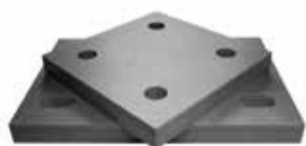


## Building & Construction Review



### Thermal isolation and anti-shock specialists



Established in 2006, Thermal Breaks Limited is based on a constant growing demand from specialised insulation products from its parent company AK Rubber & Industrial Supplies Ltd. Experts in thermal isolation and precision levelling solutions, Thermal Breaks Limited is committed to supplying high quality products manufactured from premium quality materials in a range of grades to suit customer needs.

Thermal breaks are used in steel-to-steel and steel-to-concrete applications. Each application helps to prevent thermal transfer from the exterior of structure, in to the internal structure via the steel framework. For steel-to-concrete, the thermal break greatly reduces heat loss into the concrete foundation or slab and provides better insulation for the structure.

Thermal Breaks Limited have partnered with Trimble Solutions UK to produce a comprehensive and innovative software Tekla Plug-in component for Tekla Structures. Tekla Structures is an advanced BIM application that includes

valuable construction information, such as component properties specifications, and essential manufacturer references.

The Plug-in tool allows Tekla Structures' users to ensure the correct design and detailed information is applied throughout the project, from conceptual planning to fabrication and construction.

Thermal Breaks Limited also provide numerous other applications. TekTherm™ is a high-performance insulator used between internal and external connections to prevent thermal bridging. TekVibe™ (coming soon) is made from materials with low natural frequency, making an ideal product for shock absorption and vibration isolation. TekPack™ are high quality shims, designed to flex and absorb shock when required. TekSlide™ are low friction slide bearings that allow for movement caused by a temperature change.

Acoustic Attenuation is a high quality and high-performance noise reduction and thermal insulation range. Lastly, its Load Bearing Rubber are fibre reinforced load bearing pads manufactured using recycled high-quality tyres resulting in an economical friendly product.

For more information, see below.

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#### CASE STUDY



CLIENT: Genius Facades Ltd  
 INDUSTRY: CONSTRUCTION - FACADE MANUFACTURER

#### PROJECT OUTLINE:

A regular and valued client Genius Facades wanted to promote factory expansion and recent investment in new machinery to new and existing clients. To achieve this we visited the factory and filmed and photographed factory processes and the new machinery in action. This content was then used to produce a range of different videos and has also been used for brochures, advertisements, regular linkedin updates and on the client website.

[www.efendiarchitectural.com](http://www.efendiarchitectural.com)



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# Compact and powerful stump grinders from Predator

Predator is an industry leading supplier of high performance, narrow access tree stump grinders, which was established in 2003. The company's founders were originally working in the tree care industry, offering tree stump removal to their clients. Back then, stump grinders were often large wheeled or tracked machines. The machines were frequently built in the US where they have plenty of space to manoeuvre their machinery. In the UK, back gardens tend to provide difficult access, which creates a struggle for arborists attempting to get their stump grinding machinery into a back garden.

"The founders were used to this same problem, and saw a need in the market for a compact tree stump grinder that are powerful enough for commercial stump removal on large sites, but also compact and narrow, to be able to get through the tight garden gates of the UK. The first Predator stump grinders built were the narrow tracked 28X, which were only 26 inches wide and therefore able to get through any garden gate, but with a



28 horsepower diesel engine and deep grinding depth, they could handle nearly any size stump," said Simon Bradshaw, Predator Sales.

From its location in Henley on Thames in Oxfordshire, and its 30 dealer and service centre locations around the UK and globally located dealers in North America, New Zealand and Australia; Predator supplies cutting edge, tree



stump removal tools for Arboriculture professionals, Plant Hire firms, Local authorities and Contractors worldwide.

"We are the only tree stump grinder company that focuses exclusively on the design and supply of narrow access stump removal machinery, making us the best choice on the market for companies and individuals in the UK, where difficult access to the stump is the norm. We offer a comprehensive, affordable range of stump grinders, from portable tools you can carry, all the way to more powerful radio controlled tracked machines," added Simon.

One of the most remarkable machines within Predator's range is its best seller; the Predator 38RX. The Predator 38RX is a radio controlled, tracked machine which is 26 inches wide and maintains an impressive 38 horsepower. Specifically designed to provide narrow access and high productivity, the Predator 38X is able to handle tough access stumps located in places such as back gardens and rough terrain commercial sites.



"We have now upgraded the unit with a dozer blade and tow bar. Making it the narrowest machine on the market for its power and performance. It will now grind 22 inches deep, almost twice the depth of the closest competing machine," stated Simon.

The Predator 38RX has been designed to meet the ever toughening regulations, and as such, the noise levels are extremely low and the machine utilises its refined fuel injected Kohler EFI engine,

resulting in minimal vibration. The Predator 38RX is a highly productive and innovate machine, providing an easy to use, low maintenance and compact solution.



In terms of recent developments, Predator saw an increase during the pandemic in response to people taking on more garden, commercial, construction and landscaping projects. Simon explained that, "Our dealer network is constantly growing, prior to the dealer network being launched in 2018, we were selling direct to customers. Now it is far more convenient to buy and service Predators' as there is often a dealer or service centre on their doorstep. It has made it more important to forecast required components, parts and stock requirements to keep up with demand. Though the COVID-19 situation made manufacturing very challenging, with component delays, the Arboriculture industry was also incredibly busy in 2020."

Predator maintains that it will continue to look at new ways to improve upon its machinery and strives to always provide new solutions to make its machinery more compact, with increased power and performance.

For more information, please see below.  
T 01189 404929  
[www.predator-mfg.com](http://www.predator-mfg.com)

# Terrific timber from the heart of Lincolnshire

We are pleased to announce that George Barnsdale has received Building and Construction Reviews Commitment to Excellence Award.



Founded in 1884, George Barnsdale is a family run business manufacturing high-performance timber windows and doors in Donington, Lincolnshire. It offers a nationwide project management and installation service for commercial contract projects and has a network of approved partners for domestic customers.

George Barnsdale specialises in Timber fenestration for listed buildings, traditional style new builds and contemporary new builds and replacements. Passivhaus can also be achieved for greater energy efficiency.

George Barnsdale prides itself on producing a premium product, with natural quality and performance being at the heart of its procurement and manufacturing process. What helps to bring its high-performance commitment to timber windows and glass door quality, is the company's high levels of customisation available throughout the design process.

Its products are fully customisable which means customers can more accurately replicate their original windows or doors, which in turn help customers meet conservation office requirements. It has one of the largest banks of acoustic and thermal test data in the industry meaning it understands the impact of every design detail on the whole window's performance.



Most manufacturers only state the centre pane glass performance but George Barnsdale test and report on the whole window and performance. George Barnsdale has been busy working on new projects and its latest innovation, although it hasn't quite launched yet,

is a bottom hung bi-fold doorset. This caters for buildings that are not structurally able to support the usual top hung versions such as oak framed buildings due to movement of timber beams.

And the innovation doesn't stop there, George Barnsdale also has an excellent vacuum glazing system that looks like single glazing but is as efficient as triple glazing and doesn't require an unsightly plug. "We use Fineo which delivers amazing energy performance combined with exceptional thermal insulation and extreme durability. The unit has superb noise reduction, harnesses more free solar energy and is 100% recyclable and lead free." Said Tracy Pomfret, Head of Marketing.

With innovative solutions in its DNA, George Barnsdale's main target customers range from builders, contractors, developers, homeowners, and self-builders. Being industry leaders in timber windows since 1884, George Barnsdale calls for developers, contractors, and architects to adopt an open-minded approach to modern high performance timber fenestration. Lasting longer than uPVC, each design is not just aesthetically pleasing but delivers Passivhaus performance levels and can be used in multiple projects.



George Barnsdale has bounced back well from COVID-19, particularly in the domestic channel as more homeowners have invested in their homes. Supply and demand is concerning but George Barnsdale has been working closely with its partners to ensure the continuity of its supply.

Looking to the future, further investment has been made in the factory finishing area and into new product development. Its current project working with Vastern Timber is being used to test homegrown timber in the company's products. Contract and installation project work will continue to expand outside of London.

"We would also like to do more contemporary work with Passivhaus type projects, and we anticipate that timber will increase in popularity because without it, construction will never achieve NetZero." States Tracy.

Through the quality of its products, the passion of its team and the knowledge and experience it possesses, George Barnsdale can supply and support you for the duration of your build.

T 01775 823000  
[enquiries@georgebarnsdale.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@georgebarnsdale.co.uk)  
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# Innovative and sustainable solutions to every wooden floor challenge



Founded in 1919, Bona was the first in the industry to offer a full system of Waterborne hardwood floor finishing and floor care products. As a family-owned company, Bona is a sustainably driven company that provides products for installing, renovating, maintaining, and restoring premium floors. Offering products for the most premium of floor surfaces including wood, tile, vinyl, resilient, rubber and laminate, Bona has engineered, pioneered and perfected an entire system to create floors that last a lifetime.

Bona's founder, Wilhelm Edner is from Sweden and used to sell a product called Bonvax from his small grocery store. When applied to wood, Bonvax creates a polished and protective surface. After realising the products potential, Wilhelm founded Bona AB with a focus of bringing out the beauty in floors.

Today Bona has over 600 employees, spread across five factories around the world and is present in 90 countries through 17 international subsidiaries and distributors. Still headquartered in Malmö, Sweden, its UK office is based in Linford Wood, Milton Keynes.

Bona carries 100 years of experience and expertise in the flooring industry and offers customers a unique insight into flooring requirements and solutions. Providing solutions for all levels of flooring from commercial installations, renovations, floorcare products, coatings, fastenings, machines, abrasives and ongoing maintenance. From its commitment to

sustainability to its relationships with its customers, Bona provide an unrivalled service that gives customers the highest quality products.

Sustainability is at the core of Bona and has been embedded into the company's culture since 1919. "What we've learned from 100 years of commitment to sustainable practices is that sustainability is ever-evolving. Rather than a destination, it's a multifaceted journey that changes as our world changes. Our sustainability journey is aligned and in accordance with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals



and is focused on bringing better products and practices to home, health, and humanity - across the globe," stated Leanne Garvie, Marketing Manager.

Renewable raw materials were introduced with the first generation of Bona Mega in 1995. Bona source all its own raw materials to ensure the chemical composition of its products meet the strictest standards. Bona provides the highest quality design, craft and care in all its products and prides itself on its environmentally friendly profile. For example, Waterborne finishes were invented by Bona for wooden floors and offers a safer way to refinish floors improving working conditions for flooring contractors by reducing their exposure to solvents.

The SHE (Safety, Health and the Environment) policy showcases Bona's commitment to sustainability, and the company is proud to state that all of its manufacturing is certified by ISO 14001, GREENGUARD and Green Seal.

At Bona, a commitment to humankind means more than 'just giving back'. Bona like to think of it as 'giving forward', therefore, Bona has committed to a future of supporting both global and local communities. From international partnerships that support global change to donating time and resources to local fundraisers, Bona has made tremendous efforts to make a difference in the world. From partnering with Hand in Hand, a non-government organisation, to helping fight poverty, raising funds for local hospitals and working alongside university research programs, Bona deliver an abundance of services and outreach programmes to enrich the lives of those in need.

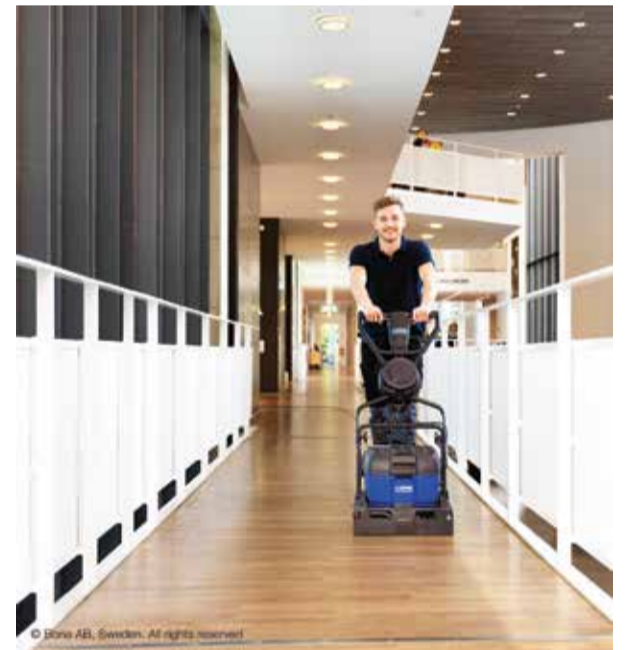


In recent news, "Bona now offers highly effective treatment steps and products for the renovation and maintenance of resilient floors. Our high quality, sustainable program allows you, to not only maintain floor freshness but also to totally transform the look of your existing floor without replacing it," said Leanne.

The Bona system comes with a complete range of high performing products designed

to deliver durable and beautiful results. Its proven, trusted system of products offers a wide range of choice from coatings, adhesives, finishes, maintenance, machines, abrasives, tools and accessories. The resilient solution is proven to deliver a cost savings of over 40% with 50% less downtime. Ideal for heavy traffic in commercial and industrial settings, the system harks real sustainable benefits and is proven to save over 90% towards both energy output and reduced carbon footprint.

Bona's recent success has enabled a move into a new premises to cater to recent demand. The new premises houses an expansion of its warehouse facilities and is helping to increase its distribution capabilities. Bona products are targeted towards commercial property managers,



facility managers, contractors, architects and even domestic floor owners. Its multifaceted capabilities allow Bona to adapt and be flexible to any customer's requirement regardless of what industry they serve. In closing, Leanne relayed what Bona envisages for the future, "we want to take the Bona brand to the resilient flooring renovation market. As market leaders in the wood floor sector we are keen to expand awareness to other floor types and facility solutions."

For more information, see below.

T 01908 525150  
[info.uk@bona.com](mailto:info.uk@bona.com)  
[www.bona.com/en-gb](http://www.bona.com/en-gb)



# The fastest access panel in the world, available now!

**rapidFit**



Rapid Access Ltd was founded in 2008 and is located in the Midlands with two manufacturing facilities in Nuneaton and a warehouse in Atherstone. Over the past 25 years, Rapid Access Ltd has provided a high-quality service in a wide range of access panels, riser doors, loft hatches and fire rated over boxes in various sizes and specifications.

Designing and manufacturing access panels for walls and ceilings, Rapid Access Ltd offer the quickest manufacturing process on the market when it comes to ordering their products. As specialist manufacturers for the construction and building sector, it also extends its unrivalled service to distributors, contractors and architects.



"Our Flipfix Range of Access Panels are five times quicker to fit compared to a traditional panel, with our unique Fitting Device, Mitreless Frame and new Flush Lock system, these panels save 80% on fitting costs as there are no screws or glue required and no need for bracing or supports just cut, fit and flip," said Kate

With four options available, the FlipFix

comes as plasterboard, metal faced, tile faced, or circular. Further benefits including easy to fit, extra lock options, perfect for walls and ceilings, comes with an approved fire rating and no extra materials are needed. The Flipfix allows easy access to hidden domestic services such as shut-off valves, isolation switches, stop taps and other hidden services. The Flipfix is manufactured to an excellent finish.

Kate explained another notable product, "we are also the innovators of the RapidFit hinge system on our riser door range which works on a spring-loaded pin hinge. This means, the installation of the door, once the frame has been installed, is much quicker than a door supplied with a traditional piano hinge."

The RapidFit sliding hinge system allows for quick and easy removal of the access panel door from the frame. Therefore, allowing the frame to be fitted into the structural opening easily and safely. By aligning the hinge pins and clicking them into place, the access panel door can then be fitted. The product has undergone vigorous testing and can save up to 30 minutes per panel on fitting times when compared with an 1800 x 600mm Rapid Fit and a traditional access panel.

Holding accreditations in ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management and UKAS Management Systems, its customer service is impeccable. On hand to assist in any queries, the team aim to respond within an hour and process any order



during the enquiry. Working alongside customer service is the technical support team who are a team holding large amounts of experience and technical know-how of all things access panel related. Furthermore, if you require guidance with your order, the website has an access buddy live chat where you can chat with any member of the sales team instantly.



Rapid Access Ltd offer customers large quote support with each quote over £5,000. Offering a pack consisting of a quote summary, datasheets, test certification, product/service benefits and features, fitting instructions and a history of the quote. Additionally, customers are provided with a detailed product brochure including price and product information and guidance. If a customer is unsure of what they're looking for, Rapid Access Ltd has an access panel builder on the website consisting of expert sales team members to help customers select the correct panel.

Its latest innovation is the Meter Over Box which is designed to be surface mounted onto a structural membrane of a block wall system. Manufactured with a 25mm wide picture frame, the panel comes with a metal faced door.

The panel door leaf is locked in place via a budget lock and an 8mm triangular meter cabinet insert, other lock options are available. The panel is powder coated RAL 9010 30% gloss and is available in multiple colours. The panel is 2-hour fire rated for an integrity up to 1070 x 650mm in a wall application and is tested in accordance with BSEN 1634-1.

"We have recently released our Rapids Flush Lock system, which incorporates a sleek discreet finish and is available on most of our Flipfix products. Customers will never have to worry about losing or breaking bungs again as it has a spring-loaded locking mechanism," stated Kate.

Further to its product portfolio, the company has a BIM library which acts as a link between manufacturers and BIM. It develops digital replicas in 2D and 3D

libraries of real-world building products and interior components. With this technology the company can offer a digital 3D replica of its products.

Kate explained what impact COVID-19 has had on the business, "we felt the impact of material prices rising but as a manufacturer we decided not to implement a price rise during these testing times. Instead, we decided to add a temporary material surcharge, meaning as long as the price of materials come down, so will our surcharge."

In the future, the company aims to have all its products in National distributors with the ease of purchasing its unique Flipfix product, loft hatches and riser doors, and will continue its efforts to incorporate its products into nationwide industry specific projects.

For more information, see below.

T 024 76328811  
[sales@rapidaccessltd.com](mailto:sales@rapidaccessltd.com)  
[www.rapidaccessltd.com](http://www.rapidaccessltd.com)



**bimobject**

# Azpects has exceptional products and solutions



Azpects was established in 2009 by Paul Taylor and Michael Downing. The company maintains locations in Ipswich, Suffolk and an office in Texas, USA which opened in 2016. Azpects was born from a discovery made by its two directors; Taylor and Downing discovered an innovative product which they believed could benefit landscapers across Britain. They launched EASYJoint in January 2010, which has since experienced significant recognition, becoming the UK's leading product for joining patios, paths and paving.

Azpects specialises in developing and manufacturing products for the creation and

products to help clean and protect surfaces including paving, decking and ornaments. Azpects products are available through builders' merchants, trade outlets, garden centres and leading DIY retailers.

Azpects has built a reputation of quality and has developed unrivalled experience within its sector by listening to its customers and providing solutions for their needs.

"Our customers fall into two categories; Stockists and Suppliers (i.e. builders merchants or on-line channels). Our service and support to our stockists is second to none, providing



maintenance of outdoor hard landscaping. The main ambition of the company is simply to deliver high-quality products, that make common construction and care challenges easier and less frequent.

"Our comprehensive range of joint fillers, surface cleaners, protectors and other ancillary products are distributed through builders' merchants and landscape supply centres. All are designed to make both the professional and DIYer's job easier when it comes to installing and maintaining hard landscaping materials. We believe our products are easier, quicker and more effective than alternatives," said Kevin Ager, Sales Director.

The company now maintains a wide range of over 40 products, aimed at both professional landscapers and consumers. The range includes products to help establish surfaces such as patios, paths and driveways, and



dedicated Account Managers to service the customer on a very regular basis, delivering specialist training on our products and general support for the end-user," said Kevin.

Supported by their expert and experienced team, Azpects formulates specific solutions to customers challenges. The extensive skills to achieve this have been developed within the chemicals industry. Solutions are achieved quickly and delivered expertly by their team of customer support specialists.

Kevin continued, "We offer tailored marketing support (traditional and social media led) from our in-house professional marketing team. We provide detailed usage instructions with a comprehensive catalogue of support videos. We also offer a customer support team, who are on hand to handle individual technical queries available by telephone."

A noteworthy product within the Azpects range is its EASYClickBase (ECB), a revolutionary synthetic sub-base system. Whereas traditional methods of laying paving and



driveways require substantial excavation and subsequently, result in costly disposal of residual materials and the import of expensive aggregates; ECB significantly reduces all these requirements while maintaining the integrity of the project. The main benefits of ECB are reducing time, labour and costs.

"The use of ECB means much less digging out, less backfill and less waste. ECB tasks all that without the aid of mechanical apparatus, which would have previously had to be done laboriously by hand. It saves time and money and reduces the environmental impact of patio and driveway projects. ECB has further environmental credentials in that it is made from recycled plastic and is recyclable. It is lightweight and easy to transport and solves the landscaper's nightmare problem of working in areas with restricted access for plant and machinery," added Kevin.

In terms of the latest developments for the company, Azpects has taken a flexible home-working approach in response to challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Kevin expanded on the company's challenges over the last 12 months, "we adopted a flexible approach to home-working and invested in video-conferencing software which enabled us to continue to grow the business despite the challenges. Demand for certain products increased during the lockdowns, as consumers began to focus on improving their own outdoor spaces rather than holidaying abroad. The challenge isn't over; material shortages are affecting the whole of the landscaping and construction industry. We're proud to supply alternative products such as EASYJoint and EASYClickbase, that enable landscapers to get on with their jobs despite shortages of cement and aggregate."

Indeed, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented many new challenges for the industry and Azpects has risen to and continues to face these challenges head-on. Impressively the company has seen some expansion with growth in personnel, adding additional marketing support which further evidences the company's commitment to continuous development and improvement. Azpects has also seen the establishment of a retail division aimed at providing services for garden centres and the general public which is an exciting new development.

As the company plans for the future, Azpects intends to continue broadening and enhancing its range. Kevin stated, "Our R&D team continue to refine our existing range and seek new solutions to challenges met every day by landscapers and gardeners. We maintain many innovative products which are planned for launch throughout 2022 and beyond."

For any more information, please see the details below.

Contact  
T +44 (0)1473 760777  
[www.azpects.co.uk](http://www.azpects.co.uk)

# Efficient insulation to create climate-positive buildings



Mergers and acquisitions are some of the most difficult manoeuvres to pull off in business. Knowing whether each company's culture is compatible with the other can be a daunting task. However, TN International is the global arm one of the world's biggest construction materials manufacturers, which made it the perfect parent company for UK insulation manufacturer, Superglass, following its purchase in 2016. With production facilities across a diverse range of materials in several European countries, TN International is a proven vehicle to integrate the work of different construction companies, connecting them together for a better future for the construction industry.

backing of TN International, Superglass' has gone from strength to strength. In 2017, The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) signed Scotland's first Sustainable Growth Agreement with Superglass, underlining the company's green credentials.

In 2019, TN International invested £37 million in the Stirling manufacturing site, doubling its capacity to 60,000 tonnes and creating new jobs. The investment was a significant milestone in Superglass' history and provided much-needed support for its ambitious growth plans. The opening of the newly upgraded glass wool insulation factory attracted Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's First Minister, who officially opened the new facility and said, "It is a testimony to



The company calls this integrated approach TNOLOGY. As specialists in waterproofing, insulation, shingles, liquid products and roofing accessories, the benefit of TNOLOGY lies not only in its wide range of over 3000 diverse products, but in its unmatched ability to synthesise them into integrated construction systems for building exteriors.

In 1987, Superglass Insulation was established on an existing manufacturing site in Stirling, Scotland. Following a management buy-out in 2005, Superglass became the UK's biggest independent manufacturer of glass mineral wool insulation products. In 2016, Superglass became part of the TN International group, and together formed an unbreakable partnership that enabled Superglass to extend its international reach and develop a greater presence on a global scale.

Superglass works within the construction and green tech industries; green technology such as solar panels and heat pumps are proven to work most effectively in well insulated buildings. With the support and

the commitment by Superglass to Stirling and Scotland, to not only create new jobs, but to secure the future of the site and its talented workforce." As well as providing long term economic benefits, the new plant has dramatically reduced greenhouse gas emissions and is a fine example to others in the low carbon industry.

"Where we can add value to the industry thanks to the breadth of the TN International organisation, is not only through our wide product range, but through our capacity to integrate those products with each other offering an outstanding service proposition. That means unified customer service, and logistical and technical support via an ecosystem of dedicated customer-facing service centres," stated Bob Dalrymple, TN International's head of marketing for Western Europe and North America.

Glass wool insulation produced by Superglass is made from up to 84% recycled glass, and in today's highly regulated construction industry offers benefits not only in thermal efficiency, but also acoustic



protection and fire safety, all within a highly eco-friendly package. In addition to delivering its own energy benefit to a building, and improving the performance of other green technology installed, the flexibility of the glass wool product allows the builder to plug physical gaps in the insulation wrapping of a building, thereby reducing the dreaded performance gap between a building's intended and actual energy performance.

The insulation is classified also as non-combustible and provides in-built fire protection that effectively contributes to the fire safety of a building.

Superglass' environmental benefits make it a perfect fit for TN International. Adds Dalrymple: "Every year, TN International recycles the equivalent of 180 million plastic bags, 300 million plastic bottles and 500,000 tyres, not to mention 50,000 tonnes of waste glass and 40,000 tonnes of waste oil – all to make products that make buildings better environments for everyone."

Furthermore, Superglass' ability to restrict heat transfer in a building makes it warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer. And by absorbing sound energy, glass mineral wool improves acoustic performance of walls, floors, and roofs, and restricts noise transfer within a structure, between two

buildings or to the outside world.

In the future, TN International will be looking to continue its rapid growth across Europe and other international markets. The shortage of construction materials and long lead-times means that TN International is well placed to lever its global scale to support customers in challenging market conditions. The company has started to establish a presence in North America, which also offers growth opportunities.

Through all of this, the company is adamant that it will retain its focus on its core purpose of protecting buildings and the people inside, continually improving its strong environmental credentials, offering integrated solutions and world-class customer service.



Since joining the TN International family, Superglass has become a vital part of the puzzle resulting in substantial growth for both organisations and is set for a remarkable future.

For more information, see below.

[www.superglass.co.uk](http://www.superglass.co.uk)  
[www.tn-i.com](http://www.tn-i.com)



# Bespoke steel buildings made to order

Castle Steel Buildings is a design and supply company specialising in the supply of hot and cold formed steel buildings. As experienced distributors and installers, Castle Steel Buildings will organise the design, supply and erection of a bespoke steel building, controlling the project from start to finish.

Castle Steel Buildings design, supply and install steel buildings across the country for any application from domestic garages and garden sheds to leisure facilities, industrial, commercials, agricultural and equestrian applications. With a keen focus on providing exceptional service as its first priority, Castle Steel Buildings understand the



importance of a personalised service and as a result is committed to ensuring every customer receives exemplary service and 100% satisfaction.

"Like most companies in our sector, we offer a pretty wide range of types of buildings from domestic garages up to industrial storage and warehouses. There isn't really a niche within that, we sell on value and customer experience. Our knowledgeable designers and installation teams work hard to make sure the



customer gets the best service first time, every time," stated John Rosling, Director.

Castle Steel Buildings was established in 2017 by David O'Brien and John Rosling. Previously David had worked in the steel erection industry and John in management for both the public and private sectors. Both bring an offering to the company that has helped establish its early success over the last few years. Castle Steel Buildings is based in Doncaster, South Yorkshire, ideally placed on the edge of the A1 and M18 within striking distance of the M1, enabling easy access for a national reach.

Operating within the construction industry can make for a very competitive environment, John explained what makes Castle Steel Buildings different. "We pride ourselves on a number of differences between ourselves and our nearest competitors. Primarily, most of our competitors fall short on the supply or the installation. We have dedicated teams on both sides of that particular fence with an experienced and highly capable installation team backed up by a qualified and effective office and

design team who know the buildings as well as the builders that put them up. That liaison between the design and supply side and the installers makes for a smooth ride for customers. We also offer finance for our business customers (subject to checks) which can help them plan and commit to growth plans while managing their cashflow. This is almost unique in our industry - none of our other competitors offer it so it puts us ahead of the game in that respect."

Supporting the best of British, Castle Steel Buildings are British made with a full manufacturer's warranty up to 35 years. All its materials comply with British Standards BS 6399(pt 2) and exceed ISO9001-200 which clients can be assured their buildings will be designed to withstand any challenging climate.

Offering a great deal of versatility, Castle Steel Buildings services can be catered to a range of industries and sectors. "Our target varies depending on the season and our particular marketing objectives in any given cycle. We've spent a considerable amount of time this year focussing on the agricultural sector such as farm sheds, storage, hay barns and more. We're looking at shifting our focus to industrial units and warehousing over the winter and into 2022," stated John.

With a recent expansion within the office and installation team, Castle Steel Buildings are increasing its workforce to manage current customer demand post COVID-19 circumstances.



"COVID-19 has presented some challenges, but we've used it as an opportunity to review what we do well and could do better. There are limitations to what we can and can't control as COVID-19 and also Brexit have massively affected the prices of steel and haulage. The steel markets in the Far East shut down in response to COVID-19 which meant pretty much the entire globe has destocked of certain materials. That impacted material prices and once the supply ran dry there were shortages. Our delivery turnaround jumped from 3-4 weeks to 22 weeks at one point. Currently



we're looking at roughly an 8-week turnaround from order and prices have stabilised," said John.

Moving forward, Castle Steel Buildings is keen to continue its planned growth in terms of turnover and reach. "We're looking to refine our operations back office and within the teams to increase our responsiveness and effectiveness," stated John.



Relishing an approach that boasts affordability, versatility and quality, Castle Steel Buildings is an industry leader in all agricultural, industrial, commercial and domestic markets. In just four years, Castle Steel Buildings has grown significantly, and its success is embellished through its hard-work, exemplary customer service and its ability to adapt to an ever-changing industry.

**Contact**  
**T 01302 301402**  
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Made from the Wool of hardy British Hill Sheep and manufactured in Yorkshire, Thermafleece is available as a roll or a batt in a variety of widths and thicknesses and designed to be installed by either the home-owner or professional, making it the ideal natural insulation choice for traditional and modern buildings and homes.

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# Zoo Architectural Hardware



Zoo Hardware are designers and suppliers of architectural door hardware including door handles, knobs, locks, cylinders, door closers, hinges and more. All of their products are produced to the highest quality in aluminium, brass, steel and zinc. Every item they produce is selected for its quality and value for money and they never compromise quality for cheaper prices. Zoo Hardware are confident in their belief that they can offer some of the highest quality products at the most competitive prices on the market.

Their in-house design team is fully qualified in all aspects of design and production and they constantly aim to supply innovative, stylish and cost-effective hardware solutions settling for nothing less than top quality. Design facilities at their head office means they can create, manufacture and deliver state-of-the-art products to stay in-tune with current design trends and ahead of the competition.

The Zoo Hardware product ranges cover all aspects of architectural ironmongery, including: Vier – a precision design range of levers, hinges, door closers, DIN locks and cylinders created for the exacting needs of Architects, Specifiers and Contractors; Fulton & Bray – traditional and classic brass door hardware and accessories ideal for period and contemporary properties; Rosso Tecnica – a new European inspired range of designer levers and accessories made from SS304 and finished in a selection of new hard-wearing finishes; and Foxcote Foundries – a wide range of traditional black antique door furniture and window fittings.

View their full range of products at: [www.zoohardware.co.uk](http://www.zoohardware.co.uk) or call one of their friendly sales team on: +44 (0)1228 672900 to discuss your requirements or to request a catalogue.



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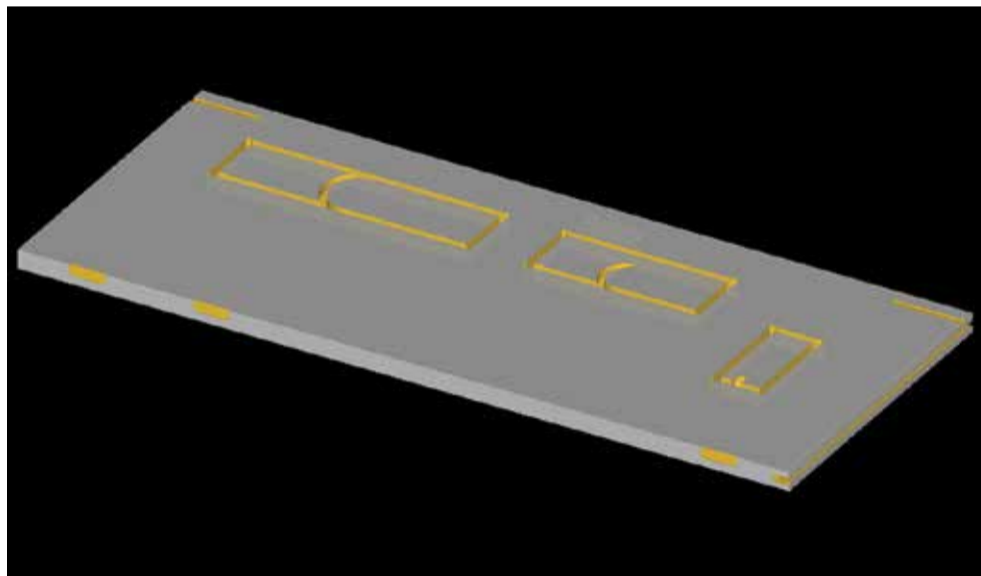
# Increase productivity, increase profit



In this issue, we've chosen to recommend RapidSpec for its innovative software for Architects, Building Contractors and Fire Door Manufacturers.

RapidSpec is an industry-leading software product developed to eliminate errors in Door set specification and the production of door schedules. Most errors arise from human input. This is not surprising as the processes can be very complex with multiple factors that need to be considered all at the same time. By standardising the input and having the software make hundreds of checks in the background RapidSpec can eliminate or significantly reduce these errors.

For example the software is designed to prevent a selection of product or ironmongery if that selection is outside of the chosen fire rating. The software also helps production by creating a full elevation drawing of each door set type. These steps and others built into the design, take the stress and guess work out of creating accurate door schedule documents, project estimates and bills of materials. RapidSpec automatically produces a door schedule document and produces a detailed, scaled and dimensioned drawing for both the customer and factory operator. It enables its users to duplicate any door set in a project, make adjustments and recalculates prices automatically.



Designed to increase productivity, RapidSpec provides an easy and efficient way to create estimates and door schedule documents without error. The software will produce an accurate fire door schedule complete with diagrams, dimensions, project estimates and bills of materials. Manufacturers can then use this document to create a fire door, to the customers agreed specification.

RapidSpec is an estimating and works order processing programme for specifiers, building companies, construction, building contractors and architects. The software improves productivity by an average of 24% and eliminates errors. For fire door manufacturers, all cutting lists are calculated instantly from the accepted quotation. This can reduce lead times on larger contracts by a week or weeks whilst still maintaining accuracy.

Being designed and developed for professionals, RapidSpec has been meticulously developed over a period of 20 years. The core ambition of the software has always remained the same; ease of use and speed but principally, error free output. RapidSpec

reduces costs days after installation, by increasing productivity, reducing errors and waste.

In new developments, RapidSpec has also developed a link to a door data tagging systems (Door data systems Ltd) this system uses a tiny insert put into the edge of the door by the manufacturer. RapidSpec creates a CSV file and barcode label that links each door set to the data stored via the insert, creating a permanent record of each door. This system is commonly called the 'golden thread' as from concept to delivery, installation and maintenance; is all done and recorded without error. Everything is listed and registered.

Derek explained, "When a fire door manufacturer makes a door set they have to supply full specification, installation guides and certification to the customer and door fitters proving that the door is manufactured to the fire door regulations and certification. This traditionally creates lots of paper work for manufacturers, which is time consuming and could contain errors. This little tag stores all of the data that is easily transferred from RapidSpec, making it readily available for fitters and inspectors to gain access to the fire certification for that door set."

Another innovation for RapidSpec is the creation of a standard spreadsheet for architects to use as an industry standard format for fire doors. "In creating a door schedule, most Architects produce spreadsheets with all of the door specification



that are greater than the cost. If it did not do that there would be no point in using it. We aim to help companies realise that higher productivity is better for their business. By reducing the amount of time required to make the end product the natural result is higher productivity and higher profit."

RapidSpec has seen significant growth over the last year and plans to continue its approach in the future. Derek added, "We've expanded our staff including marketing, sales and IT personnel all in the last 12 months. Our next step will be exporting."

[www.rapid-spec.co.uk](http://www.rapid-spec.co.uk)



Robin Bell



Derek Brown



Ian Selby



included. By using our standard spread sheet layout, the data can be imported directly into RapidSpec ensuring conformity to the architect's requirements.

The government have recently acknowledged that greater wealth, for the country or for any business, relies on high levels of productivity. We find companies are now more open to finding ways to increase output without increasing costs. With the inevitable increase in wage costs, companies are looking for more efficient ways of manufacturing.

Those that do are more likely to prosper than those that don't. "We started 20 years ago with an initial idea to increase productivity and the challenge for us has been demonstrating how important it is". In the fire door manufacturing industry any company that is currently making 5% net pre-tax profit will double that profit with just a 10% increase in productivity. Put another way if every employee completed each hours work in 56 minutes the company would add 5% to its net pre-tax profit. (Yet another way, putting £100K into the bank instead of £50K for each £1million of turnover per year)

Derek continued, "we lease our software, we don't sell it. The idea behind this is simply that our software should never be a cost. It should be making more money than its costing. Before a customer pays us a penny he will realise savings

## Selwood innovates to build on its position as the UK's leading pumping solutions provider

Selwood's reputation as the number one pumping solutions provider for the construction industry is built on exceptional products, people and service.

As specialists in engineered pump solutions, fluid handling and water treatment, Selwood covers the full range of pumping needs from simple rentals to the development of complex solutions for major building projects.

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Selwood's focus is on innovating through technology to provide the safest, most cost-efficient and reliable solutions for construction industry projects while helping businesses meet their goals on environmental responsibility.

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greenhouse gas emissions.

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Download the Shou Sugi Ban® catalogue from our website, or contact Exterior Solutions on 01494 711800 for samples, or to arrange a visit to our Buckinghamshire showroom.

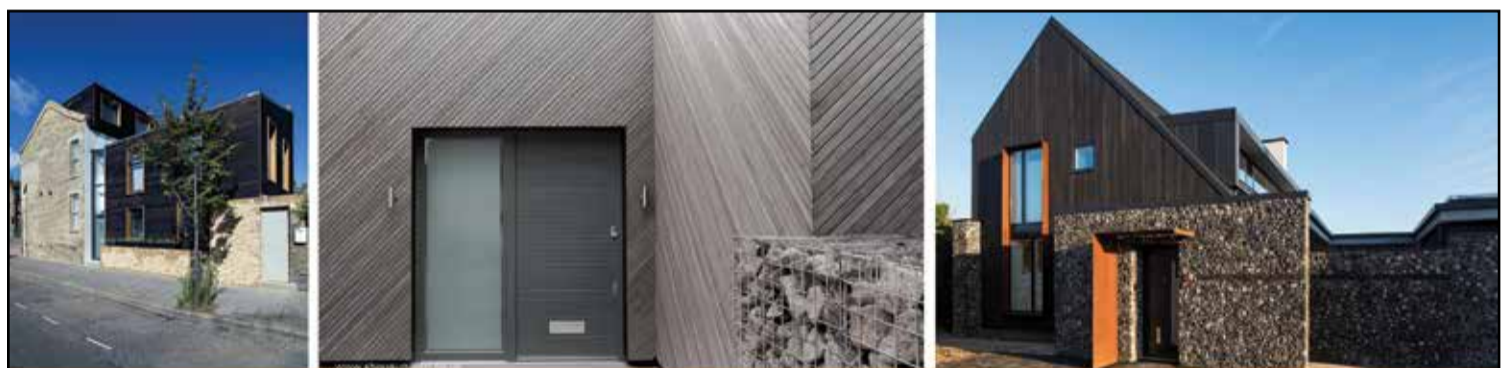


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# New innovation to the TuffStuff® range; TuffStuff® flexible GRP

In this issue of Building and Construction Review, we are very proud to announce we have chosen to select Tuff Waterproofing Limited as one of our New Year Spotlight companies.

Tuff Waterproofing is a provider of waterproofing liquid solutions for flat roofs, which are comprised of GRP, flexible GRP and polyurethane. Using its advanced TuffStuff® formula range, which uses the latest liquid polyester resins, glass fibre mat reinforcement and flexible edge trims, it creates a fully integrated 100% waterproof seamless finish. The TuffStuff® product range is used for various applications and across multiple domestic and commercial environments.

With an impressive history which spans across 30 years' experience, Tuff Waterproofing has invested heavily in research and development, company processes and its

team to ensure that its TuffStuff® range of products, continue to exceed expectations and set new standards in flat roof waterproofing solutions. From the company's bespoke premises based in North Yorkshire, Tuff Waterproofing maintains its operations on a national scale, supplying its products through a dedicated Stockist network located throughout the UK.

Regarding its progression over the last year, Tuff Waterproofing is pleased to have continued to progress significantly since 2020. With the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting many industries, Tuff Waterproofing was able to remain open throughout and further developed on its product range during the last 12 months.

We caught up with Greg Gimenez, Managing Director of Tuff Waterproofing and asked him about the company's

developments over the last year, he stated that, "We have progressed very well. We didn't have to close during the Pandemic because we are in the construction industry, so the government's directive was to stay open. We have mostly remained the same, we're always trying to develop new products and develop our existing products. We're quite happy with the overall year and foresee further progression for 2022."

The company has continuously accumulated growth year-on-year and established an enviable reputation, becoming a key figure in the GRP flat roof market and resulting in TuffStuff® becoming the UK's premium designer and supplier of heavy-duty GRP waterproof flat roofing systems.

Regarding its team, TuffStuff® maintains a dedicated product development team that work closely with its customers



to produce a consistently, evolving product range that is suitable for multiple flat roof applications. This commitment to continuous development is echoed throughout the company and its dedicated team of UK based product developers work with UK manufacturing facilities, with the ambition of pushing and setting new standards of GRP roofing systems, to new levels.

A vital part of the company's business is its exceptional technical support service and Tuff Waterproofing ensures it provides premium quality and agility, in responding to and resolving customer queries professionally, efficiently and to the highest standards. The company prides itself on providing the highest standards of customer service and its main ambition is to instil confidence in its customers, that they feel fully supported.

"As I have always said, the life blood of this company is the service, exceptional training and technical support that we give. It's more than just providing products, it's all about the service and support," Greg added.

In terms of the company's most recent developments this year, Tuff Waterproofing has further expanded its TuffStuff® product range and is now offering its latest GRP roofing innovation; TuffStuff® flexible GRP. TuffStuff® flexible GRP is a single resin solution that provides an exceptional combination of versatility and durability. It's extremely quick to lay and does not require stripping or re-decking of the roof, saving customers both time and money. It can be applied to a variety of surface types and structures including vertical sections.

Requiring only two coats and 225gsm reinforcing mat, it can be applied within two hours. The TuffStuff® Flexible GRP forms a highly flexible, extra tough and seamless waterproof membrane, making it an ideal solution for areas of heavy-duty foot traffic. The solution can be applied directly to felt, asphalt, single-ply, GRP, concrete, timber or metal. Its highly flexible, extra-tough and seamless waterproof membrane makes it reliable when added to vertical sections without the concern of sagging. Furthermore, the solution is a fast-curing system with walk on time of between 30-60 minutes. Once laid and whilst curing, the product is showerproof.

Specifically designed for durability in mind, the TuffStuff® Flexible GRP is extremely robust with one coat needed for a 10 year system or two coats required for 20 year system, and is crack resistant with no risk of weak points. The 20 year system qualifies for a 20 year guarantee on materials.

On the back of its successful launch of TuffStuff® flexible GRP, Tuff Waterproofing is planning to further feature its new product at various tradeshow throughout 2022. These include: Buildbase in January 2022, UK Construction Week 2022 in May, in London and UK Construction Week 2022 in October, in Birmingham.

As the company looks towards the future, Tuff Waterproofing foresees many challenges that they will have to overcome, but believes firmly that it has the right structure in place to provide the company with the perfect platform to be able to consistently respond and evolve its product range, while providing outstanding support to its customers.

Indeed 2021 has seen impressive growth and development for Tuff Waterproofing and the company anticipates much more progression, leading on from its new product launch. After what many industries have deemed as a challenging year in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic, Tuff Waterproofing has showcased its industry leading expertise and is pleased to have been acknowledged for their hard work.

For more information about the company or to view its range of products, please see the details below or alternatively, contact them directly on the number stated.

Contact  
T 01977 680250  
[www.tuffstuff.co.uk](http://www.tuffstuff.co.uk)



## FLEXIBLE GRP

Providing an exceptional combination of versatility and durability. Quick to lay, with no need to strip or re-deck a roof, this fast-curing system saves time and money.

It's a single-resin solution which can be applied to a multitude of surface types and structures including vertical sections.

With two coats applied within one hour, TuffStuff® Flexible GRP will form a highly flexible, extra tough and seamless waterproof membrane - can be a solution for areas of heavy duty foot traffic.

# TUFF STUFF

## FLEXIBLE GRP



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# TIMBER GARDEN BUILDINGS





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# Company of the year

What does it take to make Building and Construction Review's company of the year? Does it need impressive business acumen and first-rate customer service? Of course it does.

But it also takes dedication to staff safety and furthering their training. It means commitment to supplying the exact-right products and services to every client. It involves amazing growth in the face of global turmoil.

Construction hoist specialist Direct Hoist is the well-deserved winner of 2021's coveted award – a trophy that lines up alongside many other accolades to recognise this forward-thinking firm is rising to the top.

Direct Hoist's success can be attributed to its founder, Rob Wilson, a man whose dedication to business is equalled only by his attitude towards his employees' welfare.

Rob says, "We're ever-expanding. I started Direct Hoist in 2014 from a double garage, and after seven years' trading we're now in our fourth location. We've recently taken on additional premises – a 30m unit with internal height of 6.6m – which will help our in-house training."

Currently thriving despite reduced staffing, Direct Hoist is a living-wage employer (more than minimum wage) and has two vacancies for trainee hoist installers. Each will be educated in the multifaceted skills that are crucial for the specialised nature of construction hoists – including product types, electrical systems, fault-finding, assembly, disassembly and reconfiguration into alternative layouts.

Direct Hoist then enrolls trainees into NVQ schemes, manufacturer courses and the all-important health-and-safety tuition. Indeed, several Direct Hoist staff have NVQ Level 3 qualifications – the equivalent of a



Rob Wilson, Direct Hoist founder



respected CSCS gold card on site.

Rob says, "We have an exceptional reputation for safety. Ours is a very specialised industry, heavily governed by legislation – which is probably why there are fewer than 15 hoist companies in the UK.

"It's surprising how much there is to learn for hoist installation, even for experienced construction workers and managers. We need to know load calculations, equipment specifications, whether there are any voids below grounds or obstructions (such as telephone lines) above."

Rather handily, Direct Hoist offers free advice, site surveys and expert project planning. And not just for the job in hand – Direct Hoist assesses what might be needed later in the scheme to ensure the right equipment is provided from the outset.

Fortunately, Direct Hoist is continuously investing in new equipment to ensure its large modern fleet of versatile hoists is varied enough to suit any development.

"We supply German GEDA hoists," adds Rob. "They're the best on the market for quality, reliability and their

electrical components.

"Our most popular units are the 300 Z goods hoist (ideal for barrows, boards and roofing equipment) and the 500 Z/ZP transport platform, which can be used as an 850kg goods-only hoist or up to 500kg for personnel. It's a great, versatile hoist; it can be left- or right-handed and has the facility to move around the loading/unloading ramp."

Direct Hoist relishes the scope to erect equipment in areas many would consider impractical or too inaccessible. A recent project involved installation of a 58m hoist in Newcastle, where the entire platform had to be stripped and fed through a car park with 1.8m head height.

A popular usage of hoists is to speed up the construction of scaffolding, which again might involve some pretty creative thinking.

Rob reports, "Because platforms can be configured to different widths, 21ft scaffold tube can be carried vertically and safely, on a much smaller footprint."

No wonder so many scaffolding companies are now buying their own installation platforms. Similarly, city-based furniture removal specialists have discovered the convenience of owning their own hoists, which prove invaluable when delivering large three-piece suites into apartments through high windows.

Needless to say, Direct Hoist is ideally placed to offer sales and servicing of top-quality GEDA hoists to ensure customers choose exactly the right equipment – not just for their current circumstances but to allow scope for expansion – and stay safe throughout their working life.

And, like all installations, Direct Hoist offers product familiarisation on hand-over to the end user.

Rob says, "We've been expanding our sales department and can now offer finance on our products. This year hasn't been quite as good as we'd hoped due to Covid. But as soon as construction was reopened, the phones just went mad, we were inundated with contact forms from our website, and we had a waiting list for our most popular hoists.

"I'm glad to say we managed to pull through and come out smiling. We've done very well lately – we recently had five hoists at one hospital alone – and we're continually investing in new equipment.

"We're trying to go green, but electric vans don't yet offer the range we need. So we've installed an HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) diesel tank for all of our vehicles, which is 100 per cent renewable, and gives a 90 per cent reduction in CO2.

"We're a forward-thinking company," Rob smiles. "The only way for us is up."

Contact  
T +44 (0)1724 781647  
[www.directhoist.co.uk](http://www.directhoist.co.uk)



# 30 years of joinery excellence



In this issue of Building and Construction Review, we are pleased to feature Bluerun Ltd as part of our New Year Spotlight.

Bluerun Ltd is dedicated to manufacturing top quality, bespoke custom-made joinery for the domestic and commercial markets. All of its joinery is manufactured on premises using hardwood, softwood or sheet materials. As well as offering finished goods sprayed to a primed or painted finish, Bluerun Ltd also offer other treatments and installation services for some products. Where other products can't be installed, Bluerun Ltd has reliable suggestions of other companies that customers can be recommended to.

Bluerun Ltd is a family run business and was established in October 1991 by its current Managing Director, John Jones. Based in Wimbish, just outside Saffron Walden in Essex, its factory covers 7,000 sq. ft<sup>2</sup>, and can manufacture in hard or softwoods, and



Team at Bluerun Ltd

company has gained remarkable growth within the building trade and is well known for its top-quality joinery. "Our bench joinery team is small and has extremely high standards. Whilst we use power tools and machinery, there is no CNC or computer aided design, or drawings used. We pride ourselves on being 'old school', and still use hand tools to finish off many of our bespoke items. Everything is designed in-house, that is if no drawings are supplied by the clients," said Dee.

For the commercial industry, the majority of its production is for commercial builders and manufacturing. The company provides all type of commercial joinery products from large scale repeat production runs of



windows, frames, and doors, to both large and small-scale customers for internal and external projects. Past projects include manufactured joinery to multiplex cinemas and shopping centre fitouts throughout the UK, to external work with household brands such as Homebase, Starbucks and Waitrose. Hospitality, education, business and medical sectors are also catered for. Even though Bluerun Ltd is capable of producing the most modern styles to suit modern offices and commercial projects, it also produces high



quality joinery to meet the exacting standards of conservation areas or heritage sites.

The company also provide domestic bespoke joinery from custom door replacements to bespoke furniture. Its portfolio includes decking, balcony balustrading, and gazebos as well as replacement stairs, banisters, mouldings or bespoke cabinets and bookcases for interiors. Bluerun Ltd has even designed and produced a custom-made Wendy house for a private client. Whatever your joinery needs, Bluerun Ltd can provide exactly what you're looking for. Dee explained a further service available from Bluerun Ltd, "It doesn't seem to be widely known that we can reproduce items to match the existing ones; we have reproduced casement windows to match the existing but rotten ones that are beyond repair. If a client likes a particular style of door, we can usually reproduce this to match from just a photograph. Similarly, we can produce architrave, skirting and handrails to match a specific profile most of the time. Anyone who needs something manufactured from timber or wood products on a bespoke basis, we can provide."

The first COVID-19 lockdown was difficult for Bluerun Ltd, "We closed our doors just for a few weeks in 2020 when the pandemic started. This was due to having no work in the order bank and we were unsure if we could remain trading," however, once a more structural plan was in place, the



company went from strength to strength. Dee continued, "Once everything was clarified and the enquiries started again, we re-opened (we're classed as manufacturing, so this was possible) and had one of our busiest years. Following the guidelines, we were extra careful when carrying out any site visits, and the whole team was on board and happy to come back and start working again."

October 1991 marks the company's 30th anniversary of incorporation – what a tremendous achievement made by all. Dee had some words of encouragement to mark the occasion of both its anniversary and award feature, "We are all extremely proud. The company couldn't have made it this far without our joinery team and our loyal clients we have worked with over this time. Some employees have worked with John since the 1970s, at a previous company, and we believe that we have a great and loyal team. This is the first award we have received, it's always nice to be recognised with something that we can be proud of."

For more information, see below:  
 T 01799 599995  
[dee@bluerunltd.co.uk](mailto:dee@bluerunltd.co.uk)  
[www.bluerunltd.co.uk](http://www.bluerunltd.co.uk)



veneered and painted panels. Its modern spray paint and lacquer facility enables products to leave the factory in a fully finished state. The ethos surrounding the company boasts comradery, team work and dedication to the customer. "Here at Bluerun Ltd, we promote quality, family and pride in all that we do. The bespoke items manufactured in our workshops are made to a high standard thanks to the joiners who make them. The whole team take pride in their work," stated Dee Newman, Finance Director.

A proud moment, in 2019, John Jones' daughter was the most recent addition to the board, from humble beginnings, the



# TAYPLAY LTD - The Rope Net Playground Equipment Specialist



practice, trial & error. Tayplay's play structures provide the opportunity to develop these skills, along with building confidence, on our products, which must meet all necessary safety protocols.

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We use premium materials which are long lasting, & the rope is of a quality grade, which is more comfortable on children's hands. It is colourful, eye-catching & interesting, or can be naturally

themed, when necessary, to blend in with the local environment. Rope based equipment also provides more space to play through the structure, as well as moving up & round the outside, feeding children's desire for exploration & adventure.

Contact us or visit our website at [www.tayplay.com](http://www.tayplay.com).

Our full product range is here, & we have even more exciting products coming in 2022, in addition to our recently launched Tayplay TRAIL range. As modular equipment, it offers yet more challenges, excitement & design flexibility for children through play.



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# Bring your vision to life with Vision Development

Vision Development is a manufacturer of off-site timber frame systems. Vision Development was established in 2011 by Tim & Jane Karpinski who have been in construction for over 40 years. As manufacturers, the company maintains its own factory facility in Berkshire, meaning the quality control of workmanship and materials, is guaranteed.

"We are a timber frame construction company offering timber frame systems for new builds,



extensions and commercial builds. Our services include, supply and installation of the timber frame structure, supply only so the client can arrange the installation or we offer design and build service, where we take care of the complete construction process from start to finish." Stated Lucy Karpinski, Administrative Manager.

Boasting unrivalled expertise, the company works closely with each client to provide a perfectly tailored quotation which is right first time. They ensure that their timber frame systems are designed to meet each individual project requirements.

With its own manufacturing facility, Vision Development is able to offer its customers visits to view their new home while it's in production. This further ensures that the customer's requirements are fully met and offers a high quality, reliable and personal service throughout.



"Each project we undertake is adapted to suit our customers U Values, budget and timescales. We provide a tailored fixed-price quotation rather than a budget estimate, which other timber frame suppliers offer, that can be mis-leading." Lucy continued, "We do not only offer timber frame packages solely, but also full construction services where we can look after the groundworks, electrics, plumbing,



carpentry, roofing and windows and doors. Everything you would expect in a turnkey solution (not including kitchens, as we like to leave this to the customer and their personal preferences)."

One of its most notable services is Vision Development's popular bungalow conversion service. After the reform of the planning laws in 2020, bungalows can now be extended upwards using a fast-tracked planning process.

This process allows self-builders to look at alternatives to building a new build home and instead, convert an existing bungalow. Vision Development's timber frame bungalow conversion systems consist of a lightweight and convenient method for extending a bungalow upwards with an additional storey.

"We specialise in, and have completed many bungalow transformations, bringing a new lease of life to an existing bungalow with the addition of a new first floor timber frame structure. Creating additional space and value." Added Lucy. In regards to the company's latest developments, Vision Development has recently expanded its manufacturing space,



accommodating a larger factory facility to increase its timber frame manufacturing capacity. This in turn, has also enabled the company to hold more materials, providing a significant cost saving for its customers.

As the company looks ahead, Vision Development hopes to continue providing a personal service to its customers. As a family run company, the company will continue catering for the individual needs of each customer which cannot always be offered by other larger competitors.

Lucy continued, "We also plan to undertake more of our own developments, building new homes with unique characteristics that can't be found in large new build developments. Each detail is thought through by ourselves, choosing fixtures, fittings and finishes that are in keeping with the surroundings while also being attractive and functional."

For more information on the company or to view its services and latest projects, please see the details featured below.

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# Collaboration and partnerships key to DCON's award-winning safety excellence

In this issue of Building and Construction Review we have selected DCON Safety Consultants Limited as the recipient of our New Year Spotlight Award.

After 5 years in business, DCON Safety Consultants again came to forefront in successfully claiming another major industry award. The company returned to the winner's podium recently by receiving the prestigious Guinness Excellence in Business Award for 2022 having already claimed the matching award for 2021. Founder and Managing Director, Diarmuid Condon instantly deflects praise to his Clients and industry partners.

If the current trend continues, then as one of Ireland's foremost independently owned built environmental, safety, health and wellbeing consultant practices, DCON Safety Consultants may soon have to consider rearranging their Dublin city office space to make room for all the industry awards they are securing. The 2021 calendar year ended on a high note for the company as they were once more recognised at the prestigious Guinness Excellence in Business Awards – a feat which Diarmuid Condon modestly admits would not have been possible without the invaluable input of an extensive network of partners:

"We were surprise winners of this award last year and we welcomed winning it again this time around – it acknowledges our strong commitment to the services we provide," Diarmuid notes. "We are humbled to have been chosen as the 2022 winners but the reality simply is that we wouldn't have received this award without our Clients, their Design Teams & Project Managers, our



Consultant Partners that we work closely with on a day to day basis prioritising health, safety and wellbeing. It's imperative that we acknowledge all project parties, as it's ultimately a collaborative effort."

Diarmuid goes on to further remark "We can only use the tools that we are given; these are informed by our Clients' commitment, behaviour and efforts. This single point of success enables us to be considered for any award, never mind win one. We advise and offer guidance on design, planning, procurement, construction and operational outcomes. Outcomes are only attained with buy-in from our Clients. This relationship and rapport extends to our delivery partners – i.e., Main Contractors – who also have to be highly commended. Our service pool is extensive and it is important to acknowledge everybody involved.

Their contribution and hard work allows us to continue with our principal service offering and to extend and expand upon it. Our Clients have been very much affected by the pandemic and have had to significantly alter their site practices and manage the challenges presented. This has impacted upon their resources and involves incurring additional costs but – even under these more demanding circumstances, with working conditions and site lay-outs significantly altered – they continue to deliver safety and to eliminate risk. These are the real winners of this award. We could not collect or promote this award without our Partners."

Proven leaders in built environmental, health & safety and wellbeing consultancy matters - consulting on various aspects of project design, constructability and operational lifecycle matters for local and global multisector clients, DCON Safety Consultants prioritise and specialise in the highest levels of informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocation and compliance assurance. Acutely cognisant of the fact that every project with potential benefits also has potential risks – and with the art of planning centring on the coordination of these two zones of uncertainty - their team of highly-experienced construction professionals consistently prioritises and safeguards each client's best interest and statutory conformity.

The skills, knowledge and experience of DCON's staff places them at the forefront of their profession; their unique approach to the services provided is focused heavily on assisting Clients demonstrate confidence in



their levels of compliance whilst also exploring how they might improve their safety performance.

With the safety and wellbeing of their own people, their clients' staff and those around them is at the heart of the business, DCON Safety Consultants are passionate and highly committed to continually improving health, safety and wellbeing management in collaboration with Clients. They have accumulated extensive experience in the provision of specific health and safety advisory services on large, complex projects and public and private developments.

DCON Safety Consultants serve a wide and varied selection of customers including Public Sector Departments, Corporate Owners, Real Estate Developers, Main Contractors, Design Professionals and Infrastructural Bodies. No project is considered too simple or complex for their team of high-quality specialist consultants - construction professionals averaging 20+ years' experience working in the built environment.

While collecting awards obviously should not rank high on any practice's list of priorities, it is nevertheless true that it provides businesses with some additional positive press, which is always welcome. Indeed, when DCON Safety Consultants struck gold at the most-recent staging of the Guinness Excellence in Business Awards, Diarmuid noticed that his LinkedIn profile attracted no fewer than 26,250 views inside a week!

"It's recognition of what you do and how well you are doing it, and it's also free marketing, but at the same time there is also a consequence to winning an award



in that you must maintain your high standards thereafter and be even better going forward," the personable Cavan resident concedes. "While you can draw a line in the sand each time you win an award, you have been placed on a pedestal from which you can be knocked down – and I don't particularly want to be knocked down from it. I prefer to move upwards. Our modus operandi is to excel at what we are good at and to never over promise and fail."

Diarmuid also had the honour of sponsoring and presenting a major industry award on the night of Wednesday, November 24th 2021 when Ardmac were the winners of the DCON Safety Consultants-sponsored 'Excellence in Safety Award' at the annual Fit Out Awards



2021 ceremony at the Clayton Hotel. "After the year-and-a-half we'd all had, it was nice to have a reason to get dressed up and attend the function, which was very well organised in terms of prioritising public health," he reflects. "These events are easy wins. It creates visibility and awareness for those we haven't worked with and for whom we could be a good fit to promote and provide safety advice."

Principal services provided by DCON Safety Consultants includes that of a Project Supervisor for the Design Process (CDM Advisor Plus), Pre-Planning Compliance, Safe Design Adherence, Health & Safety Strategy Creation, Client Advisory Roles, Physical Site Safety Auditing and Expert Witness. Through these services, they support and influence the design of proven health, safety and wellbeing strategies that seek to help clients achieve high-quality, cost-effective work for the safe design, construction and operation of their assets.

"While we spend a lot of time being good at what we specialise in, the reality is that we simply couldn't do it without our Clients, Design Team Partners and Project



Management relationships," Diarmuid reiterates. "We strongly acknowledge their support and realise that we would not be where we are today without them. Winning the Excellence in Business Award 2021 and 2022 is a nice accomplishment but you cannot look at any award receipt in isolation. You need to examine how you got it and that's generally through quality of service, which is made possible by the support of all those people and companies you are collaborating with."

While Diarmuid's track record in designing and executing strategic safety plans and systems for construction projects in Ireland and the UK is exceptional, his comprehensive background as a construction professional has been key to taking DCON Safety Consultants to where they are today. "We are construction-qualified specialists, and we are there when it is difficult, not just when it is easy," he promises. "We understand both safety design and the mechanics of construction methodology. Our primary qualifications is in construction and that is hugely important.

"While we provide safety services, you also need to understand how things get constructed and deconstructed. There's value in that and it is earned. We understand that value and we are always open to learning and strive to excel in new technologies, be that lean construction, alternative design lay-outs or BIM developments. On each project, you have to consider whether that technology suits the Irish market and the client. We're fully committed to consistently learning and to acquiring the understanding which enables us to have that conversation at the right level with influencers and decision-makers across design teams."

At any given time, the experts at DCON Safety Consultants are active on a variety of bespoke projects for a wide range of clients across the city centre and beyond. Some ongoing projects at the time of writing include the Cherrywood Town Centre Development, Camden Yard Development (former Kevin Street DIT campus), Project Calvary Dublin 3, 2 Grand Parade Dublin 6 and various regeneration masterplan projects.

With the Guinness Excellence in Business Award proudly on display – symbolising DCON Safety Consultant's strong relations with their Clients, Design Team partners and Project Management teams – this progressive safety consultancy practice seeks to go into the new year with a decided spring in its collective step:

"It is deeply humbling but at the same time I wouldn't have accepted the award if I felt we didn't deserve it," Diarmuid concludes. "This is a moment in time, and it doesn't define us. It alludes to our performance within a particular timeframe, but we intend to continue



delivering for our Clients and hopefully that may lead to us to be considered for other similar like awards in the near future."

T +353 1 611 1556  
diarmuid.condon@dconsafety.com  
www.dconsafety.com





The recent project for The Mill – Loughborough, BalconyLife were requested to provide all balconies for the project designed to meet the industrial look of the building. As this was an existing building the balconies had to be designed to affix on to old brick and supported to meet regulations which maintaining a sleek contemporary look.

The project was completed and the look of balconies certainly complements to look of the Old Mill.

BalconyLife are balcony specialists and have been designing, manufacturing and supplying them to the construction industry for over 15 years from their workshop located on the Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire border.

Along with Balconies, BalconyLife are able to offer other products within their range with Staircases, Canopies, Balustrade systems and Handrailing systems for Domestic, Commercial and Retail customers.

**Balcony packages**

BalconyLife have many options available for balconies including cantilever, supported on legs, Juliet balconies and bespoke balconies to suit all needs.



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- ▲ Frameless Glass Balustrades< Glass with Handrails and steel or aluminium balustrade (various designs)
- ▲ Controlled drainage

**Other Products Available:**

- ▲ Glass Balustrade Systems
- ▲ Staircases
- ▲ Glass Canopies
- ▲ Handrailing Systems

**Contact us for more information:**  
01509 844233 or enquiries@balconylife.co.uk



# Industry specialists in sealing solutions

Service Sealing Solutions Ltd is the sole UK distributor for the sealing industry's top manufacturers; DOYMA, FRANK and HKD. DOYMA granted Tina McAra the exclusive rights to distribute their products in the UK in August 2018, leading to the formation of Service Sealing Solutions Ltd.

Distributing the industry's best manufacturers, Service Sealing Solutions Ltd offers the UK the most extensive range of products, providing the best in German engineering to seal penetration points in walls and floors to permanently prevent any infiltration of gases and water into the building. DOYMA's products are designed to solve all watertight duct sealing requirements and prevent against structural damage.

Service Sealing Solutions Ltd supply the full range of DOYMA products, to suit all situations from power cables, communications cables, pipes and ducts and district heating pipes.

Service Sealing Solutions Ltd specialises in high-quality service duct sealing systems for utility services and watertight seals, offering the highest level of expertise to developers and specifiers for sealing against water and gas entering around service entries in basements and high-rise buildings.

"We provide DOYMA's products mostly to builders of commercial properties and we



have provided for many of the large projects in London including HS2 and Kings Cross. Quite often they install the services and electrics underground and therefore have to guarantee water tightness." Stated Tina.

DOYMA is at the forefront of innovation, developing practical solutions for sealing and fire systems. The main ambition at the company is to create safe building penetrations for pipes and cables that seal off fire, gas and water. The company operates in three main competencies areas of civil



engineering, building services technology and power supply, providing sealing systems for pipes and cables, single and multi-line house entries for supply and disposal lines, fire protection products for preventive structural fire protection and special designs and custom-made sealing systems.

DOYMA maintains a wealth of experience spanning over 50 years, utilising this experience and vast knowledge base the company ensures its seal range produces effective, simple solutions to meet all watertight service sealing requirements. This in turn, ensures that DOYMA's products provide the highest level of safety for sealing buildings where pipes and electrical cables pass through.

HKD which is now owned by DOYMA, manufactures a vast range of pipe sealing systems and service ducts with a guarantee



that its products can withstand up to four bars of pressure. All of the HKD product range can be combined with the DOYMA's Curaflex range, one of the most popular DOYMA ranges.

In terms of new developments, DOYMA has recently released its new generation Curaflex Nova® gaskets - professional solutions for tradesman with uniquely safe installation. Providing tradesmen with professional gasket inserts, the new generation of Curaflex Nova® gasket inserts instantly solves sealing problems and is adaptable for multiple applications.

As the company looks toward the future, its main aim is to continue to grow and further its reach into new markets. "Mostly we will be continuing on our recent success and looking at new markets such as the district heating market, which is a big and growing market for us."

**For any more information, please see below.**  
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BalconyLife are balcony specialists and we offer complete balcony packages in a range of balcony styles and sizes for housebuilders, developers and self-builders to select from. The balcony packages include everything needed for installation including cantilever balcony supports and thermal breaks.

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# Bespoke steel structuring catered for you



design and build for the industrial market. Again, refurbishment is also available as a service from strip and re-sheet to asbestos removal, building extensions and much more.

The company started with one goal in mind, to offer an affordable option to the build of standard buildings. With over 30 years' of experience in the industry, Structural Steel Buildings includes all safety measures as part of the installation quote. Its employees are professional, experienced and qualified to carry out specific services asked of by the customer.



Structural steel is one of the most widely used building materials in the construction industry. With its predictable behaviour and stern structure, it is not only reliable it is also 100% recyclable allowing for multiple reuses and a long-life span.

Structural Steel Buildings was established in 2019 by Stephen Heath, who has over 30 years' experience in the steel framework and cladding industries. From the creation of a new storage bay right through to a large warehouse, Structural Steel Buildings build to the customers exact requirements.

Based in Stoke-on-Trent, Structural Steel Buildings services stretch nationwide to a multitude of sectors. As specialists in



From garages, workshops and storage sheds, Structural Steel Buildings offer cold rolled steel framed buildings which are designed by experts and constructed to the highest standards. The cold rolled steel framed buildings come with the option of a range of box profile cladding and can come insulated or single skinned. For larger buildings exceeding six-meter eaves height, the company use hot rolled steel with a variation of box profile cladding.

By offering a competitive price range on all its services, Structural Steel Buildings is able to compete fairly against competition. Its customers are always at the forefront and are partly responsible for the early success Structural Steel Buildings has had so far.

A full turnkey service is one of the most popular offerings by Structural Steel Buildings. Overseeing everything from base slab to the erecting and cladding of the building, Structural Steel Buildings offer a supply only package with a step-by-step instruction guide catered solely to each customers individual requirements.



the construction and cladding industries, the company also caters to industrial and agricultural markets – however, these services are offered on a much broader scale to include demolition over clad, strip and re-sheet.

Within the agricultural market, Structural Steel Buildings provide a vast range of buildings from grain stores, lambing sheds, hay barns and pig sheds. The option of refurbishment is available for this market and can be anything replacing a roof light to a strip and re-sheet.

Structural Steel Buildings is SMSTS qualified in project management and all its operatives have the relevant qualifications. The company offers all aspects of a new build including

## But why choose Structural Steel Buildings?

By having experts in the field, which combined have many years' experience, its bespoke builds are made with the utmost due care and attention using the highest quality steel. Each option of build comes with a vast range of additional services to create the ideal, personalised package which is delivered in the most cost-effective way, saving the customer time and money. Additional services can be added, for example fountains can be a great addition to accompany any building. All services come with a full management service, creating a safe and secure environment for the customer.



In more recent times, when asked what affects COVID-19 has had on the business, Stephen answered, "Surprisingly, COVID-19 has had an adverse effect on the business. As people have not been able to go out, more of the general public have turned to their own properties for personal renovations or building work which we have been able to supply and help with."

As well as receiving more custom from

domestic customers, Structural Steel Buildings has had the pleasure to have worked with the National Health Service to provide instant erections of temporary building and fixings in and around hospital environments. "We have done a lot of work for hospitals. From cladding to erecting temporary operating theatres that we have set up in hospital car parks, it has been an honour to use our expertise to help out during the pandemic." States Stephen.



Emphasising its successful emergence into the domestic industry, Structural Steel Buildings now offer the erection of garage workshops from start to finish. Adding to its already sterling repertoire, Structural Steel Buildings has the expertise and the equipment to supply a brand-new garage created with a bespoke design package unique to the customer's needs. More information on this service will be available soon on the company website.

Whether you have specifics in mind or you're working from a blank canvas, Structural Steel Buildings will help and guide you through the beginning to the end of the build. By using only the finest quality materials, combined with the wealth of experience within the company, each engineer ensures a completely bespoke package you can rely on.

For more information, see below.  
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[www.structuralsteelbuildings.co.uk](http://www.structuralsteelbuildings.co.uk)



**STRUCTURAL STEEL BUILDINGS**

# Choosing products for your decking project?

The variety of decking materials available on the market is extensive: traditional and economical softwoods; luxurious, knot-free hardwoods; durable modified woods and the emerging varieties of 'composite' products – which use a mixture of wood fibre, virgin and/or waste plastic and other additives. The Timber Decking & Cladding Association (TDCA) applauds innovation and sustainability but advises if you choose composite decking products, there are several points to consider. Individual recipes with varying percentages of key ingredients, result in differing performance – do your research. Be aware that most long service life warranties

offered, are valid only if the product is installed and maintained to the manufacturers' exact instructions. Unlike natural timber, recycling at the end of life is currently very limited. All decking surfaces require maintenance and to be kept free of dirt and debris – regardless of the material.

Deck substructure – posts, beams, joists, blocking/noggins and bracing – is just as important as the surface of your deck as it forms the foundation to the whole project. Pressure treated softwood is the go-to material for deck substructure components, but to ensure it is fit

for purpose, it must be preservative pressure treated; TDCA recommends a Use Class 4 level of protection irrespective of whether the material is in ground contact or not. Be sure to demand proof of this when buying – if the supplier doesn't know about the Use Class system of treatment, then investigate further.

Contact the TDCA to source DeckMark accredited products, suppliers and installers – for an independent verification of quality.

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For all timber frame styles, MAC Cabins works with self-build and custom-build projects, where the initial design has already been completed with architects. We help to guide small to medium-sized developers, on sites of 1-30 plots, to identify the best way to convert vision into reality.

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MAC Cabins actively supports & promotes the use of Timber as the most environmentally sustainable material for the construction industry.

## Bye Bye paint tins. YesColours announces new recyclable packaging for designer paints.

YesColours, founded by John Stubbs (NewTerritory, Mary Portas), and Creative Partner, Emma Bestley (MoveOverMagnolia, ClearChannel) in 2020, looks to tackle the UK waste paint issue head-on by introducing radical new packaging that aims to flip the industry on its head by removing the traditional paint tin in favour of a fully recyclable pouch; which are more commonly used for food and cosmetic products.

YesColours' paint pouch alone uses 16% less fossil fuel, generates 21% less greenhouse gas emissions and uses 26% less water throughout its production than traditional rigid packaging - giving consumers the opportunity to help protect the environment before

they've even started painting. The pouch can be placed in local store or supermarket recycling points - far better than leaving tins in sheds degrading over time and waiting to be taken to the tip where they'll be landfilled or incinerated. As UK collection services improve kerbside recycling, customers will be able to recycle in their homes as well.

Already picked up by notable UK designers and influencers, YesColours is also introducing colours that are focused on your wellbeing. They have mindfully curated their colour palette into collections that are purposefully simple and easy-to-use by naming groups and colours based on the feelings they evoke.

Not only do they boast their paints are deeper, richer and more vibrant (due to 40-60% more pigment and innovative colourant technology) they have also been chosen for how colour can positively impact mental and physical health. YesColours aims to make us feel better in our homes that have more recently also become our offices, gyms, nurseries and even our schools.

YesColours paints are 0% added VOCs, free from Azo-dyes and harmful surfactants found in some other decorative paints called APE and NPEs; which can harm marine life, the environment and potentially unborn babies.





YesColours is now selling samples and taking Pre-Orders at [YesColours.com](https://www.yescolours.com)

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## Windermere House, Cumbria



**Project** - Windermere House  
**Location** - Cumbria  
**Product Used** - HW9576  
**Architect** - Ben Cunliffe Architects  
**Developer** - WG Brownlie Ltd

Located in the hills of Cumbria sits the eye-catching Windermere House. Originally a characterful Lake District property, the building underwent an extensive refurbishment to be transformed into a bespoke and contemporary family home.

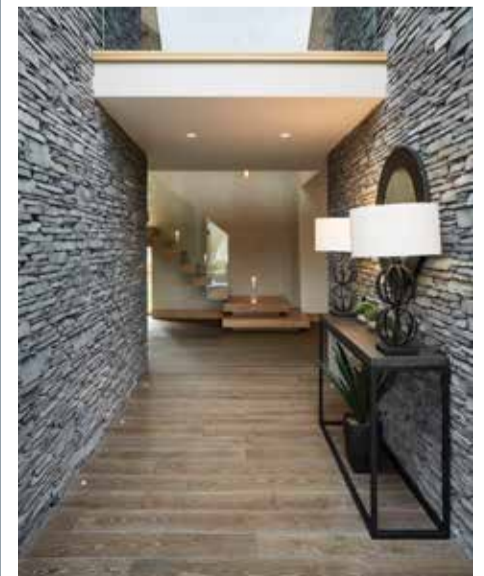
The original house had small dark rooms and the brief was to create an open-plan bright, light and modern home that flows seamlessly from one room to the next.

In order to achieve this, the refurbishment required extensions to the property and layout changes alongside full electrical and mechanical requirements.

The wood flooring used is Venture Plank's Cachira Rustic board. This surface needed to be fitted with underfloor heating and had to run seamlessly up to the internal dry stone walls - creating a seamless transition between different flooring material.

A durable surface that stands the test of time, Cachira is sanded and finished with a durable Valour UV oiled coating to guarantee extra durability - making it the perfect flooring for this modern family house.

[info@hawwoods.com](mailto:info@hawwoods.com)  
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## Coda Products

Coda Products Ltd was incorporated in 2021 by co-owners and Directors, Mr Daniel Duncan, and Mr Peter Wrobel who also own a manufacturing business called Cube Metal Ltd.

Being leading experts in structural and architectural steelwork market, the owners identified a large requirement for specialist construction products such as fire-resistant cavity trays, brickwork supports, and many others. Therefore, Daniel and Peter decided to create an independent company, namely Coda Products, to fulfil this gap within the construction supply chain.

The aim of Coda is to invent, develop and sell metal-based

product solutions to construction companies and developers needing to complete projects. Notably, Coda is in the process of developing a BBA accredited fire-resistant cavity tray that is hoped will receive approval in the very near future.

The strength is in the combined power of all companies, Acura Engineering Consultants Ltd, Cube Metals Ltd and Coda Products Ltd, who can together research, invent, develop, engineer, manufacture and install any type of metal-based construction product.

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



## Cube Metals Ltd



Cube Metals Ltd was incorporated in 2017 by co-owners and Directors, Mr Daniel Duncan, and Mr Peter Wrobel. The focus of the Cube business is the design, manufacture, supply and install of architectural metalwork and structural steelwork for both clients directly and main contractors. From modest beginnings, Cube Metals have expanded year-on-year and now boast a turnover of £4 million with contract awards from multiple clients. Clients, to name a few, include Henry Construction, London Square, Winvic, Engie/Equans and Ardmore Construction. The majority of projects are located within London and the Southeast, albeit Cube Metals offer to perform their specialist services anywhere within the UK if required.

Their manufacturing facilities and offices are located near London, that is ideal for just-in-time deliveries required by tight city centre sites. Within their manufacturing facility, Cube Metals have invested in both laser and plasma CNC's, bench presses and dual gantry cranes.



Possessing the latest plant and equipment increases both efficiency and effectiveness that, in turn, Cube pass on to their clients. Further plans to open a polyester powder coating line are currently being developed to promote the Cube Metals business as a one-stop-shop for all metal and steelwork needs.

Within their offices are several in-house designers who produce drawings for design and build projects. These designers have both 2D and 3D CAD skills and, if required, can work to the latest BIM protocols.

Cube Metals future plan is to continue sustainable expansion by attracting new clients, increasing turnover, and reinvesting business profits in plant, equipment and people.

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



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## NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS POST-PANDEMIC SIGN BLINDNESS THREAT



Leading health and safety experts are warning that the UK faces a 'sign blindness' epidemic as people continue to return to the workplace.

Recent research from the Office of National Statistics showed that 60% of adults expect to be back in their normal place of work before the end of autumn. Now, health and safety solutions provider Seton has joined forces with top academics and psychologists to review the risk that sign blindness poses with many offices reopen and manufacturing teams returning to full strength following the end of furlough.

Together, they are advising that overexposure to signage, rules and safety warnings during the pandemic is likely to lead to complacency amongst employees and a failure to register the standard safety signs in front of them.

The new report highlights that sign blindness potentially poses one of the biggest risks to workplace health and safety in decades.

As Ed Barnes, Product Innovation Manager at Seton explains, sign blindness is such a threat because we are all susceptible to it:

"The human mind has a remarkable ability to interpret abstract symbols, shapes and colours quickly - but we can soon become desensitised to something, even though the hazard remains the same.

"Over the last 19 months, our lives have been saturated by signage and messaging such as 'please wear a face covering', 'wash your hands regularly' and 'keep two metres apart'. They have been incredibly important messages, but it's only natural that over time we become desensitised to them.

"Now, as millions of us return to work, there's a real concern that sign blindness could cause serious issues when it comes to changes in workplace rules, including new procedures that need to be communicated and signage relating to old ways of working that is yet to be removed.

"While a handful of people break the rules on purpose, many more do so unintentionally. We expect this number to increase as the pandemic has resulted in safety messages becoming 'background noise' to many people, meaning signs could fail to drive the right behaviours.

"We know that the world is changing quickly, so organisations need to make sure they are continually reviewing the effectiveness of their current signage and adapting quickly to new and existing hazards as they emerge. By taking a flexible approach, you can drive up safety standards and reassure staff, customers and visitors that you take your responsibilities seriously."

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

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HERTALAN® EASY COVER membranes combine the excellent material properties of the EPDM material with tailor-made solutions. For HERTALAN® membranes, EPDM sheets are

vulcanised together using a special hot bonding method. Thanks to the joint seams pre-assembled in the factory, only around five per cent of the manual connections have to be carried out on the actual construction site. The roof sealing is supplied as a perfect fit, like a tailored suit, in a single piece to the building site.

Used in combination with our HERTALAN® EASY COVER EPDM-membranes, the RhinoBond® fixing system uses induction-compatible plates to secure the EPDM-membranes and insulation to the roof construction. This provides the advantage of fixation without penetration of the roof membrane.

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From our factory in Somerset we manufacture high quality Feeder Pillars, LED Belisha Beacons and Pedestrian Crossing & Refuge Equipment Column, along with Highways/Sports/Leisure Lantern and Sign Brackets, Keys & Accessories. We make industry beating Insulated Groundworking and Digging Tools which are BS EN 60900 Certificated and come with a 12 month guarantee.

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## Reflect your lifestyle with bespoke sliding doors

Transform your space with bespoke door fronts from Mirror Door Systems Ltd. Established in 1994, the company is known for its quality, workmanship and efficient delivery.

We like to work closely with our customers to explore their ideas and come up with a bespoke solution just for them. They can come to the showroom to get ideas for what they want or come to us with a fully formed idea. We can normally accommodate every customer's preference, whether they want something in a different colour, material or size. The door fronts are ideal for a wide range of things, such as walk in wardrobes, room dividers or offices – sliding doors are great for maximizing smaller spaces.

We also do a lot of work with new builds.

Of course, like many companies working within the building sector, Mirror Door Systems was greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The building sector basically stopped so any new builds we were working with weren't going ahead. We had to stop everything for about eight weeks, entirely shutting down and furloughing all our staff.

Then, when we came back, we were at full capacity, but we couldn't get the stock we needed, because everyone was after the same thing, so it was in short supply. Now things have started to pick up at a steady pace and we're back up to capacity with our stock.

A lot of people are still worried about coming into the showroom, but we can discuss everything over the phone. We can send brochures to show the doors that have been made previously, and we can even send an A4

sample, so you can see a version firsthand.

With this level of service, it's easy to see why Mirror Door Systems Ltd is a leading UK provider of made to measure sliding doors. Its full product range includes six different sliding door systems with over 30 different colours, including wood grain finishes. All the systems also incorporate anti-jump safety features and have been designed to accept the choice of safety back mirror, opaque glass and/or panels. They are available in bulk form, door kits or made to measure.

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## Contour Launches All New Safe Heating Product Brochure



Midland's based supplier of safe heating products, Contour Heating, has launched a brand-new brochure that is set to provide customers with a range of new options in 2022.

With over 100 pages of the latest low surface temperature and anti-ligature heating products, Contour's aim is to continue providing quality products for safer heating environments.

Working in close partnership with M&E Consultants, healthcare design consultants, contractors, and the like, the product range includes a comprehensive selection of low surface temperature and anti-ligature radiators and covers.

On top of this, Contour is also launching two brand new product ranges for 2022, both of which provide additional safe heating solutions for use in public spaces, educational environments and more.

These include:  
**Covora Lite:** A cost-effective low surface temperature radiator solution. Manufactured from a single piece of sheet metal, it has a much faster lead time than other products on the market.

**Sovereign:** A sleek and functional low surface temperature radiators available as freestanding heater or bench, ideal for public spaces.

If you're interested in learning more, you can visit Contour Heating's website or speak to the team directly.

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# Water Treatment tanks and systems

2021 saw the continued success of Concrete Washout and Water Treatment Systems for Kelly Tanks across the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, Spain, France and Denmark, affirming their solid reputation for providing innovative and cost-effective solutions to the construction industry.

The well-established CWS Concrete Washout has remained the product of choice for washing off concrete wagons and equipment onsite whilst demand for Water Treatment tanks and systems for filtration and/or separation has continued to grow. Kelly Tanks remain consistent in releasing new products to help ensure safe and compliant waste-water treatment on building sites across the UK and overseas including a



range of modular Dosing Units used for monitoring and controlling pH & TSS levels and/or providing proportional chemical dosing.

Kelly Tanks were also able to attain Constructionline Gold Membership, SSIP and Acclaim Accreditation ensuring they meet the PAS91 and Common Assessment Standard.

Moving into 2022, Kelly Tanks are expanding their fleet and product range as well as improving their facilities and attracting more talent to team KT. Kelly Tanks are also looking forward to giving back to their local community and keyworkers again this year with continued volunteering and donations.



Innovation and sustainability also remain the focus, kicked off with the introduction of a mobile renewable energy system that unlike existing options, does not require a backup generator. The hybrid solar & wind unit is ideal for generating power in remote areas in all seasons and the systems Wind Solar Hybrid MPPT Controller with dump load provides protection functions such as overcharge, over discharge and overload to



guarantee peace of mind that power is successfully generated and stored ensuring the user is never left without power.

Kelly Tanks innovative product range is complemented by a commitment to excellent customer service. "As a company we pride ourselves in putting the customer first. We are proud of our fast, nimble approach in providing our customer with exactly what they need. As well as our equipment, we can supply familiarisation training, testing services and full onsite water management teams. We also design and build bespoke systems to ensure our customer always receive the best equipment for their application".

2022 will also see Kelly Tanks exhibit at the UK Concrete Show in May and Hillhead in June where they are expected to showcase their latest developments in Concrete Washout & Water Treatment.

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## Coastal Group's BLU Hardware Combines Style with Durability at Carbis Bay Hotel



Coastal's BLU Range of 316 Marine Grade Stainless Steel Hardware has been fitted to several projects now at the luxurious Carbis Bay Hotel & Estate, including the Beach Lodges and new Orangery.

With such an amazing location right on the coast, the architects responsible for the development were well aware of the impact the corrosive saline air in the atmosphere could have on the look and performance of the doors and windows. A hardware solution was needed that combined faultless performance with the right aesthetics and protection from corrosion.

What set Coastal's BLU Hardware Range apart from other hardware providers was its winning design combination of style and performance. Combine this with the fact the BLU Range is made from 316 Marine Grade Stainless Steel – the best metal to withstand

corrosion – and it quickly became the obvious hardware to specify.

The BLU Hardware range is available in contemporary and classic styles and suited across several finishes including the new PVD Stainless Satin Brass and Black. It also comes with a Lifetime Guarantee for extra peace of mind.



You can view more information on Coastal's BLU 316 Marine Grade Stainless Steel Hardware on our NBS Coastal Group Profile or on our website [www.coastal-group.com/brand](http://www.coastal-group.com/brand)

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## TN International UK & Ireland acquires Chesterfelt in multi-million deal

TN International (TNI), owner of Scottish insulation manufacturer Superglass, has acquired Chesterfelt Ltd, one of the UK's best-known bitumen roofing manufacturers in a multi-million-pound deal.

With its regional headquarters for Western Europe and North America in Stirling, TN International is one of the world's leading producers of roofing, waterproofing and insulating materials. The deal to acquire Chesterfelt adds production capacity to TNI's building product portfolio, complementing the company's ability to provide customers in the construction industry – particularly those based in the UK – with an integrated solution for the protection of buildings.

The addition of a UK-based production facility in the roofing sector will earn the environmental benefits of reduced transport miles and will also offer welcome service and logistics advantages to UK customers.

TN International supplies customers and end users across residential, commercial and infrastructure sectors, including schools, hospitals, and other public facilities.

Established in 1978, Chesterfelt has over 40 years' experience manufacturing and distributing bituminous waterproofing products from a manufacturing and warehousing facility in Chesterfield, Derbyshire. The company employs thirty staff and supplies a wide variety of roofing projects from domestic properties to large industrial buildings.

There will be no job losses as a result of the acquisition.

TN International's Superglass facility in Stirling has an annual production capacity of 60,000 tons of glass wool insulation, following a £37m redevelopment in 2019. In line with TNI's focus on minimising its environmental impact and supporting the development of more sustainable built environments, the product is manufactured using over 80% recycled glass, and once installed can save hundreds of times the energy used to manufacture it.

Theresa McLean, Area Director of TN International for UK & Ireland, said: "Chesterfelt is a highly respected brand within the UK's roofing market and will complement our existing manufacturing expertise for glass wool insulation in the UK. Increasingly our customers in the construction industry are looking for whole building envelope solutions, and this acquisition is another key advance in TNI's ability to meet those requirements. Alongside our broader suite of brands and products, we have the technologies to create ideal living and working environments, to safeguard people and property from the elements, and to reduce energy use and carbon emissions.

"Moreover, this acquisition is yet another indication of TN International's belief in, and commitment to, the UK construction industry, following the recent £37m refurbishment of the Superglass plant. This acquisition, while important in itself, is also a milestone in a much broader future investment plan in the UK market."

Tom Yeo, Managing Director of Chesterfelt added: "We are delighted to conclude the agreement with TN International, which continues the success story of Chesterfelt. We are proud of the heritage and success of the Chesterfelt business, and the service we have provided to our customers over the last 43 years. We are confident that the range and scale of TNI make it a strong fit that will propel the Chesterfelt business and its people to even greater advances in the future."

[www.tn-i.com](http://www.tn-i.com)



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# Hauraton drainage systems at Bonus Arena - Hull Venue



realm laid with grey stone paving and landscaped by re-form Landscape Architecture Limited with trees, lawns, flowerbeds and permanent stone seating.

An effective surface water drainage system was essential to ensure all weather access to the venue. 140 metres of Hauraton RECYFIX® PRO 100 channels with FIBRETEC® heel-safe gratings were chosen for the job which blended well with the stone paving and would resist damage from applied grit rock salt in freezing weather.



The material, PA-GF used to make the FIBRETEC® grating, was especially developed by Hauraton; the tough, UV resistant, fibre reinforced moulding offers high stability and huge strength for its weight. Complying with loading category Class C250 (BSEN 1433) the grating can easily take the weight of commercial delivery vehicles.

The design is a real innovation as its non-corrosive material provides a visually

appealing surface finish that retains its colour. The slots are super smooth, elliptical openings with the moulded bars having slightly raised triangular bosses along their outside edges. As well as providing an elegant appearance, the feature ensures surface water is directed into the slots.

The RECYFIX® channel component is made from 100% recycled PP. The PRO 100 model is factory fitted with the FIBRETEC® grating and only weighs 4.6kg, so the unit was easy to handle and quickly installed on site.

For more product information go to [www.hauraton.com](http://www.hauraton.com)

For other Case Studies go to [www.drainage-projects.co.uk](http://www.drainage-projects.co.uk)



Built on brown-field land located on the edge of the main shopping district in Hull and adjacent to Princes Quay, the Bonus Arena – Hull Venue and its associated multi storey car park were opened in August 2018. The £36 million development progresses the legacy of the social and economic impact generated by Hull's 2017 UK City of Culture status.

The Arena, designed by AFL Architects, is a state-of-the-art music and events complex with a flexible capacity of up to 3,500 people. The facility can provide a venue for concerts or corporate conferences in an 800 seat auditorium. A 2000m<sup>2</sup> adaptable space can be utilised for sporting events or exhibitions and trade shows.

Surrounding the Bonus Arena is a public

## New exciting developments for award-winning company - H.D. Services Ltd



Based in Ashley Green, Bucks, H.D. Services Ltd. supply a selection of water, drainage, sewerage and heating services such as sewage treatment systems, borehole construction, ground source heat pumps, and water treatment. H.D. Services Ltd. maintains a well-trained and experienced team with over 30 years' experience in the industry. As a family run business with a strong stance on quality, the company is fully accredited and certified to MSC Standards, has associations with REA, RECC, GSHPA, The Well Drillers Association, BGS, National Custom Self-Build Association, Buckinghamshire Business First and is highly experienced in delivering successful projects and liaising with the Environment Agency.

In terms of recent developments, H.D. Services Ltd. is looking at a new leadership transition with its Directors hoping to retire within the next 12 months.

"Within the next two years, we are hoping to be in a position for the current Directors to retire in the confidence that the business will continue with minimal disruption and be in safe hands," stated Rebecca Taylor, Business Development & Compliance Manager.

H.D. Services Ltd. will also be looking to employ some kickstart apprentices as the company feels strongly that enabling young people to develop a career and interest in a developing utilities and sustainability market including renewable heating, is a good step forward.

The company also has many exciting developments upcoming, including a potential relocation into new offices over the Christmas period. The move will be within the same building, in the newly developed upper floor, to further support the company's growth and to provide new modern facilities.

In regards to long term plans, H.D. Services Ltd. hopes to be able to expand the Water Treatment side of the business within the next five years. Currently, the company offers water treatment as an option for those clients who are having a water supply borehole constructed, however in the future, H.D. Services Ltd. would like to be able to offer this as a standalone service. In addition, H.D. Services Ltd. is also hoping to be in a position within the next 10 years, to be able to move the business from its current site to new premises, which will enable further expansion for the company.

In closing, Rebecca added, "We are an award-winning, family run company operating throughout the south east. We have been recognised by industry peers in the form of the Renewable Energy Pioneer Award. The Renewable Energy Awards celebrated the 'Best of British' renewable energy and clean technology, across 15 categories, highlighting the efforts and amazing achievements of many companies and organisations. Having not knowingly been nominated, the award came as a welcome surprise to us - what better way to start off 2021 than being recognised for our hard work and dedication towards renewable energy."

Rebecca expanded, "Keep an eye out for us at the National Energy Efficiency Awards in February 2022, as we are entering the National Awards for the first time having achieved significant success at the regional awards over the last six years."

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<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">WATER SUPPLY &amp; SOAKAWAY BOREHOLES DRAINAGE SOLUTIONS WATER TREATMENT</p> <div style="display: flex;"> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Independent water supplies can be used for irrigation or consumption*. Soakaways, drainage fields and other drainage solutions. <small>*subject to analysis and suitable filtration / treatment</small></p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">RENEWABLE HEATING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reduce heating bills by up to 50%.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Groundwater can be used as a heat source for an Open-Loop Ground Source Heat Pump which could meet all hot water and heating requirements.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEMS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Our bespoke systems are designed to meet the needs of individual clients and comply with strict discharge legislation.</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em;">Servicing contracts are offered for all our installations.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div>
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# The best mud control product on the market



Alongside slabs, Mudcontrol Ltd also provides fencing products which are available in many different sizes and lengths as round or square posts, rails, beams, sleepers, piles and sheets. Made from 100% recycled plastic HANIT® material, just like the slabs, they are 100% rot proof and unpalatable. They can be used just like a wooden product, be installed by hand or by machine, then stapled, drilled, and screwed or nailed into. They will never need treating and will never rot. Over 15 million of the posts have been sold worldwide. Just like the slabs, the fencing products are covered by a 20-year warranty.

The effects of COVID-19 have been minimal on the business, allowing it to keep growing during the pandemic. Mudcontrol Ltd manages contactless ordering and deliveries, keeping staff and clients safe and happy at all times. In the coming months, Mudcontrol Ltd will be adding to its product range as

Here at Building and Construction Review, we are proud to announce Mudcontrol Ltd as the recipient of our Commitment to Outdoor Building Services Award.

Mudcontrol Ltd is dedicated to supplying top quality, ecologically-sound 100% recycled plastic products. Comprised of a small, dedicated team, Mudcontrol Ltd is based near Kettering, Northants and distributes from its central hub in Northampton to the whole of the UK, selling direct to customers.

Established in the UK in 2018, Mudcontrol Ltd also has a sister company based in Belgium, Mudcontrol BE, offering the same products and service. Mudcontrol Ltd provides recycled plastic products, including its revolutionary Mudcontrol slab and ecologically sound fencing products, to multiple individuals and industries across the UK.

vehicles. They interlink with no moving parts, can be driven over by farm traffic, have been thoroughly certified to withhold over 60 tonne of weight, and are a proven solution for problem areas, providing the sub-base and base in one easy D.I.Y. step.

Furthermore, they come with a 20-year warranty, and are a solid investment as they are removable so they can be used again and again or can be left in one place indefinitely to form a permanent hard-standing area (which will allow grass to grow through if installed without a membrane).

Mudcontrol slabs have the added benefit of being ecologically sound and free-draining.

"Our products are made from sustainable recycled materials and will outlast alternatives by many years. We are a dedicated team and are able to deliver a fast and efficient service to all" stated James, UK Sales.

Anyone who has a mud problem of any size is catered for by Mudcontrol Ltd. Mudcontrol slabs have a plethora of benefits over concrete; previously concrete has often been the first option when it comes to surfacing a yard, drive or pathway. However, concrete production has a strong impact on the environment and can cause damage to the fertile layer of the earth, the topsoil, and because of its impermeable surface, there is no run-off point eventually causing more flooding problems, soil erosion and water pollution.



expansion is on the horizon for all areas of the company, so the business can keep up with the huge demand from its customers.

Whether you are looking to cover an area big or small, stop that sinking feeling, and get in touch with Mudcontrol Ltd today.

For more information, please see below.

Kerry: 07941 961496  
James: 07826 398096  
Landline: 01536 669630  
sales@mudcontrol.co.uk  
www.mudcontrol.co.uk

Mudcontrol slabs are a one-time purchase, can be laid and re-laid and can be taken with you wherever you go.

They adapt to all areas and surfaces, and because they are made from recycled household plastics made into a Playground Certified material, their unique construction means they stabilise and improve the ground beneath without causing any unwanted run off or exacerbating soil erosion.

They are easy to lay (with minimal or no ground preparation), weighing 7kg each (at 50cm square), very user friendly, and as they are a removable solution, planning permission may not be required, although Mudcontrol recommends checking with your local authority in any case.



With five-star reviews across the board, Mudcontrol Ltd is known for its top class products, excellent customer service and attention to detail, a fact its customers openly attest to.

As sole UK distributors for the Mudcontrol slabs, a national pallet delivery network is used to deliver anywhere within the UK, usually within a few working days. There is no minimum order, and pallets of up to 140 slabs can be delivered at any one time.

## But what makes Mudcontrol slabs so good?

Mudcontrol slabs are a professional system for gateways, paddocks, pathways, parking areas, gardens, tracks, storage areas, driveways and commercial areas. Their unique patented design ensures they will give you a good solid footing through any weather. Mudcontrol slabs are a simple D.I.Y way to create instant, removable hard-standing areas for people, animals and

