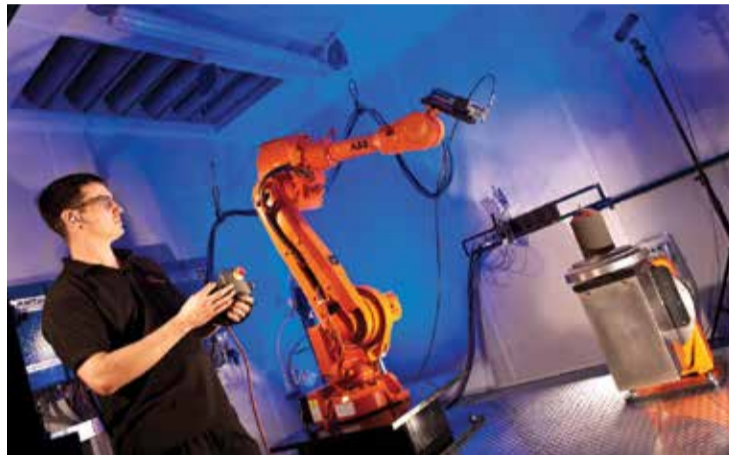


# Best Practice

Issue 646 | September 2019 | 0121 725 1587 | [www.bestpracticeuk.co.uk](http://www.bestpracticeuk.co.uk)



## Experts in Surface Technology Treatment



**Curtiss-Wright**  
see them on pages 1, 2 & 24

Best Practice is committed to showcasing companies who are dedicated to offering an outstanding customer experience, and who are constantly looking to evolve their services to ensure they are at the forefront of their industry. This is why we are proud to announce that Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies has been chosen to receive our **Best of Britain Award**.

Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies, a subsidiary of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation, boasts a global network with over 70 worldwide locations, providing material surface treatments, protective coatings, high tech processes and much more for the aerospace, automotive, oil & gas, subsea, medical, and power generation sectors. They increase the performance life of metal components by protecting them against premature failure using their high performance metal surface technology.

Offering customers a single point of contact and source solution for controlled metal surface treatments, Curtiss-Wright are specialists in metal surface treatment, and strive to improve and reduce turnaround times and costs for their clients. Indeed, their history dates back to 1929, when the Wright Brothers and Glen Curtiss founded the Curtiss-Wright Corporation. The Metal Improvement Company was established in 1946, which was then acquired by Curtiss-Wright in 1968. With nearly 90 years of history to draw upon, Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies are unequivocal experts in their field.

Some of the practical applications and benefits of their services include controlled shot peening, which is excellent for reducing fatigue and stress corrosion cracking, shot peen forming for creating curvature in aircraft, laser peening, CASE Isotropic finishing, parylene conformal coatings and much more.

Among their lauded engineering coating services, Curtiss-Wright also offers thermal spray coating. Their thermal spray and High Velocity Oxygen Fuel spray coatings can be seen in use throughout aerospace, automotive, oil and gas, and much more. Essentially, thermal coatings offer a cost-effective and high performance alternative to hard chrome plating, providing a finish that protects metals from heat, wear, oxidation and corrosion. HVOF thermal spray coating has numerous advantages, including being able to be used with metals, alloys, ceramics and carbides. Not only that, but it also provides outstanding bond strength to withstand against extreme mechanical loads.

What's more, their solid Film Lubricant and Liquid Component Coatings provide long lasting lubrication, and protection against friction and galling within harsh operating environments. Curtiss-Wright tries to exhibit at three trade shows per year,

and this year they will be exhibiting at Engineering Materials Live at the National Conference Centre, Solihull, 19 September 2019, joining some of the UK's industry-leading companies. In addition to this, Curtiss-Wright will be attending Medical Technology Ireland at the Galway Racecourse, 25-26 September 2019, joining over 200 global suppliers showcasing innovative medical technology products and solutions. Finally, they will be exhibiting at Advanced Engineering at the NEC, Birmingham, 30-31 October 2019, the UK's largest annual advanced manufacturing trade show.

If you would like to find out more about Curtiss-Wright and their many specialisms, you can get in contact with the team using the details provided below. For more information and case studies on their services, be sure to head over to the website.

T +44 (0)1635 279621  
[www.cwst.co.uk](http://www.cwst.co.uk)



**TCFM**  
see them on pages.....3



**Dash Dynamics**  
see them on page.....7 & 20



**Unisig**  
see them on pages.....11-14

# Experts in Life Extension of Materials & Critical Components

Curtiss-Wright have a commendable history behind them, having been founded by three of the world's most celebrated aviation pioneers, Orville and Wilbur Wright and Mr. Glenn Curtiss, one of the forerunners of naval aviation. Their companies, the 'Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company' and 'Wright Aeronautical Corporation' merged in 1929 in order to create Curtiss-Wright. Today Curtiss-Wright is one of the world's leading advanced engineering companies, having diversified and branched out into numerous different technologies across multiple sectors, including commercial and industrial, defence, power, metals, aerospace and much more.

At the turn of the 21st century, Curtiss-Wright had grown into a multi-national company, with global sales of over \$2 billion and having acquired almost 60 businesses. Many of these companies still operate under their original name, such as Metal Improvement Company, Bolt's Metallizing, IMR Test Labs, Component Coating and Repair Services and more who now are part of Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies. These



various divisions offer a wide variety of different specialised surface treatments such as thermal spray coatings, solid film lubricants, shot peening technology and much more.

Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies, one of their most well-known and international

subsidiaries, specialises in providing material surface treatment solutions, focuses on enhancing the performance of critical materials and components. As many of their clients are in heavy engineering based industries, critical components are often of vital importance. Not only do they need to be specially designed to precision specifications, but they need to be long lasting and properly maintained too. Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies can offer clients a comprehensive material treatments service that covers silicone, plastic and electronic components, coatings, shot and laser peening, material analysis, testing, repair and maintenance.

Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies can provide mechanical and metallurgical testing services for a range of different materials and components through IMR Test Labs. Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies uses only the most advanced technology and methods in order to conduct fatigue testing, thermal spray coating



analyses, metallurgical and failure analyses, accelerated weathering and corrosion testing, weld testing and much more.

When it comes to engineered coatings, Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies have a wide scope of services, including providing thermal management, corrosion and erosion, and protection and repair of turbine components. Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies can provide protective engineered coatings or metal coatings to protect components from the environment, corrosion, heat, and wear. As they can ensure protection for components of any size or complexity, they have a vast client base made up of those seeking their protective coating services, including the aerospace, oil, gas, automotive and medical industries.



Their range of coating solutions includes thermal spray/HVOF coatings, solid film lubricants, liquid coatings, and parylene conformal coatings. Not only that, but Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies also offer repair and overhaul for gas and steam turbine components, as well as laboratory testing and process verification for: salt spray corrosion testing, U.V testing and development of their own bespoke coating systems such as Everlube®, Microseal, and Flurene Lube-Lok®, sacrificial aluminium coatings, diffusion coatings and pre-treatments.



Metal and material surface solutions are a huge part of why Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies has become such an internationally recognised name. In addition to their famous controlled shot peening process, the company can provide highly effective and controlled Laser Peening for components in turbine engines, aircraft structures, wing skins and more. This specialist process puts exceptionally deep residual compressive stress in certain parts of a component to prevent crack initiation and fatigue. Not only does this allow the component to resist damage from erosion, strike damage, fretting, and corrosion, but it can also better withstand pressure from both low cycle/high stress and high cycle/low stress situations. Better yet, their laser peening ensures quality control, precise application and poses no risk of process contamination.

Preventing the failure of critical components is a huge concern for clients, and is one of the most highly sought after services from Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies. Problems can be caused due to any number of reasons throughout the component design process, whether it's the choice of materials used, incorrect assembly, or damage to the parts caused by bending, rolling or forging. Components of any type can be damaged, such as blade roots, rotating rings and tie wire holes used in Aero-Engines, fasteners and stringers used in Airframes, and torsion bars, gears and keyways, which are used to make Crankshafts and more. Thankfully Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies have a large array of solutions, including but not limited to: C.A.S.E. isotropic superfinishing, Parylene coating, Thermal barrier coatings, Cathodic protection and much more.

If you would like to find out more about Curtiss-Wright Surface Technologies and their many specialised services and solutions, then be sure to get in contact with the company today. Alternatively, you can find out more about the company by visiting the website below, where information, animations case studies and links to their many services can also be found.

T +44 (0)1635 279621  
[www.cwst.co.uk](http://www.cwst.co.uk)



## Multiple new customers with £3 million sales secured



TC Facilities Management (TCFM) has secured multiple new customers for the delivery of Cleaning & Window Cleaning Services in the Wholesale, High Street & Commercial Office sectors across the UK.

The contracts, worth £3 million per annum, will see over 300 colleagues join TCFM up and down the country since the contracts started going live from 1st March, 2019.

The Operations team from TCFM, jointly led by Jason Smith, Head of Operations for Scotland and Cosmin Tecuta, TCFM Contract Director, will deliver cleaning services to over 100 sites for 14 new customers. The contracts have been awarded based on TCFM's proven track record spanning over 55 years, along with their ability to listen to the bespoke needs of each customer towards delivering what is really needed.

As one of the UK's top cleaning services providers the new operating environments will benefit from TCFM's rigorous systems and state-of-the-art technology to help maintain and improve standards in each site along with delivering robust monitoring and management reporting to each customer.

T +44 (0)1737 814016  
info@tcfm.co.uk  
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## TCFM safeguarding Avison Young



Since early January 2019, TC Security Services, part of TC Facilities Management (TCFM), have been providing guarding and mobile patrol services to Avison Young (formerly GVA). The portfolio, covers multiple and diverse locations across London and the South East.

TC Security Services welcomed 20 new colleagues to the business from a number of incumbent suppliers. The contract commenced on 2nd January and client feedback about the mobilisation, led by Patrick O'Sullivan, Operations Manager, is very positive.

Alan Prince, Director, National Strategic FM for Avison Young commented, "We ran a full-blown tender to make sure we appointed the right security specialist to manage this diverse portfolio of properties. Against a wide range of criteria, TC Security Services came out

in front. As a new supplier, there was an added element of risk, but nearly four months after go-live, we're delighted with the decision to appoint them.

In response to the award, Satia Rai, Operations Director of TC Security Services said, "Having been awarded the contract for guarding and mobile patrol services with Avison Young, we committed the resource necessary to ensure the mobilisation was seamless. We've implemented best in class technology that will provide TC Security Services and Avison Young with data and analysis to shape better decision making."

Tony Reed, CEO of TC Facilities Management added, "This award is a great result for the business and demonstrates ongoing growth for TCFM as a whole. We look forward to being Avison Young's partner of choice, adding value and providing the expertise that Avison Young need each day."

Contact  
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www.tcfm.co.uk

## TC Security Services awarded 100% Achilles Audit

Following a rigorous 2-day assessment, TC Facilities Management (TCFM) has once again successfully completed their 'Achilles' annual audit for the fourth consecutive year. The audit saw a score of 100% being awarded in all four key areas that the audit measures: Corporate Social Responsibility, health and safety, environment, and quality.



The two-day visit included an audit of both head office and a client site. The auditor was particularly impressed by:

- The breadth of documentation to evidence the quality management systems in place
- The ongoing commitment to our duty of care of our colleagues by investing in innovative technology
- The design and navigation of the training matrix in use
- The use of the site visit report which captures the four key areas that the audit measures
- Our down-to-earth approach, doing what we say we do in a straightforward and uncomplicated way.

At the site audit, the auditor commented about the appearance, attitude and knowledge of security officers to ensure the job they do is done to the very best of their ability.

This accreditation follows the recent news that TCFM achieved a clean sweep in passing three external management systems audits including the new ISO 45001:2018 standard.

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## TCFM and BHF partnership shortlisted for prestigious Cleaning Award

TC Facilities Management (TCFM) has reached the finalist stages of the Corporate Social Responsibility category, CSSA Awards 2019.

This is for their work with the British Heart Foundation; the charity that conducts ground-breaking research in to heart and circulatory diseases and their causes.

The winners will be announced at an invitation only lunch event next month. This took place at the Cleaning Show on

Wednesday 20th March, 2019 in London.

The CSSA awards recognise and reward excellence and effectiveness across many sectors of the UK Contract Cleaning Industry. They acknowledge everything that shines within the UK cleaning sector. TCFM's approach has helped the British Heart Foundation raise funds for their life-saving research. This has been achieved by the services they provided in their Furniture and Electrical stores and being only a

hair-breath's away from achieving their annual fundraising challenge of £5K. This has taken just over 4 months, since the National Charity agreement started in September.

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www.tcfm.co.uk



## Celebrations with a lot of heart

We're all celebrating smashing the TCFM £5K challenge, after just 5 1/2 months of the charity partnership going live. This has been achieved through a number of activities, but most notably bagging up unwanted toys, clothes, CDs, books, DVDs and a whole host of other household items that are then sold in the BHF charity shops across the country.

Everyone has tried to get on board to help our charity partner, the British Heart Foundation. They conduct ground-breaking research in to heart and circulatory diseases and their causes.

The remainder of the year will see colleagues at TCFM continue with the BHF's Bag it! Beat It! campaign along with other activities that are being

planned on a more local basis.

BHF were selected by TCFM as a way of providing more than just their specialist services to the charity's network of Furniture and Electrical stores where we professionally clean every item of donated soft furnishing.

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## Donations are in the bag for British Heart Foundation

TC Facilities Management (TCFM) have created a national charity partnership to help the British Heart Foundation achieve its aim of beating heartbreak forever. The partnership commenced 6 weeks ago and has set its sights on raising £5K of funds for the charity that conducts ground-breaking research in to heart and circulatory diseases and their causes.

Heart and circulatory diseases kill 1 in 4 people in the UK, causing heartbreak in every street. Fiona Ellingham,

Marketing Manager, TCFM has had a number of family members affected by heart conditions including a niece who required a heart transplant aged just 5 and a brother who thanks to a special pacemaker, his heart is able to maintain a stable rhythm to keep him alive.

"Speaking with other colleagues at TCFM, it became very apparent that I was not alone in having family members affected and so the partnership was born. "At the moment, our colleagues are busy having clear outs

at home and filling bags with unwanted items that can be sold in the BHF stores across the country. In the last 6 weeks colleagues from all over the country have collected more than 50 of the 300 (minimum) bags of items we're aiming for.

"We have a number of other activities planned through the year that will not only raise funds for BHF but will also train people in how to do CPR, something which saved my brother's life over 2 years ago."

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www.tcfm.co.uk

TC Facilities Management  
£5K CHALLENGE

IN SUPPORT OF THE



# MVHR is simple with Posi-Joist

The specification of MVHR systems is becoming increasingly common as the buildings become ever more airtight.

MiTek's Posi-Joist floor and rafter system provides the ideal solution to the issue of routing the large ducting and service runs associated with these systems through the floor zone.

Posi-Joists are made up of parallel timber flanges plated together with Posi-Stud steel webs, to form a lightweight yet super strong joist capable of

spanning further than other timber products. The metal web construction creates a large service void for ducting and other services to easily run through, with no need for cutting or drilling of joists. There is no need for suspended ceilings as the services are hidden in the floor zone, maximising building space and adding value.

Posi-Joist is manufactured offsite in factory controlled conditions by licensed MiTek fabricators all over the country, so you are never far from a quality supplier.

To find out more and to find a manufacturer visit [www.mitek.co.uk/products/posi-joist](http://www.mitek.co.uk/products/posi-joist) or get in touch at: [info@mittek.co.uk](mailto:info@mittek.co.uk)



# Europe's Leading Manufacturer of Odour Control and Biogas Cleaning Units

Anua Clean Air is one of the UK's leading suppliers of odour control and biogas cleaning units. Originally established in 1990, the business was recently taken over in 2015 by Ian Phillips, whom partnered with long term distributor Air Clean Srl. As a result of this takeover, the company is now world-renowned as a leading international supplier of patented clean air bio-technologies.

Specialising in the provision and maintenance of proven, high performing, clean, biological air filtration technologies, Anua Clean Air are accredited for providing first class biological air filtration technology with the lowest life cycle cost. Concentrating in odour control for waste water treatment, solid waste, VOC and food industry treatment plants, Anua Clean Air ensure that with every odour control/gas cleaning unit, each client is getting the most out of their air-filtration technologies.

One highly sought-after product is the Mónashell bio-filtration system, a popular alternative to chemical scrubbing and carbon adsorption. Recognised for its optimal odour performance, this cost-effective cleaning unit generates a 67% footprint reduction and can even treat high and variable concentrations of numerous organic sulphides. All of the bio-filtration systems which Anua Clean Air manufacture and install, including Mónafil and CrumRubber models have patented proven systems.

As Europe's leading odour cleaning



company, Anua can be found at numerous trade shows throughout the year, such as RWM in the UK, Pollutec in Paris and IFAT in Germany. If you would like to get in contact with Anua Clean Air to find out how their specialists air bio-technologies can benefit you, or if you would like to receive a free quote, then don't hesitate to pick up the phone today. More information can also be found by visiting the website below:

Contact  
T +44 (0)1450 420017  
[www.anuacleanair.co.uk](http://www.anuacleanair.co.uk)



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## Hillside culverts cleared to reduce flood threat

The threat of flooding faced by a community in a Welsh mountain valley is being greatly reduced by a culvert clearance programme carried out by Lanes Group plc.

The drainage specialist has been commissioned by the county borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf to carry out the surface water drain and culvert cleaning work in and around Cwmbach, near Aberdare.

Debris washed down the mountainside and into the culverts during periods of heavy rain and snow melt had greatly reduced the capacity of the culverts, increasing the risk of flash flooding.



Drainage engineers from the Lanes Cardiff depot have worked closely with the county borough's own asset maintenance teams to remove and dispose of many tonnes of silt, stones and large boulders.

Specialist drainage vehicles have been playing a key role in

ensuring the culvert cleaning work can be carried out as quickly, safely and sustainably as possible.

The three-month programme, coordinated by the county borough, has resulted in the systematic cleaning of drains and culverts ranging from 100mm to 1,200mm in diameter.

Lanes has deployed a recycler jet vac tanker as well as a standard jet vac machine to carry out the water jetting and vacuumation work.

Contact  
T 0800 526488  
sales@lanesgroup.co.uk  
[www.lanesfordrains.co.uk](http://www.lanesfordrains.co.uk)

## World leading printing and labelling technologies

Focus Labels specialise in the design and manufacturing of narrow web presses for use in the label and packaging printing industry. Since their establishment in 1981, the company has been pushing the envelope of design and manufacturing, first making a name for themselves with the launch of their innovative Textile printing machines for apparel labels.

Today, Focus Labels stands as one of the industry's leading manufacturers of Flexographic, Textile label and Hybrid Digital



inkjet presses, with a vast client base that stretches around the world. In fact, up to 70% of their products are still designed and built for global export across the textile, self-adhesive labels, digital, packaging, and even food and drink industries.

Focus Labels champion servo and digital inkjet technology

within their modular systems, allowing users to improve their press-time management and productivity, reducing waste and increasing efficiencies. Their label printing machines are also designed to be user friendly, with a wide range of automated systems that can combine both analogue & digital hybrid printing technologies. Purely British made, their in-house design team and engineers develop customised machines made specific to client needs.

T +44 (0)1949 836223  
[www.focuslabel.com](http://www.focuslabel.com)

# Digital cutters made in Switzerland

The Zünd name is synonymous with the words performance, reliability and quality. Established in 1993, Zünd UK Ltd has rapidly become one of

the industry leaders in the supply and service of precision cutting systems. Situated to the North of London and close to the M1/M25 motorway

network is Zünd UK Ltd.'s sales and service centre offering a full pre and after-sales service and a state-of-the-art demonstration suite complete with

a range of new G3 cutters, cutting table options and finishing solutions. Factory-trained technicians and a comprehensive spares service at Zünd UK ensure that all systems are maintained to the highest level and with a fast response by UK-based engineers.

Zünd UK Ltd offers finishing solutions into a wide range of different markets such as graphics, sign and display, textile, aviation, motor sport, packaging and retail.

Zünd's modular tool and material-handling design means that systems can easily be tailored for specific cutting requirements. Thanks to their modular design, G3 cutters can adapt to ever-changing needs, and the innovative technology and superior manufacturing guarantee reliability and low maintenance costs.

The raw materials used in the composites industry – such as carbon or glass fibre, semi-finished products such as prepreg or thermoplastic sheets, honeycomb, foamcore and more – can all be cut on a single, multi-functional Zünd cutting system.

Zünd cutting systems are systematically geared towards fully-automated production, but they allow for gradual implementation with a wide array of semi-automated options. The primary goal is always to achieve more throughput in less time.

For further information, please visit:  
[www.zund.com](http://www.zund.com)  
You can also follow Zünd UK Ltd on Twitter (@ZUNDUK); on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ZundUKLtd>); and on LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/zund-plotting-systems-uk-ltd>)



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## Large-diameter pipe lining leads way to wildlife revival



Drainage specialist Lanes Group plc has used fold-and-install large-diameter lining technology to rehabilitate a pipe that will play a crucial role in creating Europe's largest man-made nature reserve.

It has deployed a pillow packer to install a series of point repairs inside a 1,220mm diameter inlet pipe supplying water to an area of land being turned into the Wallasea Island Wild Coast.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, which manages the site on the Thames Estuary in Essex, has a 20-year project to turn farmland into a wildlife-rich saltmarsh twice the size of the City of London.

Rehabilitating the pipe was an important step to allow tidal water from the River Roach to flow into a lagoon, one of a number being created to transform 670 hectares of farmland.

Main contractor Bam Nuttall commissioned Lanes Group's East London depot to line the pipe, using a novel approach that ensured the project could be completed with minimal disruption to wildlife and least cost.

The Lanes team used a pillow packer to install five point repairs, also known as patch liners, to rectify defects and strengthen the pipe so it can withstand high water flow rates, especially during high tides.

The pillow packer was lighter and easier to handle than a conventional liner packer. It could be folded to a width of 450mm and installed without an entry manhole having to be dismantled and rebuilt.

Once inside, along with each liner, the specialist packer was inflated using compressed air, pushing the resin-impregnated glass reinforced plastic (GRP) liner against the pipe. The liner could then be left to cure in ambient temperature before the packer was removed.

The Lanes East London depot has invested in two pillow packers, each capable of being used to line circular, egg-shaped or ovoid pipes with diameters of 600mm to 1,300mm. The packers are available for deployment across the UK.

Lanes East London Regional Manager, Mark Scott oversaw the installation carried out by the depot's in-house lining team.

Contact  
T 0800 526488  
[www.lanesfordrains.co.uk](http://www.lanesfordrains.co.uk)

## HL Plant: Building site safety in Scotland

HL Plant was founded in 1991 and specialises in safety crash deck systems. The company provides the G-Deck system, which can be used as a trestle system, tower system and a crash deck system.

The G-Deck system is the strongest and most versatile crash deck currently available on the market. It can hold up to 600kg per metre square and can go from heights of 0.5 metres to 3.6 metres. The G-Deck is lightweight and consists of flat panels either one metre square or half a metre square, which sits on top of a firm, scaffold-like base, creating a stable 'floor' inside the building for workers.

The newest version of the system is G-Deck Lite. This

is specifically for use where the artificial floor is not going to be subject to heavy loads. It can go from 1 to 3 metres high and take up to 200kg per metre.

Lloyd Hutchison, Managing Director of HL Plant, said, "Over the last couple of years, we have seen a rapidly increasing demand for this safety system. There are other systems on the market but this is the best in our view. It is a very lightweight and easy to use and is having a lot of success with the builders."

Contact  
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## Ammonia filtration key to efficient antibiotics production

Amazon Filters has installed a combination SupaPore FPW/SupaPore VPBA filtration system at a leading antibiotics manufacturer's fermentation plant enabling them to reduce production downtime resulting in significant cost savings.

Efficient antibiotic production requires the use of high-quality ammonia to adjust the pH of the fermentation process. Yet, the antibiotics manufacturer was receiving batches of ammonia of varying quality, which required sterile filtering before use. Despite this precaution, the manufacturer had to replace blocked final membrane filters on a daily basis resulting in unacceptable levels of production downtime and the high costs of replacement filters.

After studying the production process, Amazon Filters recommended using a SupaPore FPW pre-filter to protect the final membrane filter

the SupaPore VPBA replacing the customer's existing final filter, with a micron rating of 0.2µm. This membrane filter is specifically designed to meet the demands of pharmaceutical producers requiring efficient and reliable microbiological sterilisation and bioburden control - essential factors in antibiotic production.

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## New Concept for an Absolute Safe Conveyor Technology

The American Administration for Occupation, Safety and Health (OSHA) reported 25 serious accidents involving roller and belt conveyors in 2017, of which two were fatal. Certainly, there are different safety regulations for safety in all countries. But even if a life roller conveyor driven by round belts or poly-V belts or other drives is provided with a safeguard so as not to interfere with your finger from the outside, there is no protection from below. As reported here:

A young woman with natural frizzy hair carries some small objects and passes along a driven roller conveyor. Suddenly, something falls down and rolls under the driven roller track. She bends down under the conveyor in order to pick it up from the rear part. Then, at that moment, her frizzy hair engages from below into the drive mechanism. Her head is pulled up and completely torn off with the scalp. A horrible sight! But this cannot happen anymore with the new avancon ZPC-Conveyor system.

This secure and progressive conveyor system is for the internal transport of boxes, trays, work carriers, luggage, packages, bags, just of about 80% of all goods which have to be transported daily, million times, in the internal logistics in postal distribution and e-commerce companies

worldwide. It offers a significant improvement over all other unit handling conveyors systems. - Here, not only new rollers were developed, not just a new profile system or a different drive system, not only an intelligent electronic control system, no! - This is really a remarkable futuristic, self-contained concept.

This avant-garde "ZPC" system (Zone Powered Conveyor), is strict constructed into zones and reduces energy up to 84 %. It is worldwide patented as a new platform and creates a unique experience. Everything is installed inside: the complete drive system via toothed belts or "2-V-belt" in curves. The control system based on the field bus "ASinterface" is able to interact with each higher bus or IT infrastructure.

T +41 (0)91 222 1010



## The UK's Domed Badge Specialists

Based in Lancashire, Dash Dynamics manufactures resin domed badges for a broad range of industries, with a particular focus on the automotive sector.

Their high quality badges are used in an extensive range of applications. Operating mainly in the UK but with many overseas customers too, Dash Dynamics provides custom-made solutions, manufacturing mainly domed badges, 3D and Acrylic 4D number plate letters and custom keyrings.

Providing in-house design services, Dash Dynamics can usually offer a turnaround of under one week, depending on the badge design, and every single product is made bespoke for the client.

Dash Dynamics offers control panel graphics, badges, safety badges, keyrings and branding to all sectors. All of their auto-badges are regulated to automotive specifications, and customers can be assured that the finished product will not go cloudy or fade, and will be scratch resistant.

One of Dash Dynamics' core products is their 3D Resin Domed and 4D Acrylic Car Number Plate digits, used in the production of High End Number Plates. Dash Dynamics wanted to make the job

of manufacturing surface mounted number plates easier for companies involved in this type of production. To do this they spent several weeks developing a specialised Jig System to ensure the dealer had the tools to accurately and easily place the digits to the specifications laid out by the DVLA.

For an insight on how this works head to their website [www.dashdynamics.co.uk](http://www.dashdynamics.co.uk) All their Digits are available ex-stock with a normal stock holding of around 75,000 to draw from instantly.

T +44 (0)1995 606158  
info@dashdynamics.co.uk  
www.dashdynamics.co.uk



## Hillside culverts cleared to reduce flood threat



The threat of flooding faced by a community in a Welsh mountain valley is being greatly reduced by a culvert clearance programme carried out by Lanes Group plc.

The drainage specialist has been commissioned by the county borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf to carry out the

surface water drain and culvert cleaning work in and around Cwmbach, near Aberdare.

Debris washed down the mountainside and into the culverts during periods of heavy rain and snow melt had greatly reduced the capacity of the culverts, increasing the risk of flash flooding. Drainage engineers from the Lanes Cardiff depot have worked closely with the county borough's own asset maintenance teams to remove and dispose of many tonnes of silt, stones and large boulders.

Specialist drainage vehicles have been playing a key

role in ensuring the culvert cleaning work can be carried out as quickly, safely and sustainably as possible.

The three-month programme, coordinated by the county borough, has resulted in the systematic cleaning of drains and culverts ranging from 100mm to 1,200mm in diameter. Lanes has deployed a recycler jet vac tanker as well as a standard jet vac machine to carry out the water jetting and vacuumation work.

Contact  
T 0800 526488  
sales@lanesgroup.co.uk  
www.lanesfordrains.co.uk

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## The UK's Domed Badge Specialists

Established 15 years ago, Dash Dynamics is a small yet efficient company that is constantly growing due to its excellent services. Based in Lancashire, Dash Dynamics manufactures resin domed badges for a broad range of industries, with a particular focus on the automotive sector. David Wilkinson purchased Dash Dynamic 5 years ago, inspired to bring new life to the business David has led the company to achieve 10% growth year on year since his inception.

Its high quality badges are used in an extensive range of applications. Operating mainly in the UK but with many overseas customers as well, Dash Dynamics provides custom-made solutions, manufacturing mainly domed badges, 3D and Acrylic 4D number plate letters and custom keyrings.

Providing in-house design services,



Dash Dynamics can usually offer a turnaround of under one week, depending on the badge design. The specialist prides itself on efficiency, once producing 12,000 badges in two days. With such quick service, customers are always delighted with what they receive and often badges can be made the same day ready for dispatch the following.

Indeed, this efficient service is one of Dash Dynamics' main advantages, as well as the ability to provide bespoke products; the company doesn't carry any badges in stock, every single product is different and made bespoke for the client. Possessing an unrivalled willingness to get the job done with services that are built upon speed and accuracy, Dash Dynamics can be trusted to complete

every order.

Dash Dynamics offers control panel graphics, badges, safety badges, keyrings and branding to every sector. All of its auto-badges are regulated to automotive specifications, and customers can be assured that the finished product will not go cloudy or fade, and will be scratch resistant.

One of Dash Dynamics' core products is its 3D Resin Domed and 4D Acrylic Car Number Plate digits, used in the production of High End Number Plates. Dash Dynamics wanted to make the job of manufacturing surface mounted number plates easier for companies involved in this type of production. To do this the company spent several weeks developing a specialised Jig System to ensure the dealer had the tools to accurately and easily place the digits to the specifications laid out by the DVLA. All their Digits are available ex-stock with a normal stock holding of around 75,000 to draw from instantly.

For more information, head to the website for an insight on how its innovative Jig System works, or get in touch using the contact details below.

T +44 (0)1995 606158  
info@dashdynamics.co.uk  
www.dashdynamics.co.uk

# Licence Bureau checks your drivers

Licence Bureau is the UK's number one supplier of Driver Licence validation services. The company uses state of the art, award winning IT systems to gather information from the DVLA (Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency), which saves the customer from having to invest valuable time into assessing work related road safety risks when managing their duty of care over employees who drive on company business.

Licence Bureau was established in 2003 by a team of IT experts and ex-Police Officers, and its services are used by 23% of the FTSE-100 and thousands of smaller organisations and companies looking to minimise cost, logistical complexity and risk often associated with managing drivers and fleets.

Licence Bureau's process starts with an Employee Audit which

identifies which employees drive on company business. Once identified and upon request, drivers submit their driving licence details via e-declaration or D906 Fair Processing Declaration. Subsequently, the submitted details are checked at the DVLA, after which and upon success, permits can be allocated to the appropriate drivers.

Grey Fleet checks are conducted on vehicles that are owned by employees and used for business purposes in order to confirm road-worthy status, with a current MOT and Road Fund Licence. Risk assessments of drivers' knowledge, attitude and skills are carried out, and where necessary the appropriate training is allocated.

Licence Bureau takes the hassle out of what can otherwise be a painstakingly time consuming aspect of business management.

With comprehensive and reliable systems and staff, as well as the trustworthiness of its close working relationship with the DVLA, the company is immeasurably useful for any business that regularly uses vehicles throughout its practice.

For more information on Licence Bureau, the services it provides and the ways in which it can help your business, get in touch via the details below or visit the company website.

T 01442 430980  
sales@licencebureau.co.uk  
www.licencebureau.co.uk



## High quality & cost-effective Vibration & Product Test Solutions

Best Practice is proud to announce that CentraTEQ has been chosen to receive our **Commitment to Excellence Award**. CentraTEQ - Central Testing Equipment - was established with the purpose of offering something new to the market. Using their extensive industry experience, they provide complete solutions for the vibration test and product test fields, no matter the requirements or budget of their client.

CentraTEQ boasts the flexibility to put together solutions from multiple suppliers, in order to ensure the most efficient and cost-effective package for their clients, as well as being the sole UK distributor of ETS Solutions Electrodynamic vibration shakers. Indeed, CentraTEQ can put together a solution to meet the lightest of budgets, without compromising on quality.

Certainly, in times of uncertainty and restraint, this flexibility is an essential quality. In addition to this, they can offer quality new equipment which is fully supported in the UK for spares and repair, along with having access to a range of second user solutions which can be mixed with new amplifiers and other equipment. CentraTEQ also provides a range of vibration controller solutions from low cost low channel to high channel, as well as offering a full range of accessories and services. Indeed, CentraTEQ's solutions are all-encompassing, designed to meet their clients' actual budget and individual requirements.

Their high quality products and solutions include: vibration shaker solutions with electrodynamic shakers in an array of sizes; amplifiers to replace or upgrade an existing amplifier in order to improve shaker performance; vibration controllers with all control modes; slip tables; head expanders, fixture design and build; package and shock test; sensors including accelerometers, force, torque, sound, displacement, velocity, and pressure; and high speed contact measurement for electrical testing during environmental testing. What's more, CentraTEQ boasts exceptional services for their clients, including full installation, repairs, rewinds and general maintenance.

If you would like to find out more information on how CentraTEQ can help your vibration test and product test requirements, head to their website or get in touch using the contact details below.

T +44 (0)121 706 2319  
info@centrateq.com  
www.centrateq.com



## UK leading Bubble Badges

Dash Dynamics was set up by David Wilkinson, based in Preston, and specialising in the manufacture of resin domed badges, more commonly known as bubble badges. These kinds of badges can be seen everywhere around us, as logos on cars or throughout schools, hospitals and even within sports. Dash Dynamics' vast client base stretches around the world, with their clients as far as Europe, the US and even down in Australia.

These domed badges are incredibly resilient and long lasting, and they are the perfect way to show off your logo and branding. They are made with adhesive vinyl and polyurethane resin, and all badges are made to be scratch resistant, heat resistant and even UV stable. They can also be made in any shape, size and colour, matching each client's individual flair and brand.

Domed resin badges like these are in high demand by companies of all types, however manufacturers are few and far between. We spoke to David himself who explained, "Dash Dynamics are one of just 6 professional bubble badge manufacturers in the UK. We have managed to set ourselves apart thanks to our very fast turnarounds and ability to produce small batch volumes of badges. In addition, we are also constantly investing in the latest technology and machinery and are currently organising new cutters, printers and doming machines."



T +44 (0)1995 606158  
info@dashdynamics.co.uk  
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Tel: 01423 209010 | email: [enquires@cabletrail.com](mailto:enquires@cabletrail.com)

**DASH**  
DYNAMICS

The UK's domed badge specialist



We supply a wide range of domed badges for all industries which can be customised to include your own design, logo and details. We can print directly from your supplied vector artwork or hi-res PDF's. For a cost-effective and professional way to brand and personalise your products for your market or application contact us by phone or email with your requirements.

Here at Dash Dynamics, unlike many of our competitors, we specialise in small production runs. So if you just need a series of machine panels for a new prototype or low production run, then simply send us your artwork and we'll get on with it.



Machine Safety/Operating instructions

Control Panel Graphics

Quality Manufacturing Branding

[www.dashdynamics.co.uk](http://www.dashdynamics.co.uk)

01995 606158 info@dashdynamics.co.uk



# Piezo actuators – the driving force for additive manufacturing

Additive manufacturing is no longer simply a niche technique for rapid prototyping, and is establishing itself in industrial production. Although injection moulding is still the method of choice for producing large volumes of plastic components, additive manufacturing is well suited to creating individual parts or small batches. It is being used across an increasingly diverse range of sectors – from automotive and consumer goods to medical technologies – as product lifecycles become shorter, model variations increase and the demand for individuality grows.

ARBURG GmbH and Co KG, a machine construction and engineering company in Lossburg, Germany, has developed a new process for additive manufacturing called ARBURG Plastic Freeforming (APF). This novel technique uses a PICMA® piezo actuator from Physik Instrumente (PI), a global leader in precision positioning technology.

As with other additive manufacturing techniques, APF makes it possible to inexpensively produce a functional



component layer-by-layer from a 3D model dataset. This technology can be used to integrate complex functions into a component, as well as producing more intricate geometries that cannot be achieved using conventional injection moulding. Droplet generation and discharge is central to the process, requiring

synchronised motion between the printhead and other moving parts. Martin Neff, Group Manager for Sales and Freeform Plastics Technology at ARBURG, explained: "Our patented nozzle shutter – with high-frequency piezo technology – enables a fast opening and motion, generating around 200 droplets per second at a pressure of 500 bar. We decided to use a PICMA actuator for clocking the nozzle shutter because it provides the necessary accuracy and an excellent dynamic range of 90 µm. The discharge unit on our platform currently operates between 60 and 200 Hz, and we still have capacity in reserve."

Dr Cliff Jolliffe, Head of Segment Marketing for Automation at PI, commented: "The PICMA's microsecond response time is exceptionally fast, and no other valve technology offers similar speed in a comparable size. I'm delighted that our technology is supporting the future of additive manufacturing."

Contact [www.physikinstrumente.co.uk/en](http://www.physikinstrumente.co.uk/en)

# Industry leading emergency evacuation equipment

Established in Swindon in 2005, Spectrum Healthcare (UK) Ltd supplies high quality evacuation equipment and moving and handling aids to a wide range of establishments.

Now based in Northampton, Spectrum Healthcare has distributors for their products located around the world. Specialising in the supply of Emergency Evacuation Equipment, Spectrum Healthcare's products are designed to enable any person living with some form of disability to be aided to safety in the event of a fire or similar emergency.



Their evacuation range includes fire escape chairs and horizontal pulling devices. As innovators in the sourcing of alternative evacuation equipment from Australia, Spectrum Healthcare introduced the well-known AlbacMat and ResQmat into the UK market.

One particular advantage of Spectrum Healthcare's range is that the majority is manufactured onsite. This means they can be adapted to suit individual premises and needs to ensure everybody can be aided to safety, no matter their age or disability.

In addition, Spectrum Healthcare offers product demonstrations and training across the UK. Michelle Williams, Marketing Manager, said "We believe it's essential that our customers have



the right piece of equipment for the users and environment, and that all potential operators are fully trained and confident in its correct use to ensure the safe and secure movement of the passenger."

Recently, Spectrum Healthcare added a revolutionary evacuation management system which gives users real time information about a building's evacuation progress. Known as TagEvac, the system consists of magnetic tag stations, which are placed within specific zones, and a central tag control board.

In an emergency, each zone is visually checked by an appointed fire warden. When clear, a TAG is taken from the zone's 'TAG Station', confirming the zone has been checked, and is taken to the central control board. Simply put, whether you are inside or outside of the building, staff and emergency services have a reliable overview of the situation. As a testament to its quality, TagEvac is the trusted solution for organisations such as Coca-Cola, Lloyds of London and the National Archives.

T 01793 762928 [www.spectrumhealthcare.co.uk](http://www.spectrumhealthcare.co.uk)



## Emergency Evacuation Tracking - Made Simple.



TagEvac is the simple, fast and safe way to manage the evacuation of your building.

Using intuitive information panels, staff and emergency services can tell in an instant which areas are cleared.

Utilising the recognised 'sweep' method of evacuation, TagEvac eliminates the need for time consuming role calls, speeds up your reporting times and reduces downtime during fire drills. TagEvac® takes minutes to understand and lets you evacuate your site quickly, thoroughly and with certainty.....

That's why it's the trusted solution for Industry leaders such as Lloyds of London, Coca-Cola, & The National Archives.



### Key Benefits:

- Trusted and proven management solution for large organisations
- Gives clear, progress information in 'real time'
- Deliberately low-tech, to avoid 'system failure' in an emergency due to human error
- Helps reduce fire drill downtime
- Can be used in single buildings sites or across multiple sites
- Provides clarity to emergency plans and planning
- Helps simplify Fire Warden Training
- Can be adapted to changing needs
- Helps achieve best practice
- Easy to install
- No ongoing maintenance cost
- The ideal solution for use in large buildings or across multiple sites

For more information or to discuss specific needs contact:

Spectrum Healthcare (UK) Ltd

E: [info@spectrumhealthcare.co.uk](mailto:info@spectrumhealthcare.co.uk)

T: 01793 762928

W: [www.spectrumhealthcare.co.uk](http://www.spectrumhealthcare.co.uk)



## World leading printing & labelling technologies

Focus Labels specialise in the design and manufacturing of narrow web presses for use in



the label and packaging printing industry. Since their establishment in 1981, the company has been pushing the envelope of design and manufacturing, first making a name for themselves with the launch of their innovative Textile printing machines for apparel labels.

Today, Focus Labels stands as one of the industry's leading manufacturers of Flexographic, Textile label and Hybrid Digital inkjet presses, with a vast client base that stretches around the world. In fact, up to 70% of their products are still designed and built for global export across the textile, self-adhesive labels, digital, packaging, and even food and drink industries.

Focus Labels champion servo and digital inkjet technology within their modular systems, allowing users to improve their press-time management and productivity, reducing waste and increasing efficiencies. Their label printing machines are also designed to be user friendly, with a wide range of automated systems that can combine both analogue & digital hybrid printing technologies. Purely British made, their in-house design team and engineers develop customised machines made specific to client needs.

T +44 (0)1949 836223 [www.focuslabel.com](http://www.focuslabel.com)

# SSI Schaefer showcases warehouse efficiency

At the recent IntraLogisteX exhibition in Coventry, SSI Schaefer showcased two of their innovative solutions designed for picking and storage applications as well as improving material flow. The LOGIMAT® Vertical Lift Module is a small parts storage and picking solution in one system: it is a space-saving alternative in which ergonomics, safety, and cost-effectiveness are the focus. The lift module can be used in any

industry and provides targeted, efficient support for your internal processes.

Lift modules are the ideal solution wherever optimum utilisation of the available storage height is a priority. Thanks to its compact design, the LOGIMAT® fits into almost any space and works according to the convenient goods-to-person principle. Compared to conventional static storage systems,

the LOGIMAT® only requires one tenth of the storage space.

The WEASEL automated guided vehicle (AGV) masters almost all transport tasks up to 35kg, which ensures optimum material flow. Your goods will reach their destination safely and barrier-free, all with low purchasing and operating costs as well as a rapid return on investment.

SSI Schaefer has implemented

a fleet of WEASEL AGVs for the fashion logistics service provider NextLevel Logistik® GmbH, using the machines in the picking environment of a hanging goods warehouse. For this application, the structures were fitted with special fixtures for transporting the garments.

T +44 (0)1264 386600  
solutions@ssi-schaefer.com  
www.ssi-schaefer.com/en-gb



## SSI Schaefer Storage Facility holds 150 years of history



As a Legal Deposit Library since 1710, Cambridge University Library has been entitled to claim a copy of every book published in the UK and Ireland for more than 300 years. Today, the University Library collections encompass around nine million books, manuscripts and other physical items. So what happens when the University Library runs out of space to store them all?

Having recently designed and installed a similar storage solution, SSI Schaefer provided in-depth technical knowledge and design expertise to ensure the required state-of-the-art facility would not only house their important collection in a secure and controlled environment but also provide sufficient storage as it expands over the coming years.

The SSI Schaefer storage solution involved the construction of 24 aisles of high bay narrow aisle shelving with each aisle being 38 m long with shelving 11m high, providing an overall storage area at the facility of 87,000m<sup>2</sup> which offers superb storage density.

Over 68,000 dividing shelves were fitted with storage trays located on the shelves 2 or 3 trays deep, providing over 100,000 locations. In addition SSI supplied 25 high density drawer cabinets providing 600 drawers to store large format maps and documents, located within the shelving at ground level.

Contact  
[www.ssi-schaefer.com/en-gb](http://www.ssi-schaefer.com/en-gb)



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# Deep hole drilling experts set industry standards

Best Practice is proud to feature UNISIG for our [Best of Europe profile](#), for being a world-leading provider of complete deep hole drilling systems. For nearly 40 years, UNISIG has offered tools, automation systems and machines for any deep hole drilling purpose, remaining at the forefront of their industry and constantly developing their products to provide the highest quality solutions.

As one of the largest producers of deep hole drilling machines, UNISIG's customers range from small job shops all the way to large OEMs that need to drill millions of holes and the company is dedicated to maintaining its industry-leading services. "UNISIG is building heavier, more rigid machines," explained Philipp Steimle, Managing Director. "These are capable of drilling the toughest high-alloy steels, not just once but day in day out, for major players in the oil field and aerospace industry. We are heavily focused on improving deep hole machining as a whole, by spending around €2.8



driving constant improvement and benefiting the entire industry.

Offering a full range of machines, UNISIG has standard models which can drill holes of less than 1 mm



the Tech Centre for engineering and gundrilling machine assembly."

Offering unparalleled technical expertise, UNISIG offers remote and on-site services in order to help maximise the value of the investments their customers have made in their equipment. Indeed, these machines can be installed and supported anywhere in the world, thanks to UNISIG's global network. What's more, when a standard machine isn't the most appropriate solution for a customer, UNISIG is able to engineer a custom solution to better meet their needs, while maintaining the same standards of performance and service found in their standard machines.



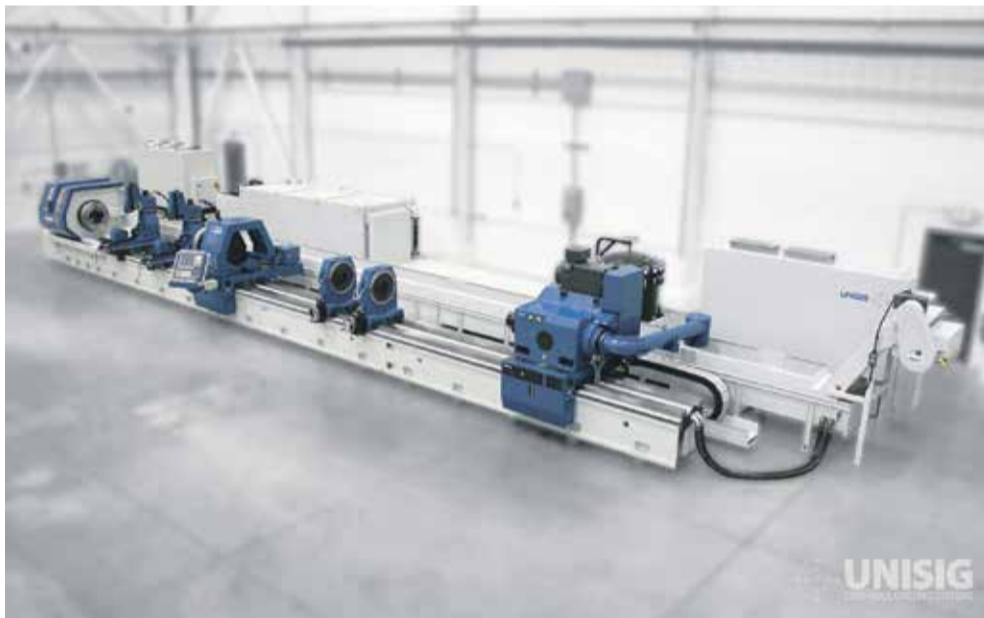
capacity and full support for indexable gundrill tools, as well as BTA tools in some models, which allow mould manufacturers to literally cut their production times in half.

"We are currently upgrading our UNI and UNE series of gundrilling machines, which are mainly used in industrial environments, contract manufacturing shops and the medical field. Simplifying integration of automatic loading and versatility will reduce cost and lead times significantly. What's more, UNISIG has just invested in a 3,100m<sup>2</sup> climate controlled extension of our headquarters in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, USA, in order to house

As a supplement to this global presence, UNISIG attends over 15 shows every year to raise awareness of their products and services. "The most important show this year will be the EMO show in Hannover, where we will show a robot loaded gundrilling machine on our booth."

As well as being present at numerous trade shows, UNISIG also has a website where you can find out more information about their full range of machines and technical services. Alternatively, get in touch using the contact details below.

**Contact**  
T +49 (0)7125 9687590  
[info@unisig.de](mailto:info@unisig.de)  
[www.unisig.com](http://www.unisig.com)



million in research and development every year."

Indeed, UNISIG possesses a strong understanding of the deep hole drilling process, drilling tools, and their applications, gaining years of experience from solving real problems for customers and learning what they need from the machines they use. UNISIG then applies this knowledge to its systems, not just reaching performance standards for deep hole drilling machines, but setting them,

diameter in titanium medical components, while on the other end of the spectrum they can build machines that drill holes which are 500 mm in diameter and over 10 m deep in huge high strength forgings.

Philipp also told us about some exciting recent developments for UNISIG. "We have just added another five models to the USC-M series deep hole drilling and milling centres for the mold industry. These have a substantially stronger milling





# UNISIG

## UNISIG TAKES MOLDMAKERS FURTHER

Increase your mold manufacturing versatility using the power of gun-drilling with the leaders in deep hole drilling, UNISIG. Offering complete solutions for everything from simple to complex mold components, UNISIG machines help moldmakers improve efficiency, throughput and precision with outstanding part-processing versatility at an exceptional value.

TAKE YOUR MOLDBAKING OPERATIONS  
FURTHER WITH UNISIG TODAY.

Find out more at [www.UNISIG.com](http://www.UNISIG.com)



# Drilling deep to success

UNISIG is the world's leading supplier of the complete deep hole drilling system, offering machines, tools and automation systems whilst working closely with each and every customer to ensure that their drilling project requirements are met. A complete dedication to support and customer satisfaction helps stand UNISIG out as the number one supplier worldwide.

Founded in 1981 by Swiss Industrial Group (SIG) and the US company United Technical, UNISIG provided deep hole drilling equipment technologies to the US market.

A company called Entrust (established in 1973 by John Korosec) acquired the UNISIG brand in 1995 as a product division of Entrust and this coupling helped UNISIG redefine performance expectations in the deep hole drilling market, worldwide. Ever since this merger, UNISIG has dominated the market with its industry leading technologies and continues to radically reduce lead times on projects through its innovations and expertise. I had chance to interview Philipp Steimle, Managing Director of UNISIG's European Sales branch to find out more about the company.

"UNISIG deep hole drilling systems consists of machines, durable tooling and automation, and are designed to meet the highest performance standards possible. Products are engineered and manufactured in the USA using metric hardware,



and include the integration of premium components such as FAG, INA, Parker, Rexroth, Rohm, Schunk, SKF, Wittenstein Alpha and ZF. Products are designed following all applicable ISO, DIN and IEC standard, and are exported worldwide."

UNISIG supplies their products and services to a wide variety of clientele including automotive, defence, oil and gas, energy, aerospace and medical companies to name a few, but any sector that needs deep hole drilling will benefit from what UNISIG offers.



"UNISIG deep hole drilling machines are proven with industry leading manufacturers in all regions of the world. UNISIG is chosen for its ability to consistently meet vital demands of tolerance. UNISIG stands out among industry players for its skills in handling large, complex projects including multiple machines and automation, process development and tooling testing, as well as custom engineering and turn-key projects."



UNISIG's latest line of machines, aimed at the mould industry, follow UNISIG's usual trend of creating solutions that are refined and efficient. Mould manufacturers are faced with the challenge of handling large workpieces that require deep hole drilling as well as machining with maximum precision. UNISIG's mould drilling and milling machines are specifically designed with market input to combine operations, reducing setup time and effort,



increasing accuracy, and eliminating design restrictions of traditional machining centres.

"We are currently releasing a whole new line of machines targeted to the mould industry, models USC1, USC2, USC3 that can finish mould production in maximum 2 setups which cuts down production time dramatically while being extremely cost-effective."

If you would like to find out more regarding the deep hole drilling machinery, other products and services UNISIG offers follow the link below for their website, or alternatively speak to them directly regarding your requirements and UNISIG's professional and friendly team will support you every step of the way.

T +49 (0)7125 9687590  
[info@unisig.de](mailto:info@unisig.de)  
[www.unisig.com](http://www.unisig.com)



# Expert innovators in deep hole drilling systems



Here at Best Practice, we are committed to showcasing the very best products from industry-leading companies. One such company is UNISIG, who's USC-M Milling and Drilling Centres and USC-TS Tube Sheet Machines are revolutionising the deep hole drilling industry in numerous applications and requirements.

UNISIG was established in 1981 by the Swiss Industrial Group (SIG) and the US company United Technical, and is a leading provider of complete deep hole drilling systems. In 1995, UNISIG was acquired by Entrust Manufacturing Technologies Inc., which allowed for further growth in innovation and expertise, investing heavily in UNISIG's deep hole drilling machines. Offering tools, automation



systems and machines for any deep hole drilling purpose, UNISIG is at the forefront of their industry, constantly developing their world-leading products to provide the highest quality solutions to their customers.

Their USC-M series is for manufacturers who have the opportunity to benefit from a combination of deep hole drilling and milling operations. The machines in this series maximise production by offering the fastest deep hole drilling with milling, with 5-axis positioning in order to perform a range of complex machining in a single machine and setup. Offering a full range of solutions for manufacturers, the USC-M series includes heavy weight table capacities, a rotating A-axis, automatic



tool changers and intuitive controls on each machine.

The models in the USC-M series are available in a range of capacities and options, with either engineered universal or dedicated spindles. UNISIG offers these in three different configurations: universal gundrilling and milling combination spindle with quick changeover for a range of operations in a single machine; dedicated spindles for BTA+ gundrilling and milling, for powerful machining capabilities and improved feed rates; dedicated spindles for BTA+ gundrilling and milling, plus robust options for an ultimate milling and drilling performance.

USC-M series also comes with a range of machine options, including: Heidenhain glass scales, offering direct feedback in order to improve axis positioning accuracy and repeatability; Renishaw wireless probes allowing workpiece verification, job setup and inspection; automatic radial and axial tool setup to improve accuracy and reduce tool breakage; automatic tool changers with up to 120



tools; modular fixturing to reduce setup and allow for process planning; and dual pallet loaders to allow for automatic workpiece exchange, improving machine utilisation and unattended machining.

Another of UNISIG's innovations is its USC-TS series for tube sheet deep hole drilling. Certainly, there is no room for error when tube sheet manufacturers



require thousands of precision holes in large and high-value workpieces, and this is where UNISIG's USC-TS series can help. Using multiple spindle configurations and programmable positioning, UNISIG's machines bring confident drilling to heat exchanger tube sheets.

This accurate drilling in fast cycles means that manufacturers can drill more holes with improved accuracy and without risk. The machines have almost limitless weight capacity, extremely large travels, and high efficiency BTA and gundrilling, all on a rigid machine base and column. The spindles are independent and available in two, three or five spindle configurations, and all the USC-TS machines are based on proven USC column-type machines, which have been designed for the specific demands of the tube sheet industry.



With nearly 40 years of experience in deep hole drilling systems, UNISIG is well placed to offer the very best machines in the industry, providing their customers with the reassurance of world-leading expertise and manufacturing skill. If you would like to find out more information, head to their website where you can find the full range of UNISIG's products and services. Alternatively, get in touch using the contact details below.

Contact  
T +49 (0)7125 9687590  
info@unisig.de  
www.unisig.com



# Eco-friendly graffiti removal

Through its patented, mobile Tornado ACS vacuum-blasting system, the systeco company in Berlin offers an efficient method to remove graffiti from surfaces without having to resort to pressure cleaning or to chemicals.

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Special protective clothes are not required and the work can be carried out in public, both inside buildings and outside. This is said to make the job of removing graffiti a lot easier.

The systeco company guarantees the solid quality of its products for the eco-friendly

cleaning of polluted surfaces both indoors and outside.

According to the company, its patented TORNADO ACS vacuum-blasting system stands out due to its eco-friendliness, safe operation and high economic efficiency.

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## Specialists in storage

Established in 1937 by Fritz Schaefer, SSI Schaefer is a German, family-owned business. With the headquarters based in Neunkirchen, Germany, the company are proud to say they have more than 55 subsidiaries worldwide and have nearly 10,000 employees. Andover, Hampshire is home to the UK operations side, purchasing, finance, design, and general sales as well as the UK distribution centre.

The rapidly expanding Midlands-based operation at Towcester houses Automation Sales, IT, Customer Services, Marketing and Project Management.

SSI Schaefer specialises in the supply of

automated materials handling solutions and storage equipment.

For over 75 years, the company have been involved in developing systems which enable them to provide customers with solutions that are tailored for the storage of their products. The company's product portfolio ranges from pallet racking, shelving storage systems and metal & plastic containers through to complex automated storage and retrieval systems and IT control.

Customer service is at the heart of the company which is why they see their customers throughout the whole process, from buying

to installing and aftercare.

We asked Mike Alibone of SSI Schaefer what the company's plans for the future are, in which he responded, "Our customer base is as diverse as our product portfolio, which enables us already to offer solutions to almost all areas of industry.

As an organisation in the UK, we will continue to grow - particularly as we complete more



installations which become reliant upon our providing an ongoing support and maintenance service."

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## Beecraft Limited: Established in 1989



Beecraft Limited, a UK based company established in 1989 is one of leading manufacturers and distributors of warehouse, logistics and material handling products. Located in Middlesex, they specialise in plastic pallets, bulk boxes, plastic containers, health and safety products and freezer spacers.

Beecraft Limited together with Nortpalet™, a leading Spanish plastic pallets manufacturer, have recently launched a unique and innovative range of durable plastic pallets, which come in a variety of sizes, are of the utmost quality and offer consumers the option of customisation according to their business needs. The new Display Mini Pallet, which comes in a size of 800x600mm, is specifically designed for retailers due to features such as easy reparability and the ability to increase the loading capacity, as compared to other pallet manufacturers. Mercadona, which is the largest supermarket chain in Spain and occupies 23% of the total market share, has purchased more than 1.5million of these pallets and currently uses them in over 1,400 of its stores.

The Reinforced Nestable Europallet, designed with three runners for optimum performance in rack systems and made from recycled resin weighs only 17kg, which is 34% lighter than other leading pallets. It can support a weight of up to 1,000kg and is appropriated for industries that specialise in the transportation of packaged and boxed items, or where cross-docking operations are implemented.

The lightweight one-way export pallet is an economic, yet strong product, which is designed from multiple uses across many different industries. Weighing just 5.5kg, it is ideal for exporting consignments and can carry products that weigh up to 1,000kg.

The best news, above all, is the Heavy duty Multi-use Pool Pallet, which is available with 3, 5 or 6 bottom runners. It is now a reality and will better serve the logistic needs of different industries such as salt, sugar, flour, beverage, agro food, pharmaceutical, automotive, chemical and many more. The pallet is made of recycled PP, weighs only 23k and thanks to its special design, it can carry a static load of 5,000kg, a dynamic load of 2,000kg and a racking load of 1,000kg. The Full Perimeter runners also make this product suitable to support up to four pallets on top of each other in a mass storage environment.

NORTPALET using the latest state of the art technology combining strength and design options enable the pallet to be use in many different industries and to be compatible for extensive use.

The high specifications including reinforced upgrading the loading capacity to high level of weight on racking and Drive in Racking This intelligent design gives flexibilities of each pallet to be repaired and replaced part of the pallet bring it to a full use again with just minimum investment and no need to replace the whole pallet.

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# Manufacturing excellence

Benefitting from over 40 years' experience, BTM Automation Products (UK) Ltd are renowned for their exceptional sheet metal clinching machines, hydraulic press machines and pneumatic press machines.

Based in Bedfordshire, the company is a UK distributor for BTM Corporation and was established as a specialised equipment provider known predominantly for its knowledge of bending tools and manufacturing (hence the name BTM). Today, their outstanding products and service attract customers across the UK, America, Europe and Asia, benefitting customers in the Automotive, Lighting, Heating, White Goods and many other industries.

BTM's flagship technology is the Tog-L-Loc, which has continued to be extremely popular since its start up. Simple, economical and efficient, this sheet metal clinching technology is the efficient solution to meet all your metal joining needs. It has proven particularly effective as an alternative to spot welding, riveting and other such conventional modes of joining, as it is consistent in its function and has leak-proof joints and a long tool life.

In addition to Tog-L-Loc, BTM also provide aluminium clinching technology 'V-Loc,' a harder rotation resistant version of Tog-L-Loc called 'Lance-N-Loc' and leak proof version 'Oval-Loc.'

For more information on these specialist products, visit the 'product' section on the website listed below and download the information sheets or you can contact the company by phone and speak to one of the friendly and helpful team.

Whether it is a simple hand held unit, robot cell or special purpose machine, BTM has the right solution for you.

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Below are typical examples of how Tog-L-Loc® can also save on the cost of consumables such as rivets, nuts & bolts, weld tips and adhesives.



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## Why you need leaner processes!



Customer demand is changing the way products are delivered. We have seemingly less time than ever before and with the growing culture of app-based 'click and collect' permeating society, companies are now having to satisfy their customers' needs, faster and more accurately. The introduction of warehouse automation is vital to addressing this requirement.

This isn't just consumer goods, more and more companies are offering 24/7 deliveries and this is putting greater strain on the factories that have to manage these processes.

Flexibility is key here as instead of continuing to rely on rigid logistics concepts, more and more companies are turning to flexible systems to effectively manage their internal warehouse.

Flowtechnology UK 'FTUK,' is a major provider of fluid power products in the UK, they recognised a need for a more efficient storage system for its constantly expanding product portfolio. Rather than move premises they invested in 16 Kardex Shuttle XP vertical lift systems ASRS which optimised their current warehouse space and as a result, their productivity increased by more than 300%, whilst picking errors went down to almost zero.

For Flowtechnology, optimal productivity was essential for the handling, storing and retrieval of their stock. Many companies have different kinds of stock and Kardex understand the need to provide dynamic and flexible storage solutions no matter what needs to be stored.

Stock with extreme dimensions and heavy goods require well-thought out storage logistics and goods with a total weight of up to 5,000kg per tray can be efficiently integrated into storage logistic processes. Using flexible designs such as vertical lift systems Kardex is focused on optimising the use of available space, making the most of existing ceiling height and minimising footprint.

From efficient hardware to fully integrated systems, our solutions can store thousands of items from small goods such as nuts and bolts to large items. Kardex provide maximum productivity, performance and safety, improving your ergonomics and efficiency, making optimal use of the available space to secure long-term success and profitability.

**Kardex has a long history of innovation working with organisations that recognise the short and long-term benefits that automated storage and retrieval systems can bring, delivering on the promise of improvements in labour, space saving and faster picking times.**

To learn more, contact us by email at: [info.remstar.uk@kardex.com](mailto:info.remstar.uk@kardex.com) or call us direct on: +44 (0)1992 557237.



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# Richard Chambers GmbH

Best Practice is proud to feature Chambers GmbH for their **Commitment to Excellence** within the automotive industry. The Chambers family, farming for nearly 500 years near Downpatrick, has been involved in the automotive industry since the start of the 20th century and was building cars in Belfast until 1928. Richard Chambers, the nephew of John Chambers, who was heavily involved as chief engineer for tractor-inventor Harry Ferguson, was involved in the restoration of his uncle's vintage car while he was a child. By the age of just 13, Richard had accumulated enough automotive knowledge to later build his own car.

Richard's father was also working for Ferguson, running the international Ferguson School. Richard himself would attend the sessions as a child and was often invited to demonstrate the performance of Ferguson tractors during his school holidays all over Europe including



Spain, Belgium, France, Germany and Italy. He also attended night-school in Leamington Spa to learn further languages before his holidays abroad.

Many years on, and Richard now operates internationally out of Germany with his

company 'Richard Chambers GmbH'. His company provides products for the industry and motor vehicles, including motor sport, producing European Champions, and classic cars. The ethos for Richard is, while lowering costs with more performance he is also reducing emissions to benefit the environment and human health.

Richard's company distributes his range of products from Germany, with the popular SX-6000 range which includes engine and gearbox treatments and a fuel system cleaner. The LecWec is the perfect remedy for leaking polymer oil seals. By adding just 3% LecWec to the oil, 99% of all cases have provided a lasting repair. The range of the SX-6000 products also enables the treatment of all oil system oils with the highest specifications and all units which also use synthetic oils. The dB Wec is the perfect noise reduction solution and helps quieten the engine, gears and differentials. This product can be added to all mineral and synthetic oils, and after extensive tests this product has been proven to produce a measurable reduction in noise.

All the SX-6000 oil treatments sold by Richard Chambers GmbH are certified and have been proven to reduce around 88% wear in all cases, with customers from as far as the

USA, Canada and Asia.

Richard's award-winning products are a simple and affordable way to provide engines and other mechanical units with health and longevity. Richard has the ultimate goal to produce products which can help the environment and energy costs, and preserve the life of your machines. No customer has yet disputed the claim that the ROI is at least 700%, so it's not just beneficial for the environment - it's as if the environment itself were showing how thankful it is!

[chambers@qmi.de](mailto:chambers@qmi.de)  
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# Innovative Storage and Retrieval Solutions from Kardex Remstar

Best Practice is pleased to announce that Kardex Remstar has been selected to receive our **Commitment to Excellence Award**, for their outstanding dedication to providing innovative automated storage and retrieval systems (ASRS) for a wide range of industries.

Kardex Remstar specialises in the research, development and manufacture of goods handling solutions which have wide-ranging applications across the whole intralogistics sector. Although the company has evolved significantly over the years, the one thing that has remained is their innovative and creative approach. They have successfully installed over 140,000 solutions together with their own software packages all across the world. With headquarters in Switzerland, they operate in over 30 countries worldwide and are the leading brand within their industry segment.

As a domain expert in their area of the market, Kardex Remstar tailors all of its solutions to the customer's needs to match the latest demands in industry. We spoke to Sales Director Tom Findlay, who told us, "Kardex Remstar provides a truly consultative approach for our customers. We are not just product providers, more specialists, providing answers to stock management and process flow challenges across just about every industry sector." Kardex systems typically offer huge space



savings, but also significant efficiency gains, reducing fulfilment and storage costs, whether implemented as stand-alone units or integrated within a wider platform and connected to the client's ERP/MRP or warehouse management systems.

All Kardex solutions operate on the automated 'goods to person' principle. Uniquely, Kardex offers a wide range of equipment including their new LR35 vertical buffer module, which manages individual totes/bins. Other options include their world leading Shuttle XP vertical lift, plus vertical and even horizontal carousel systems.

In comparison to a traditional racking



or shelving approach, particularly when integrated with Kardex's own inventory management software (Powerpick Global), customers typically report pick efficiency gains of up to 400%, stock accuracy at close to 100%, and floor space savings of up to of 80%.



For companies requiring environmental control, Kardex provides answers for temperature and humidity specific environments. Many solutions have been developed over the years for the pharmaceutical, electronics and food processing sectors. As a result, many household global names have adopted Kardex as their trusted partner for these types of applications.

The latest product introduced into the Kardex family is the LR 35. This is a highly efficient machine range, with superior picking efficiency to make it suitable for use in a number of industries and applications. The ability to process individual 'bins' makes it attractive to companies needing quick and accurate management of small parts.

E-Commerce businesses have shown great interest in the LR35 although the system answers questions for any company looking for a more advanced solution to small parts processing. LR35 has been already been

adopted as the product of choice within a number of different sectors including automotive, manufacturing and even a chocolate-based e-commerce company.

As well as their extensive range of products



and software, Kardex Remstar prides itself in offering excellent customer service. Their Life Cycle Service division offers a wide range of support packages to take care of their customers' Kardex investment. Latest developments include a new Remote Support assistance package which closely follows the Industry 4.0 ethos. Kardex technicians and co-ordinators can monitor units via a portal, where the customer's equipment will automatically create a service request if there is a fault. This guarantees fast reaction times, and the Kardex Remstar team can diagnose their customers' equipment remotely, saving time and money.

If you would like to find out how Kardex Remstar can help with your storage and retrieval requirements, head to their website or use the contact details below.

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# Innovative analytical instruments from experts in freeze-drying



in under an hour, and is supplied fully validated as a complete working system against standard solutions. What's more, full installation and training is offered as standard and this training includes practical tuition on interpretation of results from scientists with in-depth knowledge of freeze drying. The device is PC controlled, providing sophisticated image and data capture and analysis functions, meaning the user can make a video of their sample under analysis.



Best Practice is proud to announce that Biopharma Group has been chosen to receive our **Product Innovation Award**, for their in-house development of ground-breaking analytical instruments for freeze-drying projects.

The Lyostat Freeze Drying Microscope (FDM), the Lyotherm3 frozen state impedometer, and the MicroPress have been developed in order to identify critical events in pre-lyophilisation process and cycle development. Charis Hickey, Group Marketing Manager, told us "Our analytical instruments have been designed to provide the most advanced data on critical events in freeze drying projects to inform decision making and product characterisation stages of the project to make it as efficient and successful as possible. In addition Biopharma Group's analytical instruments have been designed with the end users in mind, solving many technical and ergonomic issues faced by those conducting freeze drying product development."

The Lyostat FDM can complete analysis

Biopharma Group's Lyotherm3 frozen state impedometer combines Differential Thermal Analysis and Impedance analysis, meaning it is more sensitive to change within the frozen structure than other exclusively thermal techniques. The company's newest product, the MicroPress, was released in November 2018 and helps to quantify lyophilised cake robustness. Using a linear actuator, it gently compresses the cake while a load cell accurately measures the force applied. The resulting profile is then captured by integrated software and can be exported to Microsoft Excel for further analysis.

These products are mainly supplied to research and development departments of pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, however Biopharma Group is seeing an increasing demand coming from the food production and nutraceutical industries as well. Biopharma Group has been supplying freeze drying equipment for 30 years, and conducting research and development consultancy as well as analytical lyo-analysis for 22 years. This means that their experts have experienced the same issues as their customers when it comes to characterisation and process development for freeze dry products.

By identifying the areas that could be improved for better and more successful process development and products at the critical event stages, Biopharma Group has established its own in-house NPD and



innovation team in order to specialise in the design of analytical instrumentation. This helps to improve results, which in turn inform decision making to enhance their customers' own expertise and increase their efficiency and productivity.

Biopharma is perhaps the only company worldwide working in the field of freeze drying that, in addition to research services and training programs, develops unique analytical instruments to advance the science of freeze drying in order to make the end users life easier.

For further information or general enquiries, please visit the Biopharma website. Alternatively, you can contact the company via telephone or email.

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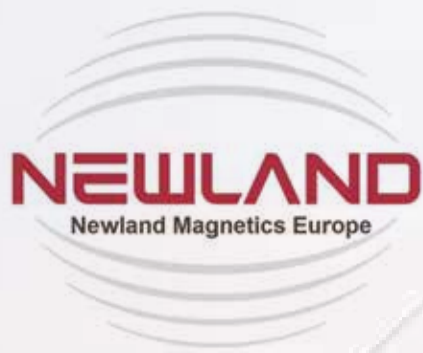
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