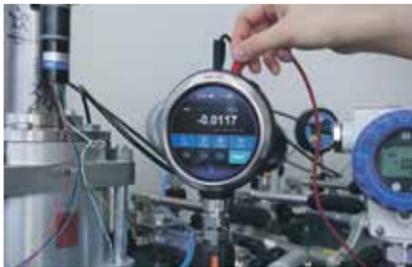


INDUSTRIAL PROCESS NEWS

Tel: 0121 550 2086 - www.industrialprocessnews.co.uk - May - Issue 710

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IPN

Manufacturer launches new recycled material for automotive market

A British manufacturer best known for producing NVH parts and sealing solutions for the automotive industry has launched a new range of recycled materials suitable for use in a variety of sectors.

Nottinghamshire-based business Interflex is using the Ocean brand of materials to manufacture acoustic automotive products designed to reduce noise and vibration in vehicles.

Already approved for use at a major OEM, Ocean is lightweight, mouldable and made from a minimum of 75% recycled polyester. It can also be recycled at the end of its life, making it a sustainable solution for NVH issues.

Ocean can be used for a variety of interior and exterior applications from headliners to parcel shelves. Although currently being used in vehicle manufacture, it has potential for use in a range of industries including rail, roadways and construction.

"We are excited to be launching this innovative new product which has already attracted significant interest from large manufacturers in the



automotive industry," comments Jim Griffin, MD of Interflex. "Not only is it a high performance acoustic absorbent material, but its lightweight properties also make it an ideal product for manufacturers looking to reduce weight in vehicle production."

The launch of Ocean is part of the company's drive to introduce more sustainable materials into the automotive supply chain. It is also part of a plan to expand into new markets.

Jim explains, "With its high-performance properties, Ocean can be used for a wide range of purposes and industries where weight and noise is an issue. As experts in converting materials, the team at Interflex is ideally placed to take Ocean into completely new markets."

www.interflex2000.com

Industry award for Pentagon Plastics

The Pentagon Plastics Group is celebrating having won a prestigious Plastics Industry Award for Best Training and Development Programme.

Winners of the Plastics Industry Awards 2021 awards were announced 2nd December by comedian Simon Evans at a black-tie gala evening, live streamed from the Waldorf Hilton in London. Pentagon were finalists in four of the seventeen award categories and were delighted to come away winners for this award, recognising the strong focus on staff wellbeing and mental health centred training that the company has in place.

Paul Edwards, Managing Director of Pentagon, says, "The event was up to its usual high standard, and it was



a pleasure to see so many familiar faces celebrating the industries achievements. It is a great accolade to be among the winners on the night and great to share with our dedicated team. Our staff are the backbone of the business, and their wellbeing is paramount especially at difficult times."

Contact
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Silicone rubber heaters: Powerful but delicate

Silicone rubber heaters derive their adaptability from their thin profile, low weight and capacity to fit in small spaces. While these flexible workhorses are durable, stable and capable of outlasting many of the component parts that surround them, they also require delicate care during installation to prevent damage and avoid premature failure. Here, Bernardo Molina, silicone rubber heater product manager at industrial electric heater manufacturer Watlow, runs through the key considerations that must be made when applying silicone rubber heaters.

Silicone rubber heaters boast a rapid warmup and efficient heat transfer, capable of operating at temperatures up to 260°C, which provide consistent temperature uniformity while decreasing wattage requirements. They boast a wide range of industrial applications, used to protect liquid and viscous materials from cold temperatures, prevent condensation and prevent corrosion.

Thanks to their pliant nature, silicone rubber heaters are conducive to fitting in tiny notches or isolated nooks. While this is a major advantage, this size and placement necessitates caution.

When installing silicone rubber heaters, it is imperative to follow the instructions carefully to preserve the heaters' structure and longevity. Though silicone heaters are pliant, they are prone to harm from over flexing, pulling and cutting, which are the biggest causes of damage-related, pre-installation returns.

In this instance, it's important to understand safety concerns to make handling as efficient as possible. After verifying the circuit integrity, installers



should ensure the corresponding metal part for the heater is clean and smooth – metallic 'burrs' could penetrate the heater surface and cause a malfunction.

A critical step before heater placement is to remove any labels from the part. Failure to remove labels can create heat-related problems that impair heater function and even cause a fire hazard.

If a label is not rated for a heater's operating temperature, the label becomes a fuel source. Certain types of labels can cause a chemical reaction that releases chlorides and breaks down the silicone rubber. Over time, this can lead to arcing or combustion.

Prior to installation, the heater should also be inspected for any damage, particularly on the ends and the interior surface that will contact the part. Never install a damaged heater.

To discover more about Watlow's silicone rubber heaters, visit:
www.watlow.com




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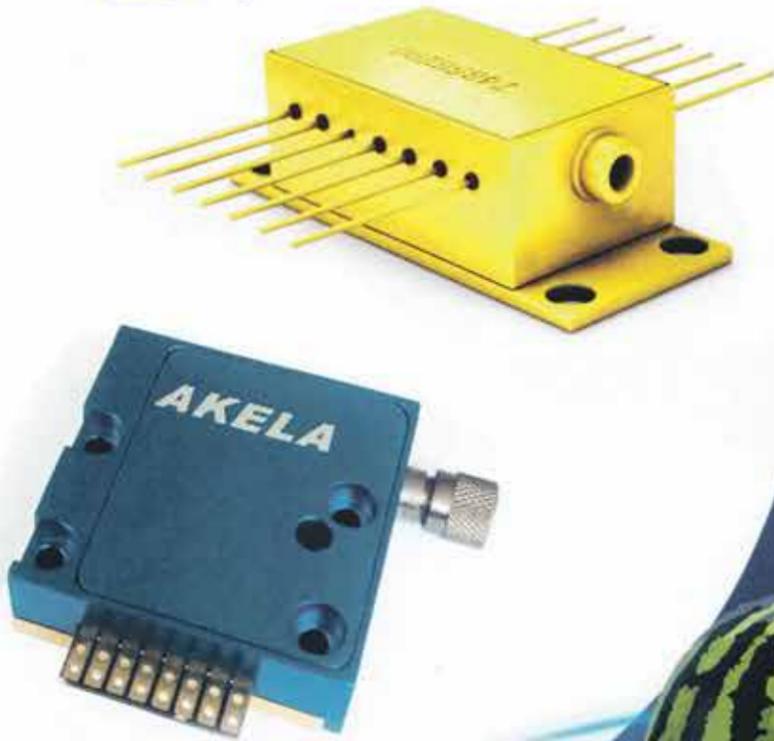
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Outstanding Laser Products!

Raman Lasers for Fruit Quality Control

Raman spectroscopy is a new method to control the quality of fruits. It allows a non-destructive investigation of the freshness of fruits and to sort out those fruits that are no longer attractive to consumers. Another application is the non-destructive, rapid and accurate detection of pesticide residues on the surface of fruits. FLC offers a great variety of Raman Lasers for Raman spectroscopy in the visible and near infrared wavelength range.



Line Laser Modules for Alignment of Fruits

Sorting and quality inspection of fruits is still a time-consuming task because of the low level of automation. Natural products exhibit a greater variance compared to manufactured products regarding quality and dimensions, which complicates their automated processing. By means of a red line laser like a laser from the ML2040-Series or the HAML-F in combination with a color CMOS camera and a specially trained Convolutional Neural Network it is possible to determine the orientation of fruits. The accuracy of the orientation prediction is approximately 5 degrees, which presents very promising results for the automation of fruit packing systems.



See technical details on www.frlaserco.com

Interpon's new Redox One Coat delivers total corrosion protection from a single application

AkzoNobel has further enhanced its Interpon Redox range of powder coatings with the launch of Redox One Coat, the corrosion prevention solution that delivers all the protection you would expect from the Redox name but in a single coat.

Easy to apply and no additional requirements to pre-treatment, just a single application of Interpon Redox One Coat offers Agricultural and Construction Equipment metal outdoor furniture, lighting, leisure equipment and steel products protection up to corrosion category C4M (ISO 12944). And because it is so simple to use, no outsourcing or specific staff training is required.



Interpon Redox One Coat differs from conventional coating systems which require a primer and topcoat, adding to its sustainability credentials by saving on material usage and energy, and improving productivity without compromising on protection. The new powder coating also combines an ideal finish with high weatherability, delivering results that are not only highly functional, but that also look good. As with all products within the Interpon powder coatings portfolio, the range also comes free from Volatile Organic Compounds, solvents or any other potentially harmful components, and produces less waste.

<https://industrial.interpon.com/redox/>

PureVessel™ range of systems from Suncombe



Suncombe, the cleaning and critical process systems specialists, has announced the global release of the PureVessel™ range of systems, for sanitary and sterile liquid storage, preparation, thermal treatment and mixing. They are typically required in the biopharma sector, laboratories and research institutes.

One of the drivers for the transition to single use methodologies is the complexity of the clean in place (CIP) and sterilise in place (SIP) operations of stainless steel multi use equipment, to ensure that there is no cross contamination and all work is developed in a sterile state. There are many advantages in employing re-usable stainless steel equipment and in order to make this usage more practical, the company has developed a pre-validated version of PureVessels combined with its PureCIP™ or MobileCIP® equipment.

Operating with the Suncombe PureCIP or MobileCIP, to provide a pre-validated CIP/SIP cycle, every PureVessel can be individually 'plugged' into the automation system, allowing the CIP/SIP to recognise the PureVessel being cleaned and select the optimum cycle for each vessel. On cycle completion an electronic and/or paper batch report, secured to 21CFR part 11, is generated to accompany the clean/sterile vessel, to validate the result.

Available in capacities from 10 to 300 litres, the mobile or static PureVessels are modular built and can be equipped with top entry agitators, bottom mounted magnetic mixers, heating and cooling jackets, mounted on load cells, spray devices and instruments with the option of custom design and manufacture for specific requirements. The units are constructed from 316 stainless steel and Hastelloy for chlorine resistance.

Commenting on the release, Suncombe director, Steve Overton, said, "Combining the PureVessel unit and the Suncombe PureCIP and MobileCIP, provides clients with a pre-validated system, taking away many of issues and validation works. This simplicity of operation and 'plug and play' start up makes these the ideal combination for incorporating in a hybrid model of single use (SUT) technologies."

Contact: Dave Adams, Director, Suncombe Ltd
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www.suncombe.com





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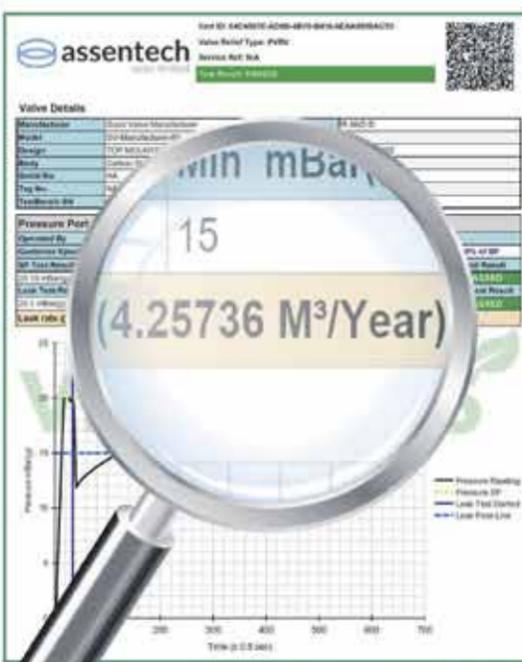
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British Rema solution for Genesys International



Leading innovator in reverse osmosis (RO) membrane chemicals for the water treatment industry, Genesys International, turned to British Rema to help bring an outsourced powder manufacturing process in-house. With a view to generating new business, increasing operational efficiency and sustainability and to create new jobs at the company's facility in Middlewich, Cheshire, the company opted for bespoke Ribbon Blenders to optimise production in-house.

British Rema is a global leader in powder processing equipment and provides specialist technical and engineering knowhow to a variety of industries. The brief from Genesys International was to provide a solution for blending batches of the company's existing range of anti-scalants, cleaners, flocculants and biocides to the required powder specification at optimum output.

To analyse the feasibility of the project and to optimise the process and agree the final scale of the equipment, the two companies worked in partnership to conduct mixing trials on a scaled version of the proposed Ribbon Blender design at the British Rema test facility in Chesterfield.

Following the success of the trials, the British Rema technical team designed a system comprising two 1,250 litre capacity ribbon blenders and proposed a further access platform option to offer additional blending capacity. This would offer Genesys the ability to run the blenders autonomously and enable each unit to produce a different (discrete) formulation if required.

There are multiple benefits of the new ribbon blenders including the possibility of developing new, specialty products in-house; no longer having to rely on external manufacturing providers. By bringing production and distribution to the United Kingdom it allows the business to target larger markets with a more comprehensive range of concentrated powder products.

The scheme will also cut the plant's operating and manufacturing costs and reduce the carbon footprint for its Middlewich operation, while bringing down the overall price of transporting product to the global water treatment market.

Genesys International's Group Vice-President and Managing Director, Steve Chesters, oversaw the project and is delighted at the solution provided by British Rema. "The company has made a significant investment in this project and we are delighted to announce it will be entering full production in March 2022 after 12 months of planning and installation. The support from British Rema has been exceptional throughout and they went above and beyond our original brief to develop a tailor-made solution that will enable us to create new products.

"The project has already created three extra local jobs and will allow Genesys to supply our water treatment products to over 100 countries around the world. This is a great example of two British companies working hand in hand to provide world class solutions."

The official opening of the new plant was held on 15th March 2022 and Genesys International welcomed local dignitaries, customers and suppliers to the Middlewich, Cheshire facility.

www.britishrema.com
www.genesysro.com



Lanemark's new process gas burner test facility

Process gas burner specialist, Lanemark Combustion Engineering Ltd., has completed the development of a new in-house testing facility which is set to enhance services to its customers. The organisation supplies liquid and air heating systems for a wide range of manufacturing and production applications and says the new resource will enable larger, more detailed equipment analysis to take place while helping to optimise customers' emission controls.



"Our range is based on process tank, oven and duct heating systems through our TX, FD, FDB and DB series," says Jeff

Foster, Lanemark's Sales Director, "and, in all cases, it undergoes the most rigorous testing and analysis procedures. This new facility makes a major contribution in this context."

Lanemark can now test a greater range of both tank and oven burners in terms of size and output with specified configurations to match precise operating conditions. "A wider range of emissions can also be monitored including NOx, SO₂, CO₂, CO and O₂ through the new facility incorporating a Horiba PG-350 flue gas analyser," adds Jeff Foster.

The new test furnace now offers a volume measuring six

metres in length and 2.5 metres in diameter and includes 25 viewing ports, each fitted with thermocouples to monitor temperatures of up to 1,350°C, and pressure transmitters that can accommodate a range from -5 to +70 mbar. Alongside this, the TX test installation provides improved flue gas testing accuracy and can address common issues such as condensation.

"The investment underlines our commitment to working closely with customers to ensure our equipment optimises performance, fuel consumption and emissions," concludes Jess Foster.

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100 years of business for Kingston Engineering

Kingston Engineering is one of the UK's leading manufacturers of bespoke power screws. Based in Hull, the company offers a vast selection of materials and specifications designed to suit their clients' requirements.

With a history dating back to 1919, Kingston Engineering has specialised in manufacturing right Hand/left Hand, single/multi-start, cut thread Power Transmission Screws and Nuts for over 60 years. Adaptable for mechanical power transmission, their products conform to the standards of British, European and American requirements. All of Kingston's products meet ISO 9001-2015 accreditation and are examined thoroughly during



the manufacturing process.

Kingston Engineering's screws can be used in a

range of applications across multiple industries, including aerospace, oil and gas, nuclear energy, the chemical and medical fields. The company works closely with both suppliers and end users to provide the best purpose-built screws possible, with customers across the UK and the US.

The current directors have more than 100 years of experience between them and are continuously engaging in plans to help the company become global leaders in screw manufacturing.

T +44 (0)1482 325676
sales@kingston-engineering.co.uk
www.kingston-engineering.co.uk

Radleys' new product

Reactor-Ready Filter Lab Reactor for synthesis and filtration in one compact system



Radleys has launched its new Reactor-Ready Filter Lab Reactor which allows synthesis and filtration in a single jacketed vessel setup, ideal for crystallisation, reaction workups and product isolation.

The Reactor-Ready Filter Lab Reactor combines a jacketed lab reactor and a filter into one compact benchtop system. This allows users to isolate their product without having to manually transfer their material from reactor to a separate filter, saving time and reducing product losses.

Users can easily upgrade their existing Reactor-Ready to a filter reactor or invest in a standalone, dedicated filter system.

The unique 1 and 2 litre filter vessels feature a jacketed design that extends right down to the filter plate for precise temperature control of your entire vessel contents. The straight sided vessel inner also allows unhindered filtration and features a wide DN150 bottom flange giving easy access to the filter cake.

The filter vessels come with a chemically resistant PTFE or PEEK, leak free filter base that can use pre-cut filter membranes in a variety of porosities and materials, or users can cut their own material to size.

The innovative swivel filter plate support allows for simple alignment of the filter base with the vessel and easy collection of the filter cake.

Automate your Reactor-Ready Filter Lab Reactor with AVA Lab Control Software which controls and data logs all the periphery devices, such as overhead stirrers, circulators and gravimetric additions modules for accurate liquid dosing.

To learn more about Reactor Ready Lab Filter Reactor, visit: www.radleys.com/filter-lab-reactor where online and in-person demos can also be booked.

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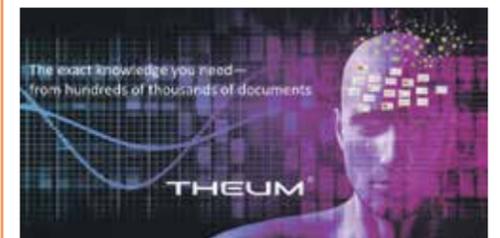
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EXPECT PERFORMANCE

5 Star releases brand new range of packing crates

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce 5 Star Cases as our Flight Case Manufacturing Company of the Month.

Recently celebrated its 40th anniversary, 5 Star Cases is the UK's leading flight case manufacturer serving many industry sectors including entertainment, medical, telecommunications, military and motorsport.

Formed in 1981, 5 Star Cases came from humble beginnings as a small local business that over the years has built up a reputation of being the largest and most respected flight case manufacture across the UK and Europe. We spoke to Ingus Lasinskis, Operations Director, who explained how the company has transformed. "Over the years, significant investment has been made in state-of-the-art equipment including large format CNC machines, panel and extrusion saws, spraying and pressing systems and many more. The facility now occupies almost 46,000 square feet (4,274m²) which includes production, administration, maintenance and storage facilities. The company has around 75 members of staff, many of whom have been with the company for many years. Investment in staff as well as equipment is at the heart of 5 Star's philosophy, and training and wellness resources are a key part of its operation."

It is the company's own facilities that gives it a competitive advantage and is what makes it such an attractive proposition giving it the ability to tackle almost any flightcase project, whether it be



A100-way ROE Visual LED strip drawered rack for audio visual equipment supplier CPL (Central Presentations Ltd), made from birch plywood and Line-x Polyurea coated; it also includes custom CNC foamed drawers to take 10 units each



A 2-unit sleeve in a transit case for Fold Sound Ltd; the case is finished in British Racing Green HPL, and the sleeve is built out of 12mm birch plywood coated in Line-x polyurea for extra durability



large, small, complex or simple. Its experienced team of experts are highly trained to deliver fast and efficient service and to react to urgent requirements professionally. Maintaining a close client relationship is key to its success in managing tight deadlines ensuring all clients' needs are met.

"One key company highlight was in 2000, we acquired Mossman Trunks which added the classic brand and along with it, the popular range of school trunks and luggage to our already extensive range of flight cases and foam inserts," stated Ingus. Since 5 Star has added many new products to its range, including coffee table trunks, bedside cabinets and laundry baskets. Most importantly, earlier this year, 5 Star added wooden packing crates to its portfolio, Ingus commented, "Our packing crates are custom-built to the client's specific requirements, but we also have a range of standard sized packing crates if something off the shelf is needed. The crates can be used for storing and transporting products across different industries and applications, from AV, entertainment, engineering and motor racing to medical and catering equipment. With all our products comes a guaranteed protection of the equipment that we house. We use high-quality custom-made hardware equipment from renowned companies such as Penn Elcom."



Special racks with sliding drawers, plus security steel bar preventing removal of the door for Terry Tew Sound & Light, one of the UK's leading audio visual equipment rental service providers; they will be used for equipment storage and use on the company's site as well as keeping the equipment secure while working on customer's premises; each drawer can be customised with different foam options for different equipment combinations

New to 2022, 5 Star wooden packing crates are advantageous and useful for a range of industry sectors and applications. Constructed from 18mm durable Oriented Strand Board, the crates consist of a panel processed by bonding layers of various wood chips and strips with adhesives, laminated together using pressure and heat. One of its main benefits is that it provides a versatile method of storing and transporting items, removing the need for specialist flight cases.

Using the same production methods as its flight cases and foam inserts, 5 Star packing crates are CNC-machined for accuracy and repeatability and feature sprung metal clasps to secure the individual panels to each other. An additional benefit is that each packing crate comes included with a pallet style fork-lift or pallet truck handling feature with options available for an interior foam lining for additional equipment protection, or casters to the base for easier movement and transport of the packing crate. The packing crates are proven in protecting contents from any damage and due to the optional foam lining, the crates can transport almost anything, anywhere, safely and securely.

Like all its products, the packing crates are designed and built quickly and efficiently and offer strong, safe and durable protection keeping customers products safe during transport. As a result of this latest product range, 5 Star is constantly recruiting new members of staff to support the growing demand for its products. Ingus explained some future plans of 5 Star, "We have many things in the pipeline. We are continuously developing our packing crate range so that our brand is more widely recognisable in this specific market sector. We currently have several different customer software development projects on the go as well as a huge ambition to grow and expand our production capabilities maximising the availability of our 46,000ft² (4,274m²) facility. We have some exciting years ahead, that's for sure!"

One of 5 Star's main industries is entertainment, which bore the brunt of COVID-19 dramatically. Even though the industry received incredible setbacks, it



The blue case is for Formula 3000 car for Arden Motorsport, they have had several of these over the years - www.arden-motorsport.com

seems to have recovered well and the same goes for 5 Star. "Our order books are as healthy as ever and our customer database is growing daily," mentioned Ingus.

Now more than ever it is vital that companies are integrating mental health and wellbeing services within the workplace to keep employees productive and in a healthy state of mind. 5 Star has taken an important step to ensure the mental wellbeing of its workforce is being looked after. We asked Ingus how 5 Star has moved forward with this, he answered, "During the pandemic we realised how important staff mental wellbeing is, so we did something about it. We signed up for The Healthy Workplace which is funded by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council and delivered by Everyone Health Ltd. The Healthy Workplace service supports workplaces across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to improve the health and wellbeing of their employees. 5 Star is also running an EAP (Employee Assistance Programme) in partnership with Peninsula and Health Assured, which includes mental and wellbeing support for all employees and their families, including phone and face to face appointments."

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Orion MIS readies itself to launch its own conveyor platform

Industrial Process News are delighted to announce that Orion MIS has been honoured with the prestigious 'Company of the Year' Award.



Over the past few years Orion MIS has dominated across many industries with their multi-faceted manufacturing capabilities, which have been designed to meet a number of key solutions for their customers. As an expert in system integration and automating processes, Orion MIS is the fastest growing independent integrators in the UK. Providing cost-effective solutions such as retrofit upgrades as well as full turnkey solutions for their blue-chip clientele, Orion provides the highest quality, fastest products, software and lead times possible.

Reflecting on last year, Orion MIS is currently the busiest it has ever been. We spoke with Nick Walkiden, Customer Account Manager at Orion, on how the last 12 months have been for the company. He responded, "It has been a really busy 12 months for us across the whole business. This includes all our teams from concept design through to integration and after-sales. Due to COVID-19 many of our customers have become more reliant on automation in order for their businesses to be able to function. This has meant they have had to increase the scope of automation within their facilities and the only way to do that is to begin to automate their processes and look at it as an end-to-end process, rather than a

process that can be viewed by each section of a conveyor."

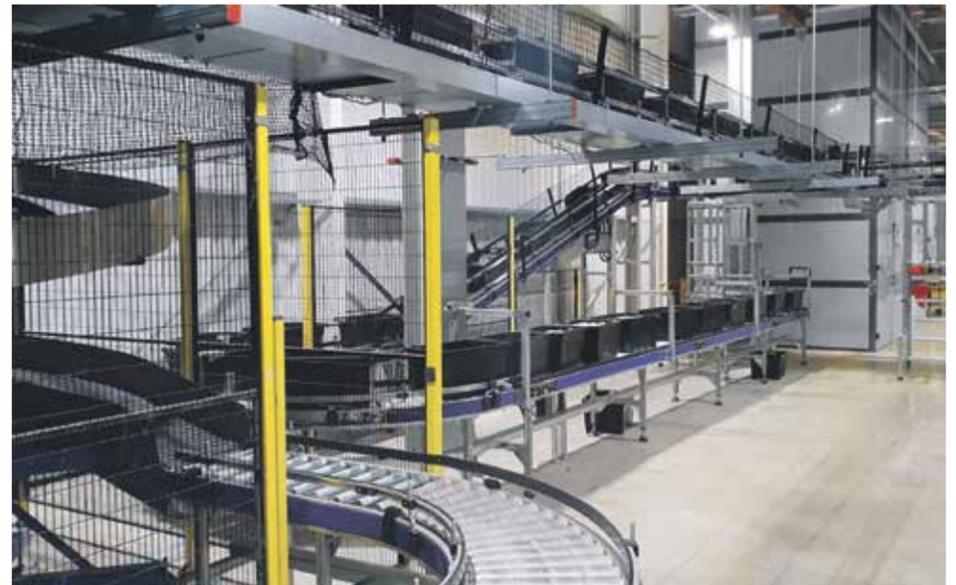
In relation to this Nick continued to discuss how sales have fared in comparison to forecast. "In terms of where we were aiming to be by the end of 2021 we achieved much more than we expected, including our recent move into a new million-pound facility. Due to COVID-19 restrictions a few projects had been postponed, but these are now live again. In terms of physical orders we exceeded on this level."

Orion is well known and trusted amongst many industry sectors such as e-commerce, automotive, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, consumer goods and logistics. Offering a flexible solution to every aspect of management for projects within these sectors, Orion also has the capabilities to tailor its level of services or management to suit each individual requirement. Its managerial services include Programme & Project Management, Site Management & Supervision and CDM Management.

Customer process and operational efficiency is at the heart of every design, ensuring each project receives the upmost time and attention. As a truly independent integrator Orion has access to the whole of market, ensuring they find the solution for each customer. As well as having expert experience in the installation of a wide range of products such as conveyor modules, Orion has been working hard over the past few years to initiate their own conveyor platform.

"We have been working hard to offer more processes in house, as we now have our very own conveyor platform. We are just about to launch at the IntraLogisteX Show, which takes place 29th-30th March, which will be manufactured in-house. We are excited to better service our complete end-to-end processes as we now have our own conveyor platform. We will launch this at the show, so post-show it will be available for customers on our website," stated Nick.

The brand-new conveyor platform has been in development for the last three years and has always been in the pipeline for Orion MIS to one day produce. "It was one of the first things as a company we began looking at. To have our own conveyor platform is something that most of our competitors don't have. It now enables us to offer a full end-to-end process for our customers. Many integrators don't have this facility, they tend to take another manufacturers conveyor and make it fit a certain design which doesn't always provide a perfect fit. Now we have our own platform, we have a complete process and can control what goes on and how different products are used and integrated. Each system will be

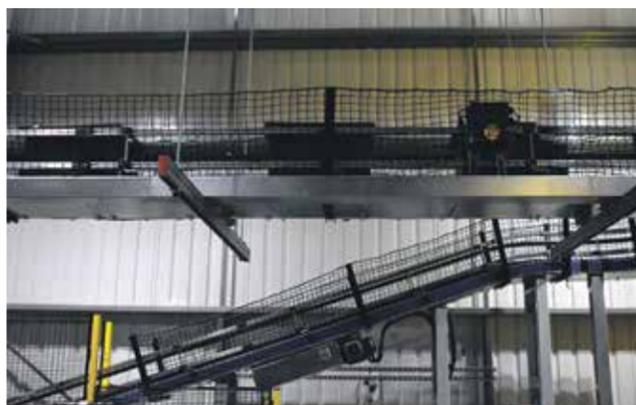


a bespoke system that is made up of multiple elements from standard modules that are customised to suit the overall project. Not one process will be the same as the last," explained Nick.

In support of these services, Orion offers a complete package, backed by its esteemed after-sales service. "We offer a complete service with regards to preventative maintenance. We even have clients that ask us to look after existing equipment that isn't even made by us. Some customers have equipment that is over 10 years old where we have done regular maintenance on those pieces of conveyor to keep them in the best working order. We take a holistic approach to each project, ensuring we understand every part of the current project as well as the future of each piece of equipment. We have the capabilities to source spare parts for the conveyors our customers have on their sites, whether it's direct from OEMs or alternatively from manufacturers," said Nick.

In terms of future plans Orion has a strong growth plan for the next 12-24 months. This includes expanding its manufacturing capabilities through its local facility, as well as expanding its after-sales and service departments to allow for more in-house services. In closing, we asked Nick how he felt receiving the award, he commented, "This award just shows the progress we have made over a short period of time. The procedures we have put in place over the last 12-18 months are really starting to bear fruit. I'm sure that Orion will be an even stronger candidate for this award next year also."

Contact
T 0333 335 5269
info@orionmis.co.uk
www.orionmis.co.uk



Advanced Engineering 2021

Advanced Engineering is the UK's leading gathering of OEMs and engineering supply chain professionals, which took place from 3-4 November 2021 at the NEC in Birmingham.

After an overwhelmingly successful year celebrating and highlighting the latest innovation, development and growth within the manufacturing industry, 83% of exhibitors said they would recommend the event, and 75% of exhibitors plan to return for 2022.

With the introduction of the new Space & Satellite Engineering zone and co-location with Lab Innovations, this year's event showcased 360+ exhibitor's innovations across a wider range of sectors than ever before.

The Enabling Innovation zone returned once again for 2021, highlighting the newest and most innovative products from start-ups. The bespoke matchmaking service, AE Connect, saw 466 meetings pre-arranged for the show.

ADVANCED ENGINEERING



Advanced Engineering offers a fantastic opportunity for your business to be placed at the heart of the engineering & manufacturing industry. Book your tickets for this year's show, which will take place from 2-3 November 2022 at the NEC in Birmingham.

This is our second pick of the best exhibitors from last year's show, listed here in alphabetical order: Interface Force Measurements, Langzauner & Plasmatreteat UK. Further details can be found on this page.

www.advancedengineeringuk.com

New e-commerce site from Interface Force Measurements

Interface Force Measurements, supplier of the popular and whisper-quiet 1200 precision series load cells, is pleased to announce the launch of a brand new e-commerce website where you'll be able to order your load buttons, in-line load cells and mini s-beam load cells.

Going live on the 1st of April, [https://store.interfaceforce.co.uk/](https://store.interfaceforce.co.uk) will feature the Interface G-Series of load buttons, in-line load cells and mini S-beam load cells. 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.

<https://store.interfaceforce.co.uk/> will offer our G-Series load cells on short lead times with next business day delivery for small quantities being the aim. Interface load cells at competitive prices with all the convenience purchasing online offers, what's not to like?

The Interface G-Series was launched around one year ago, becoming a popular product range with students, industrial engineers, OEMs and anyone requiring a small form force sensor offering accuracy, repeatability and Interface quality. All G-Series load buttons and load cells feature:

- Full stainless steel construction



- Individual calibration certificates to NIST traceable standards
- High output at 2mV/V
- Capacities from 4.5newtons to 50kN

If you are interested in placing volume orders or have an OEM application that G-Series products might be suitable for, please contact us directly.

T 01344 776666
info@interfaceforce.co.uk
www.interfaceforce.co.uk
 E-commerce: <https://store.interfaceforce.co.uk>

Perfect solutions for modern thermoforming processes

Components produced by the thermoforming process promise the highest quality and can be manufactured cost-effectively. Semi-finished products (organic sheets) consist of a fiber-reinforced matrix of PEEK, PEI, PPS, PEKK, etc.

The high-performance plastic PEEK is particularly important for industries such as aerospace and automotive. PEEK is flame retardant and has high strength and stiffness. However, PEEK is difficult to process due to its high melting temperature (beyond 330°C).

Know-how from Langzauner brings ideas into shape
 Our machine concept is equipped with maximum flexibility and capable to perform the stamp forming (thermoforming),



but also the production of organosheets (consolidation) at the same production machine. In this process, the entire creation process of a product is accompanied.

From individual and research trials, mostly in manual mode, to small and medium-sized series, the machine is designed and a robot with sophisticated

gripper technology handles the materials and components. A fully automated material flow enables component production every minute.

As an alternative to the robot handling, ultra-quick transfer systems based on linear achsis can be offered.

All development and production steps from a one-stop shop

From development to the production of individual parts to assembly, all work steps bear Langzauner's signature. This is the only way to guarantee the high quality and durability for which Langzauner stands.

T +43 (0)7765 231
office@langzauner.at
www.langzauner.at

Plasmatreteat draws a conclusion

Plasmatreteat UK, a subsidiary of Plasmatreteat GmbH, the leading manufacturer and developer of atmospheric pressure plasma systems for surface treatment, looks back on a successful participation in the Advanced Engineering Show last year.

"Even though it was our first appearance at this show, we were very satisfied with the meetings and results. We achieved our goal to introduce Plasmatreteat and the technology to the visitors. We met up with different manufacturers from automotive and lightweight material industry and discussed exciting topic like VOC free surface treatment. So, we decided to



book right now our booth for the Advanced Engineering Show 2022," explains Andrew Nixon, Sales Manager at Plasmatreteat UK.

When using plasma technology for surface treatment the surface characteristics, such as polarity, change. This effect also has a significant effect on different

adhesive processes. Whether these involve structural adhesive bonds in cars, seals in electronics or rapid, bubble-free wet labeling with high initial stability, these manufacturing processes are possible entirely without liquid chemical waste, thanks to Openair-Plasma and modern, solvent-free adhesives. Environmentally friendly production processes and reducing VOC emissions is also a huge topic for Plasmatreteat and with their Openair-Plasma technology the industry has an alternative, environmentally friendly and sustainable solution.

Contact
www.plasmatreteat.com

Health, Safety & Fire Safety News

TAWI: Ergonomic material handling

We are your experts in ergonomic material handling. With our range of lifting solutions, your team will be equipped to work with confidence and precision. Our lifting aids remove 100% of the weight from the operator, allowing them to maintain the same work rate for longer than ever before.

Stainless Steel and ATEX-rated models are available to ensure our equipment can be used in a range of industries and environments including pharmaceutical and high hygiene food environments.

By introducing a TAWI lifter, you introduce workforce flexibility and higher productivity levels with benefits for all. Eliminate strains and risk of injury for the operator and decrease wasted downtime by partnering with TAWI.

Find us at the following expos to try the equipment for yourself



and to chat to our dedicated sales team about keeping your team safe and keeping productivity high: Safety & Health Expo, Stand SH1671, Packaging Innovations & Empack, Stand B30, Manufacturing Week, Stand J52.

Contact
 T 01604 591120
www.tawi.com

Presona introduces fire protection system

A fire protection system developed by Presona UK uses a series of fire sensitive tubes and nozzles to promptly extinguish fires, in seconds.

The new SupPressa system aims to mitigate fire risk at recycling facilities, particularly where foreign objects such as distorted lithium-ion batteries are present.

The system works by allowing the flame to burn through the hose, causing a pressure drop across the system that in turn sees the respective suppressant 'flood' the area.

Additionally, the system has a manual activation mode to complement the automated suppression system where early signs of fire may be identified sooner by an operative.

The SupPressa™ offers 4 primary



areas of protection; conveyor pits, conveyor apex, needle pits and electrical cabinet, and depending on the type of operation; baler and conveyor.

Presona said that the system can be tailored to suit individual customers requirements, and that training can be provided to operators to ensure that the systems are primed and ready for any likelihood of fire.

The system has now been installed at eleven retail recycling centres for one of its clients.

T 01278 444527
www.presona.co.uk

Every Breath You Take

As the One-Stop-Shop for surface preparation, the expert teams at The Preparation Group work hard to ensure every breath you take on-site is a safe one: dust. If not controlled, dust presents a major hazard to operators of machinery, trades in the local vicinity and the general public.

With our wealth of knowledge, over 30 years' professional experience, and fleet of efficient, innovative machines; The Preparation Group offers dust extraction and filtration solutions that will contain toxic and hazardous dust, debris and/or airborne particles on every project – from 5m² to 50,000m².

Selecting the best equipment is a challenge. Our on-hand teams advise and guide you to secure the most effective equipment to make sure that potentially harmful dust can be



dispersed, purified, eliminated and/or contained correctly throughout the duration of your project.

Our smart, high-performance vacuums can be matched to all models of equipment/tools, and efficiently defend against exposure to harmful dust. The Preparation Group is always improving its fleet of innovative equipment, growing our knowledge and experience to ensure you can trust us to guide and advise you to deal with dust safely, diligently and effectively – no matter the project.

Contact our expert team today and start tackling dust on +44 (0)1522 561460 or: www.ppcgroup.co.uk

30th Anniversary celebrations for GreCon Limited



GreCon Limited is celebrating a significant milestone, with 30 years of business and commitment to the UK & Ireland market.

Established in April 1992, GreCon is located just outside of Newcastle upon Tyne and is a member of the Fagus-GreCon Group. With a wealth of experience as a global market leader, GreCon demonstrates a

strong understanding of customer needs and provides turnkey solutions for multiple industries, including the wood-based panel industry, manufacturing, recycling, biomass, pharmaceutical, food, hygiene and more.

GreCon's fire prevention technology protects industrial premises, processes and people, detecting and extinguishing ignition sources, making workplaces safer and enabling uninterrupted production. In addition, GreCon's measuring technology solutions help customers improve



product quality in their production processes, using proven German engineering to reduce material and energy costs, ultimately maximising operational efficiency.

During these 30 years, the company has focused on developing sustainable relationships with its customers and adopting the role of a strategic partner. Founding GreCon Limited in 1992 enabled a more local connection and enhanced response times. As a result, customers across the UK & Ireland depend on GreCon for consultative and problem-solving sales engagement and first-class customer service. In addition, fast deliveries of parts and systems are possible due to comprehensive local stock-holding and local manufacturing of Water Pressurisation Systems, which provide a dedicated water supply for our fire prevention systems.

Due to a solid track record of performance and growth, it has been possible for GreCon Limited to include customer requirements in the technology roadmap and contribute to developing innovative new products. A recent example of this development is the launch of the GreCon IEM, the Intelligent Extinguishing Module.

The GreCon IEM launched this month as a fit for the future addition to the intelligent fire prevention solutions portfolio. The GreCon team is keen to discuss this newest product's features and benefits, how it can form part of a compelling fire prevention solution, and how it can take the intelligence and reliability of existing spark extinguishing systems to the next level. Critical benefits include more rapid extinguishing of sparks and harmful ignition sources. In addition, integrated intelligent extinguishing technology (IET[®]) enables highly precise extinguishing process monitoring and predictive maintenance control.

The company is also undertaking recruitment for roles in a new Service & Operations department, streamlining the former structure. A Head of Service & Operations and Service Co-ordinator are amongst the roles sought. This recruitment will ensure additional skills and expertise address current and future needs and ensure customer expectations remain in focus.

Jonathan Hamill, Managing Director of GreCon Limited, said, "We have a solid track record of providing a first-class service to our customers, who rely on GreCon to add vital protection and to help them optimise their manufacturing process. Today we celebrate our 30th Birthday and pause to celebrate the contribution of the whole team and the loyalty of our customers. We also reflect on our business success and our tremendous opportunity to make people and places safer and factories smarter."

Uwe Kahmann, joint Group Managing Director, commented, "This significant business milestone and 30th anniversary reaffirms our commitment to the UK & Ireland market. We fully support GreCon Limited and are committed to our role as a strategic partner to our customers. We thank the team for delivering a vital contribution in looking after our customers even during difficult times such as the current pandemic. We will continue to invest in innovative products and equip our organisation to continue delivering the best in class customer service our customers expect."

Contact
 T 0191 414 7200
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VAF Air Ltd

Automate your packaging with Autopack

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we have selected Autopack as our Packaging Machinery Company of the Month.

Autopack provides UK based sales and services for a wide range of semi and fully automatic packaging machines, supplying to the food, beverage, pet, chemical, personal care, home care and automotive industries.

Established by Wayne Kedward in 2012, Autopack has established a leading reputation, and has just celebrated 10 years of successful business. Based on Rotherwas Industrial Estate in beautiful Hereford, the company has already received impressive growth, starting off with one unit, the company expanded in 2022 by acquiring two more units, providing Autopack with a Show Room Facility and a New Line Build Area. Facilitating its new growth, the two new units have allowed Autopack to continue to grow and provide much needed facilities to build the lines, provide customer demonstrations and training.

In terms of its product range, Autopack supplies two categories of packaging machines, either for flexible packaging materials or rigid containers.

"The flexible machines include VFFS, HFFS, sachet, pouch machines either pre-made or from film on the reel which can be tailored with zippers, spouts,



and custom shapes," stated Jamie Eckert, Sales & Marketing Executive.

Regarding the company's supply of containers, Autopack provides de-palletising, un-scrambling and rinsing systems for bottles, jars, tins, and containers along with the associated conveyors.

Jamie added, "We also provide a wide range of filling machines, linear fillers up to 12 head and a range of rotary fillers. We cover every capping requirement, such as screw on, pilfer proof and vacuum twist caps on semi-automatic to fully high-speed automatic machines. Autopack also supply packing tables, multi-head weighing and much more."

Committed to providing a high quality service, Autopack maintains high quality machinery, at quality prices, and boasts many machines readily stocked, resulting in enviable lead times. This enables its customers with fast access to machinery and allows for continued production and minimal downtime.

Using Autopack's machines increases productivity, and the UK is not as productive compared to a lot of European counterparts. If UK companies are to compete in the world market, increasing productivity

is vital. One of the ways this can be achieved is through automation.

"With cheap finance readily available anyone can afford to automate their process. You only have to remove a few people for a production line to give quick return on investment, it's a no brainer for most companies," said Jamie.

One of the most important aspects of Autopack its dedication to working in conjunction with its distributors, to continuously develop the business and evolve its range supply, ensuring that its customers' needs are always at the heart of its operations.

In terms of recent developments for the company, Jamie told us that, "In the last couple of years, Autopack have grown its staff base and created a well bonded team. We have also gained a new 3,000ft² showroom to assist our future customers in evaluating the machinery before they purchase."

Autopack continued to work throughout the pandemic, supporting its UK based customers with its self-sustainable engineering team. Jamie added, "Whereas a lot of our direct competitors were unable to do so due to restrictions on travel, this provided Autopack with the edge on service, and taking responsibility for our machinery sold."



"We also have not seen any decrease in sales, in fact, a large increase due to customers looking to automate and reduce the amount of labour they are reliant on. In the medium-term, orders have increased as CEOs carry out risk analysis on COVID-19 and future pandemics to their business. Machines are COVID-19 proof and don't need to be furloughed and stand 2m apart."

As the company looks ahead, Autopack maintains a five year investment plan to support its organic growth and growth by acquisitions. Jamie expanded, "We are planning to strengthen our machine offering both in the flexible and rigid side of the business and increase our focus on customer training in the new showroom."

T 01432 677000
www.Autopack.co.uk
www.linkedin.com/company/Autopack-limited



Breaking the boundaries of toolmaking and plastic injection moulding

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Dudley Associates Ltd as our Toolmaking and Plastic Injection Moulding Company of the Month.

Dudley Associates was founded in 1990 and is the UK's leading precision toolmaking and plastic injection moulding specialist. Its industry leading services are backed by ISO 9001 Quality Management certification and with a commitment to offer only British quality workmanship coupled with a friendly and approachable service.

Following a management buy-out in 2014, Dudley Associates has implemented a £1.7 million investment in modern, efficient equipment to better support its operations and service to its customers. Currently owned and managed by John Churchard and Andrew McIntyre, Dudley Associates is headquartered in Lutterworth, East Midlands.

Operating across a variety of sectors such as automotive, aerospace, defence, electronics, industrial, household/leisure, medical/dental, oil and gas, safety equipment, and scientific, Dudley Associates provides innovative solutions and volume production for all your plastic moulding and toolmaking requirements.

"We have two over-lapping business units: Toolmaking and Injection-moulding production. Our fully equipped toolroom manufactures bespoke injection-mould tooling. We cover rapid prototyping through to production tooling in aluminium



or steel depending on the anticipated production requirements. We have modern moulding machines, ranging from 35-300 tonnes. We also manufacture in a vast array of different polymer materials including filled and unfilled ABS, acetals, acrylics, nylons, polycarbonates, polypropylenes, peek and ultems. Furthermore, we also use some highly specialist materials with 'extreme' attributes in relation to flame retardancy, electro-conductivity or operational temperature ranges," stated Andrew.

Dudley Associates is proud to provide its customers with over 30 years of specialist experience in overmoulding. The process of overmoulding is unique and results in a seamless combination of multiple materials into a single part or product. Typically, this is either plastic on metal or plastic on plastic. "We are experts in over-moulding and perform this for a number of clients across different sectors," said Andrew. Some further services include the operation of a Class 8 Clean Room, and additional add-on services such as additives along with inserting, printing, ultrasonic welding, drilling & tapping, packaging and CNC machining.

"We aim to be a one-stop-shop covering everything from optimising the original design, making the tooling and progressing through to production of bespoke injection-moulded components. A great advantage of our service is that both our toolmaking and injection moulding production are both done in-house meaning we can sample new tools very quickly and remove any grey areas of dispute between the toolmaker and the moulder. We are also very flexible when it comes to production. Our clients' requirements vary so we can manufacture from very

low quantities to large volume production runs and using a vast array of different polymer materials," explained Andrew.

With the recent addition of Jacob Taylor, who has joined the business to drive sales and marketing activities, Dudley Associates is pushing forward. Andrew commented, "Through the process of building back up over the past eighteen months and the ensuing supply chain difficulties, we became much more efficient. We are a well-established, focussed, business with an experienced and loyal workforce who take pride in what we do. Everything we do is bespoke to a client's specific needs and we do not outsource overseas."

In closing, we asked Andrew what the company's future plans were, he responded, "Our aim is to expand our production volumes, further utilising current available capacity. We believe we are in a good position for businesses looking to re-shore their injection-moulding requirements and shorten/de-risk the supply chain."

For more information, please see below:
T 01455 558825
sales@dudleyassociates.com
www.dudleyassociates.com



Isn't it nice to be back?

Southern Manufacturing 2022 returned in its customary format at Farnborough International Exhibition Centre from 8-10 February 2022 as arguably the most comprehensive engineering show in the country. The three day event is where the worlds of electronics and industrial production hardware converged with component distributors and subcontract engineering services, creating an event with almost universal appeal across the entire engineering spectrum.

Whether it was seeing the latest machine tools in action, sourcing components or specialist engineering services, Southern Manufacturing was the place to find it. Being able to solve multiple procurement issues at a single show was a very compelling motivation to visit.

Southern Manufacturing and Electronics is the most comprehensive annual industrial exhibition in the UK and a major pan-European showcase for new technology in machinery, production equipment, electronic production and assembly, tooling and components as well as subcontract services across an



impressively wide range of industry.

The programme of free technical seminars was a complementary blend of technical and business topics covering a wide range of issues facing manufacturing businesses today.

Southern Manufacturing returns next year to Farnborough International Exhibition Centre from 7-9 February 2023. This is our pick of the best exhibitors from this year's event. Further details can be found on this page and the next two.

Contact
www.industrysouth.co.uk

Actionpoint takes bespoke packaging to another level

Actionpoint is taking bookings for the ultimate bespoke packaging experience at its brand-new facility the Packaging Creation Lounge. Based at the award-winning company's Rainham headquarters, the Lounge provides a fully equipped and immersive setting away from the distractions of day-to-day work.

During an appointment, visitors relax with a hot drink and share packaging problems and preferences with Actionpoint's talented in-house designers. The highly collaborative process takes a holistic view, considering sustainability goals, packing efficiencies, futureproofing, and more. Packaging ideas are turned into digital designs, which are immediately constructed and put through their paces using a range of testing equipment in the trial room.

Along with 3D visualisation technology, the design suite includes digital printer and a computer aided design cutting table that is larger than the industry standard. Prototypes are produced in minutes from crash-lock mail order cartons to large format boxes for bulky furniture.



The whole process can be repeated as many times as necessary, making it the ideal opportunity to try out different materials – such as Actionpoint's Eden range of eco packaging – and experiment with print branding for perfectly positioned artwork with a wow factor.

To find out more, call 0800 840 9570, email: support@actionpoint.co.uk or visit: www.actionpoint.co.uk

How to improve your productivity

When companies look at growth, two questions frequently arise:

- How can we increase output without additional investment in plant, labour and materials?
- Are we working our team to capacity?

ALC has more than 15 years' experience in applying Lean theory into practice and can help to answer these questions.

A current client, a producer of household chemical products, has re-worked its packing line to consolidate separate tasks into one value-stream.

The change has reduced double handling, storage requirements and improved productivity per operator by a staggering 88%.



Tim Scurlock (pictured), Director of ALC, commented, "This is exactly what we look for with a Lean transformation: the team taking ownership of improvements and trying out better ways of working. They've been very quick to put in place some significant improvements and this is just the start. There's a lot more to look at, not just in production but in the warehouse too."

Applied Lean Consulting takes Lean theory and works interactively with teams on the shop floor and management to improve business process.

Focusing on customer requirements, ALC coaches teams to work smarter to reduce wasted motion, improve quality and reduce space requirements.

Contact: info@appliedleanconsulting.com for more details or take a look at our website: www.appliedleanconsulting.com



Industry leaders in battery and standby power products

DMS technologies is a leading electrical power specialist, that designs and manufactures products from simple batteries to full power solutions. The company designs, manufactures and distributes industrial and military power products, including batteries, custom products, portable power, chargers and electrical systems.

The company was formed in 1986, by its team of Directors, with years of experience in the battery and electronics industry. DMS technologies is the original professional jump-start pack manufacturer in the UK. Since then, the company has gained an industry leading reputation and has become distributors for the majority of major battery manufacturers.

The company works with a wide range of market sectors, and gains a full scope of every customers needs to create strong relationships, both with its customers and suppliers.

With a strong stance on quality, DMS technologies ensures each application, customer and budget needs are met, and quality control is part of every procedure.



Complemented further by its friendly, expert team who are on hand to ensure customer satisfaction, the company is built on relationships with customers and is committed to ensuring the very best product, every time.

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sales@dmstech.co.uk
www.dmstech.co.uk**

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- Superior Silicon on Sapphire sensing technology**
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ESi Technology

Hydrogen compatible pressure measurement

Hydrogen offers a cleaner, secure and more affordable source of energy with the potential to drastically reduce and tackle CO₂ emission levels. With that in mind ESI are committed to offering a product range that is not only versatile and environmentally friendly, but also offers the same outstanding performance and stability that they are known for.

Samples of the materials used in the manufacture of the range were tested based on ISO 11114-2:2017 in accordance to the European Regulations EC 79/2009 and EU 406/2010 to determine an 'embrittlement index' of the material when placed in a saturated environment over extended periods of time. Results have provided a pass rating to the compatibility of the material against Hydrogen. The pressure diaphragm and threaded pressure port are machined from a specialist Titanium alloy specifically designed to withstand harsh and demanding environments. This, along with the non-oil-filled sensor and high integrity stainless steel housing results in a robust and versatile unit that offers excellent media compatibility across a range of environments.

The Hydrogen range also benefits from the same Silicon on Sapphire (SOS) sensor technology used throughout the ESI brand, providing outstanding performance, stability and highly accurate pressure measurement. Hydrogen is already used in a growing variety of industries, and although the Oil & Gas sector still remains the predominant source of energy supply and usage, there are significant efforts being made to find an alternative.

For more information on Hydrogen, contact ESI on 01978 262255 or email: sales@esi-tec.com

INGUN

INGUN is a worldwide leading manufacturer of test probes, test fixture kits, and accessories for the quality assurance of electrical and electronic products.

Since 1971 INGUN has been providing the best possible connection between test point and test system using tailor-made contacting solutions.

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As a development partner for its customers in industries ranging from automotive to telecommunications, INGUN ensures the quality of electrical and electronic products.



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Our bespoke manufacturing process and in-house design service – complete with CAD/CAM software and systems – means we can help you realise a range of prototype ideas which can be individually cut using precision lasers for R&D testing or put into full production. Our fully equipped tool room is available to design and build any production tooling needed, assuring you of competitive pricing and consistent quality supply.

Our clients work across the aerospace, automotive, defence, domestic appliance, electronics, hydraulics, lighting, medical, nuclear, pharmaceutical, scientific



and telecommunication industries, so we're used to delivering a wide array of products that meet complex, client-specific requirements.

Whether you need a conventional compression, tension, die, disc or torsion spring, or the most obscure spring clip or wire form imaginable, we're able to produce exactly what you need.

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ALANTYS Technology

Since 2001, ALANTYS Technology has been one of the fastest growing distributors of semiconductors and electronic components to the world's leading manufacturers.

It develops supply chain solutions for customers in a host of industries: automotive, broadcasting, consumer, industrial, medical, military, aeronautics, test and measurement, wireless and wireline.

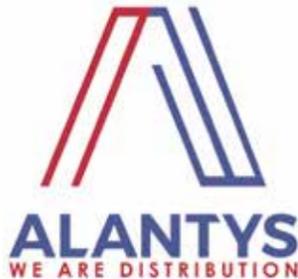
Our hybrid distribution model enables our customer base to use us on different strategic topics: from design at R&D stage, franchised distribution, to cost saving solutions and shortage solving.

Nowadays, customers need flexible partners that bring evolutive

solutions to the market. Our team is able to provide solutions for MCU, FPGA, Memory products, such as passive, connectors and connectivity solutions.

Alantys Technology is able to ship from its different warehouses worldwide. We have bases in Europe, USA and Asia, which enables us to meet our customers' requirements with efficiency.

As a quality-driven organisation, ALANTYS Technology's quality processes are integrated within every level of our company. This commitment starts from the executive management team and goes right through to our operations and logistics teams, where experienced and highly-skilled engineers and inspectors apply



strict evaluations and demanding inspection criteria to ensure the integrity of your supply chain.

Alantys Technology is offering a full range of dedicated services that are helpful to your production facilities: High Reactivity, Technical Support and Inspection & Testing.

Contact: Sacha Carlier, Northern Europe Sales Manager
Sacha.carlier@alantys.com

Specialist machine tool services

Since 2005, Sabreline UK has been on a mission to offer companies throughout the UK an unrivalled service and support package for machine tools. Delivering a fresh, innovative view on machine tool maintenance, the Sabreline UK team of highly skilled engineers have on average over 30 years' experience as well as a wealth of knowledge covering machine brands such as Cazeneuve, Huron, Correa, Harrison, Colchester, Mazak, Haas, and many more.

Sabreline UK prides itself on providing a first-class service for the maintenance and repair of machine tools such as milling machines and lathes. Whether it be a machine breakdown, remedial repair work, or general servicing, Sabreline UK Engineers bring the highest levels of expertise and knowledge to ensure your business remains functional by keeping your machinery in good working order.

By working closely with Lemoine UK who are suppliers of performance enhancing products and services for the manufacturing industry, has enabled Sabreline to continue developing and innovating industry leading services that ensure continued growth for the future.

Sabreline UK's scheduled regular maintenance



service is known as one of the leading preventative maintenance packages available on the market. With the sole aim of keeping machines in good working order to reduce downtime due to breakdown, Sabreline UK can guarantee a quick response from its highly competent and experienced engineers.

Contact
T 01425 271041
info@sabrelineuk.com
www.sabrelineuk.com

Bowyer Engineering

We were pleased to have exhibited at the Southern Manufacturing and Electronics exhibition this year. After a difficult couple of years, we came face to face with existing and prospective future clients. What an excellent opportunity to touch base with people from many different diverse markets and extend our network of contacts and opportunities.

With over 75 years of experience in precision engineering Bowyer Engineering are renowned for providing solutions for complicated engineering problems.

Offering Design, Manufacture, Fitting, and Assembly – Bowyer Engineering Ltd is the engineering company to consider for your one-stop 'Complete Solution'.

A state-of-the-art machine shop manufacturing both made to print parts and components for development, pre-production, and niche production projects.

In addition, Instrumentation, EDM Micro Notching on crack detection calibration standards together with Design and Manufacture of bespoke dedicated machines, assembly systems and inspection manipulator kits are some of the specialist divisions within the company.



As markets and technologies have changed, Bowyer Engineering have also progressed extending their plant list with new 5 and 4 axis machine centres and CNC Mill/Turn lathes.

This has enabled the company to engineer low, medium, and niche high volume production work, allowing the company to venture into new markets. We are now pleased to be servicing clients in the aerospace, automotive (inc electric vehicle), medical, marine, motorsport, power generation, and oil & gas industries.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact us: Bob Burggy, Sales Director; sales@bowyerengineering.co.uk

EMC Hire Ltd

EMC Hire Ltd is the UK's largest hire company providing RF and EMC specialist test equipment, and consultancy services. We provide many of the world's top manufacturers' equipment for hire, with the latest technology available for common everyday use to specialist and industry specific needs.

Our business model provides our customers with the opportunity to meet the demands of business requirements while benefitting from the advantages of hiring equipment.

Unlike other rental companies, we focus solely on sourcing RF and EMC equipment. This enables us to provide an extensive range to support a wide variety of EMC and RF testing requirements, whether this be in accordance with standards, approvals, or EMC-related research.

EMC Hire's portfolio of test equipment ranges from signal generators, antennas, receivers (DC – 40GHz), transient equipment, ESD and test systems. Same day dispatch options are available for time sensitive projects, and we also provide global shipment from our operations in the UK.



In addition to equipment rental, EMC Hire offers supplementary services including RF and EMC consultancy, EMC certification, EMC problem resolution, on-site or remote technical support, RF field surveys and shielding effectiveness. These additional services are supported by the partnership with WEMEC Ltd who are EMC consultancy providers.

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MARL's 677 series LED panel indicator lamp

MARL's 677 series LED panel indicator lamp is a resilient, high-performance, British-made indicator used in some of the most challenging conditions on land, sea and air.

MARL, based in Ulverston in Cumbria, designs and manufactures long-lasting, robust products which have proved their worth over more than four decades.

Mounting through an 8.1mm hole, the 677 series is sealed to IP67 – weatherproof, vandal-resistant, and durable to shock and vibration, providing a reliable status indication solution for all types of applications.

The 677 series is the panel indicator of choice for American company Asphalt Zipper® in its road grinding and milling machines.

An Asphalt Zipper spokesperson said, "We needed LEDs to indicate the state of functions on our machine. After looking around, we found MARL's 677 series. These LEDs hold up really well in our high vibration application. They



are easy to see even from far away and in the sun. They also endure rain, sun, grease and impacts, and keep on working. Using the 677 series LEDs was a great decision and we haven't looked back."

For more information or to enquire about our products, contact our team:
T 01229 484625
graham.round@marl.co.uk

IMSM: ISO Specialists

Now more than ever ISO Standards are supporting and driving business forward – our clients and contacts made at the recently held Southern Manufacturing Show are constantly looking for ways to support their business growth, meet and overcome challenges and uphold their responsibilities for quality, environmental stewardship, data security and protecting the wellbeing (both physical and mental) of their team. Time & time again organisations look to ISO Standards to fulfil this.

IMSM are uniquely positioned to take organisations through this process – our simple approach ensures organisations of all shape and size reap the significant benefits available from ISO Certification. We work with

you to develop a custom management system that meets the requirements of the standard while ensuring your business creates a culture of continual improvement and optimised efficiency. We work with you at all times through to independent or UKAS accredited certification – all delivered at a fixed fee.

Much of our work in 2021/2022 has been supporting organisations to manage their environmental responsibilities through the use of the ISO 14001:2015 EMS standard – we have also committed to planting a fruit tree in the name of our clients through our Freedom initiative.

Contact us now for a free, no-obligation consultation.



Contact: James Slade, Commercial Manager
M 07384 817589
JamesSlade@ismm.com

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LL Potter & Sons

After nearly 60 years in the business, precision sheet metal fabrication firm LL Potter & Sons are continuing their recent development plans. The installation of additional CNC machinery in the second quarter of 2022 is the latest in their £2million investment cycle over the last two years designed to both increase efficiencies and extend the capacity to an ever growing customer base.

Potters have also increased their output by adding to their night shift capabilities over recent months. Dean Bailey, Operations Director, commented that, "The manufacturing efficiencies gained from true 24 hour production across our range of processes is a benefit to not only throughput, but ultimately in providing our customers a consistent ongoing supply of finished goods. Providing a stable flow of output without the stop start interruptions of single shift manufacturing is key to us at Potters moving forward."

Additional investments are also planned for later in 2022 within two areas of the factory to further increase processing capabilities. As you can see from the photo, we



are busy planning this alongside the new factory layout, which will be implemented throughout the coming year to further improve process flow around the upgraded Potters manufacturing facility.

T +44 (0)1628 667167
sales@llpotters.co.uk
www.llpotters.co.uk

Positive response to new digital inspection range

In a welcome return to face-to-face trade shows, Vision Engineering successfully exhibited its new digital inspection products range at Southern Manufacturing to a very positive response from showgoers.

In addition to the popular and well established EVO Cam II, Vision Engineering were excited to showcase its new simple-to-use VE CAM alongside the incredible image quality of Makrolite 4K, and new extended-depth-of-focus DeepFocus digital systems. Also at the show for the first time was the unique 3D HD Deep Reality Viewer (DRV) and N-Series high magnification digital stereo solutions.

Phillip Townend, Group Marketing Manager, said, "We were encouraged by the customer response to our new digital inspection solutions at Southern Manufacturing. Visitors to our booth presented a wide range of samples and application scenarios, and we successfully demonstrated our innovative, relevant and capable systems, whatever challenge was brought to us."



"Manual visual inspection is very important to our customers, whether at goods in, during product development and/or assembly, and also in quality control. Additionally, compliance, reporting and training are key to delivering quality products, and experiencing our latest digital technology has illustrated to our visitors how we can really improve our customers' inspection processes."

For more information regarding Vision Engineering's new digital inspection range, visit: www.visioneng.co.uk

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SIC Marking UK

SIC Marking UK is one of 9 subsidiaries around the World. SIC Marking Group has developed innovative, permanent marking solutions and automated identification systems for the complete traceability of industrial components for over 30 years.

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SIC Marking is constantly adding



to the range and re-investing into R&D. The new eTouch portable Dotpeen marker offers Icon style Touch screen technology and the Laser systems now have a range of modular Class 1 enclosures with the XXL-Box range – offering the ability to mark parts up to 1,500mm in length as a standard product.



Our UK Team is based in Warwick, where we have dedicated Sales and Aftersales engineers with over 50 years' experience who would welcome a call to discuss your marking application.

Please call 01926 830372 for further details or email us at: salesuk@sic-marking.com

YOUR ROUTE TO RELIABILITY

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Batten & Allen

Batten & Allen specialises in the stamping, plating and assembly of high precision parts to customers in the electronics, automotive, medical and industrial markets. With an unrivalled focus on engineering reliability, we insist on providing a responsive and efficient service by having a true understanding of our customers' needs. Through utilising a world class quality management system supported by the very latest tooling, measurement and production technology, we ensure that your required accuracy is always met.

Founded in 1972, Batten and Allen has provided the electronics industry with nearly 50 years of high-quality frames and connectors. One major standard that Batten & Allen have contributed to the development of was the PCB edge connector; the technology that has been at the heart of computers and other expandable devices for the past 30 years.

While Batten & Allen provide stamping and lead frame plating material services for customers, we are



also producers of lead frames, including SIL, DIL, SMD, and stacked capacitors. Furthermore, we also provide speciality connectors such as Z clips, bespoke lead frames, and bespoke parts (such as contact switch spring plates).

T +44 (0)1285 655220
sales@batten-allen.co.uk
www.batten-allen.com

Samuel Grant Packaging opens a second warehouse in Leeds

Samuel Grant Packaging was delighted to officially open its 2nd Leeds warehouse on 18 February 2022. The 40,000 ft² facility will give its clients more space to store their products, freeing up essential storage in their facilities and increasing revenue potential. In 2015, Samuel Grant developed a bespoke 50,000ft² warehouse in Leeds' Thornes Farm Way,

Cross Green. Since then, the company has continued to grow & soon grew out of the space, leading to the need to build the new bespoke storage facility, which neighbours the other. The Samuel Grant Packaging team was joined by suppliers, developers & colleagues from the Sheffield, North East & Marmax branches to celebrate the opening.

For more than 130 years, the company has been innovating to discover more ways to help customers get goods to their destination in perfect condition. Samuel Grant is the UK arm of PackSynergy, a network of likeminded European packaging companies. Samuel Grant is one of the UK's largest packaging distributors, providing consultancy, innovation

and exceptional service to companies of all sizes.
Leeds 0113 270 7221
Sheffield 0114 257 4470
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www.samuelgrant.co.uk



CysBio

Danish biotech company to create more sustainable shipping



The Danish biotech company Cysbio may have broken the code on how to eliminate copper in ship's paint. The copper is replaced with sustainable and biodegradable eelgrass acid.

Shipping is one of the biggest logistical industries in global trade. Almost all the thousands of container ships and other boats that sail the world ocean daily are coated with antifouling paint, which prevents microorganisms and also invasive species from attaching to the ships' hull, thereby increasing the ships' water resistance.

Unfortunately, there are many harmful chemicals in the paints available today, such as copper. The Danish company Cysbio has found the solution. They have developed and patented a fermentation technology to produce chemicals that are difficult to manufacture such as eelgrass acid. It's a quantum leap in research, as eelgrass acid can be used to prevent all kinds of microbes and even larger organisms from attaching to surfaces. It can therefore be used in antifouling paint for ships, thereby avoiding the use of environmentally harmful materials.

"Current antifouling paint is primarily based on older technology in the form of traditional heavy metal containing biocides, primarily copper, and it's proven difficult to produce a more sustainable substitute. In nature, there's a plant that holds the solution to the problem, namely eelgrass, which has its own antifouling mechanism to eliminate unwanted microorganisms by producing eelgrass acid," says Henrik Meyer, CEO of Cysbio.

www.cysbio.com

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Why sustainable resin flooring solutions are at heart of our business

Following our first year in business, Abacus Flooring Solutions has developed an excellent reputation for its work in a number of areas, but it's perhaps our efforts to deliver truly sustainable resin flooring solutions that fill us with the most pride.

Like many industries, resin flooring presents several obstacles where sustainability and the environment are concerned, due mainly to the nature of the materials used.

Traditionally, it wouldn't be unfair to say that the industry at large is responsible for quite a lot of wastage on an annual basis, but at Abacus we wanted to challenge that narrative.

Why is Abacus so interested in delivering sustainable resin flooring solutions?

Becoming more sustainable in your operations when you're in this sector isn't as simple as flicking a switch or chucking a bit of money at a problem; it requires research, knowledge and a sustained investment of time.

But perhaps more important than all of that is passion. You have to truly want to make a difference – and not just be doing it for the good PR or to try to win that extra bit of business. That approach simply won't work.

Underpinning our own approach to sustainability is managing director Nick Megson's own experience and passion in the area.

Having served on the Resin Flooring Association



for several years, Nick quickly developed a keen interest in the delivery of sustainable resin flooring solutions, even presenting a talk on the topic to his fellow Association members.

How does Abacus deliver sustainable resin flooring solutions?

Today, Abacus is highly passionate about combatting the environmental impact of our industry and we ensure that every project is zero to landfill, wherever possible.

This environmental aspect to our work is a key factor throughout our working relationship with a customer.

And while the delivery of an excellent product and first-class service is of paramount importance, we are always also thinking about the sustainability considerations when planning our work.

This approach has led us into researching and designing a floor screed, which, instead of using quarried aggregate, consists of recycled white plastics, such as toilet seats and light switches.

The result is an epoxy self-smoothing screed that is extremely effective and much less harmful to the environment around us.

Our work in this area has been acknowledged by East Midlands Chamber of Commerce, who have selected us as finalists in the Environmental Impact category in this year's Leicestershire Business Awards.

What else does Abacus stand for?

We have more than 30 years' experience in the industrial resin flooring industry, including installations in a wide range of commercial and industrial environments.

Using this experience allows us to ensure we keep on top of new products and technologies to offer completely bespoke solutions to each of our clients.

Our highly skilled team are fully trained in all aspects of the flooring we install, from the preparation, installation and after care service.

We know that our business is first and foremost a service, and our experience allows us to provide the value and advice you require, from the very first site visit.

<https://abacusflooringsolutions.co.uk>



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Lab Innovations Review – Top Exhibitors

Lab Innovations 2021

Lab Innovations is the UK's leading annual exhibition for the entire laboratory industry that returned last year on the 3rd–4th November 2021 at the NEC, in Birmingham.

Supported by some of the UK's top science institutions, it is a key event for powering the business of science. Lab professionals across all sectors will be able to discover sustainable lab initiatives, secure the latest tech, join exciting free conferenced to earn CPD points and explore new ways of future-proofing labs.

Lab Innovations 2021 was an impressive return to live, in-

person events as 3,117 attendees visited over 160 exhibitors. Products displayed a diverse and innovative offering from a wider variety of sectors than ever before, solidifying Lab Innovations' place as the UK's only exhibition for the entire laboratory industry. Furthermore, Lab Innovations' co-location with Advanced Engineering makes these two events the home of science and engineering in the UK.

Exhibiting at Lab Innovations is the most time and cost-effective investment for your business in the UK. Lab Innovations provides a unique opportunity to meet a wide range of decision makers and buyers under one roof.

LAB | Innovations

3 & 4 November 2021 | NEC, Birmingham

Lab Innovations 2022 will take place on 2nd–3rd November at the NEC, Birmingham.

This is our second pick of the best exhibitors from last year's show, listed here in alphabetical order: Aspect Scientific & Royal Society of Chemistry. Further details can be found on this page.

www.lab-innovations.com

Aspect Scientific



ELISA Automation and Clinical Chemistry Systems

Aspect Scientific specialise in ELISA Automation Systems and is the distributor for the market leading Dynex Technologies range of instrumentation, capable of automating any ELISA assay and any level of workload, from single plates to 12 plates simultaneously.

This includes equipment from compact microplate readers and washers to fully automated high capacity, high throughput systems.

These systems improve ELISA testing efficiency, reduce or even eliminate labour intensive manual steps and minimise room for error with standardised testing processes.

"We combine flexible, open and convenient instrumentation with our comprehensive technical service and support to automate almost any microplate ELISA assay, we provide the instrumentation as true open platforms with high level support and service."

Aspect Scientific has also placed many ELISA automation systems for COVID-19 testing over the last year, which mainly included its largest high capacity and high throughput systems, allowing large scale testing for COVID-19 antibodies.

Aspect Scientific are also the UK distributor of the extensive and high-quality range of EKF Stanbio Clinical Chemistry tests which can be automated with any chemistry analyser, including the Altair 240 random access benchtop chemistry analyser.

Aspect Scientific will be exhibiting at the Lab Innovations Show, the UK's leading annual exhibition for the entire laboratory industry which will take place on 2 & 3 November 2022, at the NEC, Birmingham. Visit Aspect Scientific at the show to see the equipment in person and find out more.

T 01829 824825
info@aspectscientific.com
www.aspectscientific.com

Royal Society of Chemistry



The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) connects scientists and society together to facilitate new discoveries and helps to create new innovations.

The society publishes new research and provides a hub of collaboration, uniting and sparking new ideas and partnerships, and develops, recognises and celebrates capabilities. In addition, the RSC supports teachers to inspire future generations of scientists and is an active voice and influence on the people making decisions that affect us all.

An exciting upcoming event, the RSC will be exhibiting at Lab Innovations South in April and Lab Innovations in November.

Notably, Lab Innovations in November will see the return of RSC's popular theatre programme, with two full days of engaging scientific talks from industry researchers, academics and more. This will include two renowned keynote speakers headlining each day of the conference.

Visit the RSC stand to talk to the membership team about the support available for various career stages. You'll also be able to discover more information about the RSC's goals as an organisation and its publishing options.

www.rsc.org

Handling, Storage & Logistics News



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From Weikersheim out into the wide world

The bridge between online business and traditional machine trade

Only insiders knew that world-famous organs were built in the idyllic small town of Weikersheim (Germany). Now the industrial auction house Surplex has auctioned off all the machines and operating equipment of the tradition-rich organ builder all over the

world. It is a success story, representative of many international auctions of used machines that find a new owner via Surplex.com.

Surplex record: bidders from 73 countries at one auction

In February, a two-day auction by industrial auction house Surplex.com of more than 1,100 lots from a

renowned organ builder ended. A large selection of quality machines attracted a record-breaking nearly 1,600 potential buyers. In the end, over 27,000 bids were placed by 1,543 active bidders from 73 countries. From the small town of Weikersheim distributed all over the world. The basis for this success was the combination of the extensive range of high-quality equipment, a good price and the



internationally active Surplex network.

Handling, Storage & Logistics News



DistriSort Sorting Solutions






Surplex had initially taken over the entire inventory at a fixed price, which provided the company with immediate liquidity. In Weikersheim, twelve Surplex employees were involved on site. "We first looked at everything very carefully for seven days," says project manager, Thomas Reichelt. The entire inventory was catalogued, machines measured and the weight estimated. The portfolio included various woodworking and metalworking machines (eg. CNC lathes, machining centres and punching machines) as well as other machine accessories and workshop equipment.

The high-quality equipment from the woodworking and metalworking sectors was auctioned off for the company's own account. This also included large-scale marketing that appealed to potential buyers around the globe. The organ builder's good international reputation also contributed to the sales success. Currently, the machines sold are being handed over to the customers. Once everything is settled, the empty premises will be handed over to the owner.



From location X into the wide world

Surplex is a local contact for an international market. The machinery dealer currently has locations in 15 European countries – more than any other industrial auction house in Europe. Each branch is headed by experienced country managers. They are specialists in the market potential of used machinery and know the special features of the national machinery markets inside out, including the rules for logistics, customs and taxes. Personal contact is the basis of co-operation: currently more than 20 languages are spoken at Surplex. The approximately 200 experts throughout Europe relieve and support sellers and buyers in all phases of the buying and selling process.



Act locally and think globally: A steadily growing base of registered buyers is accessed via the worldwide Surplex network. This gives sellers direct access to the world's most interesting markets and thus optimal revenues. More than 200 Surplex employees at locations in 15 countries offer full service in over 20 languages.

The 15 Surplex locations are:

- Düsseldorf, Germany
- London, Great Britain
- Barcelona, Spain
- Torino, Italy
- Paris, France
- Myszków, Poland
- St. Pölten, Austria
- Biel (Bienne), Switzerland
- Budapest, Hungary
- Breukelen, the Netherlands
- Hofstade, Belgium
- Belgrade, Serbia
- Galați, Romania
- Porto, Portugal
- Brno, Czech Republic (and Slovakia)

www.surplex.com

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Medical shops achieve surgical precision with deep hole drilling automation

Medically speaking, cutting people open is dangerous. Today, physicians get around this problem by using modern surgical instruments to perform minimally invasive procedures, which make major operations into simple outpatient appointments. But to accomplish these feats of surgical science, manufacturers in the medical industry have to drill small-diameter holes through the entire length of slightly larger instruments. Thin part walls, intricate features, high surface quality and concentricity requirements, and extreme depth-to-diameter (D:d) ratios make these parts a challenge in production.

A typical laparoscopic surgical instrument is designed to direct tools, cameras and other devices into the body through the instrument using a guide wire. And to ensure smooth, reliable and accurate performance during procedures, highly precise hole concentricity is required at D:d depth ratios well above 100:1, a challenge even for dedicated deep hole drilling equipment.



With these challenges, it's no surprise that many manufacturers try to skip the deep hole drilling process altogether by farming out the work, but going to outside suppliers brings its own problems. Pre-drilled blanks might solve the deep hole drilling problem, but they have to be fed into the machine one by one, defeating the whole purpose of using automation-ready Swiss-style machines. Meanwhile, cannulated bar stock allows shops to continue using their bar feeders, but it's very expensive – and the hole quality and OD/ID concentricity rarely meet the needs of medical manufacturers anyway.

To overcome these challenges, medical manufacturers are turning to dedicated deep hole drilling equipment to finish instruments started on the Swiss-style machines. With an experienced gundrill operator, careful setup and a bit of finesse, the hole quality can be excellent, and it allows the Swiss-style machines to remain fully automated. The only remaining problem is part handling and transfer which introduces significant risks when the accuracy requirements are so high, and if the part has to be flipped to drill a stepped bore, that introduces more setup operations and more risk of human error.



What medical manufacturers need is a truly end-to-end automated process that allows for an efficient single-piece workflow for surgical instruments – and some deep hole drilling OEMs, such as UNISIG, have engineered all the technology required to meet this goal. The result is a complete system that offers easily automatable, on-demand deep hole drilling processes for the most demanding surgical instrument applications: the UNE6-2i.

As a twin-spindle machine with two independent drilling axes, the UNE6-2i inherently has the capabilities manufacturers expect from a high-performance deep hole drilling machine. Counter-rotation, specialised workholding and superior alignment and precision allow shops to confidently hold concentricity tolerances and minimise mismatches, even at the extreme D:d ratios common in the medical industry. In addition, the UNISIG Smart Control Interface simplifies operation, while an innovative flow-based coolant system automatically reacts to pressure changes for effective chip evacuation and high process security.

What allows the UNE6-2i to truly shine as a part of the surgical instrument production process, however, is the in-machine automation. After the front spindle

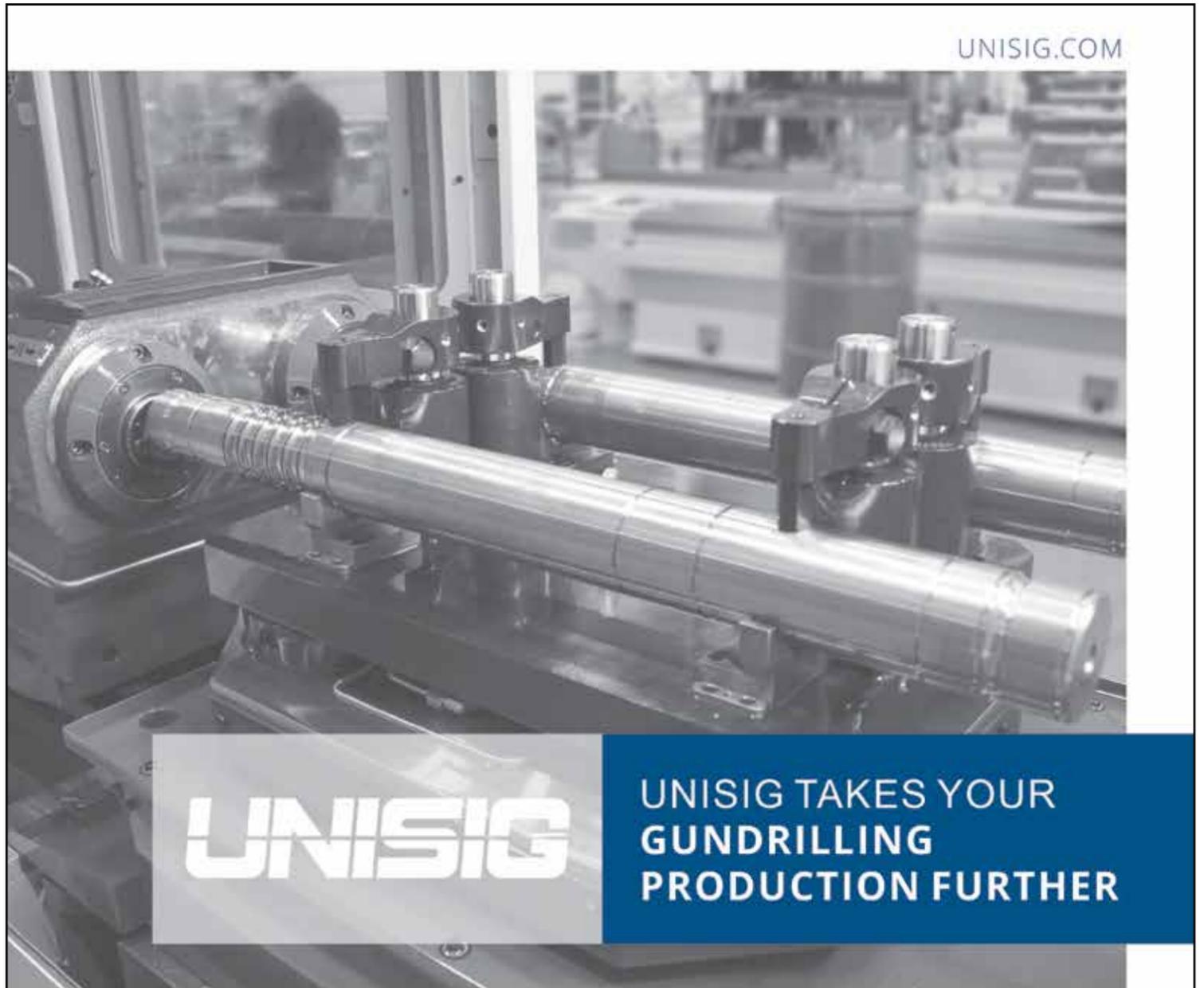
drills the first hole, a robot takes it out of the spindle, puts the hole onto the second spindle, and loads another fresh blank into the first spindle. The robot's perfect repeatability ensures the highest hole quality – and the only human labour required for the process is loading bar stock into the Swiss-style machines, preparing the blanks for the UNE6-2i's robot and sending the finished parts on

for post-processing.

The UNE6-2i's capabilities also give manufacturers significant production flexibility. Two holes with two different diameters could be simultaneously drilled in a single part, or two parts could be in-process simultaneously to allow operators or robots to load and

unload the machine without stopping. Alternately, this twin-spindle configuration can be used to drill halfway through a part from one end with the first spindle and allow the second spindle to finish the hole from the opposite end.

<https://unisig.com/>



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Introducing VLB United Kingdom

VLB United Kingdom is part of VLB Group and was established in the UK in June 2021 by Andrew Smith-Hughes. Led by Andrew who has been working in the industry for the past 16 years in positions that have given him access to vast knowledge of the industry, customers, and product development. This experience has positioned Andrew and his team with the ability to respond to current needs of customers quickly and efficiently, without delay.

"In June last year I launched two companies: VLB United Kingdom and Maqfort UK. After gaining insight into the industry and working for competitors, I decided I wanted to launch a company in the UK, researching the market I came across VLB Group, I contacted them about whether they were looking to enter the UK market. So, I launched VLB UK and Maqfort UK. VLB Group and the Barros family have been manufacturing machinery since the 1960s; VLB Group as it is now was created in 2015 and VLB UK was established in 2021," said Andrew Smith-Hughes, Managing Director.

VLB Group has seen rapid and growing expansion, with further subsidiaries added last year into the Netherlands, UK, and America. An impressive achievement during the COVID-19 pandemic, VLB UK has showcased its value for the industry, achieving growth and geographical expansion leading to a



thriving first year of business.

VLB Group is a manufacturer and supplier of machinery for the tube industry. The company's core business is tube bending machines, and the company also supplies section rollers, tube end formers and cold roll forming lines.

One of the company's most important aspects is its concentration on being heavily customer focused. VLB Group prides itself on listening and responding to the needs of its customers and the market.

"We adapt machines around the customer, we don't offer an off-the-shelf product," Andrew continued, "We can provide customers with a solution to meet



their requirements. We always listen to the needs of the market. One example of my incorporation was the ECO NC3 Models of tube bending machines and VLB UK's recent collaboration with HSG. This has taken off rapidly and we are now going into our second year offering these products."

A noteworthy recent appearance for the company, VLB Group recently exhibited at Southern Manufacturing in Farnborough and MACH 2022 at the NEC Birmingham, during this exhibition VLB showcased a HSG TP-65 tube Laser, EB-83 Tube Bending machine and the ECO-92 NC3 Tube Bending Machine. The machines gave the visitors a face-to-face demonstration of how the machines work and the quality of machines that VLB produce. The exhibitions were a huge success.

"This year we attended Southern Manufacturing which showed our customers and competitors our seriousness to the market. The MACH exhibit was again a great success, generating many leads, enquiries and sales. We showcased our new collaboration with HSG laser and we plan to exhibit



at the Emergency Services Show in September at the NEC showing our support to our armed services, something which is very close and personal to me.

Andrew continued, "We also have an exciting upcoming TV appearance on a popular TV show, as well as a famous YouTube channel. We are sponsoring a 911 GT3 cup racing team. It's incredible the things that have happened over the last 12 months of my career."

Making a strong impact in a short amount of time, VLB United Kingdom is embracing its newfound growth and progressing further, by continuing to expand and showcase its worth for the UK market.

"As a company, we are expanding. We took on our current 5,000ft² showroom in Kidderminster in September 2021 and are already looking at expanding to a showroom in Worcester and Hereford. In addition, we are looking to expand our team, with an application engineer and marketing manager starting soon. I am also taking on apprenticeships with Kidderminster College by the start of the new term investing in young people," added Andrew.

If you would like to find out any more information, please see the details below.

T 01562 702827
andrew@vlb-group.com
www.vlb-group.com



Springs & Pressings Solutions Company of the Month

Springing ahead through continuous development

EUROPEAN

SPRINGS & PRESSINGS

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we have selected European Springs & Pressings Ltd as our Springs & Pressings Solutions Company of the Month.

European Springs and Pressings has built a strong history since its establishment in 1948, which has led the company to be regarded as experts in the field of spring manufacturing and high speed press technology.

European Springs & Pressings is based in Beckenham, London. In 2007, European Springs & Pressings became part of the Lesjöfors group, with two sister companies in the UK: Metrol Springs in Northampton and Lesjöfors Heavy Springs UK in Cornwall. In addition, the company has an extended family of around 40 manufacturing companies, which equipped the company with the ability to deliver a comprehensive range of spring and strip metal products, services and solutions across Europe and globally.



The business boasts extensive leading facilities, which has recently



undergone a 25% increase in footprint, in order to uphold its ability to adapt and expand its products and services. "Our warehouse in Beckham has had a 6,000ft² extension to help us develop our stamping and pressings area. Work began in February 2020, and only finished in September of the following year, owing to COVID-19 regulations. This has given us the opportunity to relay our production facilities, and invest in the additional capacity," added Liam Bland, Marketing Manager.

European Springs & Pressings provides a full design and manufacturing service for bespoke and standard metal pressings, wireforms, coil and gas springs. European Springs



& Pressings offer a truly complete service, designing and manufacturing standard and bespoke metal components in a comprehensive range of materials.

"Our products range from tension, torsion, extension, compression and gas springs, to wire forms and metal pressings. Our secret is our engineers, product developers, and the SQA people who design and develop a product that works for the customer. Often we will look at what the client is proposing, and then bring it together based on feasibility or cost to give the customer the part performance, and price, that they need," said Liam.

In terms of recent events, like the rest of the world European Springs & Pressings faced new challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Highlighting its clear resilience and strength, the company was able to face these challenges head on, by developing IT procedures and systems to support home working environments for its staff, to retain efficiency and service. In addition, the company made investments into new staff to bolster the business, including a new Business Development Manager, Finance Manager, Marketing Manager and Apprenticeships.

Indeed, European Springs & Pressings demonstrated its industry-leading expertise and strength in rising and adapting to new challenges. In addition, the company has



further strengthened its team, through its ethos of continual development and investment. In fact, the company has made many investments including a significant investment in 2021, where European Springs & Pressings invested £1 million pounds in technologies (including a Bruderer BSTA 410-110B2 high speed precision press and Bodor i5 laser cutter) to improve and optimise its manufacturing capabilities, now and into the future.

If you would like to find out more information on the company, please see the details below:
T +44 (0)208 663 1800
www.europeansprings.com



Smartening up temperature control

A smart power controller does what it says on the tin. It is smart because it has a microprocessor and sophisticated programming. It controls power using sensors that monitor voltage and current, adapting and making decisions as conditions change within the parameters of the application that it's being used.

Integrating a smart power controller with other automation equipment allows process variables to be monitored remotely and allows operators and line maintenance personnel to quickly locate problems.

Consider this example, from a Watlow customer. A manufacturer of power transmission cables once relied on employees to periodically check the current gauges visually for each zone of extruders that coat the cables. On shifts with lower staffing, faulty product was often the first indication of a problem. The customer replaced the solid-state power controllers in the extruders with the ASPYRE® DT power controllers from Watlow, so they could determine if cable needed to be scrapped or whether production could continue until the scheduled maintenance.

Watlow's range of heating equipment, including its ASPYRE controllers, is frequently used by heavy duty industrial



companies in petrochemicals, heat treatment and power generation. The ASPYRE model is available between a range of 35 to 2,100 amps to support a wide variety of applications. For example, a single high amp ASPYRE unit is ideal for applications using multiple small units with low range amps.

Overall, the smart features and functionality of smart power controllers enables users to minimise scrap and unscheduled down time — improving operations and output.

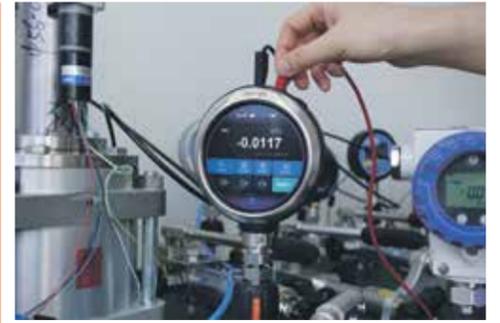
To find out more about Watlow's industrial heating solutions, visit: www.watlow.com

New Additel 673 Advanced Digital Pressure Calibrators

Chamois Metrology Introduce the New Additel 673 Advanced Digital Pressure Calibrators to Provide a Smartphone Like Experience coupled With the Ability to Simultaneously Measure Pressure and a Transmitter or Switch for Pressures up to 60,000 psi (4,200 bar)

Chamois Metrology introduce the new ADT673 Advanced Digital Pressure Calibrators which include a smartphone like touchscreen and graphical interface for a completely new way of interfacing the calibrator. The ADT673 Advanced Digital Pressure calibrators come with a built-in barometer and are available in pressure ranges from ± 2.5 mbar to 4,200 bar and come standard with Wi-Fi and Bluetooth wireless communications, as well as a type-C USB port and cable (RS-232 and 4-20mA output communications are optional).

Additel 673 calibrators provide an accurate pressure calibration solution for gauges, transmitters, and switches. Each calibrator contains a built-in barometer sensor which allows for the pressure reading to display in gauge pressure or absolute pressure with a simple menu selection. The ADT673 series contains HART communication capabilities and can measure in mA, or V, and supply 24V loop power. It has a dual readout display showing the pressure on one display and mA, V



or a pressure switch on the other display. Each calibrator comes with an ISO-17025 accredited certificate of calibration. It is compatible with Additel's Link mobile app and 9502 Additel/Log II software, which enables the ability to monitor and display the real-time pressure measurements in a table or graphically.

The Additel 673 Advanced Digital Pressure Calibrators are available now. For more information, visit: www.chamois.net or contact us for a virtual or in-person demo on 01926 812066 or email: info@chamois.net

Kemo Limited expands into USA

Kemo Limited, a member of the Engineering & Scientific Instrumentation Group (ESIG), is pleased to announce the opening of a new office in the USA. Kemo USA LLC has been formed as a partnership with Skorchtek LLC, an established US-based company working in the test, measurement and industrial sectors, providing test equipment sales, training and accelerometer calibration services with ISO17025:2017 accreditation.

The new company has been formed to focus growth into the US market and will be selling and supporting the full range of Kemo signal conditioning and filter products which are manufactured in the UK. In addition the US business will also be a manufacturing centre for the Kemo range of low noise and coaxial cable assemblies to support the US market.

Andy Cogbill, President of Skorchtek LLC, said of the new business, "It is an exciting step for us to join with Kemo Limited and to be able to establish a manufacturing capability here in the USA. The ability to deliver accelerometer cable assemblies and accessories quickly is key to provide the sort of support our customers need. Our plan is to offer stock of standard cable lengths for quick delivery, with the added facility to supply cables to suit customer specific requirements."

Kemo USA LLC will also be selling the soon to be



launched range of piezoelectric and IEPE accelerometers that have been developed by the ESIG group.

For more details, please contact our sales team at: sales@kemo.com or call +44 (0)1474 705168 or visit the new website at: www.kemo.com

Kemo USA LLC contact details are: sales@kemo-usa.com or +001 (616) 278-1897.

ION Science wins Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation for MiniPID Sensors

ION Science is delighted to announce it has won the prestigious Queen's Award for Enterprise, in the category of Innovation, for its pioneering MiniPID sensors.

The award is the highest recognition of business excellence across Britain and endorses the commercial success of ION Science's innovative technology.

ION Science's industry-leading PID (photo-ionisation detection) technology offers unparalleled VOC detection, helping users to protect lives and preserve the environment.

The achievement of the Queen's Award for Innovation reaffirms the design, quality, reliability and success of the MiniPID sensor, while also highlighting ION Science's dedication to developing and producing new technologies.

The MiniPID sensor is the market leader for performance, quality and standards for all VOC sensors. Able to withstand relative humidity up to 99% (non-condensing), temperatures of -40 to +65°C, and with an anti-



contamination design, the MiniPID range offers 10,000 hours of reliable detection, making it ideal for long-term monitoring. MiniPID sensors also have the widest detection range on the market, from as low as 0.5ppb (parts per billion) right up to 10,000ppm (parts per million), making them suitable for any application. ION Science's sensors can be used to detect over 950 different compounds, many of which can pose a serious threat to human health and life.

ION Science's range of MiniPID sensors are now available to buy directly from the award-winning manufacturer – contact them today to find out more: <https://ionscience.com/en/contact-us/>

GI Systems Ltd



GI Systems Ltd is focused on measurement, test, data acquisition and condition monitoring applications, providing performance and value to meet key customer requirements. From just a few points to large systems, offering open integration, local or distributed I/O and flexible architectures. Specialising in measurements such as vibration, temperature, strain, torque, and many other process parameters.

See us at: Silverstone Race Circuit 17th May 2022 – Instrumentation, Analysis & Testing – GI Systems Ltd is presenting products and solutions from our partners Gantner Instruments and Manner Sensortelemetrie.

Gantner Instruments specialises in precision measurement of mechanical, thermal, and high-voltage quantities. A globally recognised manufacturer with creative measurement solutions in the data acquisition systems market. Gantner Instruments cutting edge technology is widely used for testing and monitoring applications in the automotive, aerospace, civil engineering, oil/gas, and renewable energy sectors.

Manner Sensortelemetrie concentrates on 'contactless sensor data transmission' (near field telemetry) providing excellent results often in challenging applications with a high level of expertise. Using ongoing implementation of knowledge gained from previous projects to focus skills & competence in new challenges, with a claim to be the best in the field of single and multi-channel telemetry systems.

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Bring your vision to life

In this issue of **Industrial Process News**, we are pleased to announce **9T Labs** as our **Carbon Composites 3D Printing Company of the Month**.

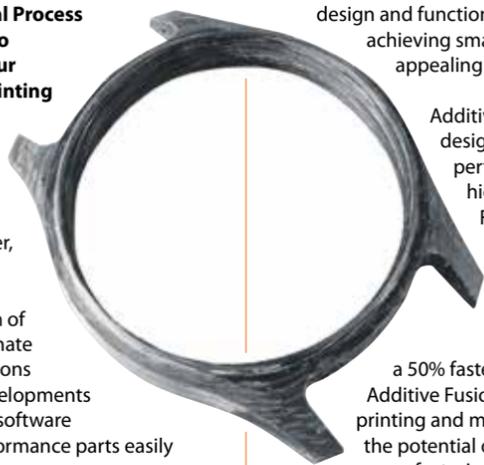
9T Labs was established in January 2018 in Zürich, Switzerland, by its three co-founders Martin Eichenhofer, Chester Houwink, and Giovanni Cavolina. 9T Labs has grown into a large team of 47 pioneers that are passionate about manufacturing solutions that leverage the latest developments in automation technology, software and materials to make performance parts easily accessible.

"Our aim is to facilitate the access to continuous fibre composites. To do so, we developed an integrated solution including soft and hardware to be used by manufacturing organisations in aerospace, medical, sports, leisure, and general industry. Currently, we sell this as an all-in solution and in order to improve the capabilities of our technologies, we also support potential and existing customers with engineering up to producing first serial part applications," stated Yannick Willemin, Head of Marketing & Business Development.

Combining state-of-the-art additive manufacturing equipment with advanced post processing technology enables 9T Labs to serial manufacture structural composite parts within a number of industry sectors specifically focusing on the convergence between additive manufacturing, structural composites, and serial part manufacturing.

9T Labs is at the forefront of composite manufacturing, as its all-in-one hardware, software and material solutions provide customers with a cheap and easy way to design and mass-produce ultra-lightweight parts. "Our solution allows our parts to be stronger, lighter, and cheaper than benchmark serial metal parts applications. Currently, we are specifically looking for pioneer OEMs in the field of non-regulated markets in order to bring first serial part applications to the market within a few months. Our Red Series Additive Fusion Technology is very new on the market," mentioned Yannick.

9T Labs was awarded the Red Dot Design Award 2022 for Product Design towards its Red Series Build and Fusion Modules, marking the Red Series as a top performer in outstanding



design and functionality in its category, achieving smart innovation along with appealing aesthetics.

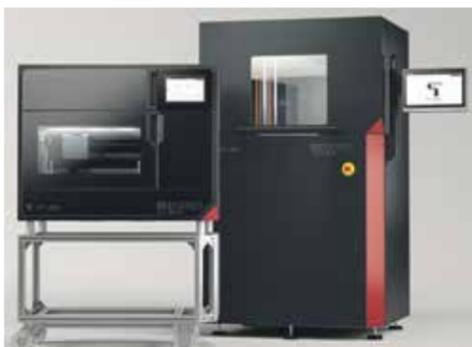
Additive Fusion Solution is designed to produce high performance composites, at high volumes. Featuring Fibrify® Software that delivers an unlimited fibre design versatility with direct export to your commercial FEA, and digital prototyping for a 50% faster part development, Additive Fusion Solution combines 3D printing and metal moulding to unleash the potential of cost-competitive manufacturing of continuous fibre composites. Perfect for high production volume, its Build Module enables the print of complex preforms at a low cost. Users can print high-performance composites with a machine that has the capabilities to produce up to 60% fibre volume content thermoplastics. On the polymer side, the following materials are currently possible: PEEK, PEKK, PPS, PA12, bio-based PA. On the continuous fibres side, the following are available: carbon, glass, and basalt.

The Fusion Module consists of pressure applied to a heated metal mould which is ideal for producing parts with a superior surface finish. It allows the user maximum adhesion between layers and increased design latitude by its enhanced fibre orientation and functional integration.

In recent news, 9T Labs announced the closure of its Series A funding round that raised \$17 million USD to help further commercialise the Red Series® Additive Fusion Solution™ platform for the production of advanced carbon fibre-reinforced thermoplastic (CFRTP) composite parts. Looking ahead, 9T Labs is expecting further growth from its hybrid system that over the past year, has become increasingly more successful, sparking much interest from OEMs around the world.

9T Labs is always looking for new talent to join its team to accommodate sales and has recently been taking on new employees to help further increase the number of systems being sold in new markets. As a strong start-up with firm backing from solid investors, 9T Labs has a very successful future ahead.

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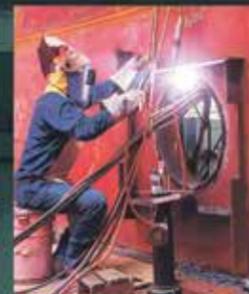
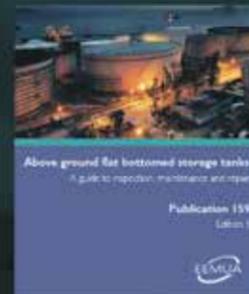
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TLV upgrades renowned COSPECT valve to ease installation and minimise process disruption



Through a process of continued development and product enhancements, the renowned three-in-one COSPECT pressure reducing valve from steam system specialist TLV Euro Engineering has been upgraded and is now being offered with integrated pressure gauges as standard across the range.

Commenting for TLV Euro Engineering, general manager, Michael Povey, says, "By upgrading and offering the pressure gauges as standard across the range, we have enhanced the COSPECT to make it even more of a unified steam system solution. The integrated gauges also mean no additional pipework modification is required before or after the PRV, which reduces installation time and minimises process downtime."

Originally launched over 35 years ago, the COSPECT is a combined pilot-operated pressure reducing valve (PRV), cyclone separator, strainer and steam trap in a single component that overcomes the limitations and inadequacies of conventional PRVs and solves their many associated problems – including fluctuations in primary and secondary pressures and valve hunting and vibration – to provide improved-quality dry steam at a constant pressure and temperature.

By eliminating the conventional arrangement and combining four separate components into a single valve, the COSPECT delivers numerous engineering benefits by incorporating fewer gaskets, spool pieces and fixings, improving moisture separation and providing accurate and stable pressure control. It is also more sensitive to downstream pressure fluctuations, is reliable in operation and its unified, modular construction facilitates easy, in-line maintenance.

In addition to the engineering benefits, the single component design of the five-model COSPECT makes it faster and easier to install, is lighter than the sum of using separate components, reduces the amount of insulation required and reduces the requirement for pipe support brackets, etc.

For further information on the COSPECT and other steam solutions, call TLV Euro Engineering on +44 (0)1242 227223, email: sales@tlv.co.uk or visit: www.tlv.co.uk

Eliminating the risk of contamination with Class Zero oil-free compressors

Industrial compressed air brand, Worthington Creyssensac, has launched the new 'Class Zero' oil-free compressors for the UK & Ireland markets. Certified* to be 100% free of any traces of oil or other contaminants, the new OF 20-75V range has been designed for use in pharmaceutical, biotechnology and chemical sectors, where production of air quality to the ISO 8573.1:2010 class is essential to maintain high standards of manufacturing.

With no lubrication in the compression cycle, this new generation of compressors replaces previous oil-injected machines that rely on downstream filtration to achieve the required high levels of air purity. As well as further

enhancing product safety, oil-free technology enables pharmaceutical and chemical producers to save time and money by dispensing with monitoring, cleaning, and maintenance of oil filters, the removal of which will help to achieve lower operating costs.

With climbing production energy costs in mind, Worthington Creyssensac implemented variable speed drive (VSD) compressors in its new oil-free models to help offset the rising costs. A VSD compressor matches the power consumption to the air demand, especially when the production process is not constant, varying its speed and thus reducing the energy consumption during low

usage periods to maintain outlet pressure to ± 0.1 Bar. By selecting a VSD compressor, the manufacturers can meet their fluctuating air demand profile, reducing overall energy consumption by as much as 35%.

T +44 (0)1925 817803
www.worthington-creyssensac.com/en-uk/products/oil-free-compressors/of-range
*Class Zero certification of 100% Oil Free is from TÜV Rheinland Energy GmbH.



DMN-WESTINGHOUSE sets the new standard with MZC-II rotary valve for dry bulk industry

DMN-WESTINGHOUSE introduces a new rotary valve for the food processing dry bulk industry that is intended for dosing products and ingredients. With the new MZC-II rotary valve, the producer of rotary valves and diverter valves is setting a new standard in terms of functionality, hygiene, safety and maintenance. DMN-WESTINGHOUSE introduced the current MZC rotary valve 25 years ago, which has played an important role in increasing food safety in production processes of companies in the food and dairy segment, among others. With the introduction of this new rotary valve, which can be opened on two sides and thus creates optimal conditions for hygiene, safety, functionality and maintenance, DMN-WESTINGHOUSE continues a tradition of products that are characterised by high-quality engineering, durability and continuity.



DMN-WESTINGHOUSE has decided to significantly improve the MZC rotary valve. That is why, at the beginning of 2020, a start was made on developing the new standard and further developing the current rotary valve with the aim of achieving a version that is capable of being the benchmark for the long-term, in particular for the food processing sector. DMN-WESTINGHOUSE gave the first product demo of the MZC-II rotary valve during the DMN-WESTINGHOUSE Global Salesforce Event in May of this year.

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FUTURE-PROOF VALUE SINCE 1950

Leaders in laboratory instruments



In this issue of Industrial Process News, we have selected Vitl Life Science Solutions as our Laboratory Instruments & Equipment Company of the Month.

Vitl Life Science Solutions was established in 2005 and is one of the UK's leading laboratory instrument manufacturers and lab suppliers. Vitl was founded by award-winning medical, diagnostic, and analytical device design and manufacturing specialists; ITL (a G&H Company), allowing Vitl to benefit from over 40 years of experience in the development of high-end medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics.

"We provide laboratories world-wide with high-quality benchtop lab equipment, designed to simplify your day-to-day life. We have developed a range of reliable and versatile products to maximise bench space. Our products range from heat sealers and temperature-controlled mixing and vortexing equipment, to luminescent readers and laboratory consumables such as foils, seals, and tube pickers," said Amanda McGowan, Vitl Technical Sales Specialist.

Vitl provides a diverse and ever-evolving range of laboratory equipment which has been designed to meet the needs of the industry. Some of these products include PCR equipment, temperature control and laboratory mixing equipment, tube luminometers and laboratory consumables.

"Our products outshine our competitors! Since ITL's main business is the design, development, and manufacturing of high-end medical devices, it allows

us to benefit from their services to ensure that our Vitl products are of the highest quality and innovative features, allowing us to compete with market leaders at a better price point!" added Amanda.

The company maintains offices across three locations around the world. These include the United Kingdom, the United States of America and China. In addition, the company also has an international network of distributors, providing worldwide access to its extensive collection.

A notable innovative product within its impressive range is the Lu-mini. Luminometry is the process of measuring light and luminometers are the instruments used to carry out these measurements. In luminometry, sensitivity, reproducibility, and flexibility are key features that aren't always affordable.

"Our single-tube luminometer, the Lu-mini, was designed to meet these industry needs. Its unique sample chamber design allows the Lu-mini to accommodate consumables without the need for an adaptor. In addition, the included PC software provides data synchronisation and in-depth data analysis to better optimise your assay protocols. The Lu-mini is the perfect balance of sensitivity, flexibility, and affordability!" mentioned Amanda.

Designed to be robust, reliable and easy-to use, the Lu-mini is the ideal solution for use both in the field



or in the lab. The Lu-mini is suitable for a broad range of assays including Luciferase assays, ATP assays, cell-based assays for drug discovery and much more. The Lu-mini is the perfect combination of innovative software, matched with a broad dynamic range and large data storage capacity, all within a compact instrument.

In terms of recent news, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted Vitl Life Science Solutions both as a company and as a team. As a business, COVID-19 has had several positive outcomes for the company, including increased revenue and profit due to amplified demand for their medical and laboratory products, greater efficiency while adhering to new challenges as well as having to work in different ways to maintain social distancing and increased flexibility in their service provision. Adapting to these challenges has been crucial to the company's success and the Vitl team fully engaged and responded efficiently to the new changes.

"As individuals, COVID has had a huge impact! Many people have been affected either personally, or within their families, and we have had to ensure that we are in a good position to support those employees and

allow them to return to work in a way that works for all parties. It has also shown that our team are able to work in different ways and still operate successfully, with remote working becoming a more formal presence within our organisation than in previous years," added Tom Ackrill, Business Development Manager.

Showcasing its strength in overcoming and adapting to recent changes, the company has demonstrated its wealth of expertise for the life science industry and is looking forward to the future, with many exciting new and upcoming projects and developments in the works.

Tom explained, "We are planning on starting a new development project for Vitl soon, so watch this space! In the meantime, we will continue to maintain and support our existing product range, as well as continuing to support the life science sector with our vast range of laboratory equipment."

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Industrial Training Company of the Year

EEMUA: Helping you improve safety, efficiency and compliance

Industrial Process News is proud to announce that EEMUA has received our Industrial Training Company of the Year award, for playing a pivotal role in helping improve the safety, environmental and operating performance of businesses' industrial facilities.

Of course, like many other organisations, EEMUA felt the pressure of COVID-19, but now looking ahead to life after lockdown EEMUA is taking the next step and beginning 2022 even stronger. "Over the past year we have vastly improved the processes and behaviours we have developed, ensuring the documentation was in place to maintain our standards and identify where improvements were possible. We have initiated 'the next step' and now know how far, and how fast, we can go, and what more we can do. As a result we have set up some ambitious projects," said Stefan Kukula, CEO of EEMUA.



EEMUA is a global membership organisation with members from a vast range of industries. The association works on behalf of its members to help improve the safety, environmental and operating performance of their industrial facilities in the



most cost-effective way. EEMUA also acts as the voice of the user, representing member companies' interests to national and international regulators.

EEMUA offers classroom-based training courses, live online learning, blended learning and e-learning that play a key role in developing and testing the knowledge, understanding and competency of workers. One particular course that has excelled of late is the EEMUA 159 Storage Tanks e-learning. "In our 159 tank storage courses, we have seen growth in numbers, but also a broadening of the geographies



where students have come from including more from North America and Africa. Our training is very much a team effort, with contributions from the EEMUA staff, a team of dedicated trainers, and technical panels drawn from across industry," said Stefan.



As well as recently adding Dutch as an additional delivery language for its TankInspector course, which was driven by

attendee demand, another recent innovation that highlights the partnership approach, driven by industry, for industry, is EEMUA's MIPC® (Mechanical Integrity Practitioner Certificate) for engineers at the 'practitioner level'. Stefan commented, "It takes the learner through a guided process, with mentors and 1:1 tuition, to deliver real benefits for them, their employers, and society, through an enhanced understanding of the safety implications of their role and the equipment with which they work. It achieves this using blended learning, so learners don't have to be away from their work sites. We've been asked by the membership to increase our offering in this area, looking at other job roles."

The experience and expertise EEMUA shares with its membership gives it an advantage. "We are different because of the connection we make between the course and the market. As a not-for-profit we don't draw our funds from shareholders or owners, we invest in new courses that are rooted in our guidance publications and accepted worldwide by both



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

GUIDANCE THAT CHANGED AN INDUSTRY

operators and regulators."

Of course, this is only a small selection of everything EEMUA offers, and the association's outstanding services ensure it is set to continue its success far into the future. Stefan explained some future plans for EEMUA, "We are adding more end of course checks on competence and understanding. We believe learning will become a more integrated experience over time, therefore, we will continue to play an integral role in providing the necessary competencies from our platform, framework and content for employees across some of the most complex industries."

In closing we asked Stefan how EEMUA felt receiving this award, he responded. "Our team works hard to make the most of members' contributions of know-how and experience, so we share this recognition with EEMUA's membership. This award is a welcome boost, and we will celebrate at our next company get together."

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www.eemua.org

Sustainable Packaging Company of the Month

Safe, secure and sustainable packing solutions for a better tomorrow

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Protega Global as our Sustainable Packaging Company of the Month.

Protega Global is a fully accredited company that has been active across the transportation, logistics and storage industries for over 40 years. Protega Global's main aim is to provide its customers with viable, cost-effective alternatives to non-sustainable packaging. Its range is complemented by the design and manufacture of its integrated packing systems. This includes bespoke workstations and conveyor systems which in turn help customers to streamline their operations as well as make their packaging more sustainable.

Headquartered in Salisbury, Wiltshire, Protega Global has delivered considerable savings to its customers through its impressive damage reduction percentages and intuitive packing solutions that deliver an open box experience designed to delight the end user. Since 1975, Protega Global has worked closely with a number of customers facing challenges related to the meteoric rise in E-retail activities. The challenge to create packaging that guarantees the protection of goods in transit, while being fully recyclable is what has cemented the brands credibility and respect from customers across the industry.



Its extensive range of products include paper cushioning, paper bubble wrap, integrated packing stations, retention packaging, and other sustainable

and eco-friendly products such as adhesive tapes and mailing bags.

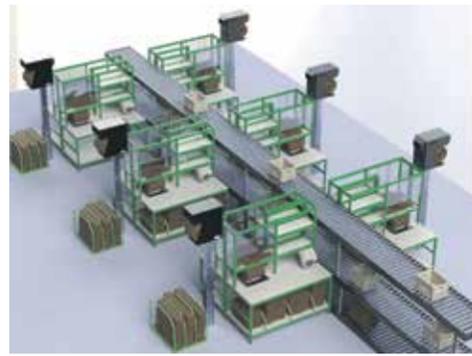
Protega Global's forward thinking approach has enabled them to stay one step ahead of the competition, retaining a steady stream of customers requiring a more time and cost-efficient sustainable alternative to their normal packing processes. One notable product that provides this solution is the Hexcel Wrap Bench which was developed as a direct response to customer demand following



COVID-19. Protega has further announced it is now manufacturing Hexcel Wrap 'paper bubble wrap' the paper alternative to plastic bubble wrap in the UK. Hexcel Wrap can be wrapped around products to offer protection as good as plastic bubble, but without any impact to the environment.

The use of Hexcel Wrap is made even easier with the development of an integrated dispenser. Housed under the bench, the Hexcel wrap is simply passed through a pair of rollers and dispensed onto the bench at the optimal position for the packers. This design maximises the usable area of the bench, and dramatically increases efficiency. To reload, a section of the bench lifts up and allows rolls to be placed easily and ergonomically.

The Hexcel Packing Bench not only ensures that the storage of packing materials is virtually eliminated, but the Hexcel Wrap is also on hand to dispense right at the point of use, resulting in taking



up no valuable bench space. One of its many advantages is that by having a custom-built packing bench with an integrated paper machine, conveyor and under-bench paper bubble wrap dispenser, will significantly improve packing times.



Offering a full turnkey solution for all products, Protega Global is on hand to guide its customers through the design, production, installation, training of the equipment and maintenance. The company is passionate about offering ultimate protection for your products, therefore, by focusing on developing solutions that minimise the impact of packaging on the environment it is helping to protect future generations and the planet.

In the future, Protega Global will continue to innovate and work alongside its customers to find smarter and faster ways to pack, while creating an ongoing eco-friendly packaging range that creates excitement and is designed to deliver for you many repeat sales for years to come.

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sales@protega-global.com
www.protega-global.com

Packaging Solutions Company of the Month

Full turnkey packaging solutions

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Excel Packaging Machinery as our Packaging Solutions Company of the Month.

Excel Packaging Machinery are industry leaders in the supply and manufacture of packaging machinery throughout the UK and Ireland covering Cosmetics, E-Liquid, Pharmaceutical, DIY, Food & Beverage, Toiletries, Medicine, and CBD industries.

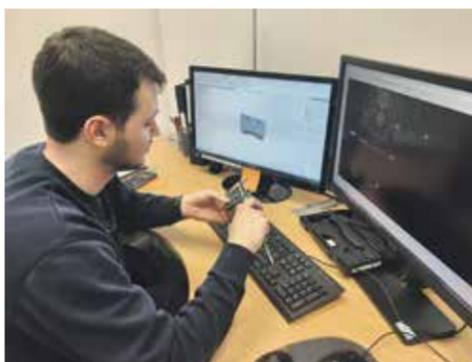
Established in 2003 by Andrew Skittrall and Jonathan Pym, Excel Packaging Machinery class itself as specialists in filling machines, capping machines, bagging machines, tube filling machines, bottle unscrambling machines and cartoning machines.

"We have two sides to the business. Firstly, we work with our partners in Italy who are the manufacturers to which we then deliver all the back up support, sales and engineering work. The other side to the business is that we manufacture our own filling and capping machines and have recently just developed a new bottle unscrambling machine to offer the full line," stated Andrew.

Excel Packaging Machinery is headquartered in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire and has one other office based in the North West. We asked Jonathan what benefits their services bring over its competitors. "Our key attribute is that we are entirely



customer focused and offer a tremendous after sales support. We have an extremely competent team of expert service engineers, and we also have a spares department which is important for our customers because this offers them the after sales support to keep their machines & packaging lines in production. Another benefit to our service is that have our own in-house manufacturing facility. Here we can 3D print components, we have our own machine shop, we can offer solid work 3D design, and have a welding bay. This is highly advantageous to our customers because we can offer a very quick solution."



Its service work and spare parts department can offer service contracts, installation and commissioning, training, breakdown, troubleshooting, and on-site survey reports. Alongside this service, Excel Packaging Machinery also provide a full service

contracts for their partners packaging machinery such as Omas, OMS, CleanPack, Axomatic, Pentavac and PackFeeder. All service contracts can be individualised to each customers requirement and planned maintenance is a valuable tool in reducing down time.

Excel Packaging Machinery offer machinery for all aspects of its client's business, from semi-auto start-up machinery to high speed turnkey production lines. By working closely with its clients, the company is able to gain valuable trust and insight into their business to ensure they receive the maximum efficiency they require. Another valuable asset to



the company is its project management lines. "We bring an invaluable level of expertise, so even if our client is working with another supplier, we will work with them to ensure both production lines merge together seamlessly. We offer machinery that allows our customers to grow with our supply. For example, we can supply a customer with a semi-automatic bench top machine and as they grow, we then offer a modular solution so we can grow the line to suit their growing requirements," stated Andrew.

Constantly reacting to current market trends, together with their Italian partner Omas, have launched a new POD filling machine for the E-Liquid and CBD industries for disposable pods. A key part of its success is to attend trade shows throughout the year for the chance to meet new and existing clients. This year you can find Excel at PPMA Show and the CBD Show where it will be launching its new filling and capping monobloc machines.

Excel Packaging Machinery prides itself on its honesty, transparency and ability to go above and beyond meeting every customer requirement. As an industry leader in its field, its services are renowned for their professionalism, unbeatable quality and unrivalled expertise.

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Gain a competitive advantage

The Robotics and Automation exhibition, held at the Coventry Building Society Arena from 2-3 November 2021, was a unique opportunity for visitors to gain an insight into the latest innovations and technology available to improve efficiency, reduce errors, drive down costs and gain a competitive advantage. Visitors were able to meet industry leading exhibitors including robot manufacturers, system integrators and experts in automation and machine vision, and discover how

the latest technology can be applied to their operations to provide massive improvements in productivity and accuracy.

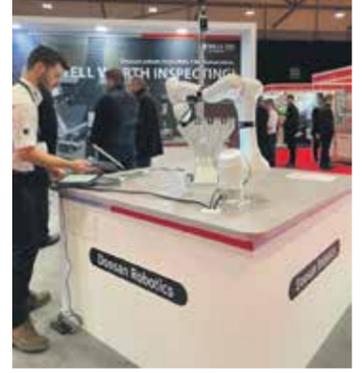
There was a completely free comprehensive conference theatre. This free learning opportunity meant visitors could hear directly from the minds behind the latest technology, and listen to industry leaders as they shared their insights and gave real world examples of how they have automated their own, and their customers',

operations. Visitors could condense weeks of online research into just a few hours – all the companies they needed to talk to were gathered together in one venue. There's no way better way of doing business than meeting face-to-face, so visitors could get more value from their interactions with potential suppliers and ensure they really understand their organisation's complex needs. Visitors were able to watch live demonstrations of the latest solutions taking place throughout the exhibition so

they could get first hand insight into how they work in practice.

Robotics and Automation returns this year to Coventry Building Society Arena from 1-2 November 2022. This is our pick of the best exhibitors from last year's event, listed here in alphabetical order: KNAPP & OnRobot. Further details can be found on this page.

Contact
www.roboticsandautomation.co.uk





north-europe@onrobot.com

www.onrobot.com

Why OnRobot?

2FGP20 Palletizer Gripper



Versatile electric gripper for palletizing and slip sheet handling

LIFT100 Robot Elevator



High-payload robot lift for palletizing

One stop shop for collaborative applications

OnRobot provides compatibility and versatility beyond compare. It's everything manufacturers need from one supplier, providing even more value from the automation investment. OnRobot's solutions are designed to help small and mid-sized manufacturers optimise their processes and grow their businesses with greater flexibility, higher output and improved quality.

The OnRobot product range features a wide assortment of tools and software for collaborative applications, including electric, vacuum and magnetic grippers, the award-winning Gecko gripping technology, force and torque sensors, a 2.5D vision system, screwdrivers, sander

kits, and tool changers. Its extensive product range is supported by the free, Learn OnRobot e-learning platform, that makes it easy to deploy collaborative automation on tasks such as packaging, quality control, materials handling, machine tending, assembly, and surface finishing regardless of skill level or previous robotics experience.

Headquartered in Odense, Denmark, OnRobot also has offices around the world and is known on a global platform. A recent innovation launched in January 2022, was the OnRobot 2FGP20 electric gripper, a versatile electric gripper for palletising and slip sheet handling. Offering a wide stroke, the customisable arms can easily handle heavy



or open boxes, shelf-ready products, and other containers such as Euro containers that can't be handled with traditional vacuum grippers.

Contact
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www.onrobot.com

Robots deliver real gains

Robotic solutions from KNAPP are using machine learning to pick single items reliably in real-world applications.

Easing labour issues

With labour markets tight, a major advantage of robotic fulfilment is to ease the pressure to recruit and retain warehouse staff. Pharmaceutical distributor McKesson in the US relies on KNAPP's Pick-it-Easy Robot to help take the strain during unpopular night shifts. The robot works reliably around the clock, with AI enabling it to recognise different packaging and features.

Fast and accurate picking

The Pick-it-Easy Robot at the warehouse of

German electrical supplies wholesaler Obeta near Berlin was deployed with minimal downtime and was operational within days. It achieves a peak speed of 600 items per hour and picks with an accuracy of 99%, despite having to learn new items each week.

Integration with pocket sorter

Third-party logistics specialist GXO is using a Pick-it-Easy Robot for automatic insertion of film-wrapped fashion items into pockets at its fulfilment centre in Tilburg, Netherlands.

Using a sophisticated camera system and AI-based object recognition technology, the robot overcomes the challenge of handling flexible textiles wrapped in film.



RaaS option

KNAPP's robotic solutions are available either as an outright investment or in a Robotics-as-a-Service (RaaS) model.

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Print & Packaging News

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Introducing Zip Core Packaging software

Zip Core Packaging Suite is a CAD/CAM packaging software from Vivid Laminating Technologies that has been created to optimise every aspect of packaging design from start to finish.

Sales and Product Manager, Lewis Evans, said that Vivid is very excited to be launching the new product. "Our software will provide businesses with a wide range of tools that speed up and automate the everyday jobs of packaging designers, graphic designers and salespeople involved in the creation and production of packaging," he said. "This will result in jobs being produced at a much faster rate. There are endless packaging templates to choose from within our library of designs, giving the customer the opportunity to create



an infinite choice of projects with absolute simplicity."

"There are two bundles to choose from: Zip Core Design and Zip Core Design Pro. Compatible with both desktop and Cloud solutions

and integrated with Adobe® Illustrator®," he continued. "Meaning you can apply graphics to your packaging designs while being able to view a 3D model of the structure before production. Saving you both time and money."

Zip Core Packaging Software has been developed by Vivid to enhance the use of its VeloBlade Volta and VeloBlade Nexus range of digital die-cutting systems.

Vivid will be exhibiting at Packaging Innovations on Stand C75, where it will be demonstrating the new Zip Core Packaging Software alongside its other products and services.

For further information about Zip Core Packaging Suite, visit: www.vivid-online.com

On a Roll! Printed laminate containing over 30% PCR content

Cake Décor is the UK's largest manufacturer of cake decorations, producing extensive ranges for Plant Bakeries, Blue Chip Food Manufacturers, Artisan Businesses and Major UK Supermarkets.

They were founded in 2006, owned by Orkla since April 2021 and have built a strong reputation for quality product and the highest customer service. They have a 'right first time' approach to NPD and have innovation at their very core, so when Waitrose wanted to change to printed film for their Ready to Roll Icing it was an easy discussion to have to suggest changing from a traditional laminate to one with post-

consumer recyclate to beat the Plastic Tax being introduced in April.

According to the Government website, the new tax is being introduced to "encourage the use of recycled rather than new plastic within plastic packaging. This will in turn stimulate increased levels of recycling and collection of plastic waste, diverting it away from landfill or incineration."

"Moving to a PCR film was made easy by working with National Flexible. It ran first time on our packing lines and both we and Waitrose are very happy with the result," said Robert



Simpson, Cake Décor.

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T 01274 685566
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www.nationalflexible.co.uk

Red diesel: Warning to users to get their tanks in order

National waste management experts CSG have issued a warning to users of red diesel to ensure any surplus fuel in storage tanks is collected and disposed of correctly, to avoid heavy fines.

From 1 April 2022, rebated fuels such as red diesel are no longer permitted for most industry sectors, as part of the Government's efforts to meet climate change and air quality targets.

As a result, many industrial users may find themselves unwittingly breaking the law by continuing to store and use rebated fuels.

Jen Cartmell, treatment director for CSG, said, "The Government guidance is clear - anyone with surplus stock must ensure it is sold to a registered dealer, given to someone still allowed to use it, or appoint an approved waste oil company such as CSG to recover and dispose of the fuel.

"In our experience, users will not only want to comply with the regulations but will also be keen to ensure any surplus red diesel needing to be removed from their premises is collected and disposed of to the highest safety and environmental standards.

"Our specialist oil recovery team are experts in tank cleaning, maintenance and decommissioning, using both high-pressure jetting and our own specialist equipment.

"We can remove any leftover rebated fuel residue from storage tanks and safely transport it to one of our licensed oil treatment plants where it is treated and disposed of in accordance with the latest legislation.



"This complete cleaning, collection and disposal service offers customers complete peace of mind that they can continue their operations knowing all legal and environmental requirements have been met."

The changes will affect most businesses and individuals that currently supply or use rebated diesel and biofuels, including marked oils.

Commonly used in industries with heavy machinery, such as construction or agriculture, the fuel was marked with a red dye to identify it as subject to a rebate from the full fuel duty rate as that was intended only as a tax for road-going vehicles.

The new legislation aims to incentive users to improve the energy efficiency of their vehicles or machinery or invest in cleaner alternatives, by making most users pay the full rate of fuel duty.

The fuels affected include rebated red diesel, rebated Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), rebated biodiesel and bioblend, Kerosene taxed at the rebated diesel rate and fuel substitutes.

Full details of the rules, including the remaining exemptions, can be found at: www.gov.uk

Jen Cartmell added, "As the legislation has come into force any user who is not compliant with the new rule is urged to stop using the fuel

immediately and arrange the collection for any surplus fuel.

"Stockpiling is not permitted and HMRC may carry out spot check of storage tanks to ensure nobody continues to use the rebated fuel.

"Our specialist team is on hand to support any customers needing help to comply with the new rules."

CSG is one of the UK's leading providers of waste oil collection and disposal services, supporting customers across the automotive, rail, engineering, agriculture, marine, plant hire and utility sectors.

The company operates from 27 sites across the UK and is one of the largest privately-owned industrial and domestic environmental waste management groups in Britain. CSG employs more than 500 people nationally, supporting a national network of waste treatment and recovery centres.

www.csg.co.uk



Oil, Gas & Offshore News

Digital Edge Subsea

Digital Edge Subsea supplies the oil and gas industry with its digital video recording system.

The company, established more than 10 years ago, has nurtured strong customer relationships that has allowed for honest customer feedback, and this has been incorporated into the development of the Version 5 Edge DVR.

Conversations continue and now Digital Edge are pleased to be able to offer further software that will help their customers to serve their clients better.

Data Archive App

Digital Edge will soon release a data storage and back-up solution that uses an integral app within Edge architecture, to avoid needing a 3rd party app. Edge Archive handles the transfer of data from the internal DVR drives to Client storage,

either on a NAS, a Raid, or a phased delivery to multiple external hard drives.

Being a Native app, the data transfer ensures that the quality of Live recordings are not impacted by a 3rd party program trying to access the same file that the DVR app is currently using. Ensuring recorded data integrity and quality is of the highest importance.

Archive can act as a Simple data mirror of the correct internal drive data folders, or can be used to create multiple simultaneous backups of Client Deliverables. This can be done in continuous backup or a phased approach, ie. after each dive.

For more information or a demonstration of the system, contact: info@digitaledgesubsea.com or visit: www.digitaledgesubsea.com



ACE from Cargo Overseas

Your complete digital solutions to customs entries

Cargo Overseas has developed ACE, an IT solution for UK importers and exporters to process their customs declarations with one click, including automation of Irish customs entries and ENS declarations.

Currently, any UK company that imports from, or exports to, the EU is REQUIRED to complete a UK customs declaration for every shipment and if you need to import to or export from the Republic of Ireland, you are required to complete a separate Irish customs entry.

The ACE system, from Cargo Overseas, has the unique ability to run a combined joint entry automatically from one place without any duplication.

Some of the key features of the ACE dashboard are:

- Instant submission of your customs declarations through our online portal
- Simple and timely data capture
- Live status of current (and historic) customs declarations including updates back from Irish authorities as well as HMRC
- Notifications of actions required
- Associated customs documentation for ease of compliance
- Integrated searchable custom's commodity codes database

Major global household brands take advantage of this technology to process their customs declarations each day. If you would like to join them, please get in touch today and email: aceinfo@forwarding.digital or you can find out more by visiting: www.cargo-overseas.co.uk



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DIGITAL EDGE SUBSEA

www.digitaledgesubsea.com

Humidity Control: Creating the ideal environment

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Humidity Solutions as our Humidity Control Company of the Month.

Humidity Solutions a leading independent specialist in humidity control, offering a range of humidifiers and dehumidifiers from the world's leading manufacturers. "We have a highly experienced and knowledgeable team of sales and aftersales engineers who can design a bespoke solution for each unique application and supply, install and maintain the equipment throughout its life. This end-to-end solution enables us to offer unbiased advice, streamlining the process to help customers to protect their greatest assets: be that people or equipment – or both," said John Barker, Managing Director.

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



HUMIDITY SOLUTIONS Independently better

experience within the team, allows Humidity Solutions to provide a full turnkey service, from design and installation, through to commissioning and ongoing maintenance. "We are able to offer humidification and dehumidification products and advice from some of the world's leading brands including Neptronic in Canada, Vapac in the UK and Cotes in Denmark," stated John.

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. The benefits of these products provide a vital service boasting five-star reviews from previous customers such as Hot Yoga Studio, who commented, "Since the install, Hot Yoga has gone from strength to strength, and with the 'Vesuvius' now installed we have been able to offer a first-class hot yoga experience to

our clients."

Moving forward we asked John what their plans for the future are, he answered, "This year, we have big plans for growth, ensuring that we can help as many new and existing customers with their humidity control problems as we can, while maintaining our high levels of customer service. Expertise and exceptional service is what makes us a trusted and reliable partner for all humidity control projects. We've put all the foundations in place, hiring more personnel in head office and across the UK to be able to deliver full UK coverage, free site surveys and fast delivery of all new units and spares."

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Plastics & Rubber News

The UK's plastic injection moulding experts

"Not only did we celebrate our 65th birthday in 2021 but we also celebrated being named Processor of the Year at the Plastic Industry awards. Processor of the Year is awarded to a UK plastic processor who can demonstrate their overall excellence across a number of areas, business enterprise and growth, technical innovation, people development, manufacturing efficiency, customer relations and environmental concerns. In other words, an all-round world-class processor," stated Stuart Johnston, Director, Rutland Plastics.

Based in Oakham, Rutland, and serving customers from all sectors across the UK and globally, Rutland Plastics' core business is the manufacturing of plastic parts through the injection moulding process.



Established in January 1956 by Ron Smart and Don Ansell, the family run company started out with just two moulding machines and now operates with 31 machines on site. This growth comes from years of steadfast dedication to re-investment, education and the community.

Rutland Plastics offer a full range of plastic injection moulding services including design, mouldflow analysis, prototyping, mould tool making and a wide range of additional services such as machining, gluing, assembly and warehousing. "We can meet all customer requirements and needs. We offer advice with design for the manufacturing process, mould tool design and production, and of course the manufacture of plastic parts. We can also help customers who just need extra moulding machine capacity. We have the flexibility and expertise to work with customers at any stage of the manufacturing process," said Stuart.

Offering an extensive range of services, Rutland Plastics have moulding machines on site from 50 tonnes to 1,700 tonnes with product manufacturing capabilities from 1g to over 45kg in weight and 1.5m in size. "We have decades of experience of working across all sectors and this experience means we have worked with almost every type of thermoplastic,

product and tool design around," stated Stuart. All services are marked with an assurance of quality through their ISO9001, ISO13485, and ISO14001 accreditations. Furthermore, Rutland Plastics is a proud member of the BPF, GTMA and Made in Britain.

Last year, due to increasing customer

demand, Rutland Plastics moved to a 24/7 production to ensure that customer demand was met. In 2016 Rutland Plastics invested in 900 solar photovoltaic panels and has since generated over 900,000kWh. These panels contribute up to 15% of demand and the remaining electricity required is purchased through a renewable energy certificated supply. In continuation to its environmental contributions, Stuart mentioned, "We plan to increase the number of solar panels as well as purchase more energy efficient moulding machines so that we can continue to reduce our carbon footprint."

Throughout COVID-19, Rutland Plastics reacted to the demands of the medical industry. Productions were busy supplying compressed gas system components, parts for the Nightingale hospitals



and ventilators. "We also teamed up with Oakham School in making 40,000 face visors for local frontline healthcare workers which we donated free of charge," mentioned Stuart.

The mark of a truly resilient and flexible business is to overcome adversity. Thriving throughout COVID-19, Rutland Plastics has positively adapted its business operations to enable continuous growth.

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Linkwave Technologies: Wireless connectivity products

Linkwave Technologies was established in 1998 by Matt Fry and Andrew Newton. Both partners still manage and operate the business, supporting a stable and loyal customer base that has been built up over the past 20+ years.

Linkwave Technologies specialises in the distribution and integration of wireless connectivity products for a wide range of markets. Utilising its extensive experience in the field of cellular technologies, enables the company to assist businesses with their choice of wireless solution and to support them throughout a project lifecycle. Linkwave Technologies can advise on use of products in low power designs, integration of products into systems using embedded operating systems, and more.



"We look to flex our product and service offerings around the customer requirement. We can provide product only, whether module or gateway, through to complete solution including edge and cloud compute, multi-company access, UX design and device management. We also offer hardware design services to optimise integration of wireless communications into new or existing customer products.

"As an added value distributor of wireless communication, location and timing solutions, (2G/3G/4G-LTE and 5G wireless connectivity, Ethernet connectivity, Bluetooth, and Wi-Fi), we serve a range of markets in both public and private sectors for the UK and Ireland. Our supply partners are industry leaders such as Sierra Wireless, Furuno, Celerway, Panorama Antennas, 2J and Lantronix," said Chris Ryan, UK & Ireland Sales Manager.

Some of the most noteworthy innovations within the company's range includes the Lantronix G520 5G router, Celerway Arcus 5G, Sierra Wireless XR series, and Sierra Wireless Octave.



The Lantronix range is gaining a great deal of traction within the industrial sector, especially with the release of the G520 Industrial 5G router with three variants, G520 Industry, G520 Security & G520 Transport. In addition, the out-of-band solution set with ConsoleFlow and the remote access products can help ensure uptime and speed of restoration by providing a secondary path into your network, ensuring a resilient access path for routine and emergency maintenance. For example, Lantronix's ConsoleFlow platform is a single pane of glass which provides visibility and control into everything going on with your devices; and is available in SaaS, Cloud, and OnPrem versions.



The new XR series of multi-network routers from Sierra Wireless combines 5G data rates and latency with the new AirLink OS, offering a highly secure, versatile platform with highly configurable routing capabilities. These devices are suitable for both fixed and mobile applications. Linkwave Technologies currently has ongoing customer trials of the XR90 for an autonomous vehicle control application.

The Celerway Arcus 5G is able to combine two 5G modems, a 4G modem and WiFi to offer a dynamic, load-balanced VPN across and up to 7 simultaneous



WAN connections. Linkwave Technologies' clients are using the Arcus for drone applications and, coupled with a marine antenna array, the Arcus is gaining favour with the maritime/yachting industry.

We will be showcasing all of the above routers at the HillHead event in Buxton in June, planning a focus around private LTE in the industrial space.

Octave, from Sierra Wireless, is a complete edge to cloud solution, which Linkwave is employing to deliver highly secure, low-cost, industrial IoT projects. "We have deployed complex projects within very short development times, typically 3-4 months. Forrester predicts an 88% ROI on IoT projects that use Octave," added Chris.

As the company looks ahead, its supplier base continues to innovate and deliver new products and services, which are at the forefront of wireless communications. Utilising these products and services to deliver complete, comprehensive solutions to its customer base is a key differentiator for Linkwave Technologies.

Chris added, "Despite the challenges of the past two years, we are already delivering solutions in the IoT space, but we will be looking to develop our capability to deliver solutions requiring high bandwidth/low latency over public and private networks, as 5G technology becomes more mainstream. It was great to have our efforts recognised by Sierra Wireless, with the winning of the Enterprise Partner 2021 award."



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The EasyLog EL-SIE range takes data logging to the next level. Measuring ambient temperature, humidity and pressure, EL-SIE stores over 1,000,000 readings inside its sleek metal housing. Advanced new alarm options ensure you'll never miss a critical event. Viewing logged data on PC or Mac is easy, with no need to install software. Integration with EasyLog Cloud allows sharing, analysis and storage of your valuable data. EL-SIE, data logging has evolved.

www.lascarelectronics.com

The EL-SIE range

Software-free, next generation data logging from Lascar Electronics

Although Lascar Electronics has been manufacturing data loggers for over 25 years, even for the original inventors of the USB data logger, the launch of the EL-SIE range was a major event. The EL-SIE is the first in a new generation of EasyLog products that takes data logging to another level.

Capable of measuring ambient temperature, humidity and pressure, each data logger can store over 1 million readings inside the sleek metal housing. The bright and clear display shows readings and device status at a glance, and the coloured LED indicators and sounder

mean the EL-SIE can grab your attention when it needs to.

But the biggest innovation is hidden away in the device itself, the software needed to configure your logger and view, analyse and download the data is all based inside the EL-SIE itself. With nothing to install, simply connect the logger to your PC or Mac & use your existing browser.

In another breakthrough, the EL-SIE is the first USB logger that can be used with the EasyLog Cloud, giving total peace of mind about the security of your data. Once on the Cloud, the readings can be accessed from any internet-connected device, and also used with EasyLog's powerful online graphing, analysis and report generation tools.



View the range on our website. Data logging has evolved.

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High flexible industrial ethernet cables



70 years after its foundation, SAB Bröckses presents itself highly innovative as answer to the mega trends of digitisation and Industry 4.0. The company presents a range of new industrial Ethernet cables 6, 6A, 7 and 7A that are not only extremely robust but also ensure a quick and efficient data transmission.

SAB is not only a cable manufacturer but also offers support in automation technique for example in the range of new communication systems for drive technology. Herewith, the individual requirements of the customer and the long-term experience of SAB as manufacturer of highly flexible cables are combined in new products. The quick and flexible production of sample lengths is no problem at all.

The cable manufacturer focus on two Industrial Gigabit Ethernet cables that have been especially developed for the increasing data transfer in automation technique.

www.sab-cable.com

New Kontron COM-HPC® Server Module



Kontron, a leading global provider of IoT/Embedded Computer Technology (ECT), launches its first COM-HPC® Server Module COMh-sdID featuring Intel's Xeon D-2700 processors (former codename Ice Lake D). In addition, Kontron also introduces a COM-HPC® Server Evaluation Carrier.

The COMh-sdID with scalability from 4 to 20 cores and SKUs for an extended temperature range and 24/7, 10 years reliability allows very robust implementations for harsh environments and extreme conditions in a small mechanical footprint.

The module accommodates 4x DIMM sockets for a maximum of 512 GB DDR4 memory at 3200 MT/s. As storage medium, a soldered NVMe SSD onboard with up to 1 TByte storage capacity is optionally available.

With 48x PCIe lanes (32x PCIe Gen4 plus 16x PCIe Gen3 lanes) and 2x Quad LAN interfaces supporting up to 100 Gbit Ethernet, the COMh-sdID is an ideal platform for high data throughput requirements in demanding I/O and network structures.

Delivering scalable performance complemented by Intel QuickAssist Technology and AI acceleration with Intel AVX-512, the module is highly suitable for the usage in complex AI applications, high-performance network platforms and edge servers.

The Kontron COMh-Server Eval Carrier offers a complete set of standard interfaces, such as USB and SATA, as well as 8x SFP28 Ethernet interfaces; thus supporting and optimising the design-in phase of the COMh-sdID.

The Kontron COMh-sdID module and Kontron COMh-Server Eval Carrier will be available as of Q2/2022.

www.kontron.com/de/products/comh-sdid/p171860

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Alcohol testing in the workplace in under 10 seconds

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we have selected AlcoDigital as our Drug, Alcohol & COVID-19 Testing Company of the Year.

Since 2002, AlcoDigital has been one of the UK's leading experts in Bio-Testing with a strong emphasis on alcohol and drugs, but since COVID-19, has expanded its bio-testing to include antigen, antibody, PCR and saliva based COVID-19 testing. With an aim to provide industry-leading testing equipment, training and servicing, AlcoDigital work with individuals, corporations and government organisations to find the right solution to their alcohol and drug testing needs.

AlcoDigital's clients come from a wide range of industries including transport, healthcare, construction, retail and government, and because of its rich history of expertise and knowledge in the field of bio-testing, many of its clients stay with the company for many years.

Proving a difficult period for a number of businesses all over the world, COVID-19 brought with it many downfalls that left some companies in a position to never recover from.

AlcoDigital were able to side step its way through the pandemic, and despite its core customer base being left to face the brunt of the crises, Suzannah Robin, Operations Director of AlcoDigital, explained to us how the company managed to turn a bad situation into a manageable solution.

"We have over 20 years' experience in this industry and therefore were able to transition our business objectives slightly. Because our suppliers who manufacture our drug testing kits also manufacture COVID-19 testing kits, it gave us a really good income stream when many other companies were really struggling. The last 12 months have been really positive for us because with COVID-19 restrictions now dramatically reduced, the main core of our clients are now back up and running meaning our alcohol and drug testing kits within the B2B markets has increased. Overall we have been very busy, and managing workload and employee sickness has been testing, but since summer 2021 we have exceeded sales putting us in a great position going forward."



AlcoDigital UK Drug & Alcohol Safety Experts



With recent additions to staff levels, AlcoDigital has been pushing their latest product – Worksober. Worksober is a fully automated alcohol screening system that identifies employees with facial recognition technology. It enables employees to be alcohol tested remotely in less than 10 seconds and can be used as a standalone breathalyser to screen employees before entering the workplace. Alternatively, it can be connected to entrance systems such as turnstiles and electronic doors to control entry to high-risk sites.

"This was a system we launched pre COVID-19 but have been really pushing over the last 12 months. It is one of our key products and we are really keen for companies to take advantage of our trial offer to see how simple it is to integrate into the workplace. The unique selling point of the product is that it completely removes the manpower requirement out of alcohol testing in the workplace. It works solely by facial recognition and built-in RFID technology. Its fully automated with access entry and test data stored and uploaded to the cloud providing real-time system alerts via email or SMS when alcohol is detected. It has become extremely popular, and we're really excited about it," said Suzannah.

The Worksober can be mounted on a wall and used to automatically test your workforce on a daily or random basis. Being fully configurable, Worksober allows companies to test their entire workforce or

just a small, select group. It is the most intelligent automated alcohol screening system available to the UK market to date. AlcoDigital will be showcasing this device at two events this year, alongside the device manufacturer:

- ITT Hub 11-12 May 2022 Farnborough International
- FORS in Manchester – 12 July 2022

With more than half a dozen companies now using two to three units each of Worksober, getting the knowledge of the product out into the market is the company's main priority over the next 12 months. It's important to note companies can trial the product for free and if it works, then the benefits of the trail are that all the procedures and systems are already in place, and the monthly subscription takes care of the rest.

Alongside the supply of products and servicing, the main core of the business is to provide CPD accredited face-to-face and online training for drug and alcohol testing through the AlcoDigital Academy. Available to individuals, organisations and governing bodies across the UK, the training is suitable for all levels of staff who provide support to your organisation when testing for drugs and alcohol in-house. Face to face 'Workplace Training Days' are available to everyone, running at over 30 locations across the UK. The online training courses offer convenience and flexibility



while their bespoke on-site training is tailored to your company's exact drug and alcohol policies.

Being able to offer such a unique product that is exclusive to the company, AlcoDigital will continue to push both Worksober while continuing its refresher training and introducing the training of and the Worksober product to new markets.

Suzannah also mentioned another product that AlcoDigital is keen to support. "From 2025 new vehicles must have the hardware in place to support the fitting of an Interlock. Here in the UK there is no legislated requirement for these devices to be used to prevent drink-driving, therefore, we are supporting the action of this legislation to be approved here in the UK." An alcohol ignition Interlock is a breathalyser immobiliser wired into the ignition system of the vehicle. Marked as the most effective way to prevent accidents from drunk drivers, interlocks have the ability to eliminate repeat offenders, it's just a case of making voices heard so that the UK government responds and takes action.

In closing, we asked Suzannah how she felt receiving the award, she commented. "We are very honoured. We are only a small company, yet our expertise and strong knowledge means we very much hold our own against big corporations. Our personal client relationships and strong leads enable us to provide our clients with the latest technology much quicker than larger companies. This award shows we are doing something right."

For more information, see below.

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