMQS Website. www.imqs.ie



SurPac Software Display.



Siobhan Tinnelly in the Virtual Mine.



Jason explaining the tunnel construction.

Minerals Development Bill 2015: Second Stage Passed By Dáil

Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Deputy Seán Kyne) presented the Minerals Development Bill 2015 for the consideration of the Dáil on 22 February 2017. The Bill was initiated in the Seanad and had passed all Stages in that House.

The Bill will provide a modern regulatory regime for exploration and development of minerals, whether in State or private ownership. In doing so, it will repeal a suite of Acts dating from the 1940s and replace them with fit-for-purpose, streamlined legislation.

In modernising the legislative code applicable to the minerals sector, a number of key changes will be introduced. These include changes in respect of the procedures for compulsory acquisition of ancillary surface rights, the basis for calculation of rents and royalties and the basis for payment of compensation in respect of private minerals.

The Bill will provide for greater transparency and predetermination of financial terms. It will streamline the permitting process and bring other aspects of the regulation of the minerals sector into line with best practice, having due regard to the constitutional protection of property.

There was a broad welcome for the Bill from all speakers. Common issues raised by the eight Deputies who spoke were:

- Value and importance of the Minerals Sector;
- Acknowledgment of the work of officials in preparing the Bill, first mooted in 2006;
- Fiscal return to the State;
- Rehabilitation of abandoned mines; the contrast between the situations at Lisheen and Silvermines noted;
- Recycling/reuse of critical minerals from mine waste material;
- Benefits of R&D; and
- Removal of dolomitic limestone from list of scheduled minerals.

Other issues raised were Lithium, smokeless coal extraction, the importance of local quarries and of community engagement. The full transcript can be read at www.imqs.ie (News section).

It was agreed by the Dáil to refer the matter to the Select Committee on Communications, Climate Action and Environment, due to meet in April. Minister Kyne undertook to deal with these issues at the Select Committee.

TDs who spoke during the Dáil debate were; James Lawless & Jackie Cahill (FF); Brain

Stanley (SF); Sean Sherlock (Lab), Eamonn Ryan (Green), Mattie McGrath, Michael Healy-Rae and Catherine Connolly (Ind).

Commenting on the Dáil Debate, Brendan Morris President of IMQS said: "The progress in the Dáil on the Minerals Bill, following a constructive and wide-ranging debate, is a significant and important step in supporting and strengthening the minerals sector in Ireland. The recently published Fraser Institute Survey of Mining Companies for 2016 still ranks Ireland in first place for Policy Perception but shows a fall in rank from 4th to 9th for Investment Attractiveness. The timely enactment of the Minerals Bill will be a welcome step in ensuring Ireland's strong position in a competitive environment for mineral exploration and mining funds.

"IMQS acknowledges the excellent work of the Exploration and Mining Division and the Geological Survey of Ireland and Enterprise Ireland in promoting Ireland as destination for inward investment in mining. These agencies collaborate in ensuring Ireland's competitiveness by their presence at the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) in early March in Toronto; PDAC is the world's premier showcase for mining professionals, attracting over 25,000 delegates. IMQS will also attend PDAC."

WAC McCandless: Compaction Equipment Specialists

Since their appointment several years ago as sole Northern Ireland distributor for the innovation Atlas Copco / Dynapac range, WAC McCandless has become a leading compaction equipment specialist.

The extensive and varied range, which includes small to heavy duty asphalt rollers and larger soil rollers, has proved popular with both contractors and plant hire outlets across the Province.

Recent sales include large tandem asphalt rollers to Gibson Bros, and smaller models to PPO Hire, Carann Equipment and FP McCann, while a number of asphalt and soil rollers and pneumatic tyre rollers have also been delivered to Adman Civils and CP Hire.

With the Dynapac asphalt rollers you can easily achieve high quality surface finishes through operational features such as soft starting and stopping to prevent unevenness or cracking in the asphalt layers.

This allows even an unskilled operator to start and stop without leaving marks. In a panic situation, the machine will drop out of the soft mode and brake immediately, signalling the need for an emergency stop.

The machines are equipped with a slideable and turnable seat and steering module for best ergonomics and because the engine is placed on the rear module, there is less heat and noise for the operator to contend with. The very low vibration level on the operator's platform also adds to the comfort of the operator.

There are a number of features to the rollers to make servicing quick and easy, ensuring maximum uptime. Daily service points are few and easily accessible. The position of the engine on the rear module



and the large, easy to open engine hoods contribute to easy and fast service.

The use of a double pump vibration system eliminates the need for a vibration valve, making the system more efficient, aiding servicing and reducing fuel consumption. Both pumps – one for the front drum and one for the rear – can simply be shut off.

Soil Compactors

Also popular with customers are the small Dynapac soil compactors; these are vibratory rollers designed for compaction operations in pipe trenches, compacting roads, streets, parking lots and pipe trenches.

Due to the small size and exceptional maneuverability, these rollers are also well suited for compaction on large building foundations and industrial construction sites and in cramped spaces in connection with refilling work.

The rollers are also suitable for repair work and gives good maneuverability even on very steep slopes. All types of supporting and reinforcement courses can be compacted. The PD version, equipped with pads and drum drive, is especially suitable for the compaction of silt and clay soils.

Also available in the range are the Dynapac CA2500 - CA4600 medium heavy vibratory soil compactors, again a favourite of contractors and plant hire outlets. They are designed for long working days in tough applications. All types of base courses and reinforcement courses can be compacted to considerable depth. The 35 mm hitch drum ensures excellent resistance to wear - even in compaction operations on rockfill.

The padfoot version has its major range of application on cohesive material and disintegrated rock. All types of base courses and subbase courses can be compacted.

Tyre Rollers

WAC McCandless also offer a range of Dynapac pneumatic tyre rollers in the 21 - 27 ton weight class, including a 21 ton wide base tyre version.

A pneumatic tyre roller is, of course, a specialised machine – with a wide range of applications. Finishing and sealing are obvious ones but soil compaction can also be carried out with top quality.

A significant feature is the smooth start-stop procedure when changing driving direction. The air-on-the-run option and backup sprinkler further enhance the end result quality.

The unique cab design offers an outstanding workplace for the operator, and the dual-circuit braking

system is another Dynapac-only feature. With genuine Dynapac performance you can add the final touch to any project.

Other compaction equipment in the Atlas Copco / Dynapac range includes rammers, forward and reversible plate compactors, trench compactors and duplex rollers.



attachments

Hill Engineering's TEFRA Tilt a big hit with GBSS

GBSS Civils and Plant Hire was established in 2009, although had been trading as GB Site Services since 1999 as a groundwork and civil engineering contractor.

The company to this day remains a family business, with owner and managing director George Burns at the helm, alongside 85 employees. GBSS specialise as a subcontractor on civil engineering projects covering most areas of Scotland, with clients including blue chip contractors such as Morrison Construction, Malcolm Group, Graham Construction, Laing O'Rourke and many more.

GBSS has 54 hydraulic hitches in its fleet fitted to a wide range of excavators including, Hitachi, Komatsu, Case and JCB. Of the 54 hitches – the vast majority are TEFRA quick couplers which are designed and manufactured by Northern Ireland based Hill Engineering. The company estimated that it has invested almost £100k in Hill products since 2009.

GBSS's most recent purchase is a new JCB JS160W wheeled excavator fitted with a new TEFRA Tilt, supplied by JCB dealer, Scot JCB. This is the first TEFRA Tilt for GBSS and was bought specifically for its versatility on ground works projects. The machine is currently working south of Inverness on a Scottish Power project - a wind turbine substation for the power network.

Tom Taylor, Plant Manager at GBSS, was instrumental in choosing the Tefra Tilt – it

was a joint decision between Tom and GBSS Managing Director George Burns.

Tom said: "We both rate Hill's TEFRA quick hitch quite highly – it's a very good hitch. We had never gone down the road of a tilt hitch – on the rubber ducks we normally always use a hitch and bucket. After a joint discussion, we thought we would give the tilt a try and see how it performs as it was quite new to us.

"Scott JCB suggested we tried the tilt so we went from there. The tilt is very good - we have had no issues at all and it's manufactured to a very high standard. It's done over 500 hours on this machine (JCB JS160W wheeled excavator) and we have never even had to look at it. All the Hill quick hitches are very reliable and we have minimal downtime with them.

"At the moment, we only have one TEFRA Tilt but if the opportunity and the application were right we would purchase another Tefra Tilt. We have had spot on after service with Hill – we have only had to call them out once since 2009 – the products are that reliable.

"We are looking to increase the fleet with another 12 machines this year and we will be specifying all Hill TEFRA hitches. It depends on what machines we buy, whether they will be wheeled excavators or tracked excavators, where they are going, the application and the demand at the time. But if there was an opportunity to get another tilt and it was needed, we would not think twice about getting another TEFRA Tilt."

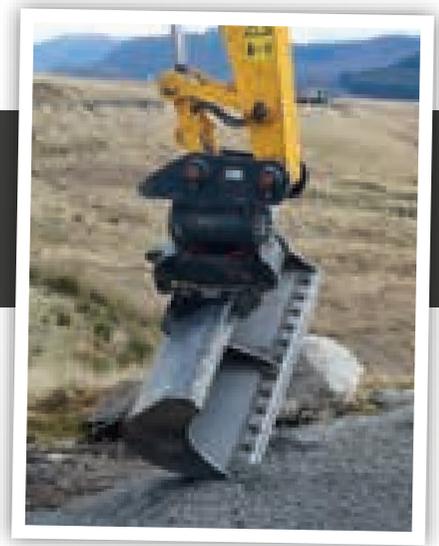
Managing Director George Burns added: "We decided on the Hill TEFRA Tilt as with

competitors hitches there are too many parts and on the hydraulic tilting buckets there are too many rams which fail whereas the TEFRA Tilt has an actuating motor arrangement and no wearing parts – so practically maintenance free. It also has a heavier motor on it. We have stuck by Hill for the last nine-years and we will continue to use Hill, going forward there's no reason why this should change and we would order a TEFRA tilt again if the application demanded it."

Robert Buchanan has been a machine operator with GBSS for the last year and has been using the JCB JS160W wheeled excavator machine fitted with the Hill Engineering TEFRA Tilt system for two months.

Robert said: "This was the first time I had used the tilt – previously I had only used a traditional hitch and bucket. I really am impressed with the TEFRA Tilt – it's a cracking bit of gear. I can work with better angles with this attachment and it's a real time-saver and you can get the job done far more quickly."

Robert added: "It's able to pick up standard buckets with ease and is very reliable. I would definitely recommend the TEFRA Tilt to other operators."





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concrete

New Innovative Apps from Lagan Concrete

Lagan Concrete (formerly Roadmix) part of Lagan Products in Northern Ireland, have developed two innovative customer Apps called MOBILEcommerce and MOBILEjobsite in conjunction with Command Alkon.

The new customer apps seamlessly integrate with the Lagan Concrete IT systems to give customers total transparency of their account information where they want it, when they want it.



Darren McMillan, Commercial Manager at Lagan Products said: "The new customer information system is ground breaking for the UK concrete industry. Our success is built on the quality of our concrete products and the trust and service we offer customers - this system offers customers total transparency of information relating to their accounts and orders. The fact that you can access your information via a mobile app also makes it quick and easy to use" Gone are the days when site managers have to spend time calling about orders or delivery times and a business has to check on delivery dates and quantities – all this information is now available at the touch of a button.

The MOBILEcommerce App is designed for placing and tracking orders, managing concrete projects and producing reports. The system not only helps customers, it helps Lagan Concrete manage loads and maximise our efficiencies through vehicle tracking and speeding up the ordering and reporting processes. The system is fully integrated at Lagan and enables the company to further improve service to customers.

The MOBILEjobsite App, is also available now for customers to monitor and track their readymix concrete orders and is designed for Site Managers on active projects to help them schedule and plan their day.

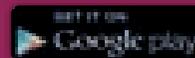
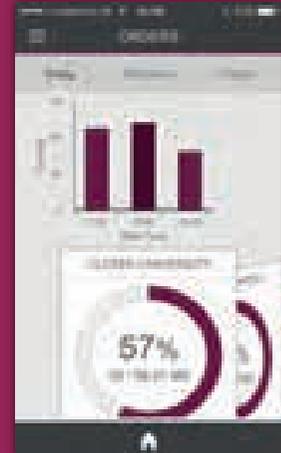
WHAT DOES IT SHOW?

- Current and future orders
- Real time truck locations on map
- Load-level summaries
- Notifications of when load is on its way
- Records of load status times
- Filters allow customers to tailor what information they see.

The new apps deliver a better customer experience by offering a transparent level of service to customers. Customers can see in real time their orders and trucks out for delivery which also helps to reduce the amount of unnecessary calls to dispatch.

The App is available now from the App Store and Google Play, customers are already starting to sign up.

This is a technological first in Europe from Lagan, proud to be leading the way in the technological revolution.



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Part of the Lagan Group

Inaugural Waste Management Showcase for Northern Ireland & Ireland

Excitement is building as The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (NI) brings its 2017 Conference and Exhibition to the Eikon Exhibition Centre, Balmoral Park, Sprucefield.

For the first time, CIWM's Northern Ireland Centre, is combining their Annual Conference with a 5,000m² Exhibition, bringing together technologies, machinery, experts, decision makers from across Europe, this event will be the primary place on the island of Ireland for resource management, energy and waste sector professionals.

The one day, FREE event, will take place on Wednesday 29th March in the Eikon Exhibition Centre at Sprucefield, Lisburn, home of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Show and will be a must visit for anyone involved with resources and waste.

It will showcase the latest equipment and vehicles from the industry and bring you up to date on everything from recycling and re-use, winter maintenance, street sweeping, waste collection and treatment, as well as important insider information about the newest industry regulations.

Both the conference and the exhibition will be under the same roof and many of the exhibitor stands are already booked. Anyone interested in taking a stand in the 5,000m² space needs to act fast to avoid disappointment.

Over 100 exhibitors will be on hand to tell you all about the industry's latest products, news and vehicles. In the adjoining conference theatres, delegates will be able to enjoy a range of lectures on topical and current issues affecting both the public and private sectors. Taking a stroll down memory lane, delegates will have the opportunity

to see a unique display of vintage waste management vehicles from 1922 until 1980 providing a focal point for visitors.

Industry experts will be delivering keynote addresses covering topics such as the impact of Brexit; the hazardous and food waste regulations; the environmental costs of waste crime; the circular economy in operation and the associated development and advancements in technology around fleet management.

Tony Law, Chair of CIWM NI, encouraged both the public and private sector to attend this prestigious event as a platform for networking and engagement with policy makers, service providers and industry experts. Delegates will have the opportunity to hear about and comment on changes in the waste industry, learn and apply best practice to gain economic and competitive advantage and to ensure compliance with new waste laws in their respective sectors.

Tony added: "This unique event will provide the forum for delegates to gain valuable knowledge and insight into the latest plant and innovative technologies available on the market. Delegates will be informed on the legislative impacts of the food waste regulations and other pertinent regulations affecting our waste, manufacturing and hospitality sectors."

Raymond Martin, Regional Development Officer for CIWM commenting on the event referred to the benefits and uniqueness of having the conference and exhibition all under one roof. Bringing delegates and exhibitors together on one site, Raymond said: "We have been waiting for an opportune time to host an event on this scale and people will be coming from all over UK and Ireland so we will provide



hospitality on arrival before they make their way around the exhibition. It is anticipated that the event will have the endorsement of Ministerial Colleagues from both jurisdictions to open the Conference and Exhibition."

Raymond added: "Our organisation was founded in 1898 and since the turn of the last century, the CIWM has been advocating professional standards in a growing industry and through our conference and exhibition activities we seek to showcase the best practice and professional standards for the removal of waste and the re-use of materials that will enhance life and address environmental issues affecting everyone living and working here."

REGISTER

To register your interest in attending or exhibiting, or to find out about exhibition opportunities

contact Raymond Martin directly on: (028) 9147 7397, or: 07739 950 784 or request an Invitation

email: Raymond.martin@ciwm.co.uk



Tony Law Chairman CIWM
Northern Ireland, Cllr Uel Mackin
Chairman of Lisburn City Council
and Colin Graham Commercial
Sales Manager EIKON.



CIWM Spring Conference And Exhibition 2017

Wednesday 29th March 2017
EIKON EXHIBITION CENTRE, Balmoral Park Lisburn

Main Conference Issues and Themes:

New Food Waste Regulations – Recycling & Reuse –
Achieving the 20/20 Vision – Brexit: cause and effect across Ireland

Plus your chance to get up close and personal with most of the professional organisations operating and supplying the sector in Ireland & the UK

For stand enquiries please contact Raymond Martin
Telephone: 028 9147 7397 Mobile: 07739 950784
Email: raymond.martin@ciwm.co.uk

To register your attendance
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Current direction of highways research at Ulster University (Road design and Roadside Ecology)

Dr David Woodward

Ulster is Northern Ireland's Civic University. It prides itself in its pioneering research, inspired teaching focused on employability and collaboration with industry partners. Highways research at Ulster is just one of many areas that make this possible.

The highways laboratory specialises in trying to better understand the road and runway surfacing materials that we all take for granted.

We consider simple questions... are they safe, how long will they last, is there a better way to predict their performance, how do they impact our environment, are they sustainable? Simple questions that result in new knowledge.

The highways laboratory offers undergraduate and masters students the opportunity to get involved in these larger research themes and to work alongside PhD students and the research activities of their supervisors. Much of the research is only made possible by close collaboration with industry, consultants, road authorities and other related bodies. This collaboration feeds into research led teaching so improving the employability of our undergraduate and masters students.

Several areas have been developing in recent years. For example, the tyre / road surface interface and how this influences skid and rolling resistance. This has resulted in new methods of non-contact measurement that offer new insight into this complex interface. 3d modelling of road surface textures at micro and macrotecture scales based on photographs allow measurement of things that have traditionally been difficult to quantify.

How thick is a road marking, how does a road surface wear away do to traffic, what is being measured when aggregate is tested for skid resistance in the laboratory, does a PSV or Friction after Polishing tyre interface the test surface in a similar manner to a real tyre. The search for answers to these questions leads to CE marking of construction materials and their declaration of performance.

Aggregate and road construction products are expected to perform for their design life. This is a challenging area with roads designed to last 50 years, surface materials at least 10 to 20 years and then be recyclable. The prediction of long-term aggregates and asphalt materials durability is another area of interest in the highways laboratory. Research is leading to improved understanding of why road surfaces suffer particle loss i.e. the most common type of premature failure of UK roads and how this can escalate to surface ravelling or potholes.

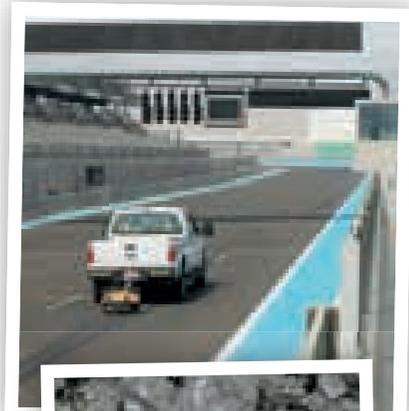
Research is not restricted to just the laboratory. Real-world collaboration with



quarries and helping develop new asphalt products constantly influences the University based research. Neither does the research just focus on roads. It now considers race-tracks. Although both types of surface are made with mixtures of aggregate and bitumen, motorway traffic on the M1 is very different to the F1 cars and super-bikes at Yas Marina and Silverstone.

The latest area of research is the role of civil engineering and its impact on roadside ecology. Ireland's legacy roads have evolved over many years and contrast sharply with its new network of designed roads. Roads are not just for getting cars and people to places. They offer tremendous opportunities to enhance our natural environment.

One of the Action Areas identified in the All Ireland Pollinator Plan considers the role of roads and pollinating insects. Many different bodies signed up to the plan from government agencies to volunteer groups. A new highway research area is addressing what is initially considered by many as quite disparate areas – what have roads got to do with bees? With Ireland having some of the most diverse legacy road-side verge habitats for pollinators there is tremendous opportunities to address the manicured grasslands typical of many new road networks.



CIHT Northern Ireland Events Programme 2017

The following programme of events is subject to change.
Please check the CIHT website regularly for updates – www.ciht.org.uk/events

For further information or queries
please feel free to contact:

John McRobert: 028 2566 2501

Email: john.mcrobert@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Roisin Wilson: 028 4461 8156

Email: roisin.boyle@drdri.gov.uk

DATE	EVENT	TIME & VENUE
Friday 31st March	<p>CIHT NI - Professional Qualifications</p> <p>Seminar: Lunchtime seminar on routes to professional qualifications including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engineering Technician (EngTech) - Incorporated Engineer (IEng) - Chartered Engineer (CEng) - Transport Planning Professional (TPP) <p>For details and to book please contact: Kaine.Lynch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk</p>	<p>Time: 11:00-12:00 TPP</p> <p>12:00-12:30 Lunch</p> <p>12:30-14:00 CEng, IEng EngTech</p> <p>Venue: QUB David Keir Building Room OG 512</p> <p>Lunch served in the Hub</p>
Monday 3rd April	<p>Joint Meeting with ICE: A82 Pulpit Rock Road Scheme</p> <p>Speakers: Gareth Brennan (McLaughlin & Harvey) & TBC (Tony Gee & partners)</p>	<p>Time: 6.15pm</p> <p>Venue: Ulster Museum, Stranmillis Road, Belfast</p>
Wednesday 5th April	<p>Presentation and Workshop: Road Safety; legislation, statutory duties, and audit standards</p> <p>Speaker: John Barrell, SoRCA</p> <p>For details and to book please contact: Kaine.Lynch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk</p>	<p>Time: 9:00 - 13:15</p> <p>Venue: Arup Belfast</p> <p>Bedford House, 16-22 Bedford Street, Belfast</p> <p>Light lunch served from 12:45</p>
Friday 21st April	<p>Joint CIHT/ICE webinar: New Lagan Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge:</p> <p>Speaker: Kris Campbell, TransportNI</p>	Webinar
Monday 24th April	<p>Annual General Meeting followed by Colas Competition</p>	<p>Time: 6.15pm</p> <p>Venue: QUB David Keir Building Room LG 024</p> <p>Tea served from 5.30pm in the Hub</p>
Thursday 27th April	<p>F1 Karting Challenge</p> <p>Event kindly sponsored by Martin Contracting Services Ltd, Kevin McShane Consulting and John McQuillan (Contracts) Ltd.</p> <p>For details and to book please contact: Kaine.Lynch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk</p>	<p>Time: 6:45pm</p> <p>Venue: Eddie Irvine Sports, Bangor</p>
4-7th May	<p>Northern Ireland Region Annual Study Tour</p> <p>For details and to book please see website www.ciht.org.uk/events or contact kmcshane100@gmail.com</p>	Northern Italy
Friday 21st July	<p>Joint CIHT/ICE webinar: Coleraine to Derry-Londonderry Rail Upgrade</p> <p>Speaker: Clive Bradberry, Translink</p>	Webinar

CIHT members can record their CPD online. Go to www.ciht.org.uk/mycareerpath
If you would like to know more about CIHT's CPD scheme, please contact: education@ciht.org.uk

Sustainable Highway Maintenance

The joint meeting of CIHT and IAT on the 16th January was treated to a thought provoking presentation by Stephen Child.

Stephen started by clarifying some definitions; "Sustainable" meaning able to be maintained at a certain rate or level, and, able to continue over a period of time;

"Highway maintenance" meaning the process of keeping public roads in a state of good repair, including roads, bridges and tunnels to ensure safe and effective transportation of people and goods.

This has four main objectives; repair of functional pavement defects; to extend the functional and structural service life of the pavement; to maintain road safety and signage, and to keep road reserve in acceptable condition.



This work does not just apply to the pavement, it covers all parts of the highway including structures, drainage, street lighting, street furniture, traffic signals and signs, horticulture and arboriculture, and street cleansing etc.

A World Bank Transport Note in 2005 commented on why road maintenance is important:

- Roads are among the most important public assets;
- Postponing road maintenance results in high direct and indirect costs;
- Balance improvements against maintenance.

The Note went on to say that "Poorly maintained roads constrain mobility, significantly raise vehicle operating costs, increase accident rates and their associated human and property costs, and aggravate isolation in rural communities."

The document, Well-managed Highway Infrastructure, states that "delivery of a safe and *well maintained* highway network relies on good evidence and sound engineering judgement."

Good evidence requires condition data, historic trends and inventory. Sound engineering judgment requires technical knowledge, experience and appropriate skills.

The main types of maintenance are as follows:

- reactive – responding to inspections, complaints or emergencies;
- routine – regular schedule, generally for lamp replacement, patching, cleaning, grass cutting and landscape maintenance, cleaning bridge drainage;
- programmed – flexibly planned schemes primarily of reconditioning or structural renewal;
- regulatory – inspecting and regulating the activities of others;
- winter service; and
- resilience and emergencies.

Good asset management requires consideration of:

- Short term fix v need to extend/prolong life;
- Reduced future interventions to minimise cost of disruption;
- Fix the pothole v fix the problem – consider the root cause.



It's no use just fixing the potholes here; the surrounding area will be a pothole or potholes next year, and continually fixing potholes is a very expensive, inefficient (unsustainable) way to resurface a road. It is necessary to look further forward and fix the problem. Guidance documents available include those from HMEP, ADEPT/RSTA, ADEPT/MPA, and WRA.

Sustainable maintenance means intervening at the right time. Indeed, excessive potholes normally indicate a lack of managed timely intervention. If it is a local problem or a safety issue, just fix it. But if it is a wider problem, managing the asset requires consideration to maintain or regain service life, e.g. surface dressing or resurfacing. Rehabilitation of a pavement requires the right solution and greater investment. The consequences of not getting it right include extra costs, extra inconvenience to the highway users, and reputational damage.

What can we do to change things?

- Design/undertake appropriate maintenance solutions/treatments
- Always look wider and deeper
- Quality work – do it right first time
- Be innovative
- Maintain and manage budgets
- Continue to lobby for the right balance of revenue and capital
- Maintain expertise

Final and worrying thoughts

Numerous professionals specialising in road maintenance are retiring, with the unfortunate side effect that their know-how and practice is lost to the sector as a whole.

The solution to this problem requires an adequate level of training, coupled with funding and management to enable proper planning ahead.

We have a major challenge ahead if we are to maintain our highways in a sustainable way.

• **Stephen Child, CEng, MICE, MCIHT, FIAT. Stephen worked in local government in the highways and transportation sector for 36 years with particular interest in maintenance and asset management. He is a past President of IAT, council member of CIHT, chair of ADEPT SMDS and CIHT Procurement Panel. He now manages his own consultancy, and is Engineering Manager for two PFI contracts.**



Lagan Construction Group Acquires Major Plant Investment

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

By further investing in the new Soilmecc SF-85 and Soilmecc SR-95 bored rigs, Lagan Construction Group has been able to boost its in-house capability and reduce rental costs – leading to even more cost effective solutions being offered to clients.

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

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

A26 Dualling: Glarryford to A44 (Drones Road) Junction Nearing Completion – Transport NI

By Deidre Mackle

The £55m A26 dualling scheme between Glarryford and the A44 Drones Road Junction consists of upgrading 7.8km of existing single carriageway to a new dual two lane rural all-purpose carriageway with a national speed limit of 70mph.

This scheme will improve both journey times and journey time reliability for this stretch of the A26, thus reducing driver frustration and improving the safety performance of the route for all road users.

Construction of this scheme by contractor Bam McCann JV has been ongoing since January 2015, with approximately 85% of the works complete to date. Earthworks are nearing completion, the major structures along the route are substantially complete and approximately 25% of final surface course has been laid. It is anticipated that all works will be finished ahead of schedule, before the planned completion date of summer 2017.



Progressing your career in Highways & Transportation

Are you interested in achieving a professional qualification through CIHT but not sure which route you should choose or need advice on the next steps?

In an increasingly competitive job market, CIHT Professional qualifications offer a path for you to advance your career and stand out from the crowd.

This event in the David Keir Building, Queen's University Belfast on March 31st, will be of interest for anyone looking to gain Professional Qualification at the following levels:

- Engineering Technician (EngTech)
- Incorporated Engineer (IEng)
- Chartered Engineer (CEng)
- Transport Planning Professional (TPP)

Speakers will include recently qualified professionals at all four levels, professional reviewers and CIHT's National Education and Training Manager.

The first step for all candidates wishing to take any of the Professional Qualifications is to go through Initial Assessment. This will determine the route you will need to take. Whilst not essential, you may find this event more useful if you have

already completed your Initial Assessment. This will only take a few minutes and can be completed by the following link: www.ciht.org.uk/initialassessment.

PROGRAMME:

11:00-12:00 Transport Planning Professional

12:00-12:30 Lunch

12:30-14:00 Technician/ Incorporated/Chartered Engineer

Those interested in only one qualification (either Transport Planning or Engineering) can book to attend just that session – and lunch. Please don't miss this valuable opportunity to progress to your new qualification!

To Book Your Place Contact: Kaine.Lynch@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk



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CQMS'17 - Ireland's Construction & Quarrying Machinery Show

CQMS'17 - Ireland's Construction & Quarrying Machinery Show on April 21st and 22nd 2017 in Tullamore, Co Offaly - is shaping up to be a sell-out.

More than 200 exhibitors will showcase over €70 million worth of equipment to 8,000 visitors.

In a move to facilitate enterprise and support exhibitors, Friday April 21st (only) is a trade day and registration is now open at www.machinerymovers.ie/cqms. The closing date for registrations is March 31st and after that the standard €20 admission charge will apply.

All outdoor stands for CQMS'17 are now full and among the confirmed exhibitors are ECI JCB, Kubota UK, Volkswagen Commercial, Finning CAT, Geith International, Topcon, Atlas Copco Construction & Mining Ltd, Jim Macadam Equipment/Case, Palfinger Ireland, Sandvik, CDE Global, HSS Hire and Laois Hire Group, IFM Ltd, Renault Trucks Ireland, Rockbreakers, Tesab, MacHale Plant Sales, Whelan Plant Sales/HHIE and many more.

Ireland is a hub of quarry equipment manufacturing and engineering. 65% of the world's crushing and screening equipment is produced in Ireland so it makes sense for this International show to take place on Irish soil. Up to 8,000 delegates, industry professionals and visitors are expected with a large overseas delegation.



Factory visits to equipment manufacturers in Ireland North & South will also be facilitated for international visitors.

According to the AECOM Annual Review 2017 of the Construction Industry, Ireland's construction industry grew by

15 percent in 2016, and they expect it to grow 20 percent in value of output in 2017. There was also a near record rise in employment in the Construction sector in January 2017 so there has never been a more opportune time for this show.

Visitors to the show will also be treated to an exciting air display by AerDynamics and 5-time Irish aerobatic champion Eddie Goggins. Another star attraction at CQMS'17 will be the world-famous JCB Dancing Diggers.

Terex Washing Systems Announce Debut Attendance At Show

Terex Washing Systems (TWS) will be making their debut at the CQMS 2017 Show, saying it will provide an excellent platform to announce some 'very exciting news' to the industry as well as showcase one of their finest and innovative washing solutions.

On the TWS stand, visitors will have the opportunity to see washing solutions up close and talk with technical sales and applications specialists who will be on hand to offer their unique combination of experience and expertise.

"We would love to speak with customers who are seeking maximum efficiency, performance and serviceability which can be achieved from their materials washing equipment."

In addition, attendees to the CQMS Show also have an exclusive opportunity to visit the TWS headquarters and get the opportunity to see its cutting edge production facilities.





Three 'Blue' Machines On Show

Blue Machinery Ireland, part of Blue Group will be exhibiting three machines - the new Cobra 230 impact crusher, Bison 280 jaw and a Colt 600 screen.

The Cobra 230 is a compact impactor crusher incorporating a 2.3m³ hopper and two stage 'Tine' grizzly feeder as standard. It has a 860mm x 610mm crusher inlet and comes with hydraulic adjust and hydraulic overload protection as standard. The Cobra 2360 can process up to 250tph of material and is powered by a Tier 4 202kW / 275Hp CAT engine.

The Bison 280 mobile jaw crusher has a 3.5m³ hopper capacity and a two stage grizzly feeder as standard. Potential output of this mobile jaw crusher is 200tph, with the machine offering hydraulic jaw adjustment.

The Colt 600 is a compact mobile screen which can fit into and be transported via a standard sized shipping container. The machine incorporates a 2.34m x 1.17m double deck screen and can be fitted with a range of different media screens.

What sets Blue Machinery apart is that as well as supplying world leading equipment, it also offers outstanding back-up and aftersales support. Blue Spares, for example, has over £3million worth of spares parts which can be dispatched the same day.

Meanwhile, Blue Ireland were appointed as the official distributor of EvoQuip™ crushing and screening equipment, servicing the needs of customers in the North and South of Ireland.

Liam Brophy, Blue Ireland Director, said: "Our experience as a distributor of Fuchs and Doppstadt equipment means that we can count on a strong focus on customer support, one of our core principles. Extensive industry experience also means that Blue Ireland already has strong relationships with customers.

"In addition to sales opportunities, Blue Ireland will provide parts, service and warranty support for EvoQuip equipment by factory-trained technicians. Financing options will also be available to qualified customers."



Colt 600 screen



Bison 280 jaw



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 or e-mail sales@bluegroup.co.uk






Sandvik to showcase QH331 Hydrocone crusher

Sandvik will be taking the opportunity of this year's CQMS to showcase one of their bestselling cone crushers

The Sandvik QH331 is a compact, high quality machine designed to meet high product quality demands through the use of the renowned Sandvik CH430 Hydrocone crusher but on a tracked chassis. It offers you one of the most versatile units on the market with a choice of six different crushing chambers and a variety of bush settings. Possessing sturdy construction, its power management, coupled with the market leading CH430 cone crusher, makes the QH331 ideal for aggregate production wherever it is needed.

A key attribute of the QH331 is the advanced design of the CH430 cone. It possesses a longer and steeper crushing chamber than other comparable models. The material therefore remains in the crushing chamber longer, optimizing reduction and providing

a superior product shape. The CH430 comes equipped with a hydroset CSS regulation system, which allows you to adjust the CSS (closed side setting) whilst crushing, via the main control panel. The automatic setting regulation system fitted will not only optimize production for you but will also keep track of liner wear to minimize interruptions and downtime.

The Sandvik QH331 track mounted cone crusher provides you with an environmentally friendly, economical and highly efficient machine. Powered by a CAT C9 or C9.3 engine and direct drive, you will benefit from maximum production capacity combined with remarkable fuel savings. This latter change now sees the QH331 use its power more efficiently, and consequently enhances its operational capabilities through tighter closed side settings and larger bush variations.

Safety has been at the core of the development of the QH331, and this has led to all models being fitted with a camera that oversees the crushing chamber together with the fitting of a screen in the control cabinet. These provide the operator with greater safety, and more control of the crusher which in turn produces higher sustained output. All the features on the QH331 have been designed to provide you with a flexible, user friendly and efficient solution.

Other key features include:

- Level sensor to help regulate the feed and to optimize production, reduction and shape.
- Unique Constant Liner Performance for extended life of chamber liners, minimizing your downtime and costs.
- Hydraulically driven cooling fan, with auto reverse function, to back flush dust from the radiator, thereby saving you time and effort, thus maximizing uptime
- Bridge coil metal detector is fitted over the feed conveyor for an enhanced and more controlled detection of tramp material
- All engine service points are easily accessible, with low level drain points for ease of maintenance.
- Capable of working in environments of up to 50°C without the need for oil changes
- Enhanced fuel economy providing lower cost of ownership and a reduction in emissions by up to 45% producing a lower carbon footprint.

The optional hanging screen system available on the Premium range of cone crushers now allows the flexibility to produce a screened product and recirculate back into the feed hopper. This is a 13 x 5' / 4 x 1.5m screen which comes complete with a hydraulically rotating re-circulating conveyor and 1.75m extended main conveyor.



Tesab's Display Bigger and Better

Following the encouraging signs of the inaugural CQMS Show in 2015, Tesab will again be exhibiting at this year's show.

With the show itself even bigger than 2015 Tesab will be located in Zone 3 Stand 6 where you will be able to see a wide range of Tesab products.

On the stand you will get a close-up view of their most popular models in the Irish market right now – Tesab 623CT Secondary Impact Crusher and Tesab 1412TCC Tertiary Impact Crusher.

On top of this you will be able to see live demonstrations of a popular Tesab application where the new 700i Jaw Crusher will be feeding the Trackstack 8042T Stockpiler.

"With our Irish dealers Irlequip also on the stand, there will be a range of sales & technical personnel available on the stand where our team will be happy to help with all your queries and will show you how Tesab produces reliable, high performance crushers, screeners and bulk handling systems that provide the best solution to get the best out of your business."



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See Demo @ CQMS

NEW 700i Tracked Jaw Crusher

See Tesab Machines in Action at CQMS

Hire / Lease / Buy Options Available

National Sales & Service Support Provided



See on Stand @ CQMS

1412T Tracked Impact Crusher



Come Speak to the Crushing Experts at Zone 3, Stand 6



Tesab Engineering Unit 9 Gortrush Industrial Estate
Omagh, Co Tyrone, Northern Ireland, BT78 5EJ

Close Brothers Sponsor Live Demonstrations

Close Brothers say they 'proudly support' Ireland's largest construction and quarry machinery show.

The construction industry is a vital sector for the Irish economy and as it advances at a solid pace; overall output for Ireland is forecast to reach €20.2 billion by 2020.

Close Brothers' have worked closely with the sector consistently for many years and say they are proud to sponsor the live demonstration zones.

The demo zones will offer buyers and sellers an opportunity to see

the latest machinery from leading manufacturers. Adrian Madden of Close Brothers Commercial Finance: "We are delighted to be a sponsor of CQMS '17 and are very positive about the future of the construction and quarrying industry.

"While recent developments and predictions for growth present the industry with great opportunity, it is the firms that put a carefully considered financial strategy at the centre of their plans who will be best placed to take advantage of the changing climate.

"Quite often, construction companies don't realise

they can release the value of existing equipment and machinery back into their business through refinancing. This is a particular strength of ours and is increasingly popular with customers. As a form of funding, asset finance should be an obvious choice for any business seeking to invest in capital equipment.

"We're proud to have worked closely with the construction industry consistently for many years and are looking forward to supporting more firms as they use asset finance to build for the future.

"Our team has in-depth knowledge of the sector and extensive experience of delivering funding options for the assets required to support ambitions for growth.

If you're looking to purchase new machinery, we can help. We provide funding for almost all types of construction and quarry equipment and can tailor repayments to match your income patterns."

If you are attending the show and would like to arrange a meeting with Close Bros, please call +353 1 699 4125.

CASE STUDY

Norman Emerson Group

Norman Emerson Group Ltd has been at the forefront of the Northern Ireland construction industry for almost seven decades and is one of only five companies with a commercial licence to extract sand from Lough Neagh.

We spoke to George Emerson, Managing Director, about how Close Brothers Commercial Finance initially supported Norman Emerson through turbulent times and now supports its expansion, growth and profitability.

The business had been restructured following the recession, and began to grow again. Sales of Norman Emerson's ready mix and sand products are weather dependent, with sales peaking during the summer months and dropping in winter. The company relied upon an annual short term loan from its bank during the winter to ease cash flow. In addition to the annual short term loan, the company had a long term loan and invoice discounting facilities with the bank.

In December 2015, without warning, their bank informed the company that it was unable to provide the previously relied upon annual short term loan which supported the business through seasonal peaks and troughs.

Norman Emerson decided to seek advice from an independent financial services provider and engaged with Close Brothers Commercial Finance.

SOLUTION

The provision of facilities would need to be structured to reimburse the incumbent lender in full. Facilities were structured to reduce the short-term burden on capital repayments on the long term, thereby

easing the pressure on cash flow and assisting the company in the continued progress with its turnaround.

As a result, an innovative ABL arrangement was structured combining invoice discounting with funding against property. This provided an immediate cash injection to working capital which supported their seasonal demands, especially in the winter months.

George felt that the ability of his relationship manager to make swift funding decisions made a material difference to the day-to-day running of his business. George was particularly impressed with Close Brothers' flexibility and creativity in structuring the transaction.

The finance solutions Close Brothers Commercial Finance were able to offer has enabled Norman Emerson Group to drive forward their vision for growth.



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

Kubota enhances 8 tonne excavator

Kubota has launched an enhanced version of its popular KX080-4 machine. Already the cleanest emission excavator in the 8 tonne class, the new KX080-4a (Alpha) utilises the latest technological advancements to ensure the machines performance and productivity far exceed expectations.

The new KX080-4a features a rugged and reliable direct-injection diesel engine with common rail system (CRS) and diesel particulate filter (DPF) muffler that helps to maximise digging strength whilst simultaneously reducing noise, fuel consumption and exhaust emissions. An Eco e-PLUS mode provides even greater fuel and work efficiency, all of which combine to make the 8-tonne excavator Stage III B compliant.

The KX080-4a offers all the performance benefits users have come to expect from Kubota's existing 8 tonne excavator, but also features a new innovative 2-pump load



sensing hydraulic system that improves the overall smoothness of operations when using the front attachments, regardless of load size. Hydraulic oil is allowed to flow according to the specific range of the operator's lever motion, which reduces fuel consumption and delivers greater operating performance. In addition, a versatile 2-Piece Boom version of the standard

range. Long reach and close retraction are easily achieved with the KX080-4a that helps make leveling large areas more efficient and productive. When space is restricted, the 2-piece boom has a compact front swivel radius to make turning and lifting operations in tight spaces simple. Other key features fitted as standard include an auto idling system; two proportional control auxiliary circuits, a safety valve on

the boom and arm, and a proven sophisticated built in Anti-Theft system. To ensure smooth and efficient travelling, the KX080-4a is fitted with an advanced two-speed auto-shift feature that automatically adjusts speed and traction force depending on load size and terrain.

Maintenance on the KX080-4a is a straightforward task, thanks to the triple opening bonnet, ensuring all three access panels on the machine can be open at once. This allows for easy access and inspection of the main service points and components.

Dave Roberts, Managing Director of Kubota UK, said: "At Kubota, we are constantly striving to improve the performance and efficiency of our machinery as we know this is what end-users rely on to be able to complete their jobs effectively. The introduction of the new KX080-4a excavator not only provides our customers with the strongest performing machine we have to offer, but one that also meets all the latest emissions standards."

THE NEW KX080-4 α EXCAVATOR. MAKING THE BEST EVEN BETTER.

Come and see us at the CQMS Show 2017



The best just got better. Already the cleanest emission excavator in its class, the latest KX080-4 α incorporates technological advances to take operating performance and productivity to a whole new level. Featuring a rugged and reliable direct injection diesel engine with common rail system and diesel particulate filter muffler, the KX080-4 α not only maximises digging strength but also minimises noise, fuel consumption and exhaust emissions. While an ECO e-PLUS mode helps deliver even greater fuel and operating efficiency. To find out more about our strongest performing machine yet, contact Kubota.

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For Earth, For Life

EXECUTIVE HIRE SHOW 2017 - A RESOUNDING SUCCESS!



The Executive Hire Show 2017 was the biggest in its 11-year history with more exhibitors than ever before – 190 to be exact.

The Executive Hire team say the 2017 Show attracted 1,813 relevant hire industry visitors. The total number of unique visitors scanned was 2,447

and this figure also excludes all exhibitor personnel.

The team also confirmed that 93% of visitors to the show also visited the new Hire Show Hall area – which is excellent news.

The Show overall attracted senior executives and procurement teams from all leading national hirers. With 52 visitors from

A-Plant representing this year's largest hirer group to attend the Show. Representatives from the other UK national hirers, including Brandon, GAP, Hire Station & HSS also made the pilgrimage to the Ricoh and continue to support this national event in significant numbers.

86% of all relevant hire industry visitors were from independent

operations, which is up from last year. This re-confirms the pivotal role of local and regional hirers in the on-going success of the Show.

"The Executive Hire team would like to thank all the exhibitors and visitors who attended the show and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2018 at the Ricoh Arena once again 7th & 8th.



hire news

HAE EHA announces new venue for Hire Show & Convention 2017



The Hire Show & Convention 2017's new venue – Ricoh Arena, Coventry.

With an exciting new venue, fresh re-brand, dynamic theme and renewed focus, the Hire Show & Convention 2017, organised by the Hire Association Europe (HAE) and Event Hire Association (EHA), is promising to be the event's most ambitious outing to date.

Building on the success of the 2015 and 2016 events, the Hire Show & Convention 2017 will take place from Wednesday 11th - Thursday 12th October within one of the UK's premier venues; the Ricoh Arena, Coventry.

Boasting a purpose-built exhibition hall and state of the art conference facilities in an easily accessible, central location with strong transport links, organiser



HAE EHA is planning to take the event to the next level.

More than 60 exhibitors, a full conference programme, workshops, discussion forums and networking opportunities will ensure that delegates utilise their time at the Hire Show and Convention 2017 to maximum effect. With the theme for 2017 set as 'CONNECT-DISCOVER-LEARN', the focus will be on delivering insightful and thought-provoking content aimed to increase delegates' knowledge and assist them in tackling the issues facing the hire sector

and business community, regardless of the size and turnover of their companies.

With planning for the conference programme well underway delegates can expect to see sessions on a variety of subjects including: empowering women into the hire industry; the research and development of future technology such as 3D, virtual reality, artificial intelligence and robotics; new construction methods; enabling the hire industry to position itself in the legislative decision making process; financial planning for anyone considering career breaks, retirement and new business ventures; cyber protection law and the face of the hire industry beyond Brexit.

Commenting on the move to the Ricoh Arena and plans for the Hire Show & Convention 2017, HAE EHA managing director, Graham Arundell said: "The move to the Ricoh Arena allows us to deliver a larger and improved exhibition element to the event – it's a bigger, more workable space and all in the one room, so much better for exhibitors and delegates alike. Also, the location is fantastic, smack bang in the middle of the UK with excellent transport links, making it easy to attend wherever you're based. From a content perspective, we set the bar really high in 2016 yet, with the ideas already on the table and in the planning stages there's no doubt in my mind that we're going to top that, this October. It's a really exciting time for the event and association as a whole."

A-Plant achieves FORS Champion status

FORS, the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme, has announced that existing member A-Plant has become a FORS Champion.

A-Plant is the largest plant, tool and equipment hire company in the UK. As well as being a committed FORS member, the company is also championing the scheme amongst its suppliers.

A-Plant will be writing to each of its transport suppliers to encourage them to become FORS members by the end of 2017, as well as promoting the benefits of the scheme with which it has first-hand experience.

A-Plant's Director of Transport Services Shaun Winstanley said: "As an operator we are well placed to champion the benefits of the scheme, and will be encouraging the companies we work with to sign up and get the most from the scheme as we have done."

The company, the first to renew their Whole Fleet Accreditation (WFA) under FORS Standard v4.0, has been a member of FORS since 2009.

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ENTRIES ARE NOW OPEN!

Closing Date Friday 20th January 2017



For information visit
www.hae.org.uk/awards
or call 0121 380 4622 for an entry pack

HAE delivers SafeHire Information Zone at Executive Hire Show



HAE SafeHire assessor, Jim MacCall delivering a workshop at the Executive Hire Show

Hire Association Europe (HAE) delivered a series of workshops and presentations as part of its SafeHire Information Zone, held within the Ricoh Arena's Jaguar Suite, on the second day of the recent Executive Hire Show 2017.

HAE's SafeHire Certification has been designed to raise standards across the hire sector by helping businesses improve Health & Safety procedures and customer service levels.

The certification allows companies to demonstrate that they have achieved the highest



HAE members receiving their SafeHire Certificates.

standard in their Health & Safety, quality and environmental policies and operations. It has been developed in conjunction with BSI, HSE and CHAS and is highly cost effective.

All HAE members must achieve certification by 1st January 2018, and members of the team

were on-hand throughout the Executive Hire Show to discuss SafeHire with members and the benefits of the independent audit scheme for non-members alike.

The SafeHire Information Zone provided invaluable information and advice on how to achieve SafeHire Certification, improve Health & Safety procedures and customer service standards as well as exploring the benefits through real Hire Industry case studies.

Immediately following the workshops was the announcement of the Hire Awards of Excellence 2017's 'SafeHire Company of The Year' shortlist. The companies on this year's list are: PSM Plant & Tool Hire, A Plant, HSS Hire and Plant Tool Hire Limited who were all shortlisted on the recommendation of the SafeHire assessors. The prestigious awards ceremony, organised by HAE is taking place at the Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London on Saturday 22nd April.

Commenting at the end of the session, Gill Bridger, HAE's operations manager said: "The SafeHire Information Zone was an excellent platform for us to promote the many benefits of SafeHire Certification to members and non-members alike. Five companies have already confirmed an initial audit as a result of attending the session and we have additional enquiries to follow up after the Executive Hire Show."

Cowan Bros In New Partnership with HSS Hire

The ever expanding HSS Hire Group has formed a new partnership with CASE Northern Ireland distributors Cowan Bros. in what is a first for the hire industry.

The move will enable HSS Hire, which operates a growing network of depots throughout the north and south of Ireland, to offer its vast customer base the complete range of CASE diggers, from three tonne right up to 21 tonne.

It also opens up a new avenue of business for Cowan Bros, giving them access to the increasingly busy hire market in Northern Ireland.

HSS has been growing at a rapid pace over the last number of years and works with other hire companies to serve its customers needs, but it has now come to the realisation that forming supplier partnerships is the way forward.

Comments HSS Regional Sales Manager for Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man, Gareth Foley: "By teaming up with companies like Cowan Bros as a supplier we can enjoy ready access to bigger plant which enables us to quote for contracts with much larger construction firms requiring heavy duty excavators and other machinery or equipment."

Adds David Cowan: "We are delighted with the new arrangement with HSS Hire. It's a new departure for us and will enable us to get more product into the marketplace. We don't operate in the hire sector as such, but this is an exciting new avenue for us and for CASE."

"HSS has a large network of depots, so we believe there is great potential to grow this side of the business in the months ahead. Availability of excavators shouldn't be a problem as we always carry a high level of stock."



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Diamond Trucks Strengthens Sales Team

Renault Trucks dealer Diamond Trucks have strengthened their sales team with the recent appointment of Matthew Keys to the role of Sales Executive.

Although still in his mid-Twenties, Matthew is no stranger to the industry. From a farming background, he holds an HGV licence and can often be found behind the wheel of a truck, having worked in the past for one of the Province's leading haulage companies as a fleet supervisor.

His first introduction to Renault Trucks was through his time at Renault Trucks approved dealer Toal Truck Services, Middletown in County Armagh where he was employed as Operations Manager for two years.

Although only having joined the team at Diamond Trucks earlier this year, Matthew has already made a positive impact at the Mallusk based dealership.

"Renault Trucks have a fantastic product portfolio," he says. "Having been brought up on a busy family farm in Tyrone and having worked within the industry I know exactly what an operator needs, and with Renault we at Diamond Trucks are well placed to meet those requirements, with a vehicle range from 3.5 tonnes to 44 tonnes."

Matthew, who has been spending much of his working day meeting new and established customers around the Province, says he has



Matthew Keys - Diamond Trucks Sales Executive.



long term ambitions and is aiming to help increase Renault Trucks market share in Northern Ireland.

"This new appointment represents a great career opportunity for me and my goal is to build solid and lasting working relationships with customers. I realise there is more to just selling a truck; there needs to be strong and dependable after sales support, and we are here to serve the best interests of our customers. There is no

such thing as 'nine to five' in the haulage industry, so if a customer needs to contact me at any time of the day or night, I will always be available."

Matthew's appointment has been welcomed by Diamond Trucks' Dealer Principal Iain Latimer. "Matthew will be a great addition to our team. He is enthusiastic and keen to build the business and the brand in the months and years ahead."

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tippers



Opticruise Scania Tipper Impresses at Robinson QuarryMasters

Robinson Quarry Master's Scania P410 tipper quickly made a positive impression and impact after it was delivered by dealers Road Trucks Ltd of Larne; we've been finding out why.

"The P410 is the first Scania tipper here to be fitted with disc brakes and with the 12+2 speed, Opticruise gearbox, its performance in the quarry and out on the road has been outstanding" says Director Stephen Robinson.

"We are well pleased with the P410," says Stephen. "We have been running it for a while now and it has delivered on everything we expected. Outside of scheduled maintenance, we have had no problems with it whatsoever."

It's the fifth Scania the quarry has had over the years and the first with the two pedal Opticruise, which has made a definite difference in performance and handling.

This automated gear changing system is well suited to an off-road quarry environment and to making rural deliveries. Besides improving comfort and eliminating the need to watch revs and change gears, it enables the driver to devote more attention to site and road safety.

Familiarisation is quick and safe and economical driving is easy and consistent. Wear-and-tear is reduced on the clutch and other powertrain components, increasing service life.

"There's no doubt the automated gearbox makes life that bit easier for the driver; it definitely is easier to handle, and there is less driver fatigue, which, of course, increases productivity," says Stephen.

The day cab, too, offers a stress-free working environment. With its two-step entry, it is Scania's most easily accessible cab and has been purpose built for comfort. The optimal placing of controls and storage facilities means that the driver's essential equipment is always within reach, yet never in the way.

The Scania tight turning circle is also a big bonus while working in the quarry and making deliveries to restricted sites.

"We've been dealing for over a decade with Road Trucks Ltd, and they've always provided us with a first class service," adds Stephen. "As I said, this is the first with Scania Opticruise and most certainly it has made a big impression with our drivers."





“ **THE P410 IS OUR FIRST SCANIA TIPPER TO BE FITTED WITH DISC BRAKES AND WITH THE 12+2 SPEED, OPTICRUISE GEARBOX**

We are well pleased with its performance in the quarry and out on the road where it has been outstanding. We have been running it for a while now and it has delivered on everything we expected.”

Steven Robinson
Director, Robinson Quarry

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Safety Must Be a Top Priority

Safety must continue to be a priority as the Irish construction sector expects to grow by 33% up to 2020, says Construction Industry Federation (CIF) Director General, Tom Parlon.

He has asked construction companies to redouble their efforts to reduce accidents on site for 2017 at a meeting of leading industry members.

“Construction companies have worked tirelessly with their industry partners to reduce workplace accidents and fatalities. The industry employs over 140,000 people directly and continues to strive to improve safety management and awareness in the sector. Health and Safety Authority statistics show that tragic accidents are much more likely to occur within the micro-enterprise and self-employed sectors of the industry.

“It is vital that we redouble our efforts to get the safety message to smaller companies and sole traders, to reduce accidents and always strive towards a zero-fatality industry.”

According to DKM consultants, construction activity in Ireland is anticipated to grow by 9% per year up to 2020. This growth will be driven by ambitious government targets in housebuilding and infrastructure development as well as commercial growth. DKM estimates that 112,000 new jobs will be created by the sector by 2020 to deliver on these targets. This year, Construction Information



Services estimates that almost €19billion in construction projects will be completed.

“With a strong increase in activity, there will be a subsequent need to expand the workforce and we expect a strong growth of new employees coming onsite, along with those returning to Ireland for work. We are asking construction companies, particularly smaller companies and the self-employed to refocus on Health and Safety for 2017. Now is the time to reflect on our current Health and Safety procedures so you can be busy and safe. We must ensure that the industry maintains its strong record on the management and awareness of safety and health issues.”

For decades, employers and workers within the construction industry have been investing time and money to drive improvements and ensure that all workers can work safely on

construction projects in Ireland. Approximately 90,000 workers complete the Safe Pass Programme every year. However, progress and innovation are constant requirements in an ever-evolving working environment.

“The safety and health of workers is paramount and many employers in the construction sector have been leading the field in this area for years. We point to last the 2016 NISO safety awards where construction companies demonstrated that they have safety regimes in place comparable with multinational companies in hi tech industry.

“However, we can never become complacent. The industry looks set to grow considerably over the next number of years and with that comes an increased risk. We need to constantly strive for better health and safety standards and increase awareness on the subject and we encourage construction clients to reward those companies who invest in better health and safety performance. Health and safety should be to the fore when planning every project – regardless of size- and on workers’ minds at all times.

“This year, the CIF will deliver a sustained campaign on safety to keep the message at the forefront of industry. We will continue to work with the HSA and our partners in the Construction Safety Partnership Advisory Committee to highlight safety during Construction Safety Week in late October.”



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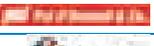
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6 x Generac VB9 Towerlights sold by Sleator Plant to local hire company.



Stephen McAlister, Bush Rd, Dungannon, Taking Delivery Of The New Kramer 8095T 100 Hp Trading His Weidemann - Ashfield & Wilson.



New Takeuchi TB260 delivered to Macs Bathrooms & Tiles in Mayobridge Co. Down by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



KPM Surfacing - Kieran McCann with his new SDM0 6kva super silenced generator supplied by Glendun Plant.



A new Giant Tendo Mini Telehandler and attachments out for delivery to a Co Armagh Farmer, from Ballyward Plant Services.



Thomas Brolly and George Higgins with TK Brolly's new merlo P40.17plus with work platform - D A Forgie.



Two New Case CX145C's supplied by Cowan Bros to Brian McComb, Muckamore, Antrim.



A Hanix H17D for Bann Hire Banbridge, from Ballyward Plant Services.



Gregor from monaghan hire takes delivery of new Yanmar SV08 From Crumlin Plant.



New Dieci 40.17 being collected by McParland Bros, Dundalk from Dieci ltd Newry.

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RT Boyd & Co Limited Swatragh, New Delivery To The Fleet Kramer 8095T 100Hp, 4 Wheel Steer and Crab Steer 4.5 M Height 2.3 Ton Lift - Ashfield & Wilson.



DS Hammers supplied this new stelco sel 350s to Mark Harrison contracts.



Philip Connelly - MT1440 - Northern Lift Trucks.



New Case CX300D supplied by Cowan Bros to Campbell Contracts, Tempo.



New Cat 826K for Biffa Waste Cottonmount Site, sold by Finning.



SK230SRLC-5 to Paul Cosgrove Groundworks, Co. Tipperary from McSharry Bros.



Kubota digger sold to JD Excavations, Cookstown by D A Forgie.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to T Valley Construction, Seskinore, Omagh.



McCormack demolition with there first Doosan DX140LC-5 from Northern Excavators.



Latest model Arrowhead R100 bought by Island View Plant Hire supplied by Stephen Robinson Ltd.



Michael Healy, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow in front of his new SK35SR from McSharry Bros.



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Sean Mcdonal and son from SMD Insulations take delivery of a new Rotair MDVN22 From Crumlin Plant Sales.



SK140SRLC-5 delivered to site for BSG Civil Engineering Ltd, Maghera, Co. Derry by McSharry Bros.



Gerard Mcivor, Hyundai R27Z-9 - Northern Lift Trucks.



New PC170LC-10 recently delivered to Carr Bros - WAC McCandless.



Patrick McLean of P McLean & Sons Contractors with his new Cat 312EL, sold by Finning.



New Case CX75C supplied by Cowan Bros to Owens Contracts Ltd, Omagh.



2 machines sold to FAL Hire by D A Forgie.



Dieci 17 m and Mini Agri sold to JMS Construction in Aberdeen by Dieci Ltd, Newry.



Castle Paving - new Wacker Neuson EZ38VDS machine on site in Belfast - Glendun Plant.



Liam Whelan, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford in front his new SK210LC-10 from McSharry Bros.



New Case SR130 supplied by Cowan Bros to McIvor Limited, Magherafelt.

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Shaun Mckenna from Mckenna Precision Taking delivery of new Rotair MDV81K From Crumlin Plant Sales.



Fionnbar Duffin from Island View Plant Hire with his new Manitou MT625 - Northern Lift Trucks.



New yanmar V1050 Supplied to CJ Hire from Crumlin Plant Sales.



New Case CX130D & CX80C supplied by Cowan Bros to Southgold Ltd, Surrey.



CP Hire - Richard Hunter taking delivery of the first new Skyjack SJ6826RT diesel scissors supplied by Glendun Plant.



Alex Parr BP Contracts Market hill and his son Issac taking delivery of their new JCB JS131 LC Plus from BC Plant JCB Ltd.



The first PTO driven Forst 6" Chipper in Ireland sold by Essener Equipment to a private client powered by 110hp tractor.



Andrew from CP Hire Pictured with his 15 New Yanmar SV08'S Alongside Keith from Crumlin Plant Sales.



Stephen Vaughan from MSM Contracts with his New Manitou MT625 - Northern Lift Trucks.



New Case CX130D supplied by Cowan Bros to Corramore Construction Ltd, Draperstown.



New Hammer SB 150 breaker sold to Naytar Ltd in Co Tipperar, by SME Plant Sales.



New Takeuchi TB210 delivered to Michael Caffrey in Co. Meath by Alan Milne Tractors Newry.



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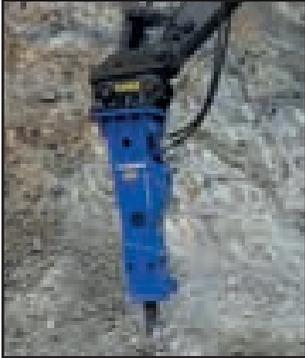
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First 2 units new PC138US-11 from a recent sale of 3 to CP Hire - WAC McCandless.



Hammer HS 4000 breaker recently sold by SME Plant Sales to Kereens Quarry, Co Waterford.



Allistair and Peter Johnston from RA Johnston with their new Manitou MT1440 - Northern Lift Trucks.



Hammer HS 700 sold to T Nannery Plant Hire in Cavan, sold by SME Plant Sales.



SK270SRLC-5 supplied by McSharry Bros and off-set boom fitted by Ward & Burke Construction Ltd., Co. Galway.



New Case CX35B supplied by Cowan Bros to Paul Smyth.



Package of Atlas Copco Forward/Reverse Plates & Trench Compactors sold to Morrow Contracts by WAC McCandless.



RM Tool & Plant Hire, Ray Mullin taking delivery of his new Niftylift 120TPE from Glendun Plant.



Dieci Farmer 32.6 being delivered to Natural Stone in Bullstown, Dublin by Dieci Ltd Newry.



Stephen Vaughan from MSM Contracts with his New Manitou MT1840 - Northern Lift Trucks.



New Stelco sel 500s sold to Owens Contracts Omagh by Darryl Rogan DS Hammers.



SK230SRLC-5 fitted with rubber pads on its' way to P&D Lydon, Co. Mayo from McSharry Bros.

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New Takeuchi TB235 delivered to Killowen Contracts in Warrenpoint Co. Down by Alan Milne Tractors.



A Hanix H27DR for a Co Down farmer from Ballyward Plant Services.



Double Delivery of SK30SR and SK140SRLC-5 to Rowlands Civil & Construction Services Ltd., Co Dublin after sale by Conor McSharry.



Brendan from ITS Portadown taking delivery of a New Ausa D400AHG - Crumlin Plant Sales.



SK55SRX-6 en route to Michael Doyle Civil Engineering Ltd., Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford from McSharry Bros.



JB Plant Hire - Hugh McCaffrey taking delivery of their first new Skyjack SJ3226 from Glendun Plant.



Hammer HS 15000, 15,500kg the largest rock breaker ever produced - SME Plant Sales.



Top class machines heading to CP hire. Another 3x Doosan DX63-3. Expanding their DX63-3 range to 10 in total, sold by Northern Excavators.



Down hires new stelco sel 150s supplied by Darryl Rogan DS Hammers.



New Atlas Copco CC800 & CC1200 Rollers sold to FP McCann Ltd by WAC McCandless.



Terex TA3 Dumper sold by Seator Plant to FP McCann.



A New Giant SK251D Mini Skidsteer for a Co Louth farmer, from Ballyward Plant Services.

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Nmg Utilities collect 2 new Yanmar SV18'S from Crumlin Plant Sales.



A new Truxta B300-G Mini Dumper for a Co Down Landscaper from Ballyward Plant Services.



Turkingtons new JCB 540/170 sold by BC Plant.



New Case CX30B supplied by Cowan Bros to Northside Utilities, Omagh.



Finbar and Peter Murphy of Murphy Civil Engineering, take delivery of their new Hydrema 912F Multi Tip from Ballyward Plant Services.



DS Hammers supplied this new set 350s to MTL Fencing in Saintfield.



Gary James from McAleer and Teague - Northern Lift Trucks.



A Hanix H55DR for Bann Hire Lisburn from Ballyward Plant Services.



A Rototilt RT20B complete with gripper and Hurricane T-lock top hitch sold to Lowry building and civil engineering - Cullion Plant Sales.



Ready to go for Bulrush Peat,Bellaghy. This will be their first machine from Northern Excavators. Behind the bucket the new Doosan DL300-5.



CAFRE's Steven Wallace takes delivery of their new Giant Tendo 4548 HD from Ballyward Plant Services.



6 Bobcat E10's sold to Balloo hire by Northern Excavators.

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New Doosan DL450-5 loader for Tracey Concrete. Enniskillen sold by Northern Excavators.



Morrow Contracts driver Michael Burns with new Cat 316EL, sold by Finning.



Komplet 6040 jaw crusher sold by SME Plant Sales.



John Ritchie, Newtownbutler taking delivery of his new MLT629 - Northern Lift Trucks.



Rototilt R4 ICS sold to Irwin groundwork's Ballymoney fitted to a Hitachi ZX135 seen working on a prestigious golf course - Cullion Plant Sales.



New Doosan DX140LC-5 sold by Northern Excavators to Drumlough Developments.

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