

# Best Practice



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## Quickline Introduces The Vertimag Automatic Vertical Lift Module (VLM)

A number of factors, such as a need for additional space, decreasing staff levels and an increase in ecommerce accelerated by Covid, are leading to companies reviewing their current warehouse operation and

embracing automated warehouse systems.

To meet the needs of this demanding and ever-changing market even more effectively,

Quickline can introduce the Vertimag VLM, which provides efficient storage solutions whilst reducing the storage footprint, enhancing operator safety and increasing pick speed and accuracy.



Not only does the Vertimag VLM system maximise storage capacity and manage chaotic flows, it also enables real-time and accurate inventory control, speeds up preparation of orders and decreases errors. On top of this, the system also provides a range of benefits for the operator, such as a user-friendly interface, an ergonomic picking bay to simplify picking and stock management, and enhanced safety elements.

All of these lead to an improved user experience, which is further enhanced through a wide range of accessories to optimise working conditions, including a sliding console, a trolley for tray removal, laser pointer, alphanumeric LED bar, barcode reader, piece counting scale and label printer. Furthermore, the Vertimag system can be supplied with Ergo-Tech, a Ferretto Group exclusive. The Ergo-Tech system houses a second lift within the structure which retrieves goods for the next pick - all whilst the operator is completing the fulfilment from the first tray.

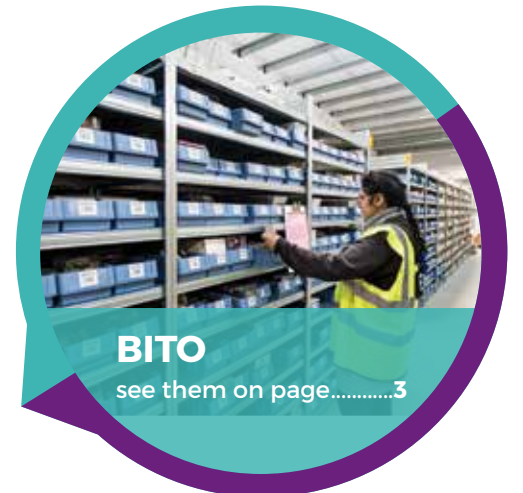
The location of the Ergo-Tech device within the structure makes it possible to occupy the same footprint of a typical internal bay while allowing the flow of a double bay system, with greater flexibility in terms of storage capacity as the only limitations on height is that of the warehouse. Because the system operates by lifting the second tray, the Ergo-Tech module allows the storage of goods in different formats and sizes, with a product height of up to 400 mm.

The Vertimag VLM is managed by software developed by Ferretto Group which easily integrates with corporate management systems. The management software has been designed and tested for robustness and includes maintenance algorithms to improve system uptime. To enhance its useability, the system has a user friendly and customizable dashboard through which it is possible to quickly check the status of all the machines, dynamically manage the compartments of the trays, and monitor in real time the stock levels and the position of items in the trays.

With its countless operational benefits, the Vertimag VLM solution is one of the safest, most efficient and ergonomic picking systems on the market. It benefits from 90% space optimisation to reduce the storage footprint and offers one of the widest range of tray combinations on the market. It provides the ideal solution for the storage and management of goods, enabling businesses to improve workflow and warehouse efficiency, whilst providing optimised space management.

For more information about the Vertimag VLM visit [www.quicklinestorage.co.uk](http://www.quicklinestorage.co.uk)

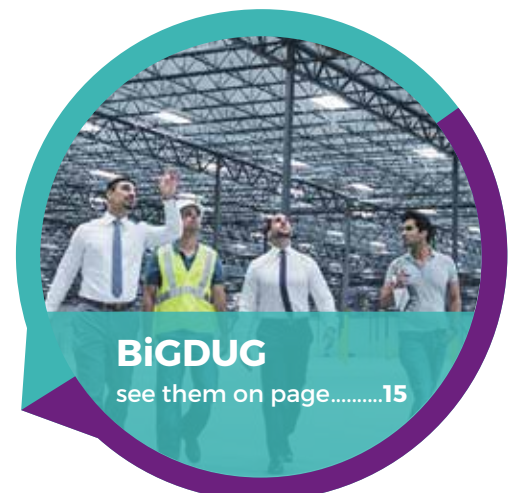
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# Real Tamper Evidence Is An Integral Part Of The Supply Chain

The increase in need, leads to growth in opportunities for tamper evident security. The role of "real" tamper evident security labels and box tapes is developing quickly, as an integral part of the supply chain in 2021 for B2B and B2C.

The growth in two major market sectors: food delivery and logistics has seen demand increase for practical, effective and technical security solutions to protect goods from interference on their journeys.



The food home delivery market has grown exponentially across fast food deliveries, meal subscription boxes as well as the increase in online supermarket shopping. The innovative finger-lift labels being fast food restaurants for example, easier for the crew members in

practice to apply, and the customers have increased confidence in the brand, enhancing brand reputation too, as their meals arrive intact and complete.

Within the logistics and supply chain sector the multi layered security approach for inner and outer packaging supports product traceability through utilising sequential numbers, barcodes and QR codes which can be paired with tamper evidence. Thus, delivering robust, secure packaging solutions from the threat of counterfeiting, theft, contamination and exposure especially with the extended supply chains now having to be a consideration too.

Tamper evident labels are practical to use and provide an instant layer of security. These tamper evident labels, tapes or perforated strips of liner-less labels are an inexpensive, fast solution to securing packaging. The flexibility of product design, security features and adhesives, ensures that the labels and tapes can be applied

successfully to many surfaces from cardboard, plastic, painted metal to glass, wood and flexible packaging.

Permanent tamper evident tapes provide clear indication of tampering by revealing a hidden message when peeled off or altered that cannot be replaced. The permanent message left on the surface is called the void message and this can be as simple as words, in any language, saying, OPENED, DO NOT USE IF SEAL BROKEN to barcodes, numbers and QR codes verifying the products authenticity.

Tamper evident tapes and labels are easy to integrate into existing processes so there is no cost to change, just enhanced security and consumer protection.

To find out more contact  
T 01335 300335  
Harriet@tampertech.net

## Finpromach Ltd Improves Your Process Efficiency and Operator Safety



Finpromach Ltd, established 2018, uses 25 years of industry experience to represent equipment from prestigious manufacturers from the UK, Europe and USA including Palamatic, Gericke, Andocksysteme, Austar UK, LAST Technology, Vac-U-Max, Bila (Global AGV) and Hallins.

Operating in the fields of Powder and Materials handling, Containment, Isolation, Washing and Sterilisation widely used in regulated industries such as Pharma, Food and Chemical.

Recently developed with Palamatic, was a new fully automatic Atex compliant sack opener to replace conventional manual sack tipping stations.

The PAL F-AST (Palamatic Fully Automatic Sack Tip) occupies a small footprint and addresses problems of manually handling and opening sacks. Operators can process a range of sacks without concern of manual handling contravention (HSE) and exposure to dust potentially hazardous to health (COSHH).

The PAL F-AST opens sacks at 1-5 minute within a dust tight cabinet, then compacts the emptied sack into a polythene tube for easy waste sack removal.

Complementary ancillaries include vacuum sack lifter, robotic infeed, explosion mitigation, size reduction, powder grading, rotary valves, CIP, drying and a conveying system for the next stage of the process such as mixing.

Using equipment from Finpromach improves house-keeping, process efficiency, manual handling, operator safety, especially when dealing with dusty or toxic compounds.

Finished product quality is ensured to limit wastage from contaminated batches of product, whether that be pure printing inks, injectable vaccines, or food ingredients.

Recent news is the partnership with Bila and their Global AGV automated pallet handling solution. Repetitive pallet movements (such as end of line to wrapper and then warehouse) can be automatically undertaken without operator intervention. With a fast payback time process efficiency is vastly improved, with no product or fork lift damage caused by human error or carelessness. Routes and procedures are easily altered by the local supervisor using the innovative control interface requiring only a single day of training.

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## Manage Your Assets with RFID

Major operations involve hundreds or thousands of different assets and it's easy for valuable equipment to be misplaced or lost. Taking inventory of your assets is a time-consuming and sometimes inaccurate process. That's where RFID Asset Management comes in. With all of your assets monitored by RFID tags and readers, you can know exactly what equipment you have available in real-time. That information helps prevent losses and helps you make informed business decisions. But the benefits don't stop there.

With RFID, you can track not only the location of the asset, but also its condition. RFID tags enable you to instantly see when equipment was last inspected and when it's due another inspection or to be replaced. This reduces downtime because you can repair or replace important equipment at the right time. It also streamlines your maintenance process.

You can also track the movement of assets, so you get alerts when a piece of equipment has left its designated area. People can also be tagged with RFID bracelets, which can be vital when moving heavy equipment, to improve safety by ensuring each worker is out of the way.

RFID Asset Management is a solid investment for any business that



has a lot of valuable assets to track. Benefits of RFID Asset Management include:

- ▲ Gaining real-time visibility of your assets
- ▲ Saving time over manual stocktakes
- ▲ The ability to locate assets using RFID
- ▲ Tracking the movement of assets
- ▲ Improving maintenance
- ▲ Improving compliance

If you have valuable fixed assets and are having trouble keeping track of them, an RFID asset management solution can not only save you time with manual tracking, but also save you money by reducing lost assets and improving maintenance.

RFID Asset Management is suitable for large or small businesses, with flexible monthly plans available.

Ready to get started with RFID asset management? Contact TEC-RFID for a free consultation and online demo.

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## TEC-RFID



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We are experts in helping businesses improve efficiency through RFID solutions. RFID, which stands for Radio Frequency Identification, is a technology system that can identify an object using radio waves. At TEC-RFID, we believe RFID will bring big advances to retail, warehousing, manufacturing, construction and more. We make it as simple as possible.

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# Big benefits from small parts picking in pallet racking

The use of pallet racking for small parts storage turns this ubiquitous storage product into a flexible order picking solution.

While constant innovation generates a stream of new intralogistics solutions, 'classic' pallet racking remains the most commonly used storage system. Its relatively low investment costs and flexibility - whether through changing rack configuration, retrofitting special purpose modules or adding extra bays - have made it an indispensable framework for storage and order picking systems.

Of course, many operations use pallet racking as the basis for straightforward

storage and retrieval of full pallets, either to fulfil customer orders or as a bulk store for replenishment. But the trend toward shorter product life cycles is increasing SKU numbers. The drive to minimise stock levels for each SKU and improve picking process efficiency to speed up order fulfilment, combined with demands for Just-in-Time delivery and online retail, is generating a greater need for small parts storage.

### ADAPTABILITY & EFFICIENCY

This is where the adaptability of pallet racking comes to the fore because small parts picking can be easily integrated within pallet racks. One option is to create small parts pick locations on the reachable ground level, with upper storage levels serving as a buffer store for replenishment. Small parts storage containers will help to store and organise small goods and C-parts - making them available for quick and easy picking.

This will result in a reasonably efficient picking process but ground floor locations within

a pallet rack will, of course, be limited. Solutions are therefore required to maximise the available space to create a pick face with sufficient locations for the required SKUs, and enough stock to ensure availability during picks.

### FLOW SHELVES FOR FIFO

Flow shelves can be easily installed into pallet racking to increase the number of pick locations and volume of SKUs located on the ground level pick face.

Goods are easily accessible from the front of the racking - the rollers on the flow shelves allow bins and containers containing small items to be picked roll smoothly to the front of the shelf - which makes picking easy. A full container of parts will roll to the operator each time the empty one at the front removed.

### SHELVING

Standard shelving is another option to create flexible small item pick faces within pallet racking. There are several solutions: the first incorporates static shelving at right angles to the racking, with space in between each run to facilitate picking. An alternative option is pull-out mobile shelving that maximises the available space under the racking - though movement of shelving has a negative impact on pick time. A third solution involves static shelving parallel to racking, which makes front items easy to pick. Shelving dividers can be fitted.

Inclined supply shelving within a pallet racking bay will make items clearly visible for picking. Cardboard cartons or plastic bins can be used, though the latter option enables preparation in advance at the goods-in area by filling the plastic bin with the items to be picked.

### BINS COMPLETE THE SOLUTION

BITO's comprehensive range of plastic bins and containers includes different sizes, with all kinds of accessories, for use in shelving and in flow racks. Working as a one stop shop solution with BITO pallet racking, shelving and flow racks, they will keep goods protected throughout the intralogistics process and during transport to ensure the quality of products are delivered to the customer in prime condition.

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## GIST WINS BIFA AWARD WITH POLARPOD™

GIST IN CONJUNCTION WITH POLAR THERMAL WINS BIFA COOL AND SPECIAL CARGOES AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE ECO-FRIENDLY CHILLED PACKAGING SOLUTION.

Gist has been announced the winner of the Cool and Special Cargoes Award in this year's British International Freight Association Freight Service Awards.

The awards recognise organisations who are the best in the industry for specialist cargo and refrigerated services.

**Gist, with partner Polar Thermal,** developed an innovative, bespoke, durable, and environmentally friendly packaging solution. This was designed to maintain the temperature of chilled products moving internationally by road and air for up to 60 hours. The solution is used for customers, including Tesco, for their global chilled supply chain.

With the new PolarPod™, Gist was able to reduce waste by more than 30% and improve overall operational speed by more than 20% whilst keeping the products at the correct temperature. Polar Thermal Packaging Ltd supply a wide range of commercial sectors including Pharmaceutical, Health Service Providers, Clinical Research Organisations, Perishable Food Distributors and Logistics Companies. They are also a major supplier to the NHS.



More information on PolarPod™ – <https://www.polarthermal.com/products/polar-pod/>

More information about the win and awards can be found here:

<https://www.gistworld.com/News/ArticleID/54/Gist-win-Cool-and-Special-Cargoes-Award>

Further information about the BIFA awards, visit <https://bifa.org/winners/winners-2020>

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# How to effectively protect your workplace

Is following the government's advice enough? It's all good and well washing hands regularly and maintaining a 2 metre distance but is there anything further we can feasibly do to protect our office spaces and workforces?

The simple answer is yes there is actually a lot of cost-effective equipment that could be put in place quickly and easily to actively assist in lowering or eliminating

the viral risk in offices and shared spaces. More air changes, more ventilation, whether this is in the form of opening windows or increased mechanical ventilation, diluting the viral load with this method will lower the risk but obviously not eliminate it and does nothing for anything that may be hiding on surfaces, door handles, keyboards or other office equipment with a surface capable of transferring pathogens between

individuals. Air Filtration, again similar to above, anything captured in the filter will be removed and eliminated providing the filtration is up to the correct standard. HEPA filters should be of medical grade H14.

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## New distributorship for Cinderella eco solution

LeeSan continues to support Cinderella as the sole UK distributor of Cinderella Eco Solution incinerating toilets.

Cinderella Motion represents an entirely new concept for waste handling in Off-the-Grid locations, Marine craft, mobile homes and recreational vehicles. It is now possible to get rid of toilet waste in a hygienic and simple manner.

The end product is just clean ash. The toilet may be used around 70 times before emptying is required. Cinderella Motion is a further development of the popular Cinderella incineration toilet currently installed by over 60,000 users worldwide.

An incineration toilet is a toilet in which waste products, urine and excrement, are incinerated at a high temperature, leaving only an insignificant amount of ash.

Available around the world for decades, incineration toilets are a commonly used alternative in mountain cabins, remote areas, tiny homes, off-grid structures and other residential and



commercial applications without easy access to public utilities.

Since incineration toilets do not require the installation of a water supply or costly septic systems, and do not demand ongoing and messy work to process waste, their slightly higher unit price is heavily offset by lower maintenance over time, providing a substantially lower total cost of ownership than other solutions, both in terms of money and headache.

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## Cupio brings inspection solutions and services to the electronics industry

An effective inspection strategy is crucial to your manufacturing operation's wellbeing: field failures arising from defective



or incorrect components take not only time and money to resolve, but also effort to repair your reputation. Our portfolio, which covers optical inspection, X-ray systems and C-SAM Scanning Acoustic Microscopy, is based on Nordson's world-class range of equipment and solutions.

### Optical inspection

We have optical inspection systems for both PCB and microelectronic devices, which offer exceptional defect coverage. Nordson YESTECH's FX 940 in line automated optical inspection machine offers high-speed PCB inspection, while the FX 942 resolves post wave or selective solder issues. The Ultra 3D system brings advanced 3D technology to high-speed PCB inspection. The LX-100 is an advanced multi-purpose, large area, double-sided PCB inspection system that inspects solder joints and verifies correct part assembly, enabling users to improve quality and enhance yields.

The FX 940 conformal coating system uses black light to check conformal coating coverage. Benchtop AOI and conformal coating machines are available, while the M1m Microelectronic AOI system offers high-speed microelectronic device inspection.

### MXI and AXI X-ray

We offer both batch X-ray (MXI) and in-line X-ray (AXI) solutions. For batch inspection, the Nordson DAGE Quadra series goes beyond optical imaging, allowing non-destructive inspection of obscured areas inside devices and components at up to 68,000 times magnification. The Quadra 3 allows high quality, high magnification inspection for production applications, while the Quadra 5 provides advanced, sub µm feature detection and higher power output for more challenging workflows. With ultimate image quality and magnification, the Quadra 7 reveals quality defects as small as 0.1 µm.

Explorer One delivers the clearest X-ray images, with market-leading image quality. This allows quick and easy location and qualification of potential defects, and fast pass/fail judgements. For in-line AXI X-ray applications, we offer the MatriX X3# and MatriX X2.5# for sophisticated high-speed inspection in SMT production, and MatriX X2# for high speed automatic inspection in production lines.

### C-SAM Acoustic microscopy

Some manufacturing processes demand non-destructive structural analysis and inspection of solid materials for internal features such as cracks, delaminations and voids. For these, we offer our Nordson SONOSCAN GEN7 C-SAM Acoustic microscope. Sonoscan is the most experienced source in Acoustic Microscopy for non-destructive internal inspection and analysis, and their seventh - generation acoustic microscope is ideal for laboratory analysis and specialised high resolution applications.

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# Developing the next generation of professional engineers

Degree Apprenticeships are available to employees based in England and can be fully funded by apprenticeship levy funds (effectively tax previously paid by employers). Smaller, non-levy paying employers, can also access up to 95% of the required funding from government. The programme may be suitable for school leavers who are hired directly into a Degree Apprenticeship role, or for existing employees whom the company wish to develop into an engineering position.

Successful graduates will be awarded an IChemE accredited, BEng honours Chemical Engineering from the University of Strathclyde, and a Degree Apprenticeship award from the Institute of Apprenticeships.

The Degree Apprenticeship in Chemical Engineering is built on the distance learning BEng honours Chemical Engineering, established at the request of local industry in 1992, to enable the progression of experienced technicians, into engineering roles. Unrivalled experience working with employers and industry-based students, combined with the industry developed Science Industry Plant and Process Engineer Standard (SIPPE), has resulted in a Degree Apprenticeship in Chemical Engineering that is perfectly suited to employer's needs.

The online approach to the academic components minimises time off site and maximises flexibility.

Alongside their work-based learning,



apprentices study the core chemical engineering subjects, including fluid mechanics, thermodynamics, mass transfer, process design, learn how to use engineering programming tools, as well as gaining broader knowledge in subjects like project management, ethics and teamwork.

The programme concludes with an Engineering Design project, showcasing the skills gained in

the Degree Apprenticeship, and enabling the End Point Assessment and degree award.

**Employers or Employees who would like to know more about the opportunities available through Degree Apprenticeships in chemical engineering, or any of our programmes and services to industry, should contact Kenny Moffat at Kenneth.moffat@strath.ac.uk.**



## 50 Year old product makes dramatic comeback to help beat the virus

When the Melaphone Speech Unit was designed 50 years ago for the booking offices at British Rail stations, nobody could have predicted that half a century later it would suddenly be in such high demand. The current Corona Virus Pandemic had created an urgent need for all protective equipment -both for personal use and in the working environment. This is the reason the Melaphone has come into its own again. Its unique design, with its resonating membrane and air-sealed constructions, make it the ideal device to install in any situation where face-to-face communication occurs. It not only offers protection from air-borne viruses and pathogens, it also enhances and clarified the frequently muffled sound when people speak through a screen.

Its protective credentials have been certified to ISO 14644-1 Class 5 -indeed, it has often been specified by architects and designers for use in hospitals, laboratories and clean rooms or anywhere hygiene is of paramount importance. It is a simple but really ingenious invention which requires no servicing, wiring



or electrical supply. And it is very easy to keep clean and safe with an antiseptic wipe.

The Melaphone has now been built into the new Defender Virus Screens produced by the company and numerous doctors' surgeries, medical centres, clinics and pharmacies in the UK have had these screens installed- the considerable success and approval. The screens are individually made and every component is of the highest quality, giving a clean, sleek and professional appearance in any health-care environment.

The Melaphone is still available as a stand-alone unit for installation into walls, glass or plastic screens, windows or doors. It can easily be retro-fitted into existing structures and requires no special skill to install. The range has been expanded to meet the growing demand for the units. Even after 50 years, we're proud to still be able to say 'MADE IN THE UK' at our London production facility.

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## Product Innovation



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# The UK's Number One manufacturer of Hinges

With an impressive history spanning over 200 years, Gold and Wassall Hinges was first established in 1790. From the company's manufacturing facilities based in Tamworth UK, Gold and Wassall provides a range of services for design, production and manufacture of hinges, all produced in house and distributed throughout the whole of the UK.



An industry leader in its trade, Gold and Wassall Hinges has established itself as the UK's number one manufacturer of hinges.

Gold and Wassall Hinges provides a fully comprehensive design and manufacturing service, offering a wide range of hinges including piano hinges, butt and backflap hinges, standard, heavy duty and bespoke made to order hinges. With an extensive range of stock on offer, Gold and Wassall Hinges is equipped to meet any hinge requirements and all of its stock is available for immediate dispatch.

"All our hinges are UK made; we are the only hinge company in the UK which can offer this. We offer a



bespoke design and manufacture service, which means we can create virtually any hinge from a simple idea." Scott Bareham, Sales and Marketing Manager.

One of the main focuses of Gold and Wassall Hinges is to provide first class customer service. Ensuring that from initial inquiry to delivery and aftercare, Gold and Wassall Hinges' team engages with each customer to find out their specific requirements, measurements, application and style, to ensure they find the right door hinge for the customer.

While providing an impressive range of off-the-shelf hinges, Gold and Wassall Hinges understands that for some projects, a custom built hinge is needed. Whether it's a simple design alteration such as rounded corners or a more complex design with multiple bends, the



team at Gold and Wassall Hinges is dedicated to providing the right hinge solution for you, providing a bespoke custom-made hinge solution.

"Our bespoke hinge service is ever growing in popularity; it really gives the customer flexibility when designing a product." Scott said.

Gold and Wassall Hinges has created over 250,000 unique hinges and continuously develops new patterns produced on a daily basis. The company is well equipped with the knowledge, skill and tools to create solutions for any application and has the ability to meet mostly any hinge size or shape requirements.

Another example of the company's customisation services, Gold and Wassall Hinges provides a range of



finishing options for its customers. Able to customise colour, add branding and create a smooth premium finish. The company's array of finishing options is perfect for increasing protection, matching the application or to create that smooth premium finished look.

the Nightingale hospitals.

We spoke to Scott about how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the company; he told us that, "We worked all the way through. We experienced some demand for hinges for the Nightingale hospitals, as well as a customer who is involved in the manufacture of food delivery vans."

Scott continued, "Although our sales obviously went down during the pandemic, we feel that we are making steady progress coming out the other side. We have managed to keep our workforce whole, with no redundancies."

Gold and Wassall Hinges plans to continue its dominating presence in the industry. Scott stated, "We plan to continue doing what we have been for so long - if it isn't broke, don't fix it!"

For any further information, please see the details below.

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

With a history spanning across centuries, Gold and Wassall Hinges has seen many tribulations for the world and its industry since its fruition and has been able to maintain its production and dominate its industry.

During the uncertainty for many industries during the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic, many manufacturers saw a halt in production and in sales. Demonstrating its renowned manufacturing capabilities, Gold and Wassall Hinges maintained production and were approached for providing hinges for







Tom Parker Ltd.

# Your Partner for Fluid Power



## Connecting the UK Since 1972

### Our History

Next year 2022 will be a very special year for us as we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. We are immensely proud to remain a family run business and of earning and maintaining our place as one of the leading fluid power distribution companies in the UK.

### Our People

Many of our team have been with the company and working in this industry for a long period of time. Our Internal Technical Support Team and External Area Sales Managers have extensive experience and training, which enables them to provide advice when needed.

### Our Exclusive & Market Leading Brands

Our focus has always been on supplying innovative, high quality, competitively priced product ranges. We now offer

more than 80 brands and application solutions that span the whole fluid power market.

### Our Northern & Southern Locations

With our HQ situated in the North West of England (Preston, Lancashire) and our second branch located in the South (Basingstoke, Hampshire), we can ensure a quick and reliable supply network to the entire UK.

### Our Trade Counters, Hose Assembly & Testing Facilities

Both premises have stocked retail units, engineers and on-site workshops where we can design, certify and test pneumatic hose assemblies up to 500 psi, hydraulic hose assemblies up to 30,000 psi.

### Carefully Selected Products

Produced biennially, our new catalogue will launch in January 2022. Core and market leading brands include Aignep, Cejn, CPC (Colder Products Company), CDC

Pneumatics, Master Pneumatic, E.MC, John Guest, Festo, Fitok, Sicomat and Camozzi.

### Our Stock Levels, Same Day Dispatch & Flexible Delivery

Our highly stocked warehouses enable us to provide a variety of delivery options (complete with tracking details) which include next day delivery before 9 am on stock items, Saturday morning delivery and no minimum order charge.

### Our Customers' Come First

We regularly review our systems, product offering and services to ensure we keep evolving and are where we plan to be in the future. Our entire team are committed to providing a first class service to all our valued customers.

### Our Supporting Credentials

Proud to be members of the BFPDA; we are also independently assessed by the BSI and accredited to BS EN ISO 9001:2015. Close relationships with our suppliers also mean that we can solve the most challenging of problems. Call today to see how we can help.



Tom Parker Ltd

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- ➡ High Stock Levels & Same Day Dispatch
- ➡ Exclusive & Market Leading Brands
- ➡ 35,000+ High Quality Catalogue Products
- ➡ Technical Support Team
- ➡ Hose Assembly & Test Facility
- ➡ Trade Counters at Preston & Basingstoke





# Start creating products which work

Innovation runs through the DNA of APT Fabrics Ltd.'s key assets, helping it to provide comprehensive solutions aiming to charter sustainable growth. A fellow in the Textile Institute, Stanley Russell is the Owner and Director of APT Fabrics Ltd. Stanley has



over 40 years' experience in the textile industry and is a multiple award-winning designer in the creation and development of lightweight, breathable, moisture-wicking and high-performance assembly garments for PPE, fire performance clothing, high performance waterproofs and performance fabrics.



Established in 2008 and based in Northern Ireland, APT Fabrics Ltd. works worldwide, in partnership with an accumulation of various businesses. APT Fabrics Ltd. is a renowned textile consultancy service offering a bespoke range of performance laminated products for industrial and leisure end uses.

Specialists in the technical textiles and garments industry, APT Fabrics Ltd. has worked with the emergency services, military, ambulance, police, fire rescue, ministry of defence and even some

fashion brands in product development. Recently, APT Fabrics Ltd. has been concentrating on its consultation services, helping companies strategise their business for the future.

When developing new systems, Stanley shows fundamental qualities in product improvement. His work ethic is extraordinary and a by-product of his hard work and dedication to the industry over the years.

"If there is a target I will go above and beyond it. I never copy products, I improve them. I approach companies with their products and show them how to improve them." States Stanley.

Its consultation services contain three main elements: Business Analysis, Technical Consultation and Product Development. Through its Business Analysis service, APT Fabrics Ltd. carry out an in-depth study of your business and works with staff to identify areas for improvements.

A business plan is devised ensuring sustainable growth to areas such as product ranges, goals, staff training needs and supply chain production. APT Fabrics Ltd.'s level of expertise in technical consultation recognises Stanley as a pioneer innovator within the textile industry. Credited with producing a number of award-winning cutting-edge textile solutions, Stanley has over 40 years' experience working with textiles covering weaving, dyeing, coating, lamination and EN standards.

APT Fabrics Ltd.'s product development service births innovation, with its framework consisting



of two main concepts, 'Continuous Improvement' and 'Creativity'. APT Fabrics Ltd. work alongside a range of raw material suppliers creating a unique collaboration of expert advisers and craftsmen. This service pushes boundaries and allows for complete creativity, producing the right kind of technical solutions to meet the needs of the customer. Alongside its consultancy services, APT Fabrics Ltd. has also produced its own Acclimatise clothing line.

"I am always pushing the boundaries of protective clothing to help people be safer in their jobs. I'm always pushing boundaries and never stepping back." States Stanley. APT Fabrics Ltd. has been working closely with its product development team to create a new range of fully recyclable hi vis garments which will be part of an eco-friendly range coming out soon.

The positive effects from COVID-19 far outweigh the negative for APT Fabrics Ltd. Stanley mentions, "We have been busier than ever. Don't get me wrong there has been some downsides from a personal point of view, not being able to physically touch the products from businesses we have been working with has been hard as having the ability to feel the garments is vital.

Not being able to speak face to face has also been difficult as the pandemic didn't allow

for any physical meetings or consultations to be held. However, we have positively reacted to the market and have begun concentrating more on working with companies who manufacture PPE, helping them to get the best out their products to ensure 100% safety."

Pushing boundaries in the future, APT Fabrics Ltd. has jointly developed the Florian membrane and clothing system which is a new product development for the fire market which it hopes will be the next step forward in fire suit evolution.

Furthermore, with the return of trade shows to the UK, APT Fabrics Ltd. will be attending The Emergency Services Show in Birmingham at the NEC on the 7th-8th of September 2021.

By creating products that specifically meet client's specifications, APT Fabrics Ltd. designs innovative, tailor-made bespoke products that last.

Stanley's expertise is world renown, and his business strategy is faultless and commendable. His methodology to always keep pushing the boundaries of the textile industry is inspirational, individual and recognisable around the world.

**For more information, see below.**

**T 07854 064324**  
[aptfabrics@gmail.com](mailto:aptfabrics@gmail.com)  
[www.aptfabrics.com](http://www.aptfabrics.com)





# A new twist on vibration monitoring!

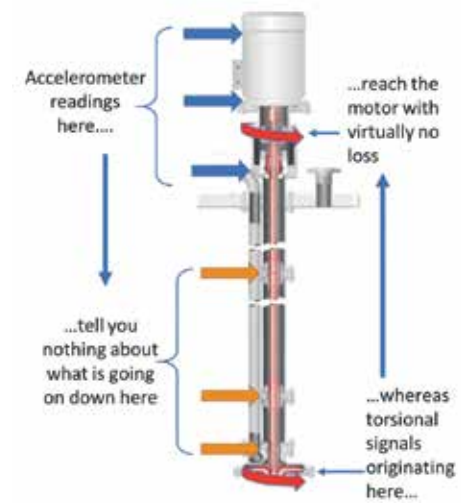
Turn your motors into vibration sensors with Model-Based Voltage and Current (MBVI) systems to reveal hidden benefits

By Geoff Walker, Operations Director, Faraday Predictive

Condition Monitoring of rotating equipment can bring big benefits through avoiding unexpected breakdowns and enabling more efficient maintenance, with one of the most widely used techniques being Vibration Monitoring.

But some situations that are getting more common in industry such as variable speed drives, with the resulting varying loads and electrical distortions, can make vibration monitoring more difficult. And hidden problems in sound-proof enclosures, remote-mounted, duct-mounted or submersible equipment can all make it difficult taking a vibration reading using a conventional accelerometer.

A new way of getting vibration readings in all these difficult situations can be provided by turning your electric motors into vibration sensors by using Model-Based Voltage and Current (MBVI) Systems. They detect the torsional vibration that is excited by a wide range of phenomena inside equipment, not just rolling element bearing faults. They also monitor energy consumption and calculate the energy being wasted by these faults. So your motor can actually tell you more about your equipment condition than conventional Vibration Monitoring. For a deeper insight into how this technology works, see: [www.faradaypredictive.com/technical-education/mbvi-technology/](http://www.faradaypredictive.com/technical-education/mbvi-technology/)



**Torsional vibration**

Conventional vibration sensors measure radial or axial movement of the shaft whereas torsional vibration is movement of the shaft twisting along its axis. The motor driving



the equipment 'sees' this vibration as subtle variations in the torque required to drive the equipment, which in turn results in subtle variations in motor current relative to voltage.



This can be detected and automatically analysed by an MBVI system to provide a broad range of fault diagnostics and condition monitoring.

These systems also detect electrical faults and operational problems, eg is it being damaged by being overloaded or stopped and started too often?

Because a shaft is designed to transmit torque

from one end to the other, the motor can pick up signals coming from bearings anywhere along the length of the shaft. So even with a long shaft submerged pump like that illustrated, problems at the bottom bearing or any of the intermediate bearings can be detected. The different bearings can be discriminated by their different characteristic frequencies.

Faraday Predictive provides both fixed ('S200')

and portable ('P100') units as shown here.

They also provide on-site service so you can 'try before you buy' using a P100 portable kit, giving you a risk-free way to prove the benefit before investing in buying kit of your own.

T 0333 772 0748  
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Providers of portable and permanently installed condition monitoring and energy monitoring and optimisation systems. Faraday Predictive systems require no sensors to be mounted on your plant equipment, instead we use the electric motor driving your equipment as the sensor. Simply by measuring the voltage and current drawn by the motor we can identify an astonishing amount of information about developing problems in your equipment, giving you an indication of current condition and predicting future condition for up to three months in the future. We provide easily understood advice on the nature of the fault, how we have diagnosed it, the effects it is likely to have, and what you should do about it. We also quantify the energy being wasted by faults, allowing you to cost-justify corrective work on energy saving grounds.

For more information see our website or contact us direct.



## Valves for a Salty Life

The planned refurbishment of an effluent treatment plant on the Atlantic coast was required whilst maintaining full operation, however difficulties were realised at the planning stage, as three critical isolating valves had non-standard face to face dimensions and required to be resistance to the salt laden air. The first consideration was to replace the adjacent pipe work to allow the fitting of standard sized valves, but this was soon ruled out as this would result in major civil work and operational interruption, which could not be tolerated on a sensitive site.

Consulting T-T Flow (a division of T-T Pumps) for help, T-T's engineers reviewed the problem coming up with a rapid engineered solution, which included introducing manganese bronze stems and further salt resistance materials.

The new valves were supplied on time within the tight schedule and to an upgraded specification to tolerate the extreme conditions and well within budget expectation allowing the site to continue to run without interruption.



For further information please contact T-T  
T 01630 647200  
[www.ttpumps.com](http://www.ttpumps.com)

## Are you concerned about HAVS?



Have you ever wondered what would happen if a Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Inspector turned up at your site to look at how you manage hand-arm vibration? Well wonder no more, because the HSE publishes its Operational Guidance on its website.

HSE recently revised its internal guidance for Inspectors on hand-arm vibration (formerly called the Topic Inspection Pack). The revised Operational Guidance 'Hand-arm vibration Inspection and Enforcement Guidance' is intended for use by Inspectors or visiting officers when inspecting work activities involving risks from exposure to hand-arm vibration (HAV), enforcing the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005 (the Vibration Regulations) and investigating cases of hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS) and carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) reported through the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR).

So if your employees are exposed to hand-arm vibration, and especially if you have recently reported a case of HAVS or CTS, you might want to check that you are complying with the Vibration Regulations, what questions you are likely to be asked, and how HSE inspectors are likely to go about assessing your management of risks from hand-arm vibration.

There are a few points in the guidance that are worth asking yourself when it comes to managing hand-arm vibration:

- ▲ How much effort should be put into a vibration exposure assessment?
- ▲ What might lead an Inspector to decide to take enforcement action?
- ▲ Exposures above the Exposure Action Value
- ▲ The level of risk and benchmarks
- ▲ RIDDOR reports of HAVS and CTS

If you are concerned about hand-arm vibration issues, and compliance with the Vibration Regulations, contact Finch Consulting. We have a wealth of experience and expertise and we can help you to get to grips with managing the risks. If you are in the position of having to defend either a civil claim for HAVS or CTS, or an HSE prosecution, Finch can also provide valuable expert evidence, if instructed by your Solicitors.

Written by Sue Hewitt and Dr Chris Nelson.

T 01530 412777  
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# High-performing test chambers

Since 1995, JTS has been designing and building reliable, high-performing environmental test chambers for a wide variety of industries. The company is an independent specialist UK manufacturer, with design and build undertaken in-house by a team of skilled engineers and technicians.

Environmental testing is an essential process in the research and development of new products, and the maintenance of quality and reliability of established product lines. Using the right environmental test chamber to simulate given conditions, such as heat, cold, humidity, dust, vibration and pressure, ensures products meet industry standards, improving quality and minimising failures. JTS Ltd specialises in designing and building systems for temperature, humidity, rain, dust and vibration testing, with units ranging from small bench-top chambers to walk-in rooms, and air conditioning units to supply independent test rigs.

With the increase demand for battery testing JTS has been converting 30ft

shipping containers into specialist self-contained 'test cells' for temperature and humidity testing. Battery testing can be highly volatile and to minimise risk in this case, JTS engineers designed an innovative CO2 cascade system, capable of achieving a range of +80/-40c at high rates of temperature change.

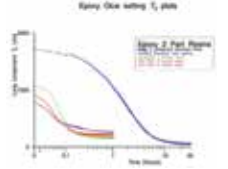
As an inert gas, CO2 has a major advantage in this application over alternative refrigerants which are either highly flammable, less efficient or have a far higher GWP (Global Warming Potential).

Contact  
T 01874 711209  
[www.jts-test-chambers.co.uk](http://www.jts-test-chambers.co.uk)



# Time-Domain NMR Spectrometer for Materials Studies & Process Measurement & Control

Time-domain NMR Relaxation is an extremely useful quantitative technique for material science and process measurement & control. This time-domain NMR spectrometer can be used to study solids such as polymers and porous materials. This gives data on sample component masses and movement of the atoms and molecules, which lead to qualities which are variously described as mobility, dynamics, stiffness, viscosity or rigidity.



Designed by a British company active in the NMR field for decades, this highly compact Mk3 low-field time-domain NMR relaxation spectrometer provides physical information on liquid and solid samples in the lab and in the field, at a size, cost and complexity typically 1/10th to 1/100th of that of typical high field chemical analysis NMR systems.

To aid sample analysis and nano-pore-size measurements an optional Peltier thermo-electrically cooled variable-temperature probe is available, that precisely controls temperature from -35C to +80C, with additional gas-assist available down to -80C.

Here are some typical measurements monitoring the setting of two-part epoxy resins over more than a day, measuring the changes in the motion of the atoms in the polymers as the setting process proceeds and the resins become more rigid.

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# Tech firm, Wise continues to grow with launch of revolutionary new platform

A fast-growing UK technology firm is celebrating following the launch of its brand new digital platform as it continues to expand its technology team with vital new hires at its Birmingham base.



Wise, who specialises in software to improve the self-employment experience within the logistics sector, is based in the heart of Solihull and has over the last twelve months, seen its workforce grow from a team of eight to a diverse team of over 40.

The company's innovative software now supports over 170 UK logistics firms and over 10,000 self-employed subcontractors on everything from managing their onboarding and compliance processes to expenses and invoicing. As the business has expanded, Wise has needed to fill vital development and digital design roles within the technology team and has, in turn, looked to address industry-wide issues around diversity and inclusion through its recruitment.

This diversity has been achieved through working closely with the School of Code. School of Code is a free digital bootcamp that offers people of all backgrounds and positions the chance to retrain in coding and web design through an intensive, industry-focused programme. Offering a route into the exciting UK technology sector, Wise has recruited seven graduates from the School of Code into a wide range of positions within the development team.

The technology firm is now celebrating the launch of its brand-new platform and accompanying mobile app, which provides a solution for an array of long-term issues affecting the logistics industry, such as recruiting, onboarding subcontractors. The new Wise platform is aimed at improving the whole experience of self-employment, saving not only businesses but their subcontractor workforce time, money and stress all at once.

To find out more about how using Wise can help your business engage with its self-employed workforce, head to [www.withwise.com](http://www.withwise.com).

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# NEW AZM40 SOLENOID INTERLOCK WITH UL CERTIFICATION



Smallest electronic solenoid interlock in the world

The new compact AZM40 solenoid interlock now has UL certification, which means that it can be used in machinery and systems intended for the North American market. In addition, Schmersal has optimised the interlock as well as developed additional versions that incorporate specific customer requirements.

The new development has generated considerable market interest thanks to its compact 'on-trend' dimensions. With dimensions of 119.5 x 40 x 20 mm, the AZM40 is the smallest electronic solenoid interlock in the world. The AZM40 is the ideal safety solution for all machine builders looking for optimisation through miniaturisation, simplification and minimisation of materials.

The compact AZM40 can also be installed easily in confined and hard-to-access areas thanks to 180° angular flexibility of the actuator. An added benefit is its universal use on rotary and sliding doors with a single design version.

### New enclosure versions

The AZM40 solenoid interlock and actuator are available in two enclosure versions. For typical use in mechanical engineering, there are enclosures with a flat, screw-on surface for cylinder-head bolts. For visually improved installation and where space saving is a priority, there is a version with countersunk tapers for countersunk bolts.

### Low-energy safety solution

The AZM40 operates to a bistable holding principle. This means that it maintains its locking position and securely holds the guard door in the event of power failure, thereby preventing hazardous run-on movements. In addition, energy consumption with the bistable principle is lower.

Contact: Steve Watkins  
swatkins@schmersal.com  
www.schmersal.co.uk

## CocoonFMS™ Ltd

We are delighted to announce the office launch of CocoonFMS™ Limited.

CocoonFMS™ is a UK based Logistics software company providing innovation, tools and systems that increase productivity, create cost savings and operating efficiencies to both logistics companies, freight forwarders, as well as providing accurate data and greater connectivity to their clients.

The CocoonFMS™ team is made up by industry and digital experts who bring over 60 years of experience within logistics industry. The management team consists:

Glen Tapper – Managing Partner  
Gareth Walrond – Technical Partner  
James Blackman – Managing Partner  
Anthony Quinn – Commercial Partner

CocoonFMS™ products bring a range of partners together to form a one stop shop for Logistics software SMEs with our FMS portal at the very core of our product offering.

"CocoonFMS™ presents an exciting proposition to the logistics industry. Digitalising the supply chain by offering affordable software solutions which can allow the SME Logistics providers to compete with the larger freight forwarders. Our expertise

in Logistics is second to none and our 'hands on' knowledge of how clients interact with their data will be critical in providing the right software to enhance and improve our customers operations and customer loyalty". Said James Blackman.



Contact  
sales@cocoonfms.co.uk  
www.cocoonfms.co.uk  
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## AZM40: THE SMALLEST ELECTRONIC SOLENOID INTERLOCK IN THE WORLD

**Strong Interlocking force in a compact design**

With dimensions of just 119.5 x 40 x 20 mm, the AZM40 is the smallest electronic solenoid interlock in the world. This makes it especially suitable for small safety doors and flaps. Despite its compact size, the AZM40 has an amazing 2000 Newton interlocking force and 25 Newton latching force.

Thanks to the 180° angle flexibility of the actuator, it can approach the AZM40 on a stepless basis, making the interlock also suitable for flaps which do not close at 90° or those that open upwards to a 45° angle. This means the angle flexibility helps the interlock easily fit into compact spaces and difficult to access areas.

The AZM40 works on the bistable principle: In the event of a power cut, it retains the current position. This ensures safe operation, whatever the status of the machine. Even if there are hazardous run-on movements, the safety door remains safely locked in the event of a power failure. Another advantage of the bistable principle is the consistently low energy consumption, as the interlock only requires power when the door is to be locked or unlocked.

Scan the QR code to see the AZM40 in action or visit our website for more information.

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# ONLINE COMMERCE AND DISTRIBUTION: NEW NEEDS IN WAREHOUSES

In recent months, online commerce has grown exponentially, thanks also to the lockdown imposed by the Covid-19 emergency. And, according to analysis, buying online is a trend that will continue. Thus consumer buying habits have changed and companies, especially those operating in the distribution field, must in turn adapt their structures and processes. Including in warehouses.

### New needs in the warehouse

Online commerce comes with specific needs for those involved in distribution: to respond to increasingly just-in-time logistics, storage and material handling solutions must guarantee flexibility, precision and efficiency in the management of stock and product flows. In this context, automatic vertical storage systems such as Vertimag, the new system designed by the Ferretto Group and offered exclusively in the UK by Quickline, offer companies significant advantages.

The advantages of an automatic vertical storage system

- ▲ Increased order and better management of available space
- ▲ Efficiency in order preparation
- ▲ Easy and fast picking
- ▲ Better traceability and management of stock
- ▲ Efficient management of flows and real-time connection with the corporate ERP
- ▲ Increased safety and ergonomics for personnel

### AUTOMATION FOR ONLINE COMMERCE AND DISTRIBUTION

The efficient management of the warehouse and of incoming and outgoing flows is a priority for companies operating in the distribution sector. In fact, this also impacts competitiveness and the ability to meet the demand of points of sale and customers. In addition to the mentioned advantages in terms of space optimization, an automatic vertical storage system like Vertimag offers a completely automated logistics system in which cutting-edge technology guarantees efficient picking and placing operations.

### An organized and well-controlled warehouse

Automation allows for the continuous control of a warehouse. The management of stock and flows is monitored and operators know the position of the products and the available quantities at any time. Thus this system guarantees efficient order preparation and ease of picking. Moreover, storage systems like Vertimag increase efficiency also thanks to a wide range of trays and accessories that ensure orderly and rational storage and, consequently, a reduction in picking and order lead times.

### Just in time management

Thanks to the management software developed in-house, all picking operations are monitored and documented: operators can thus quickly check the status of all machines and know precisely the quantity of stock held in the warehouse in real time, thereby avoiding both over and under stock. The storage system can be connected to the company's management software (ERP) and communicate with it to manage data, advanced searches, and production lists.

In this way, remarkable accuracy is achieved in the traceability and management of stock, as well as the total management of flows, with a significant reduction in picking list processing times. In practice, this means that the operator is able to know in real time if the goods in a certain lot - or even in a specific pallet - are in the warehouse, when they entered, when they left, and for which order they were shipped.

### AT WORK, IN THE BEST CONDITIONS

The choice of an automatic storage system also comes with significant improvements in working conditions.

In the case of Vertimag, the wide range of trays and accessories ensures that operators always work in conditions of maximum safety and ergonomics, guaranteed by the height and structure of the trays. Laser pointers and the alphanumeric LED bars also guide the operator, thereby making picking easier, more comfortable and accurate while also eliminating the risk of confusing similar products.

### With Vertimag, ergonomics and speed go hand in hand

The efficiency of an automated storage system like Vertimag is also enhanced by specific innovations, for example the exclusive Ergo-Tech system: thanks to a second lift located in the structure, it manages the flows of a double bay, increasing productivity, reducing space requirements, and creating an ergonomic environment.

For more information about the Vertimag VLM visit [www.quicklinestorage.co.uk](http://www.quicklinestorage.co.uk)



## VERTIMAG VLM - Reduce your footprint by 1/10th

The innovative Vertimag Vertical Lift Module (VLM) storage system maximises the height of the warehouse whilst reducing the footprint by 1/10th.

The result? Increased picking productivity, reduced handling errors, maximised product security and improved stock management.

Visit [www.quicklinestorage.co.uk](http://www.quicklinestorage.co.uk) or call 0113 880 0866 to find out more.



Quickline are exclusive UK suppliers of Ferretto systems

