

Best Practice



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The DHS-150 door handle system is especially suited to heavy swing doors



This locking tag function protects operating staff from mistakenly being locked inside larger, walk-in systems and machines while they are performing servicing and repair work. The locking device ensures that the door of the protective device cannot be closed and unintentional machine start-up is prevented.

The AZM150 solenoid interlock has an interlocking force of 1500 Newtons and is characterised by a slimline, space-saving design. In addition, it can be combined with three different actuators for different attachment situations. A positive of the interlock is the rotating actuator head which can be locked with ease by simple placement on the cover, rather than being bolted into place. The rotating actuator head with its two insertion slots enables various installation positions and actuating options and makes the interlock particularly versatile in use.

Wuppertal, 19 May 2022. With the new practical DHS-150 door handle system, the slimline AZM150 solenoid interlock from Schmersal is now even easier to use. The ergonomic DHS-150 avoids the need for a separate door handle and is suitable for machine enclosures or fencing and for all standard aluminium profiles with a width of 40 mm. The robust door bolt is particularly useful on heavy swing doors and in for use in harsh environments.

One benefit of the new accessory is that the actuator is pre-positioned by the bolt in the DHS system, thus ensuring its optimal insertion into the device. This gives the system stability against lateral forces. In the event of lateral forces on interlocks that cannot be overcome, the safety door will not be opened - thus causing delays in the production process. In this regard, the DHS-150 door handle system, in conjunction with the AZM150 solenoid interlock, contributes to improved system availability.

In addition, the DHS-150 door handle system is also equipped with an integrated locking device (LOTO).

The AZM150 solenoid interlock is electromechanical in design and can be combined with a high safety standard: the interlock is supplied with a low coding level as standard, or optionally with a high coding level in accordance with ISO 14119. The DHS-150 door handle system can be used with the B1 straight actuator for the standard version as well as for the individually coded version. The B1 actuator is supplied with the high coding level version of the device, but must be ordered separately for use with the standard version.

Contact
Steve Watkins: 01684 571980

Impact sucks your waste away: Automated waste packaging removal solution

Every year, the volume of waste plastic film, bags, cling pallet wrap, paper, and other flexible packaging materials, used by large ecommerce companies and fulfilment giants, continues to rise. In-house waste disposal is becoming increasingly important and more reliable and effective solutions for removing, transporting, and recycling waste, are now essential.

As a replacement for the simple waste bin or cage, Impact Air System's solutions are engineered to allow the operators to hand feed unwanted flexible material directly into a dedicated local suction point, located near the workstation. No more bins clogging up the work area or wasted time walking to and from central compactors or waste cages. There is also the added benefit of better recycling rates of this material if sorted at the source and bulk compacted or baled, resulting in a significant reduction in handling and transportation costs and treatment fees at the waste site.

Think vacuum cleaner, just on a much larger scale and integrated into the building's structure. Waste is collected from the source of generation, transported through a ductwork system at a high level, freeing up valuable floor space. A fan provides the suction, moving material at high speeds to a central recycling area for compacting or baling.

Systems can be designed to collect material from multiple workstations simultaneously and transport it long

distances to a convenient point, even move the waste to the outside of the building. Each system can be built bespoke to each packing/unpacking scenario depending on the number of workstations, material quantity and space within the facility.



Impact Air Systems works within a wide range of industry sectors, providing air-based technologies to improve productivity, increase recycling rates, reduce manpower, and save money, all whilst fulfilling environmental responsibilities.

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GOLD & WASSALL
EST. 1790

Gold & Wassall
see them on page..... 2

interface
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Interface Force
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PRECISION TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES
Stainless Steel Industrial Fastenings & Precision Turned Parts

PTS
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BENDER

Bender
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oliver valves
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With over 40 years of experience, Oliver Valves has grown to become one of the world's leading manufacturers of Instrumentation, Piping, Subsea and Hydrogen & Carbon Capture valves for the global energy sectors. Specialising primarily in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical industries, the Oliver companies consisting of Oliver Valves, Oliver Twinsafe, Oliver Valvetek and Oliver Hydcovalves operate internationally across all regions. With teams strategically located to fulfil our mission of providing outstanding technical customer service, on-time deliveries and engineering innovation to all customers worldwide.

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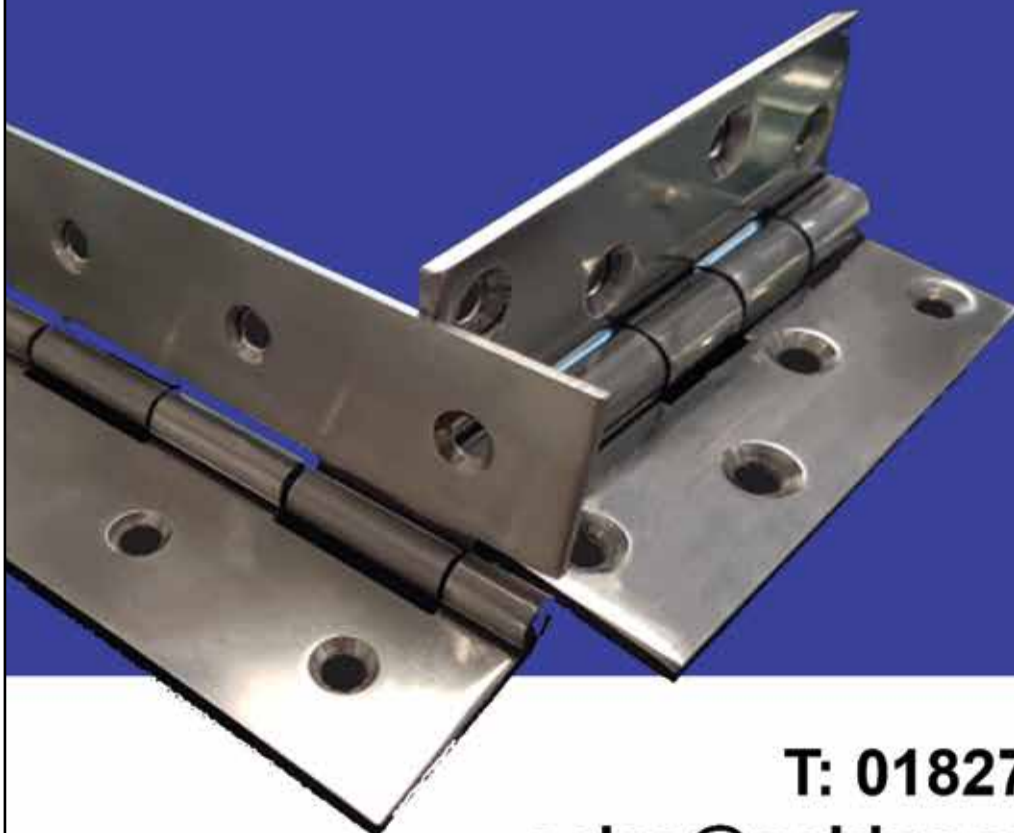
GOLD & WASSALL

EST. 1790

QUALITY HINGES SINCE 1790

Gold & Wassall have been manufacturing hinges for over two centuries, so it's safe to say we know what we're doing.

Our team of experts can design and manufacture almost any hinge, for any application. We have made upwards of 250,000 unique hinge designs, with more designs being drawn up each day.

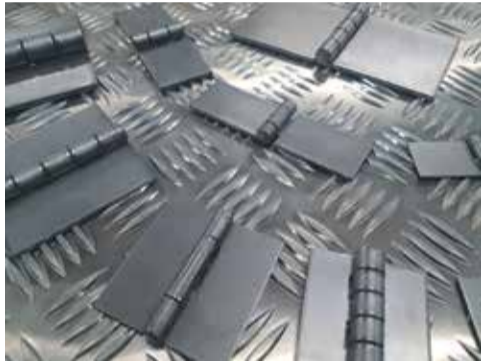


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The UK's Number One manufacturer of Hinges

In this issue of Best Practice, we are proud to announce that we have selected Gold and Wassall Hinges as the recipient of our Hinge Specialist Company of the Year Award. With an impressive, expansive history spanning over 200 years, Gold and Wassall Hinges was first established in 1790. From the company's manufacturing facilities based in Tamworth UK, Gold and Wassall Hinges provides a range of services for design, production and manufacture of hinges, all produced in house and distributed throughout the whole of the UK. An industry leader in its trade, Gold and Wassall Hinges has established itself as the UK's number one manufacturer of hinges.



"We pride ourselves on the quality of what we make. We manufacture all of our hinges right here in Tamworth, so we

initial inquiry to delivery and aftercare, Gold and Wassall Hinges' team engages on a personal basis with each customer to find out their specific requirements, measurements, application and style, to ensure they find the right door hinge for the individual's needs.

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

"Our bespoke hinge service is ever growing in popularity and is possibly our biggest asset. We make all the hinges no one else can - we have an in house toolroom which helps us meet customer requirements which would usually be dismissed. We have made over 250,000 unique hinges now, and counting. It really gives the customer flexibility when designing a product." Scott noted.

Gold and Wassall Hinges has created over 250,000 unique hinges and continuously develops new patterns produced on a daily basis. The company is well equipped with the knowledge, skill and tools to create solutions for



company's array of finishing options is perfect for increasing protection, matching the application or to create that smooth premium finished look.

With a history spanning across centuries,



world, is looking towards a brighter, more productive year as the world slowly moves away from the restrictions of COVID-19. "The short term future is all about continuing to pull away from the struggles of the pandemic, and ensuring steady growth back to pre-pandemic levels of production." Scott continued, "The long term goal for Gold & Wassall Hinges is to grow as much as we can within our current market share, and look towards growing our export relationships too."

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



have complete control over the quality of our goods. Other hinge companies import from abroad, which means we might not always be the cheapest, but we are certainly the best in terms of quality," said Scott Bareham, Sales and Marketing Manager.

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

"All our hinges are UK made; we are the only hinge company in the UK which can offer this. We offer a bespoke design and manufacture service, which means we can create virtually any hinge from a simple idea," added Scott.

One of the main focuses of Gold and Wassall Hinges is to provide first class customer service. Ensuring that from

any application and has the ability to meet mostly any hinge size or shape requirements.

Another example of the company's customisation services, Gold and Wassall Hinges provides an abundance of finishing options for its customers. Able to customise colour, add branding and create a smooth premium finish. The



Gold and Wassall Hinges has seen and experienced many tribulations for the world and its industry since its fruition and has been able to maintain its production and dominate its industry. During the uncertainty for many industries during the on-going COVID-19 Pandemic, many manufacturers saw a halt in production and in sales. Demonstrating its renowned manufacturing capabilities, Gold and Wassall Hinges maintained production and was approached for providing hinges for the Nightingale hospitals.

We spoke to Scott about how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the company; he told us that, "We worked all the way through. We experienced some demand for hinges for the Nightingale hospitals, as well as a customer who is involved in the manufacture of food delivery vans. Although our sales obviously went down during the pandemic, we feel that we are making steady progress coming out the other side. We have managed to keep our workforce whole, with no redundancies."

After what many would describe as a tumultuous year, it is with great pride that Gold & Wassall Hinges receives our award for its hard work, dedication and continued growth over the past 12 months. We asked Scott about how the company feels upon receiving our award, he stated that, "It's an honour to be selected for this award, and it is a satisfying nod to everyone here at G&W for their efforts over the past 12 months. It's been challenging at times, but we are proud to say we worked all the way through, supporting many key sectors too."

Speaking of the company's future, Gold & Wassall Hinges as well as much of the



For any further information, please see the details below

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Force, torque and pressure measurement specialists



At Best Practice, we take pride in showcasing the very best services provided by companies that provide a wealth of benefits for their industry. As such, in this issue we are proud to announce that we have selected Interface Force Measurements as the recipient of our Commitment to Excellence Award

For more than 25 years, Interface Force Measurements have been supporting UK Industry with the highest quality force, torque and pressure sensors. "We have a strong reputation for supplying devices that are reliable, accurate and offer repeatable measurements over a long period of time. Not only are our sensors high quality, but we also look to supply high quality sensors that include high calibration grades. Many of our customers are calibration service providers, so we also supply calibration companies with specifically designed load cells as calibration grade devices," stated Tony Rokins, Business and Development Manager.

Customers can benefit from their experience when needing to use force, torque and

pressure sensors for your next application. The company has vast experience in helping product designers, R&D and production engineers across the aerospace, automotive, oil & gas, renewable energy, robotics, engineering, furniture and general industrial sectors.

Its qualified team have the experience and product knowledge to help you select the best sensors for your application. Interface Force Measurements can distribute the widest range of single-axis and multi-axis load cells, reaction or rotary torque transducers and pressure sensors, from some of the world's best sensor manufactures, including:

- ▲ **Interface Inc:** Single, dual, 3 axis and 6 axis load cells, reaction and rotary torque transducers
- ▲ **AMTI:** Six-axis load cells and force plates
- ▲ **GP50:** Pressure and temperature sensors for oil/ gas, aerospace, automotive food/ beverage and general industry
- ▲ **XSensor:** Pressure mapping systems for bed/mattress, seating, automotive R&D and static or dynamic tire testing applications and high-speed impact testing for seats, airbags, helmet and protective sports equipment.

To accompany this range, Interface Force Measurements also offer wired, wireless, single and multi-channel amplifiers, electronics, displays and software to help with your data collection needs that will work perfectly with their own or other manufacturer's sensors.

Launched April 2022, the company's brand-new E-commerce website has hit the ground running and has received great

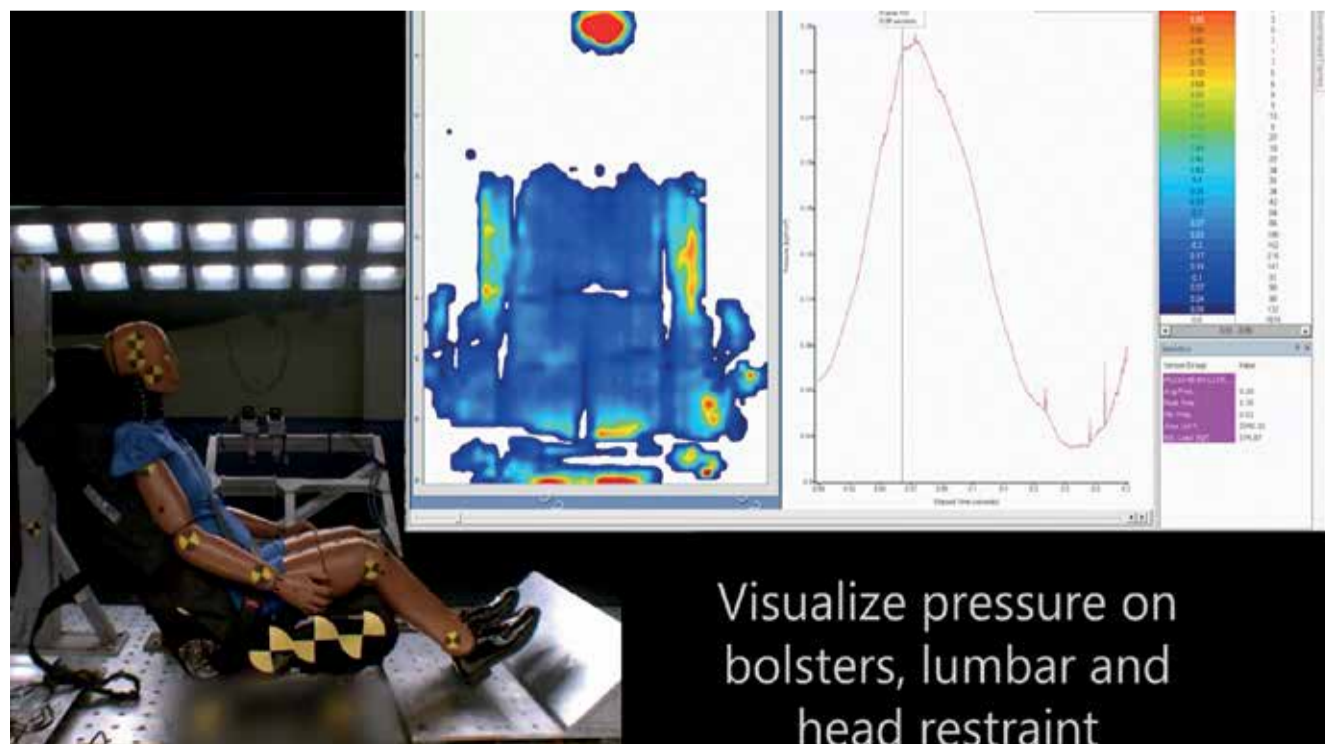
feedback from clients. The main change is that customers can now order load buttons, in-line load cells and mini s-beam load cells, where previously they could not. The Interface G-series has all the quality, reliability and performance you'd expect from a force transducer bearing the Interface name, but at very competitive prices. This E-commerce solution offers its G-Series load cells on short lead times with next business day delivery for all smaller orders. "We have invested lots of stock to support this and are excited to see the outcome," stated Tony. Launched around 12 months ago, the G-Series is popular amongst anyone requiring a small form force sensor offering accuracy, repeatability and interface quality.



In closing, we asked Tony what the company had planned for the future, he answered. "Additional products will be added to our E-commerce website, and we are also looking to expand into the airport services sector and by that we mean we have developed solutions for preventative maintenance and monitoring of luggage handling systems etc. We will also be looking to re-promote our XSensor pressure mapping systems that are designed for product designers and safety testing engineers to see, record and evaluate the distribution of force from high speed impacts on safety equipment."

If you have a force, torque or pressure measurement challenge that you'd like help with, get in touch below

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Quality precision and effortless professionalism

In this issue of Best Practice we are pleased to announce Precision Technology Supplies Ltd as our Stainless Steel Fasteners and Precision Turned Parts Manufacturer Company of the Year.

Precision Technology Supplies Ltd (PTS) is a one-stop-shop for Stainless Steel fastenings, and delivers a fast, reliable and efficient service. Supplying to customers across a wide variety of different industry sectors and in over 90 countries all over the world, PTS offer the widest range of products in its field. Its renowned quality along with its services and customer support means that the company is more equipped than ever to fulfil all customer's needs.

The company has been long established for over 30 years and since 1988 has expanded significantly to now being known as one of the UK and Europe's leading company's that delivers industrial Stainless Steel fasteners and precision turned parts on a global scale. In support of this, PTS realise that quality runs through the entire business, not just its products. From every supply chain partner and manufacturer to the logistics and information technology have been carefully chosen to fit the company's commitment to quality. In recognition of this, PTS is accredited with ISO 9001:2015 for the supply of industrial fasteners, micro screws, precision turned parts and allied products.

Many businesses have found the last 12 months a challenge navigating their way through some truly testing times in the industry. We asked Andy Knight, Sales Director, how the past year has been for PTS. He answered, "the last 12 - 24 months have been really interesting. We all know about the issues with the supply chain and material availability. Prices were rising almost daily and we had to limit quantities we would sell to customers to ensure we could maintain stock where possible. Luckily, we seem to have managed to keep stocks flowing and have kept our customer production line running. It has been hard work but well worth it as sales over the last 12 months have exceeded forecast levels."

It is evident that the hard work and dedication shown by PTS has paid off as the company continues to grow despite



economic challenges. One main focus that will always remain is its reputation for quality. PTS understands the importance of ensuring that quality runs throughout its entire business and it's with this ethos that the company is committed to continually invested in its people, to ensure it employs the right people, to provide superior market knowledge and to deliver outstanding customer service.

"We endeavour to source the best quality products to ensure our customers get the best value for money. We also have a wide knowledge of the products we offer so are able to assist with any technical questions. We maintain a quality management system which is regularly audited by SGS Yarsley and this gives our customers the assurance that we are passionate about the quality of our products," mentioned Andy.

In 2015, PTS were announced as a distributor for the Bumax range of High Strength Stainless Fasteners and is now more equipped than ever to fulfil its customer's needs. With further additions such as Nordlock washers, Shoulder Screws from AMPC and the Evolution range of construction fasteners, PTS is able to offer high quality products to a wide variety of industries. While the company aims to offer a 'One Stop Shop' service that caters to all customer's needs, it will continue adding new and exciting products to its current range via its online web shop. "We are adding to our range of products all the time and have plans to do this for the foreseeable future," added Andy. In support of this, PTS will continue building

upon its solid foundation of quality and reputation of providing excellent services, at competitive prices.

To support its recent growth, PTS is currently installing a warehouse management system that is designed to improve efficiency and speed up picking and packing of orders. In such an ever-fast-moving marketplace, it is vitally important that businesses stay ahead of the curve and continue to innovate, adapt and accommodate to the latest industry demands and customer's needs. By reacting to these recent industry and market trends, PTS is injecting changes now to accommodate its longer-term business objectives. "By installing a warehouse management system, it will give us more control over our stock to ensure we have the correct products ready for customer orders. Over the next few weeks to months we will change to picking from scanners using barcodes. This will also give us the ability to provide more detailed information to our customers," said Andy.



To coincide with recent implementations and changes to business practices, PTS is further planning to move to a larger premises come 2023. As the company stands on the brink of exponential growth, these recent changes are a remarkable measure to its success. "We believe that this move will enable us to continue the growth we have built on over the last decade," stated Andy.

In closing, we asked Andy how PTS felt receiving our award, he answered, "we are truly grateful as it is always an honour to be selected for any award."

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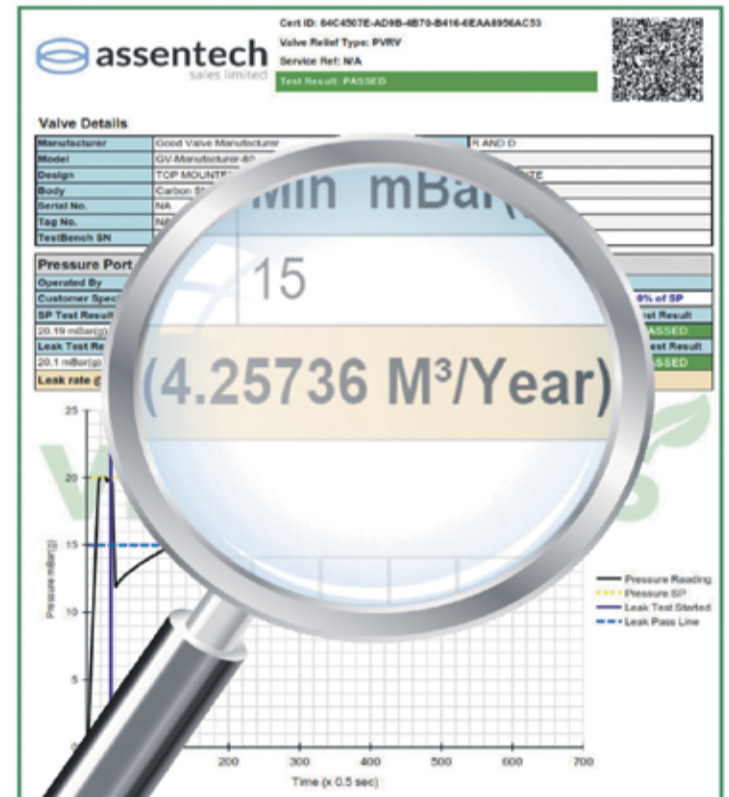
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Demonstrating Best Practice and evidencing your duty of care in Storage Tank Vent Management



We are lucky to live in a time where most hazardous or dangerous industrial processes operate within a legislative framework where best practice is available and most often based on learning from incidents and accidents.

Tank storage of volatile, toxic or flammable liquids is no different and has the benefit of International Standards API2000 and ISO28300.

The average bulk liquid storage tank costs in excess of £1m by the time it has been built and installed. The contents of the tank often contain hazardous, flammable or expensive media. It is therefore imperative that quality breather vents are installed on the top of a fixed roof atmospheric and low pressure storage tank. Their primary role is to minimise fugitive emissions and tank corrosion. Use of best practice to procure and maintain breather vents that meet the International Standards (API2000 and ISO28300) will protect your workforce, your facility, your profits and our environment. Compliant breather vents should be purchased with an individual and traceable Test Report aligned to the test protocol of the International Standards, which will evidence leak testing on both vacuum and pressure points, set point/calibration checks to evidence full functionality and performance. Breather vents are



critical safety equipment and should be maintained as part of an aging plant management program with periodic documented checks for individual leak rate and calibration.

Most people are shocked to find that 9 out of 10 tank breather vents are not tested for calibration or leak rate when new or periodically throughout its life. The consequences of this oversight mostly manifest in assets that leak harmful vapours into the atmosphere that are often invisible, as well as assets that are incorrectly set/calibrated that will not protect the tank from exceeding its design limits.

Excessive odours are tolerated because it has never been



any different. Unfortunately, many readers will have heard reports of catastrophic failure of a storage tanks or fires get into the news often with reports of injuries or fatalities that lead to criminal prosecutions of company directors. With recent focus on clean air and the impact on human health and the environment, there has never been such an important time to understand and evidence your due diligence and duty of care.

Having served this industry for over 25 years, we have often heard that our offer for new tank breather vents has been refused on the basis that it was higher than a lower cost proposal from another supplier. The reply we get when advising the buyer that the cost difference was down to testing a design integrity to meet international standards is always that they purchased equipment that was 'fit for purpose.'

This lack of knowledge in the industry is a shameful consequence of suppliers cutting corners to reduce manufacturing costs to win business rather than supply quality equipment that keep employees and neighbours safe, your facility compliant, reliable and profitable.

We have case study evidence that demonstrates the reduction of GWP emissions from 160 tonnes per annum down to 158kg from one single vent. The Environment Agency has moved ahead with rules to force operators to follow best practice by issuing Regulation 61 Notices on tank farm operators.

It is your Corporate Social Responsibility to know and evidence the real facts on your breather vent functionality.

- 1) Informed Procurement
- 2) API2000/ISO 28300 Test Report
- 3) Management of Aging Plant.

Can you evidence best practice for procurement and management of aging assets?

Is your breather vent safe and compliant? Does your breather vent leak? Does your breather vent meet the set point? Could you be held accountable in a litigation claim? What harm could you be doing to your workforce, environment, facility and your profits?

Ensure tank storage breather vents are tested and maintained according to the International Standards (API2000/ISO28300). Evidence and prove your innocence with understanding the risks and evidencing Best Practices.

assentech VENT-LESS

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Valve Test Type: P/TV
Service Ref: RAD_VS_GDRR_VALVE / Pw-Service
TEST RESULT: PASSED

assentech sales limited

Valve Details

Manufacturer	Quality Driven Organization	Customer	R AND D
Model	8000000	Customer ID	
Design	TOP MOUNTED	Site	R AND D SITE
Body	Carbon Steel	Case Ref	
Order No.	400000	Date	26/12/2017 20:40
Tag No.	TA0000000	Test Location	
Feedback No.	000000	Operator	Scott Dow

Pressure Port

Inspected By	SCOTT DOW	Tested to additional NPL	
Customer Specified Set Point (SP)	20 mbar(g)	ISO28300 & API2000 and Leak Rate @90% of SP	
SP Test Result	2% of SP	Max-Min. mbar(g)	
NO TEST (M. min/40°C)	15%	AS 5 to 97.5	PASSED
Leak Test Result	4% of SP	Min. mbar(g)	Leak Test Result
AS 5/97.5 mbar(g)	75%	17.5	PASSED

Leak rate @90% is 0.0197 CFM (0.3 CCM), (4.8888 M3/Year)

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Oliver Valvetek Solutions ensure long-term reliability

Production commenced this month on a significant order for more than 500 subsea valves made up of 1/2" Ball Valves and 3/4" Check Valves. The order that exceeds £2m is earmarked for shipment to South America for use on the Yellowtail Development, off the Guyanese coast. Oliver Valvetek has again been selected to work with the Subsea Equipment Manufacturer and the end user, following on from previous successful project executions.

A number of important factors were considered by the customer in choosing the valves. Oliver Valvetek was able to provide

a robust valve design to mitigate leakage risk to the environment and ensure long-term reliability; stem seals had dual seal technology to ensure double redundancy and the valves fitted with metal-to-metal gasket seals on the valve end connectors as opposed to conventional elastomeric seals.

The customer used collaborative standardised valve design, which allowed the SDU design and valve operational interfaces to remain the same, thus significantly minimising the need for design changes. All the valves on the project are fully qualified to API6APR2F

and API17D 2nd Ed and are scheduled for shipping between August 2022 and May 2023.

The ball valves were also subject to an additional specialist qualification for the project to ensure that process wetted sealing was not affected by aggressive process media.

To find out how Oliver Valvetek can meet your subsea project valve requirements, contact us by telephone +44 (0)1565 632 636, email us at sales@valves.co.uk or visit our website www.valves.co.uk



Slimline Monoflanges for cold service



Traditionally within LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) plants, there are 'cold service' applications and cryogenic. Cold service is typically between -29degC (-20degF) and -50degC (-58degF). Valving for cold service do not require cryogenic bonnet extensions, however, they often require smaller extensions to allow for the application of lagging. Lagging types and thicknesses vary from project to project, and can be up to 50mm thick.

The reason for using a bonnet extension with lagged valves is to move the top of the bonnet outside the lagging. Should the valve ever develop a gland leak, the produced fluid will not be trapped within the lagging and cause corrosion issues.

Valves used on cold service are required to be operable at -50degC, that is, be able to be opened and closed and maintain leak tightness through the gland and across the seat at the valve design pressure.

Oliver Valves Limited Slimline Monoflange block & bleed and double block & bleed assemblies, utilise an outside screw and yoke needle valve primary isolate and an inside screw and yoke type needle valves for a second isolate and bleed valve. For cold service applications, these can be supplied with extended bonnets. To validate the two types of needle valves with extended bonnets, Oliver have utilised the rigorous testing requirements called for within the Shell specification 77/300. Unlike some specifications which only deal with purely the ability of the gland seal to perform at the low temperatures, the Shell specification reviews both the gland seal and the seat seal.

Oliver has performed the 77/300 validation test within its R&D facility, on a 1-1/2" Class 2500 Block & Bleed Slimline Monoflange with extended bonnets. The performance of all the gland seals at -50degC were well within leak rate BH and seat leaks were zero. Testing was performed at ASME pressure classes 600 and 2500. All the testing was witnessed by a third party.

- ▲ Fugitive Emission Leak Rate B
- ▲ 3rd Party Witnessed and Approved Qualification.
- ▲ Qualified Temperature Range -50oC to Ambient operable.
- ▲ Qualified in MESC SPE 77/300 Feb 2021.
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The Preparation Group receives a make-over



In this issue of Best Practice, we are pleased to announce The Preparation Group as our Construction Equipment Company of the Year. Paving the way in delivering solutions to Prepare, Polish & Maintain horizontal surfaces, The Preparation Group are leaders in the construction industry in manufacturing equipment for surface preparation, removal and profiling substrates.

As a one-stop-shop that delivers a first-class service with regard to finishing, including the specialised area of polishing concrete, The Preparation Group also hire out and sell machines, machine consumables and parts for its own machines and many other brands.



For over 30 years, The Preparation Group has pushed the limitations of innovation, developing and designing new enhancements and features for new materials and machines that have propelled the company to the forefront of the construction industry, however, the past year has been difficult for many businesses. We spoke to Managing Director, Ms Tracey Glew who described how the last 12 months have fared for the company. "It has been interesting and challenging, sourcing consumables, availability of products, lead times and the ever-constant price hikes have required the company to

re-assess procedures, plan ahead to ensure stock levels can meet the demands of our customers and production schedules. The way we do business is constantly evolving we have all learnt of better ways of doing things, being more efficient and improving our communication with our customers. We have noticed a demand for immediate delivery, so we have invested in stock to satisfy this need."

As most of its range is produced here in the UK, the company is able to operate on a relatively low carbon footprint, where possible only using local suppliers and local labour and talent. After a recent rebranding, The Preparation Group is excited for what's next. "We will have a completely new look. We have made investments in new more economic vehicles; we have three new prototype machines currently being tested which will be scheduled for production early next year, and, our contracting division have introduced new equipment and filtration units to improve efficiency and for safe clean operation," stated Tracey.

One product worth noting is the 250SP compact single-head 110v diamond grinder built from steel. Perfect for small commercial and domestic projects, the 250SP is uniquely equipped to prepare floor edges with an adjustable wheel height and spirit level to ensure even connection with the surface, you can also attach it to an industrial vacuum to eliminate dust pollution. It has a large foldable handle for easy transportation and storage and comes with diamonds that can be easily changed for multi-functional use. Comes available with a range of recommended vacuums, parts and accessories.

Moving forward, The Preparation Group will continue remaining true to its core ethos by developing new product lines that complement its already popular range of equipment, and investing in its teams by delivering theory and practical training

courses, maintaining levels of customer service and continue managing the ever-changing circumstances of this new norm post COVID-19. Of course, its strong reputation is a true testament to the hard work and years of dedication that each team member has contributed to the business, and Tracey finished by thanking those who have made this award achievable.



It is a testament to the hard work of our teams - especially throughout the last few years. We can demonstrate to our customers that they are dealing with the best in the industry and we will share the accolade on our social media platforms to publicise our commitment to quality. We have been trading for over 30 years and the recent years like for many have been the most challenging to date and we are facing challenges from all aspects of the business, but also looking for new opportunities and implementing new systems, procedures and training to make sure we grow and prosper with a loyal team."

For more information, see below
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Autolift Ltd. releases an air operated version of its ever popular 1.5 Tonne Transmission Jack



"Autolift Ltd specialises in the design and manufacture of commercial vehicle pit jacks, jacking systems and jacking beams. Our equipment is ideally suited for the workshop maintaining HGV's, Trucks and PSV vehicles. As one of the major UK suppliers of pit jacks, we have established an unrivalled reputation, providing safe, efficient and cost-effective lifting solutions to all truck, bus and coach garages - we offer jacks with lifting capacities from 13 tonnes through to 40 tonne models," stated David Smith, Managing Director.

Established in 1999, Autolift Ltd is British born and bred. In 2010, the company was purchased by Neil Smith and moved to its current location in Shilton near Coventry in the Midlands. Following Neil's retirement, David Smith who is Neil's son took over the running of the business to which is now part owned by David and his sister Emma.

The company has a global reach with customers from New Zealand and Madagascar and is proud to use UK suppliers to manufacture components for their range of pit jacks, free standing jacking beams, which are all assembled out of its manufacturing plant based here in the UK. Giving customers the option of either a manual or air assisted product, Autolift Ltd.'s entire range of pit and garage equipment is robust, safe and reliable providing a comprehensive solution to all vehicle lift, jacking beam and pit jack requirements. "We pride ourselves on only using UK companies for our parts then assembling them in our workshop to form the final components for the jacks. Furthermore, the power packs used on our jacks are made entirely by us to our own designs, unlike our competitors who use third party pump blocks and air pumps to power their jacks. Because of this we can keep strict control over the production and quality of what is the main component in any piece of hydraulic commercial vehicle lifting equipment," mentioned David.

From start to finish, Autolift Ltd. is consistent and professional in providing a full turnkey service of the highest standard. The company has been on the receiving end of many glowing reviews from past and current customers, "We have used Autolift for many years and we have found their product range to be excellent," "Their products are second to none. It's great to see industrial products that are manufactured here in the UK."

David commented, "The quality of our jack designs is excellent and provides years of trouble free use and minimal on-going maintenance. For example,



our cylinders use the latest in seal technology advancements and the rods are entirely submersed in oil which greatly extends their longevity before they need to be re-sealed or replaced. Compared to our competitors whose rams require re-sealing every 2-3 years and thus placing increased financial pressures and equipment downtime on their customers." Autolift Ltd.'s vast range of jacks include single ram pit jacks, floor pit jacks, transmission jacks, spreader beams, twin ram pit jacks, as well as further accessories and spare parts. In support of



these products, Autolift Ltd. also provides an after-sale service and repair of pit jacks. In the case of a pit jack being sent back to the workshop, to which Autolift Ltd. can arrange a collection by pallet courier if required, it then completes an assessment on the jack and delivers a detailed recommendation of the best solution back to the customer before any work is carried out. "Through our service and repair facility, we have links with numerous companies around the country that we can recommend to provide annual servicing and repairs on-site to lessen the downtime to customers," said David.



A latest product innovation sees a recent re-design of its new 40 Tonne Air Operated Twin Ram Commercial Pit Jack. "The new streamlined design is sleek and definitely improves upon the bulky models usually seen for such high capacity jacks. Most importantly, the re-design was done to improve

the overall performance and lifespan of the jack taking advantage of the latest advancements in seal technology and precision tooling to provide a market leading piece of garage equipment," stated David.

As with all Autolift twin ram pit jacks, the 40T model comes with a triple-layer of safety features as standard; a safety lowering valve, anti-burst valves in both cylinders and ram lock-off handles which prevent accidental lowering. They also offer Security struts, which can be fitted to all their jacks, to offer an extra layer of security to the user if requested. Each commercial pit jack is manufactured to suit all individual pit widths and specifications and come fitted with two double acting hydraulic cylinders that have a 400mm stroke.

"In May, we also released an air operated version of our very popular 1.5 Tonne Transmission Jack. Originally, we only offered a manual foot-pump version but given numerous enquiries we received we felt it sensible to recommend an alternative," stated David. The air operated hydraulic pump allows for an easy effortless lift and simple operation. Precision engineered valves allow for controlled lowering, whilst the high-quality castor wheels and side handles allows the units to be easily moved.

Recently, Autolift Ltd. has announced the hiring of the first employee under David's tenure as Managing Director as well as revealing they are in the final stages of testing a new 30 Tonne Pit Jack model that is due to be released in the next few months. David commented, "There are many changes happening but to focus on the future we hope to break into the European market further and I strongly believe we can do so as we are able to offer a fantastic and reliable product at competitive prices. We are constantly looking at ways to improve our products and are currently researching and trialling a complete overhaul to the design of our pit jack to enhance the performance even further. This is some months away yet as we are being thorough in ensuring we are able to provide the quality and reliability that our customers have come to expect from us."

For more information, please see below:
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Floor sealer & finish guide

Beautiful floors aren't born - they're built. When it comes to designing and building floors that customers love, flooring professionals understand the relationship between the layers of a floor and how to bring out the best in a floor with the proper tools and coatings.

Whether your customers want a traditional look or a completely customised creation, choosing the right coatings can help create a stunning floor. Here are some things to remember when using finishes.



Floor finishes

The importance of a floor's finish is, of course, the protective surface layer that is the first line of defence against floor damage. When it comes to a floor's finish, professional installers have a wide range of finishes to

choose from:

- ▲ Oil-based/oil-modified poly
- ▲ Waterborne poly
- ▲ Moisture cured urethanes
- ▲ Acid cured urethanes (AKA Swedish Finish)
- ▲ Waxes and Oils

When it comes to helping customers choose the right kind of floor finish, make sure the following concerns are addressed to give clients a wide range of options:

- ▲ Durability (abrasion/scratch resistance)
- ▲ Look and style (colour, sheen level)
- ▲ Potential colour changes over time
- ▲ VOCs/green options
- ▲ Maintenance
- ▲ Dry/cure time

Fixing floor finish mistakes

Proper care and preparation are needed for applying floor finish. Floors need to be properly sanded, cleaned or repaired before any finish is applied. Here's a list of common floor finish mistakes & ways to prevent them:

- ▲ **Streaks** - Ensure job site conditions are properly prepared for optimal drying. Most streaking problems can be traced back to the application or even the applicator itself. An easy way to eliminate problems with streaking is with the use of a roller.

- ▲ **Side bonding** - Using a quality floor sealer will help prevent side bonding.

- ▲ **Peeling** - Check to make sure the coatings you use are compatible with each other. Following manufacturer's instructions will help give proper guidance on what abrasives are recommended when prepping the floor.

- ▲ **Blistering** - Temperature control is often the cause of blistering. When finishing a floor, consider the sun and either cover the windows with plastic or plan the job early in the morning or late in the day. Make sure that the room is properly prepped to allow for proper airflow as the finish dries.

- ▲ **Uneven sheen** - Make sure the floor finish is prepared according to manufacturer's instructions. Ensure that the finish is mixed well. If multiple containers of finish are needed to complete a single application, batch them together to ensure a uniform sheen.

To give your customers the best-looking floors with superior protection, Bona Mega ONE and Bona Traffic HD have been designed specifically for the needs of professional floor contractors.

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Blackline Safety and Access Technology Group partner for confined space monitoring

Calgary, Canada – Blackline Safety Corp. (TSX: BLN) ("Blackline" or "Blackline Safety"), a global leader in connected safety technology, today announced it has partnered with Access Technology Group, a Dutch innovator in digital shutdowns and turnarounds, to integrate Blackline's G7 EXO portable area gas monitors with Access Technology's VISICS Digital Confined Space Monitoring system.

"Blackline Safety has over 1,000 customers around the world and through this partnership we are now able to link our equipment and live stream gas readings to the VISICS platform to support the new best practices of confined space monitoring and deliver even more value to our customers," said Brendon Cook, Chief Partnership Officer, Blackline Safety.

Confined spaces are challenging working environments. Identifying the hazards involved then taking proactive steps to prevent them and minimize risks is paramount. Minimizing risks starts with knowing who's inside a confined space, for how long, and monitoring the atmospheric conditions within it.

The VISICS system takes information from workers' badges and communication devices to manage and monitor their entries into confined spaces. Live camera feeds both inside and outside the space enable remote teams to centrally monitor each confined space and all

activities inside and out.

Now, through the integration of Blackline's G7 EXO area gas monitors into the solution, the equipment can communicate directly with the VISICS network streaming gas readings sampled from within a confined space to add another layer of proactive safety monitoring and protection during turnaround and shutdowns.

"Integrating with Blackline Safety is a wonderful opportunity for VISICS as it allows us to offer Blackline's top-of-the-line technology while maintaining the same familiar look and feel for VISICS operators," said Rene Slegers, CEO of Access Technology Group. VISICS is the market leader in digital confined space monitoring, providing services to the most well-known industrial energy clients in over 15 countries through direct business and well-developed local partnerships. Blackline Safety worked with Access Technology Group and its North American distribution partner, InfoSignal, to develop an EXO hard-wired data interface to deliver real-time gas readings into the VISICS network. The technology was then trialled at several customer worksites to ensure a seamless integration.

Contact

www.blacklinesafety.com



The Bactiscope™ from EIT International



NEW TO MARKET – NOW AVAILABLE

The Bactiscope™ is a reliable and portable bacteria and biofilm detection system that instantaneously identifies areas harbouring bacterial contaminants such as E.coli, Listeria and Salmonella, in pipework and other awkward to access areas of production lines and processing sites.

The Bactiscope™, like its companion products, the Bactiscan™ and BactiscanPRO™, uses environmentally friendly and safe to handle wave-alternating UV light sources to instantaneously identify areas harbouring bacterial contaminants. The beauty of the Bactiscope™ is that the inspection camera as part of a flexible probe system (in cable lengths of 1m, 2m or 5m) gives you the freedom to inspect and investigate areas that would normally be inaccessible for standard cleaning and inspection protocols.

Many contaminants are often undetectable using other methods such as white light and standard single UV source lamps. With Bactiscope™ you can illuminate the entire internal surface of pipework and receive an immediate result; within seconds you can detect contamination sites for testing and remedial works that

would not normally be identified using less sophisticated methods.

Production & Facilities Managers are relied upon to make a critical decision every day; namely whether to start processing and production runs or not. For each hour on hold for cleaning or investigations, any potential revenue is lost. If the full production line is conducted using a piping process or has a processing surface that hasn't been adequately cleaned, the risk of contamination and costly recalls (or worse) increases dramatically. With its unique wave-alternating UV system, the Bactiscope™ enables Managers within production facilities and maintenance teams to immediately locate and isolate biofilms, mould and bacteria and many other contaminants; Bactiscope™ makes the identification and remediation job much faster and therefore more cost effective than many alternative methods.

For further information on Bactiscope™, please contact your regional EIT International product partner. If you don't see a product partner for your country, please use the contact form above the list

www.eit-international.com

Dealing with Dust

Top Tips from #TeamPPC

#1 **Think PPC:**
Power, Particle, Composition

To ensure you deal with dust in the best way possible, always consider:

- Power sources available
- Particles: the type, volume and density of dust/debris
- Composition of material being removed

#2 **Vacuuming Wet and Dry?**
It's dual purpose that you need.

The M450 is #TeamPPC's go-to dust and debris extractor, containing the highest levels of dust particles in even the most demanding conditions.

#3 **Critical or Toxic Dust?**
Choose Longopac®

The 202DSL is specifically designed for maximum dust collection and containment. Choosing bag over bin gives you confidence when containing airborne particles.

#4 **Check your Filter Class**

Use H-Class filters when dealing with high-risk debris such as silica dust and asbestos to minimise operator risk and ensure HSE compliance

Remember: Risks vary depending on materials being removed, and not all vacuums are the same.
For information & advice, call #TeamPPC on +44 (0)1522 561 460

Get done and dusted

There's no dust on us here at The Preparation Group when it comes to controlling and minimising risk whilst extracting dust and debris. It's a given: surface preparation, removal and finishing operations generate dust. As the one-stop-shop for surface preparation projects from 5m² to 50,000m², The Preparation Group's professional teams make it their priority to ensure every breath you take on-site is a safe one.

We are acutely aware of, and vigilant about, the hazardous, and potentially toxic, risks of dust. By limiting the levels of dust in working environments, we minimise risk. That's why we advocate for choosing the most suitable industrial vacuum for your project.

Staying smart before you start
It is important to remember that risks vary from project to project; depending upon materials being used and how much waste is generated. Remaining informed about key considerations will help you to select the best solution and correct industrial vacuum for your task:

- ▲ Understand your tools and equipment
- ▲ Check filter grades
- ▲ Understand the type, volume and composition of materials and debris
- ▲ Check available power sources



Dusting off

Even with the most effective dust control methods and machines, there may still be some debris and/or dust that needs to be cleared up when you are finishing a task.

Dry sweeping dust; especially concrete dust, can produce particularly high levels of dust and debris as it pushes large amounts of dust particles into the air. As an alternative, it is recommended to use on-tool extraction where possible, using extractors that have M and H class filters for finer particle use.

Wearing protective equipment may also be recommended for operators and those working in enclosed environments; such as face masks fitted with the correct filters, to even further minimise human risk.

One Stop Shop

At the Preparation Group, we pride ourselves on being a true one-stop-shop for all your surface preparation needs; which includes dust extraction and industrial vacuums. With our comprehensive range of machines and equipment, and our qualified professionals, our expert teams are always on hand to guide and advise you through the process of selecting the right tools for the job.

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DEEP HOLE DRILLING SYSTEMS

Unisig Deep Hole Drilling Systems: perfection is never an accident

UNISIG produces deep hole drilling machines that are used around the world by nearly every industry imaginable – and at UNISIG, striving for perfection has never been an accident. To secure long-term success, the company decided to further invest in machining its own precision parts rather than subcontracting components, as some of the most critical parts they produced have tolerances and complexity that cannot be made by most machine shops.

thinking by the team’s engineers, programmers, and machinists. To harness this new direction, UNISIG put in the time and energy to secure the best manufacturing resources available, including several Okuma machine tools.

To begin, UNISIG devised a plan to combine modular fixturing, offline tool setup, and full simulation of the machine, workpiece, and tools to provide a platform of innovation within their machine shop. The



without stopping and manually verifying the machining process many times during the cycle. The Okuma MB-10000H installation was a success and reinforced UNISIG’s wisdom to focus on automated machining – and the benefits were so extraordinary that UNISIG continued to look to additional Okuma solutions to bring its strategic vision to life.

and removed for setup offline. The results after installation were very impressive, allowing lights-out automatic machining of parts previously not possible for UNISIG to manufacture.

With two machines from Okuma running and performing to expectations, one more opportunity identified for upgrade resulted in the new MA-12500 machine. The OSP Control common to these three Okuma machines was a big value to the programming and simulation group at UNISIG. “This baseline trust in Okuma is what allows UNISIG to excel at advanced manufacturing,” said Mr. Fetting.

UNISIG’s next target was large-part machining. Previously, to hold the finished machine tolerances, extensive hand scraping was necessary which added a lot of time and expense to produce these machines. UNISIG established a set of machining accuracy parameters that would eliminate much of this handwork to achieve tolerances.

In addition to offline tool presetting and modular workholding on all machines, UNISIG uses a variety of Okuma’s Partners in THINC suppliers including: Mastercam, Vericut® and Renishaw. Using a layered approach

To machine their own parts while continuing to grow and develop new products, UNISIG embarked on a new approach to machining which would allow for industry-leading CNC machine tool accuracy and performance to be coupled with new technology that would ultimately eliminate manual intervention in machining that prevails in many shops.

team’s intent was to radically improve spindle uptime and exploit the full potential of automated CNC machining, even when the batch size would be only one part.

The first step of the UNISIG strategy was to move away from classic CNC boring mills and adopt the higher productivity potential of CNC horizontal machining centres with twin pallets. After consulting with credible industry sources and leveraging their internal team’s knowledge, the MB-10000H horizontal machining centre from Okuma was selected for medium-sized, high-accuracy part machining.

One of the most important factors in this capital investment was the need to trust the machine accuracy enough to program from its centre of rotation and let the machine run

“The deliberate connection between engineering, design, and machining improves our product. Our ability to rely on very high accuracy and productivity from our internal machining capacity allows UNISIG to provide more advanced solutions and value to its customers,” quoted Anthony Fetting, CEO of UNISIG.

Automated machining was the goal, which required a change in

Working directly with the local distributor, Morris Midwest, UNISIG was able to engage with Okuma



America and Okuma Corporation’s technical leadership to tailor the specification of an Okuma MCR-A5CII 35x10 double column machine for the exacting geometry and overall volumetric accuracy needed.

to technology and understanding the benefits of eliminating the gaps between engineering, design, and manufacturing, UNISIG has differentiated itself as a machine tool builder. The company’s long history of achievement is one Okuma and Morris Midwest are proud to be a part of – especially in helping UNISIG achieve their goal of capitalising on the full potential of automated machining.

The collective Okuma team ensured the MCR-A5CII machine tool specifications were defined and perfect for UNISIG’s application. A quick-change fixture system was developed by UNISIG to allow two parts up to 3 m (10 ft) long to be machined simultaneously

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Anua Clean Air International sees new growth and developments

Anua Clean Air International manufactures and installs Mónafil, Mónashell, CrumRubber and Mónasorb - Carbon Filter Units, biofiltration systems which have gained a reputation as a reliable, proven system for the treatment of municipal and industrial odour and VOC air emissions.

We caught up with Ian Phillips, Director, about the latest developments for the company, he stated that, "We have had very positive developments over the past two years with new patents for our Dual Stage Monashell and our New CrumRubber process. This technology uses recovered waste tyres and a high performing catalytic Biotrickling process suitable for high H2S on air and biogas. Patents have been awarded in the UK, Europe, the US and China and the technologies tick the boxes for best in class performance in terms of removing pollutants, using minimum energy and water usage, no chemical usage and reuse of recovered material - a 'Hat Trick' for carbon footprint, the environment and life cycle cost. These offerings have global reach and we are very excited about this. We have reference plants in the UK, Europe, the US and China and we are well advanced, with developing worldwide Sales Channels with our Italian Partners Air Clean SRL."

Anua Clean Air International has been working with its Italian Partners Air Clean SRL, to offer the UK market its Patented Biological technologies, which offer the best in class performance at

the lowest operating cost, coupled with benefits derived from reuse of recovered materials. In addition, Air Clean offered the full complement of Chemical Scrubbers, Carbon filters and Bag filters allowing Anua Clean Air International to be able to offer the full suite of Clean Air Technologies for low cold emissions.

Ian expanded, "Air Clean our Italian Sister Company has recently opened a US Office and we have licenced our technologies for the US to Air Clean. We have been awarded a number of new projects and are very excited about long term prospects."

After facing new challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic, Anua Clean Air International has recovered and is starting to see projects come back to life. Ian continued, "We are seeing big Environmental Infrastructure projects starting to move, particularly in International markets where our International partners have full order books, so overall prospects are very strong. Pricing in current environment is challenging but we are very optimistic about future growth prospects."

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Established in 2008, in response to the markets need for a dedicated specialist in humidity control, Humidity Solutions vast became an independent leader in its field, providing innovative solutions for a wide range of industrial and commercial applications. Headquartered in Leatherhead, Surrey, Humidity Solutions has engineers based all over the country in the North, Midlands and the South, enabling a UK wide coverage for all maintenance, installation and service requests. The considerable technical knowledge, expertise and experience within the team, allows Humidity Solutions to provide a full turnkey service, from design and installation, through to commissioning and ongoing maintenance.

Humidity Solutions have a range of humidification and dehumidification products from the world's leading brands including Neptonic in Canada, Vapac in the UK Cotes in Denmark and HiDew in Italy. Correct humidity levels also have a direct impact on health and wellbeing and is crucial to many industrial and commercial processes such as medical research, data management, and packaging. Furthermore, it plays a vital role in the safe storage, display & protection of many consumer goods. Humidity Solutions is the leading independent specialist in humidity control.

Boasting an extensive product portfolio, Humidity Solutions has a strategy to minimise its environmental impact by offering alternative low energy solutions to the more traditional, high energy usage equipment. Its vast range of products includes adiabatic humidifiers, steam humidifiers, desiccant dehumidifiers, refrigerant dehumidifiers, as well as other products such as reverse osmosis systems, and Vesuvius humidifiers. Ensuring each client has access to a personal service, Humidity Solutions can design a bespoke solution for each unique application such as industrial manufacturing, food and drink processing, hot yoga studios, classic car storage, print and packaging and many more.


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ADSA tunes up Quartet for business support

The Automatic Door Suppliers Association (ADSA) has launched Quartet - a new initiative to provide member support across four essential services: HR, legal, health and safety and tax.

The service, delivered in partnership

with Quest, includes an online library with more than 450 templates, documents and advice sheets and an advice line for direct contact

It is available to all ADSA members - from major manufacturers to sole traders - but should prove particularly

helpful to support smaller businesses without dedicated in-house teams.

It will help them to:

- ▲ manage problems - such as disciplinary issues, disability requirements, grievance procedures, redundancy/dismissal/

pay/capability issues and long-term sickness

- ▲ get answers - to workplace changes such as hybrid working and sick pay
- ▲ stay compliant - on contracts of employment, employee handbooks, understanding responsibilities and changes to legislation
- ▲ support staff - around working practice, maternity, paternity, leave and training

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By including Quartet as an additional member benefit, ADSA hopes that it will help businesses save money - reducing outsourcing costs and delivering peace of mind.

Said ADSA managing director Ken Price: "ADSA membership is great value and this service is a further enhancement to what we offer. We have a range of member organisations from big manufacturers and distributors to micro companies and sole traders.

"Although all our members will be able to access Quartet, we believe that it will be particularly beneficial for smaller companies which have to manage all aspects of business alongside their core service. We hope that it will present a cost-effective solution at a time when business overheads are increasing. It will also provide a service that can be called upon immediately - help at the end of a phone or touch of a button."



ADSA member Kevin Treharne, sales director of Entec Access Systems Limited, said: "Entec has been a ADSA member for many years and we have always found enormous benefit in its services. It has always been the 'go-to' organisation for technical expertise and training. This new initiative opens-up a much wider range of services that will be of enormous benefit in supporting wider business operations."

For more information on ADSA membership contact

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The attached photo shows flanged 1.5" hygienic swivels in 316L Stainless Steel getting prepped for despatch following assembly and testing. The ability to rotate enables ease for maintenance.

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Goupil electric utility vehicle range is just the job

Issues such as a lack of charging infrastructure and limited range are still causing somewhat of a roadblock for the electric vehicle industry.

However according to Ramsy Labassi, Marketing Manager at Bradshaw Electric Vehicles, whilst charging, or range-induced anxiety is understandable when considering the switch to electric, such concerns often don't consider one vital factor - what the vehicle is being used for.

As a leading supplier of the Goupil electric utility vehicle range - which cater for last mile distribution, waste management and local authority requirements - Ramsy suggests that its vital common preconceptions do not cause businesses and organisations, Ramsy commented: "It's often the first question that any potential customer will ask. What about the range? Of course, while this is a reasonable enquiry as all varieties electric vehicles do have

a limited range when compared to a petrol or diesel powered vehicle, the mass anxiety surrounding the issue of electric vehicles running out of battery is relatively misguided.

"Granted, if you drive far enough without stopping then it's more than likely that the vehicle will die. However, it's unlikely road users would run down their petrol or diesel tank until it hits empty, so why would they do the same with an electric vehicle?"

"Unfortunately, this sweeping argument seems to exclude a key fundamental factor - what the vehicle will be used for, which is a vital element to take into account when considering a transition to an all-electric vehicle.

"For instance, our Goupil electric utility vehicles are extremely popular within the local authority, waste management, hospital and last-mile sectors as they offer a flexible, cost-effective and environmental alternative that is perfectly suited to their on-road operational needs as travel distances in such industries will be relatively low.

"Equally, users have the comfort of knowing that the vehicle is able to be charged from any mains socket. Unlike many electric vehicles, the G4 doesn't require any additional and expensive charging infrastructure, this not only negates any concerns over charging and also shows how an electric commercial vehicle is a perfectly viable alternative to traditionally powered utility vehicles. It's essentially no different or more difficult than charging a phone.

"With LEZ's being introduced in towns and cities, the UK is aiming to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent by 2025 with the end goal of net zero by 2050, businesses and organisations need to be actively seeking ways to reduce their carbon footprint - and the Goupil range provides potential users with the prospect of not only improving their environmental footprint, but in turn enhancing operational performance and lowering their vehicle operating costs as well."

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Switch to VNA storage delivers benefits for online fulfillment specialist

By switching to a very narrow aisle (VNA) racking scheme served by Flexi Truck articulated forklift technology, e-Commerce fulfillment specialist FuturePro Logistics has increased storage capacity by some 30 per cent at its 50,000 sq. ft multi-client store in Thatcham, Berkshire.

The racking aisles at the Thatcham unit are now 2 metres wide rather than three metres wide with the traditional reach truck, and with the top beam set at 8 metres high, the storage cube provides 4000 pallet locations.

Replenishment stock is held in the upper levels of the system and pallets are dropped to ground level, where order picking can take place, as and when required. In addition, a steel mezzanine structure provides additional floor space to allow order picking and packing space while client dispatches and returns are processed in the area created underneath the structure.

A diverse range of products - from beverages to apparel - are stored and fulfilled often overnight from FuturePro's Thatcham facility for a client list that includes well-known brand names.

The Flexi Truck's iconic articulated design is ideally suited to modern fulfillment centre operations because they save space, increase productivity and allow safe access to stacking aisles and product stored. The activity levels are always high as the volume of customer orders to fulfil and replenishment of the mezzanine locations is a constant activity.

A single Flexi Truck model is in operation at FuturePro's Thatcham store and is used for a range of tasks including unloading incoming delivery vehicles and transferring loads to their allocated position within the racking.

Flexi Trucks feature digital electric motor technology. Like others, the independent drive and hydraulic motors are standard. However, the unique independent power-steering motor provides precise steering with no 'kickback'. 20% less battery energy is consumed and functions to be controlled digitally, the most productive and energy-efficient performance is achieved throughout the full working day on one overnight battery charge.

"The control systems at the heart of the Flexi Truck deliver greater reliability and higher productivity combined with significantly reduced operating and maintenance costs," says John Maguire, managing director of Narrow Aisle Ltd, manufacturer of the Flexi Truck range.

Picking pallets at height is not a problem for the Flexi Truck thanks to the truck's integrated side shifting carriage and tilting 'HiViS heavy duty 'I' beam mast design which eliminates most sway - even at heights of 8 metres and over. This feature - which is unique to Flexi - enhances the truck's already class-leading operator visibility to both sides of the aisle.

"With the unique, smooth independent power steering, pallets can be picked and put-away on the top beam of the highest racking smoothly, safely and efficiently," says John Maguire.

Having opened its first facility some seven years ago they have grown rapidly, today FuturePro operates a total of six fulfillment sites all located close to key urban areas, offering rapid delivery of products to customers homes. The company's other facilities are all located in the Thames Valley and within the boundary of M25 on the outskirts of West London.

Marcus Watson, FuturePro Logistics' managing director, comments: "To achieve optimum online order fulfillment performance it is important to deploy the most suitable materials handling equipment. Our choice of a Flexi Truck was based, in part, on the Flexi's ability to deliver improved space-efficiency and enhanced productivity but the safety of our warehouse staff as they carry out customer order picking duties at lower levels was our number one consideration."

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Currently, CAMB Machine Knives supplies and exports its knives to over 20 countries worldwide. Because the company deals with several carrier and freight companies,

it ensures it can always get the most competitive prices and best carriage option to its customers' destination.

The company's range of blades includes circular knives, top dished knives, bottom knives, toothed knives, straight knives, anvils, tray form blades, razor blades, shear blades, granulator blades, carpet knives, tobacco knives and confectionary knives.

The range of circular knives is ideal for a wide range of industries, including



packaging and rubber. Furthermore, CAMB Machine Knives' range of poultry processing blades cover all the main machines used in the industry, including Stork, Meyn, Systemate, Foodmate, Linco, and many special sizes made to order.

As well as supplying new blades, CAMB Machine Knives can provide a full regrind/re-sharpening service on many of the knives it supplies. This can be arranged on a weekly basis, or booked as and when it is required. This is ideal for increasing the life of circular, straight, toothed and special blades, as well as increasing the efficiency of the machine.



Regrinding/re-sharpening is the ideal way to bring your knives back to an as new condition, and is considerably cheaper than purchasing a brand new set of knives. CAMB Machine Knives can collect and deliver anywhere in the UK within 24 hours, offering competitive shipping rates and a quick turnaround. What's more, if a job is urgent, in some cases the company can regrind the same day.

With its comprehensive product range and excellent customer service, CAMB Machine Knives really is a cut above the rest.



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TÜV Rheinland issues first UKCA certificate to Schmersal

As a testing body with official recognition by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), TÜV Rheinland has issued the first certificate for the testing of AZ300, AZM300 and AZM300-AS solenoid interlocks made by Schmersal in accordance with UKCA requirements.

UKCA stands for United Kingdom Conformity Assessment. Since the UK's departure from the European Union (Brexit), this new marking is required for products sold in England, Wales and Scotland. The UKCA marking replaces the CE marking used in the EU single market, although the latter is still accepted for registration on the

British market until the end of 2022. "We were consciously aware of the significance of the British market for many of our customers and of the need to be able to offer rapid and reliable support with the new regulatory requirements as an official testing body," explains Thomas Steffens, head of the testing and certification body 'Funktionale Sicherheit & Cybersecurity' at TÜV Rheinland Industrie Service GmbH.

Testing for Schmersal for more than 20 years
TÜV Rheinland has been testing safety switchgear devices and systems made by the international Schmersal Group, based in Wuppertal, for more than 20 years. The new UKCA certification

involves not inconsiderable outlay for product manufacturers. With the team at Schmersal, TÜV Rheinland was able to undertake the recognition process and conformity assessment for UKCA certification of the AZ300, AZM300 and AZM300-AS solenoid interlocks promptly and successfully.

Contact Steve Watkins:
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AZM150 SOLENOID INTERLOCK WITH NEW DHS-150 HANDLE SYSTEM

THE DHS-150 DOOR HANDLE SYSTEM IS ESPECIALLY SUITED TO HEAVY SWING DOORS

With the new practical DHS-150 door handle system, the slimline AZM150 solenoid interlock from Schmersal is now even easier to use. The ergonomic DHS-150 avoids the need for a separate door handle and is suitable for machine enclosures or fencing and all standard aluminium profiles with a width of 40 mm. The robust door bolt is particularly useful on heavy swing doors and for use in harsh environments.

One benefit of the new accessory is that the actuator is pre-positioned by the bolt in the DHS system, thus ensuring optimal insertion into the device. This gives the system stability against lateral forces. In addition, the DHS-150 door handle system is also equipped with an integrated locking device (LOTO). This locking tag function protects operating staff from mistakenly being locked inside larger, walk-in systems and machines while performing servicing and repair work.

The AZM150 has an interlocking force of 1500 Newtons and can be combined with three different actuators for different attachment situations. A positive of the interlock is the rotating actuator head which can be locked with ease by simple placement on the cover, rather than being bolted into place. The solenoid interlock is electromechanical in design and can be combined with a high safety standard: a low coding level as standard, or optionally with a high coding level in accordance with ISO 14119.

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New AZM40 solenoid interlock with UL certification



Smallest electronic solenoid interlock in the world

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

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

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

New enclosure versions

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

Low-energy safety solution

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

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Available in 7- and 15.6-inch display sizes, the CP9...-I series features a condition monitor with web interface, a display with integrated BMS and BCOM interfaces as well as Modbus RTU/TCP, for connecting to Bender and third-party devices. Measured values, parameters and other data are available via the web interface or display. The 7-inch version is suitable to be mounted in a control cabinet door so that information is highly visible.

Robust construction and solid Bender design mean there are few limits to potential industrial applications, with remote access via LAN, WAN or Internet allowing for diagnosis and maintenance. Typical applications include data centres, wind farm, manufacturing, process, and plant.

The flexible display format provides an overview of connected system parameters, with active visual and acoustic notifications in the event of alarms, with the option of displaying the source and corrective action for any faults that occur.

Lee Slater of Bender UK said: "The CP9...-I allows greater visibility of electrical power system health at a glance. The increased communication functionality also allows the end-users to receive remote information when site access is not always possible, reducing the time taken to identify and rectify developing power systems issues. The CP9...-I is suited to both those with and without an existing building management system".

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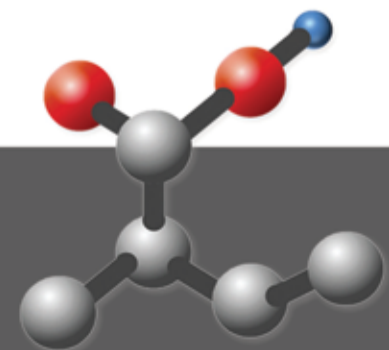
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Decontamination showers and eye washes installed and maintained by family run business

LEK Engineering is a family company who celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2019. The company believes that a good service is the best way to ensure that customers return whenever they require products or services.

Working from a workshop and office in North Wales, LEK Engineering has clients from across the UK and Northern Ireland. As a family-run company that has built its business on service and reliability, it works by the motto, "Everyone cares all the time, seven days a

week, not just some times between 9 to 5."

The company has celebrated its anniversary by diversifying into a new product. LEK Engineering now supply, maintain and repair decontamination (or safety) showers, including all related products such as eye wash units and trigger eye washes, alongside manufacturing standard and bespoke systems to suit all sectors. The company specialises in everything connected with health & safety when compromised workers have to be washed off urgently after coming into contact with a dangerous solution.

Over the past couple of years, LEK Engineering have found that clients want a variety of different shower designs, some with the eye washes attached in an obvious position, some without, and others in bright colours to make visibility easier. Because of this, the company is able to match any client requirements.

LEK Engineering proudly manufacture fit-for-purpose, stainless steel showers, that guarantee to meet the requirements of any client. The company works alongside any business that deals with hazardous products, and it also inspects all equipment, and follows up with a full report. Clients will then be offered a maintenance contract, and LEK Engineering will visit every three or six months to check the products are working and cleaned fully. Keeping the showers in perfect working order is a legal health & safety requirement, and this is where LEK's expertise is so crucial.



The company is continuing to grow its customer base, and Owner Alexis Lay commented, "clients are coming in from the food industry who have to use chlorine to clean their lines down, and so the safety showers are vital to these companies. Our base is also increasing from electrical companies and even blood banks, which obviously require perfect hygiene." LEK Engineering aims to provide an outstanding customer service and ensure all of its client's safety showers and safety eyewashes are running at optimum performance and efficiency.

For more information:
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When legislation stipulates it is unsafe to work near certain chemicals, bio hazards and acids, a decontamination shower is a positive way to ensure there is a solution in the event of accidental spills and contamination.

The options are varied as to how this is possible. On site installation where a water supply is possible, or a hired bowser if the site is under construction or deconstruction. Eye wash units are available as part of the shower, or as stand alone units.

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How does the supply crisis and rising costs affect food safety?

From Peter Littleton, Technical Director, Christeys Food Hygiene.

Food safety has to remain top priority

The cost of energy, raw materials and transport has soared in recent months with global markets in the midst of a deep supply crisis. Two years of a pandemic followed by war in Ukraine have imposed changes on all market sectors.

All of this is fueling market instability which means reducing costs is a priority. How do you do this without compromising food safety and avoiding other more serious problems related to health, safety and reputation?

Recent cases of food poisoning outbreaks have placed the whole sector on alert. Simply cutting costs in the cleaning and disinfection of facilities is not a good option as not complying with the established sanitisation protocols, and replacing certain products with others of lesser quality, has a direct consequence on reducing food safety.

Recently, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) announced an international outbreak of Salmonella typhimurium ST34 infections linked to chocolate products. Up to the beginning of April 2022, 150 cases had been reported, mainly in children under 10.

According to the World Health Organisation, 4,700 people die each year in Europe from contaminated food, 420,000 worldwide, and 23 million Europeans fall ill as a result. Therefore, keeping hygiene processes within limits that ensure food safety is essential. The same applies to the right advice and the correct technical services for hygiene processes in the industry.

This is where a hygiene partner plays a key role. In an advisory capacity, a hygiene partner can help establish routines and standards that ensure the suitability, quality and effectiveness of the services provided. The implementation of monitoring and control tools will contribute to improving the efficiency of the sanitisation processes.

A comprehensive hygiene service covers all areas and factors involved in the sanitisation of food production

and handling facilities: from the recommendation and supply of products and the equipment necessary for application, to the validation of the hygiene results.

Automating processes can help reduce product usage and innovations in technology now mean that monitoring systems are available on the market for both open space cleaning systems and CIP systems. These monitoring systems not only control dosage and water/energy usage but show which areas can work more efficiently.



Opting for equally effective product alternatives, such as those available in concentrated formats that provide savings in transport, or as other types of products that are easy to rinse or that work at low temperatures, allowing savings in water and energy.

The various links in the food industry value chain must not forget their primary role: to produce safe food; to ensure that the products leaving the plants are safe. This is undoubtedly the only valid method to define potential savings while maintaining a safe food production environment.

A reputational crisis can cause irreversible damage to a brand, not to mention the health consequences to consumers. We can all work together to make this better.

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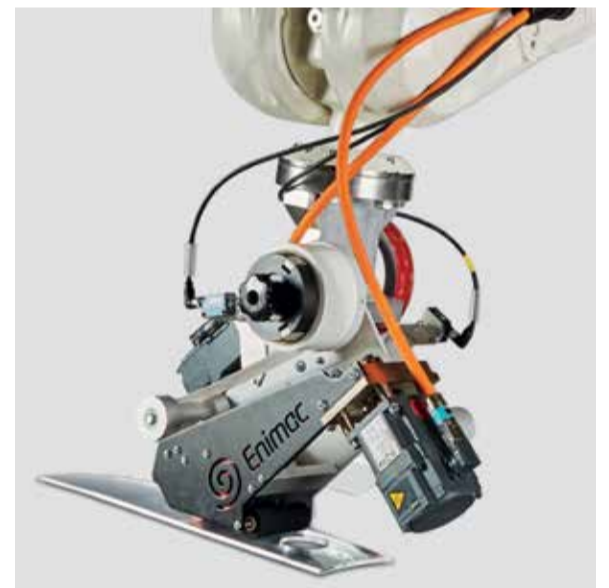
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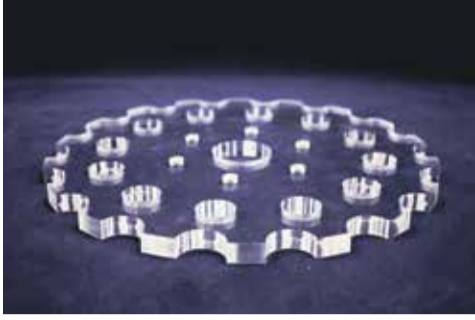
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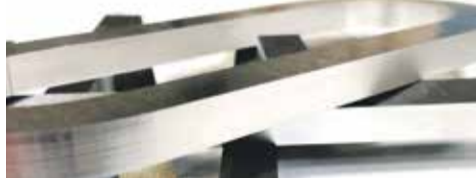
MADE IN ITALY

CNC routing and engraving tooling supplier



LKH Tools was started by Liam Hodson in 2018. Having previously worked for a large CNC router manufacturer for 22 years, Liam already had the foundational skills and experience in this sector. "I saw an opportunity in the market to offer high quality CNC router tooling along with the advice on how to use them correctly. No one else was offering this and it seemed a logical step to meet customer's needs. We have partnered with Crown Norge A/S which is a Norwegian company supplying tools manufactured to their own design in Switzerland. They have a fantastic reputation globally and they have been established for over 25 years," said Liam.

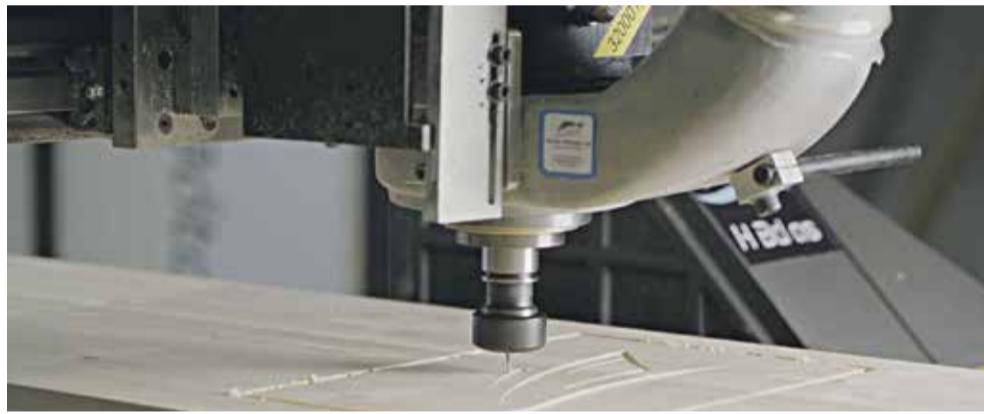
Based in Nottingham, LKH Tools supply to the whole of the UK and Ireland. Focusing mainly on the supply of CNC router tools, the company also offers a consultancy service where it can deliver a wide range of consultancy and training to suit exact requirements. Some of these include training and advice on how to improve workflow, reduce labour, eliminate hand finishing, retain consistency in large production runs, and how to keep valued customers with a higher quality product. "Our consultancy service can be in the form of an onsite visit to the customer to improve productivity on the CNC router or to establish correct settings for materials and tools. One size doesn't fit all in most cases so we also offer advice based on the design and job the customer is doing. For example, if a customer is using thin material and cutting small parts, we would recommend a smaller diameter down fluted tools to assist with vacuum hold



down. This would help keep the smaller parts in place and not disappear into the extraction system. Machine and software training for certain machine types can also be arranged and as we are a Vectric software reseller we can supply the V-Carve software to end users along with training," stated Liam.

innovative complete turn-key solution. "Innovation is the key to pushing the boundaries of what can be cut on a CNC router. We are always improving and developing new tooling which can assist customers and improve on what is currently available," said Liam.

For more information, see below
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enquiry@lkhtools.co.uk
www.lkhtools.co.uk



One thing that the company prides itself on is that it was the first to introduce the Superior coating on the MP range of router tooling to the UK. "This has a revolutionary coating which allows for high speed, dry routing of Aluminium. We have seen up to 10 times more meterage out of these tools at speeds of up to 10-12 meters per minute cutting 3mm aluminium. Removing any oil or coolant out the process also means no cleaning after each cut," added Liam.

LKH Tools cater to a wide range of industries including architectural cladding and rainscreen manufacture, plastic fabricators, sign makers, exhibition and display manufacturers, automotive and engineering. In all areas of the industry, LKH Tools help businesses take the guesswork out of CNC routing and is always looking for its next

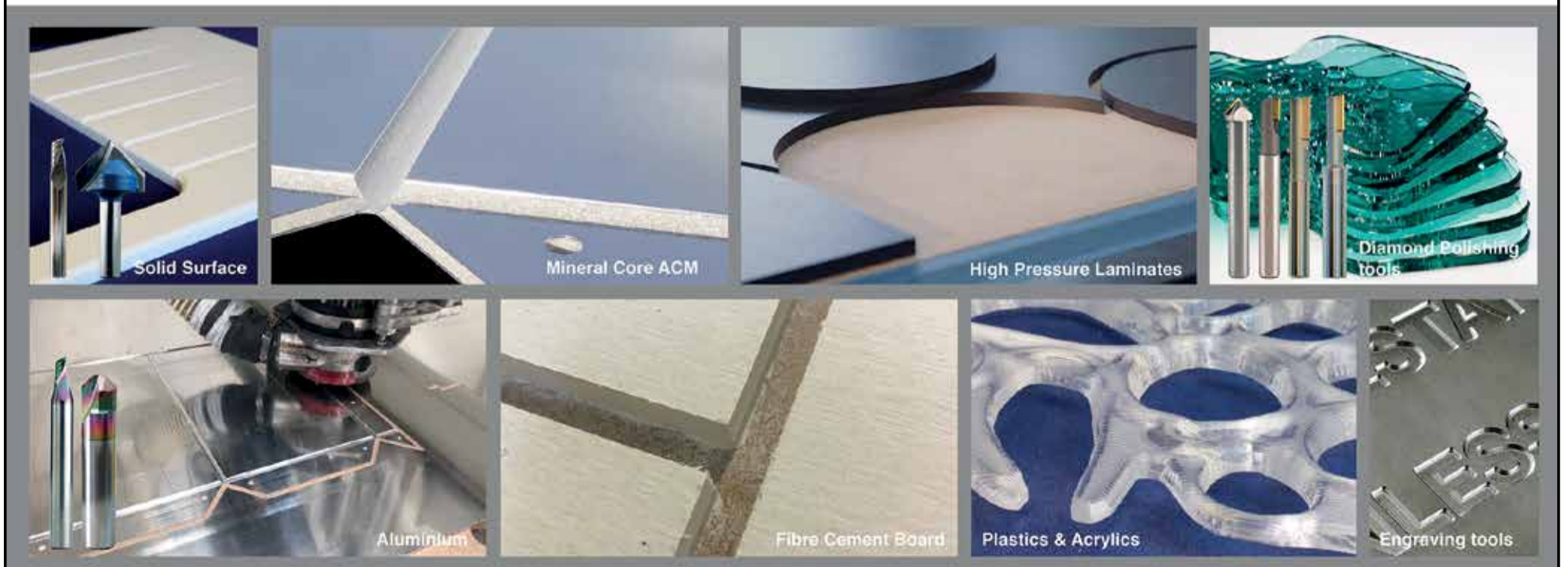


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