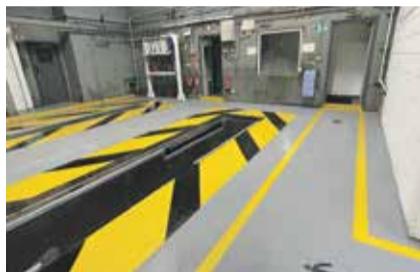


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- Functional safety: Standards update
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- Post-COVID effects on the working practices and culture in organisations
- Energy Transition - Repurposing infrastructure and pipelines for future fuels
- Creating a mentally healthy workplace

Mastering the Changes

- Managing the Competency of contractors
- Smart grids/Microgrids: Addressing the issues around control
- Uninterruptible Power Supplies
- Corporate Memory: It's time to stop making the same mistakes
- How to Build a Business Case for Net-zero

Exploiting Opportunities

- EEMUA 191: Alarm Systems
- Human Failures: The concept of open and closed loop learning
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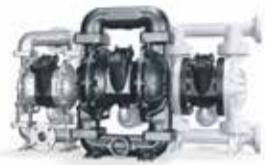
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Air Operated Double Diaphragm Pumps are compressed air driven double acting reciprocating pumps and are considered as the most versatile pumps ever made, for handling low to medium viscous liquids. As these pumps are intrinsically safe, simple, and quite easy to operate along with a wide range of advantages, diaphragm pumps are usually preferred by process engineers over electrical pumps.



SAMOA Industrial Group – A European manufacturer of positive displacement pumps has been in the forefront of developing innovative fluid management technologies over the last 65 years. Established in 1958, SAMOA Group is headquartered in Spain and operates in over 130 countries globally through its owned subsidiaries and distribution network. SAMOA® was one of the top exhibitors in CHEMUK 2022 held in NEC Birmingham and these pumps were featured in the exhibition.

With its technical know-how and rich expertise, SAMOA® has introduced the revolutionary, globally patented Universal Pivotflo Series Air Operated Double Diaphragm Pumps.

These are the largest line-up of energy efficient diaphragm pumps, which are simple, reliable and quite easy to install, operate and maintain. These pumps provide smooth flow with no vibration. The pump features a frictionless pivoting air valve which is lube-free and virtually non-wearing. Thanks to its patented technology, the pump provides a reliable low-pressure start-up and operability, with no stalling or icing issues, even whilst handling dry, damp or non-lubricated air. The pumps come smart-ready and can be upgraded for remote monitoring and control, even wirelessly from your PC or smart mobile devices. These benefits make SAMOA® a better choice for all your critical fluid transfer applications.

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Kurage and Sateco: Jointly breaking new ground for prostheses

French startup Kurage is an industry leader in combining innovative medical technology and top-class sports in a more inclusive world. It uses intelligent products to help people with limited mobility move their paralyzed limbs. One key element of their neuroprostheses is the silicone force sensor SXTSC1 from Sateco.



The sensor is integrated into the sole of a shoe and provides data on walking behavior. This information is evaluated by an AI-based algorithm that powers a system of neuromuscular electrostimulation electrodes. As a result, the system is able to reproduce functional movements in a personalized and secure manner to offset flaws in the sensomotoric performance of the movement apparatus. "We have tested many different sensors for this application," explains Rudi Gombault, CEO of Kurage. "Only the silicone force sensor delivers the signal quality that the algorithm requires to function optimally." The key is the soft structure of the sensor, which enables ideal sensor integration in the shoe, and the force distribution on the foot can be measured across a large area. As a result, an exceptionally clear signal is created. The signal is created in conjunction with the sensor's silicone material and the appropriate evaluation electronics.

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Control & Automation

ABB Robotics welcomes Expert Technologies Group to UK value provider network

- New Value Provider brings know-how and experience in key industries including automotive, aerospace and construction
- Partnership with ABB will open new opportunities for UK manufacturers to automate their applications.

ABB welcomes Expert Technologies Group (ETG) as the latest member of its UK network of Value Providers. Working closely with ABB in the UK, ETG will combine its technologies and experience with ABB's extensive portfolio of robotic solutions to help manufacturers across industries including automotive, powertrain, aerospace, medical, energy, FMCG and modular building to find new ways to boost their productivity.



Expert Technologies Group is a leading technology solution provider and manufacturer of industrial automation systems, assembly tooling, automated assembly, special purpose machinery and single and multi-robotic cells, including robotic assembly. With operations in the US, UK, Germany, Slovakia and China, ETG will both benefit from and contribute to ABB's global reach.



Growing numbers of ETG's customers

are global operators, who are increasingly demanding common solutions they can deploy across the globe. ETG has seen a rise in opportunities in new markets through its partnership with ABB, notably in electric vehicle production as manufacturers look for ways to update their production lines.

ABB's Value Provider program is comprised of a network of qualified partners each selected for their ability to extend ABB's high levels of service, expertise and access to products.

For more information, including how to become an ABB Value Provider, please visit: <https://new.abb.com/channel-partners/status/authorized-value-provider>

ABB's Robot Podcast is back for season three

Weekly panel of experts from industry, media and academia look at the cutting edge of robotics, analyzing how advances in automation are benefitting society and business, and what the future holds



With seasons one and two ranking in the top 5% of all podcasts globally in terms of listenership, The Robot Podcast from ABB returns for season three. Continuing to explore the world of robotics and automation in-depth, the series focuses on their benefits to society, industry and the environment.

The new season kicks off with episode one on October 5th and looks at how robotics and automation is making production and processes more sustainable. From food production and takeaway packaging, to construction and retail – robots are already making a big difference and have the potential to do even more in the transformative decade to come.

Each of the five episodes will focus on a particular theme, with a panel of experts and commentators discussing the role of robotics in making production and processes safer, more efficient and more sustainable. Fran Scott, a regular contributor to the BBC and Channel 4 in the UK, returns as host.

Subscribe now to The Robot Podcast wherever you get your podcasts, or via: <http://smarturl.it/therobotpodcast> and <https://global.abb/group/en/media/podcasts/the-robot-podcast>, so you never miss an episode.

If you missed season one and two, you can catch up on all previous episodes at the same link. The Robot Podcast is part of the ABB Decoded series of podcasts.

www.abb.com
www.abb.com/robotics

ABB unveils smallest industrial robot with class-leading payload and accuracy

ABB has launched its smallest ever industrial robot, offering new possibilities for faster, more flexible and high-quality production of wearable smart devices. With its compact size, class-leading payload and unrivaled accuracy, the new IRB 1010 offers electronics manufacturers the opportunity to increase their production of devices including smart watches, earphones, sensors, and health trackers through automation.



The IRB 1010 is designed to suit the narrow spaces and special purpose machines typical of electronics production environments. With a reach of 370mm and a footprint of 135mm by 250mm, the IRB 1010 is 30% smaller than ABB's current smallest robot, the IRB 120. These compact dimensions increase the number of cells that can be fitted into production spaces, enabling manufacturers to boost output through higher density factory layouts.

Capable of handling loads up to 1.5kg, the IRB 1010 has the highest payload in its class, with the ability to lift up to three times more weight than comparable robots. This increased payload capacity – coupled with a larger diameter air hose that provides added power for vacuum suction – enables simultaneous handling of multiple objects, allowing more objects to be processed per hour.

For more information, please visit:
www.abb.com/robotics

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The right all-in-one device for prelocation, pinpointing and correlation

The **SeCorrPhon AC 200** combines the characteristics of a correlator with acoustic water leak detection. This makes it an all-in-one device for leak detection, which brings together the three important functions of prelocation, pinpointing and correlation in one single, functional system. Users can react to any location scenario, even in the most challenging of conditions. Switching between the different functions or processes is simple and fast.

The **SeCorrPhon AC 200** makes structure-borne and ground-borne noises caused by leaks from water pipes audible to the human ear. The frequency spectrum is traced and made visible on the device, and the current acoustic intensity is shown as both a graph and numeric readout. The user can also see the pre-calculated volume settings and the current frequency analysis of the device on the display at all times.

To then carry out the pinpointing of the leak, the user uses the **TS 200** carrying rod and **BM 200** (for paved surfaces) or **BM 230** (for unpaved surfaces) ground microphone on the section found during the preliminary detection stage.

The **SeCorrPhon AC 200** transmits the acoustic signals and shows the intensity as a graph on the screen, pinpointing the leak with sufficient accuracy to allow confident excavation.

The acoustic features of the piezo microphone are outstanding: even the faintest of leaks or leaks occurring in noisy environments can be identified and detected. At the touch of a button, the **SeCorrPhon AC 200** will apply tailored filters to the current noises and will automatically select the appropriate frequency ranges. Filter limits can also be adjusted to accentuate the leak noise and to permit improved comparability between recordings (e.g. for use in databases or teaching/presentation purposes).

The **SeCorrPhon AC 200** is ideal for use for leak detection across all sections, materials, diameters and lengths of pipelines. Numerous additional functions are also available for complex location scenarios – whatever your leak detection requirements, this system will fulfil all of them.



Correlator and acoustic water leak detector combined

SeCorrPhon AC 200

professional – flexible – intelligent

- Easy and reliable operator guidance through applications
- Integrated audio player to compare leak noises directly on site
- Unproblematic measurement of various pipe sections, pipe materials, diameters and pipe lengths
- Sophisticated firmware allows the user an almost automated measuring process



Excellence in Laboratory Technology

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Vitl Life Science Solutions as our Laboratory Instruments & Equipment Company of the Year.



Company of the Year Award on display



Vitl Life Science Solutions is one of the leading laboratory instrument manufacturers and lab equipment suppliers in the UK. In May 2022, we announced Vitl as our Company of the Month for its extremely high-quality laboratory instrumentation. Recognising the company's achievements for the second time in 12 months, truly speaks to the quality of the organisation and the essential service that it provides to the life sciences industry.



Amanda McGowan, Technical Sales Specialist for Vitl, mentioned, "The past twelve months have been busy, but brilliant for us as a company! We attended two trade shows, Lab Innovations and MEDICA in 2021, and we will be returning to both in



November of this year. We really enjoy being able to attend these kinds of events to showcase the benefits that our products can bring to potential customers. Our current focus is new product development, and we have made substantial progress thus far. These products will amplify our existing range once they are launched. And lastly, at the start of this month, our US facility in Virginia moved into a larger premises in the Hanover Business Centre. Their new space provides them with more warehousing and better logistics options for product stock, as they continue to grow their Vitl sales in the US."

Vitl was founded by ITL (a G&H Company), an award-winning medical, diagnostic, and analytical device design and manufacturing specialists. This has allowed Vitl to benefit from over 45 years of experience in the development of high-end medical devices and in-vitro diagnostics (IVD). It is these strong roots combined with an ongoing vision to excel within and champion the industry that has enabled the company to embrace such a strong growth vision. The



last 12 months of accolades have really solidified Vitl as an exceptional business as it has remarkably continued to overshoot its own goals. "We have been completely blown away by our success in 2022 – it has been incredible! It is wonderful to see how the interest in our products has increased over the last year. We can't thank our customers enough for all the support they provide us." said Amanda.

We asked Amanda which product has excelled most recently. She said, "Our best-selling product at this moment in time is our Lu-mini, a lightweight and versatile luminometer. Its popularity has sky-rocketed due to its superb compatibility for method and assay development. By measuring light, luminometry has proven to be the next big step for large companies to increase their throughput and simplify their processes. However, the key features of a high-quality luminometer – sensitivity, reproducibility, and flexibility – are hard to come by at an affordable price. Our Lu-mini bridges this gap between quality and affordability, all while providing the perfect level of compatibility for method and assay development."

As a high-end laboratory equipment supplier, it's important to keep up to



date with current economic trends within the industry and be flexible and adaptable in its approach to better suit customer demand. Tom Ackrill, Business Development Manager, explained, "The supply and demand of electronics components is a major issue now within our industry. Components are becoming hard to find, more expensive, and as such there is increased demand on our procurement team to keep ahead of the curve. We are having to spend a lot more time than before working with our clients to make sure we understand their needs in some cases up to two years ahead of where we are today so that we can keep stock of the key components on hand. I think this is probably going to be the case for at least another 12-18 months, however the approach we're taking seems to be working well, as we have not seen any noticeable loss in on-time delivery performance, and most importantly, our clients are not going without their units!"



With new products in the works for 2023, Vitl has no plans of slowing down amidst the current economic crisis and is keen to support its customers with its growing range of high-quality products and services. "Moving forward, our plans are to focus on growing the awareness of our existing product line for more people to experience the cost-effective, high-quality products that we have available here at Vitl. After hearing the incredible feedback from our existing customers over the last year, we are extremely excited to extend our reach to assist more people within our industry." stated Amanda.



In closing, we asked Amanda how the company felt about being selected for yet another of our specialist awards. She commented, "We are so pleased to have been selected for this incredible award – it really is an honour! Our teams in the UK, USA, and China work extremely hard each day, and it is reassuring to see all our work recognised. Thank you very much for recognising Vitl Life Science Solutions as your Company of the Year 2022."



Vitl Life Science Solutions demonstrates clear understanding and a long-term commitment in providing high-quality expertise and products that have revolutionised the life science industry. The drive and ambition to continue delivering such outstanding services through these current unpredictable times within the world economy is inspiring, bold, and commendable. Recognising Vitl Life Science Solutions as a market leader brings us great pride, and as the company continues to evolve over the next 12-18 months, who knows what prestigious award may come their way next.

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Humidity in the winter

Humidity levels drop in the winter because cold air holds less moisture than warm air. Many large buildings, warehouses and factories use air handling units to ventilate and heat large areas. These units take the cold dry air from outside and convert it to warm air inside. The problem gets worse when the dry air heats as it loses even more moisture, resulting in lower relative humidity.

The Science

Relative humidity is the amount of water vapour actually in the air, expressed as a percentage of the maximum amount of water vapour the air can hold at the same temperature.

At any given moment an air molecule will hold a certain amount of moisture – more on rainy days than hot sunny days. In winter, cold outside air (whether 'wet' or 'dry') is brought inside and heated. As air heats it expands, but the actual moisture content of each molecule cannot change, and therefore the relative humidity falls.

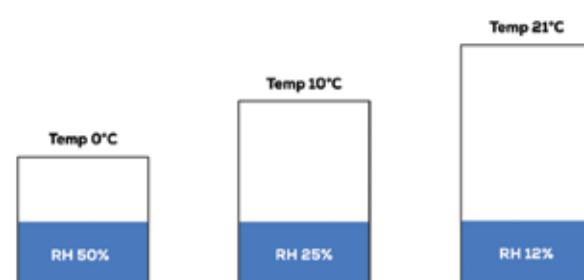
It is widely acknowledged that maintaining relative humidity levels between 40-60% significantly improves human well-being and mechanical performance. Read more to find out how low humidity effects both human and mechanical production.

How does low humidity effect our wellbeing?

Low indoor relative humidity has a negative effect on human comfort. The adult human body is typically 60% water, so in a dry environment our bodies naturally lose moisture. Unlike temperature, low humidity is more difficult to detect.

Typical symptoms include:

- Dry and itchy skin
- Cracked lips
- Dry eyes (especially for those with contact lens)
- Sore throats



- Nosebleeds
- Headaches

In addition, low relative humidity dries our mucous membranes and inhibits our body's natural defence against germs, viruses, and bacteria, making us much more vulnerable to catching common colds and flus. Maintaining relative humidity between 40-60% is scientifically proven to reduce the spread of airborne pollutants and viruses.

How does low humidity effect mechanical processes?

Moisture absorption also affects hygroscopic materials like wood and paper. The low humidity dries out these materials causing them to shrink, curl, crack or split.



When these materials pass through machines, usually at high speeds, it causes paper jams and machine breakdowns. A list of common problems is listed below:

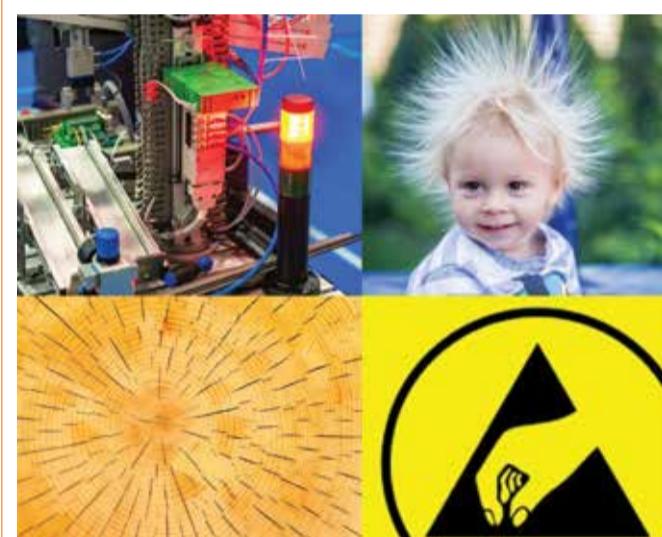
- Static electricity build-up and ESD
- Drying out of hygroscopic materials like wood and paper
- Paper jams and machine breakdowns
- Increased wastage
- Decreased productivity

The Solution

There is a wide range of humidifiers and a variety of factors to consider in selecting the right humidifier for each building or application, such as energy use, water supply, cold water or steam, gas or electric, evaporative or spray, humidifier situation, control compatibility and maintenance needs. It is therefore important to seek advice from specialists who can provide guidance and design a bespoke system that will serve each unique specification. Installation, commissioning, spare parts, ongoing service and maintenance costs also need to be considered, and a planned maintenance contract is recommended to ensure equipment is kept in good working order and the initial investment is not wasted.

Humidity Solutions have a team of experienced and highly knowledgeable engineers who can advise on a full range of applications and provide a complete turnkey solution, providing reassurance for the customer and protecting their investment in both their people and their machinery.

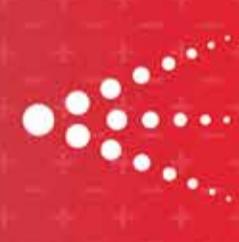
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Two new Oscilloscope Series with 12-bit vertical resolution

RIGOL Technologies has developed two new ASICs for its next generation oscilloscope. With the self-developed Centaurus ASIC chipset, RIGOL is now setting new standards and, with the HDO1000 and HDO4000 families, is launching two high-definition oscilloscope series with a vertical resolution of 12 bits.

The HDO1000 series has a sampling rate of 2 GSa/s and is offered as a 2-channel as well as a 4-channel solution in bandwidths of 70, 100 and 200 MHz. The maximum memory depth is 100 Mpts. The minimum vertical adjustment is 100 µV/DIV for the HDO4000 series and 500 µV/DIV for the HDO1000 series. Two different impedances (1 MΩ, 50 Ω) can be set for the HDO4000 series.

The two new ASICs achieve a very low noise level of approx. 18 µV_{rms} (for HDO4000) or 50 µV_{rms} (for HDO1000). As with other RIGOL oscilloscope classes, the focus here was on the combination of high sampling rate, deep memory and very high measurement speed. Even the smallest amplitude deviations can be measured thanks to the vertical resolution of 12 bits. A high-resolution mode of up to 16 bits can also be activated for both devices. This means that very high resolutions in both the horizontal and vertical areas are combined with a very deep memory, thus expanding the variety of analysis.

Typical applications include analysis such as switching performance measurements in the power domain,



automated tests in factories, protocol analysis for serial buses in vehicle electronics, electronic circuit measurements, applications in development and many more.

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The TEL 15N & TEL 15WIN are two series of isolated 15 Watt converters which come in an ultra compact DIP-16 metal package. The design purpose of these series was to miniaturised low power DC/DC converters to the maximum without sacrificing high efficiency. They solidify the new standard for power density with 4.51 W/cm³ and effectively double the power density compared to 15 Watt converters in DIP-24 packages.

The TEL 15N and TEL 15WIN offer wide 2:1



CB
Scheme
UL 62368-1 IEC 62368-1

or 4:1 input voltage ranges respectively and feature a high efficiency of up to 88% which enables an operation temperature of up to +55°C at full load and up to 85°C with 50% load. For extended temperature requirements, a version with a fully integrated heatsink casing is available allowing the converter to operate up to +70°C without derating. The converters also have an internal input filter to comply with conducted emission standard EN 55032 class A. Overall they feature an economical solution for space critical and cost sensitive applications in instrumentation, IT and industrial electronics.

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PanelPilotACE Display: Emergency Disinfection Units



Evergreen UV, a Tennessee-based manufacturer of air disinfection products that eliminate biological pathogens, overcame the need to introduce digital HMIs as a means of redesigning their EDU (Emergency Disinfection Unit). Their solution was Lascar's PanelPilotACE.

Derrick Sears, CTO at Evergreen UV, said, "The traditional, manual timers were both very hard to set and their accuracy would diminish." However, he praised the PanelPilotACE's intuitive interface and user-friendliness, as well as its many notable, built-in, features "We wanted the EDU to be able to monitor motion sensors, have the ability to log data, and offer alarms" all of which the PanelPilotACE is capable of doing.

Evergreen UV's EDU uses the 4.3" PanelPilotAce model (7" version is available) which Sears claims is the 'most integral part' of the EDU as a whole, not least because it allows users to set a delayed start time, run time, log data, and get notifications of when the EDU's UV lamps need to be replaced.

The PanelPilotACE Design Studio, has also given Evergreen UV something to smile about. Not only is it free, but, thanks to its drag-and-drop usability, it slashed project development times, which for a company like Evergreen UV who were working on at least eight different design versions, is a big step forward.

The overall success of the PanelPilotACE's introduction to Evergreen UV was such that they put it to use in other projects within the organisation. One of which involved using the PanelPilotAce on a disinfecting device to control eight sets of UV bulbs so that they each burned evenly, alerting the user when one is burned out or needs to be replaced based on how much life it had left.

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Why heater design is key in the abatement of waste gases



Semiconductor fabrication creates a number of waste gases, which can be corrosive, pyrophoric and potentially explosive. Often, diluting these gases with nitrogen (N₂) is an early step in the abatement process to make sure the gases stay below the lower explosive limit (LEL) or reduce corrosive effects. However, the use of nitrogen can cause condensation and deposits, as well as leak out of the system. Here, Rob Johnston, Director of the end user business segment at industrial electric heater manufacturer Watlow, explains how this can be prevented.

Abating hazardous gases

One way to abate hazardous gases in process exhaust streams is to dilute them using a less harmless gas. In semiconductor fabrication, nitrogen gas is often used because it is readily available and effective at diluting more hazardous gases prior to other abatement steps.

A good example of this solution can be seen with potentially explosive gases, such as hydrogenated gases. These gases have an explosive range, a specific range of gas concentrations where explosion is likely to occur. Gas concentrations must be kept below the lower explosive limit (LEL), which is the minimum concentration of gas needed to reach this explosive range. But mixing with nitrogen lowers the ratio, making the gas too lean to pose an explosion risk.

For more information about the FLUENT® heater, go to: www.watlow.com

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ION Science formally receives Queen's Award for Enterprise



Persons left to right: Steve Newcomb: Operations director/Deputy managing director, Jennifer Crompton: High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, Duncan Johns: Managing director, Mrs Julie Spence OBE QPM, HM Lord: Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire & Christopher Walkinshaw DL: Deputy Lieutenant

Global gas sensing manufacturer, ION Science has been presented with one of the most prestigious business excellence awards in the UK, endorsing the commercial success of ION's innovative Sensor technology.

ION Science formally received the Queen's Award for Enterprise, in the category of Innovation, at a corporate ceremony on Wednesday 5th October involving local dignitaries at its global headquarters in Cambridgeshire.

The accolade was announced back in April before the recent passing of Her Majesty the Queen, recognising the quality, reliability, and success of the MiniPID Sensor and ION's dedication to developing and producing new technologies that offer unparalleled VOC detection, helping to protect lives and preserve the environment.

VOC sensors are used extensively worldwide in applications where the rapid, accurate detection of hazardous gases is critical to safeguarding workers, the public and the environment. These include oilrigs, gas refineries, pharmaceutical manufacturing plants, semiconductor factories, laboratories, nuclear facilities, and air quality monitoring.

Capable of withstanding relative humidity up to 99% (non-condensing), temperatures of -40 to +65°C, and with an anti-contamination design, the MiniPID sensor range offers 10,000 hours of reliable detection, making it ideal for long-term monitoring. They 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 virtually 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.

Dignitaries at the event included HM Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Julie Spence OBE QPM; the Deputy Lieutenant, Christopher Walkinshaw DL; the High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, Jennifer Crompton; Lord-Lieutenant Cadet, Georgia Pescod; and South Cambridgeshire local MP, Anthony Browne.

The visitors took the opportunity to tour the eco-friendly, state-of-the-art facility including its in-progress works of the research & development centre to support company growth and employment where scientific work will continue to drive further innovation across the business. They then presented the Queen's Award to ION Science managing director Duncan Johns and Steve Newcomb, the company's operations director and deputy managing director.

Duncan Johns explained, "To receive the Queen's Award for Enterprise recognises the unrelenting efforts of our team in developing the now award-winning PID gas sensors, offering the market high quality and reliable results. We never stop innovating and our team continues to push the boundaries in sensing technology."

"Our guests were impressed by what they saw when they visited the growing headquarters in Cambridgeshire – as a business we continue to invest in our future and our people."

To learn more about ION Science, please visit: <https://ionscience.com/en>

Pulsar R80: Setting new standards for non-contact radar

Introducing the Pulsar® Model R80 – 80GHz FMCW Radar Level Transmitter with FMCW technology and an 80GHz operating frequency for superior performance, smaller antennas and enhanced accuracy.

The Pulsar R80 brings a sophisticated simplicity to Magnetrol's best-in-class radar portfolio. Furthermore, Magnetrol's configuration wizards and proactive diagnostics make commissioning and troubleshooting easier than ever. As with all Magnetrol loop-powered devices, the transmitter head may be separated from the antenna without disrupting the process seal.

The Model R80 is minimally affected by turbulence, foam, or excessive vapours, often the downfall of ultrasonic

transmitters and some radar products. The smaller antennas and narrower beam angles allow it to be installed into vessels with smaller process connections and those with internal obstructions that must be avoided.

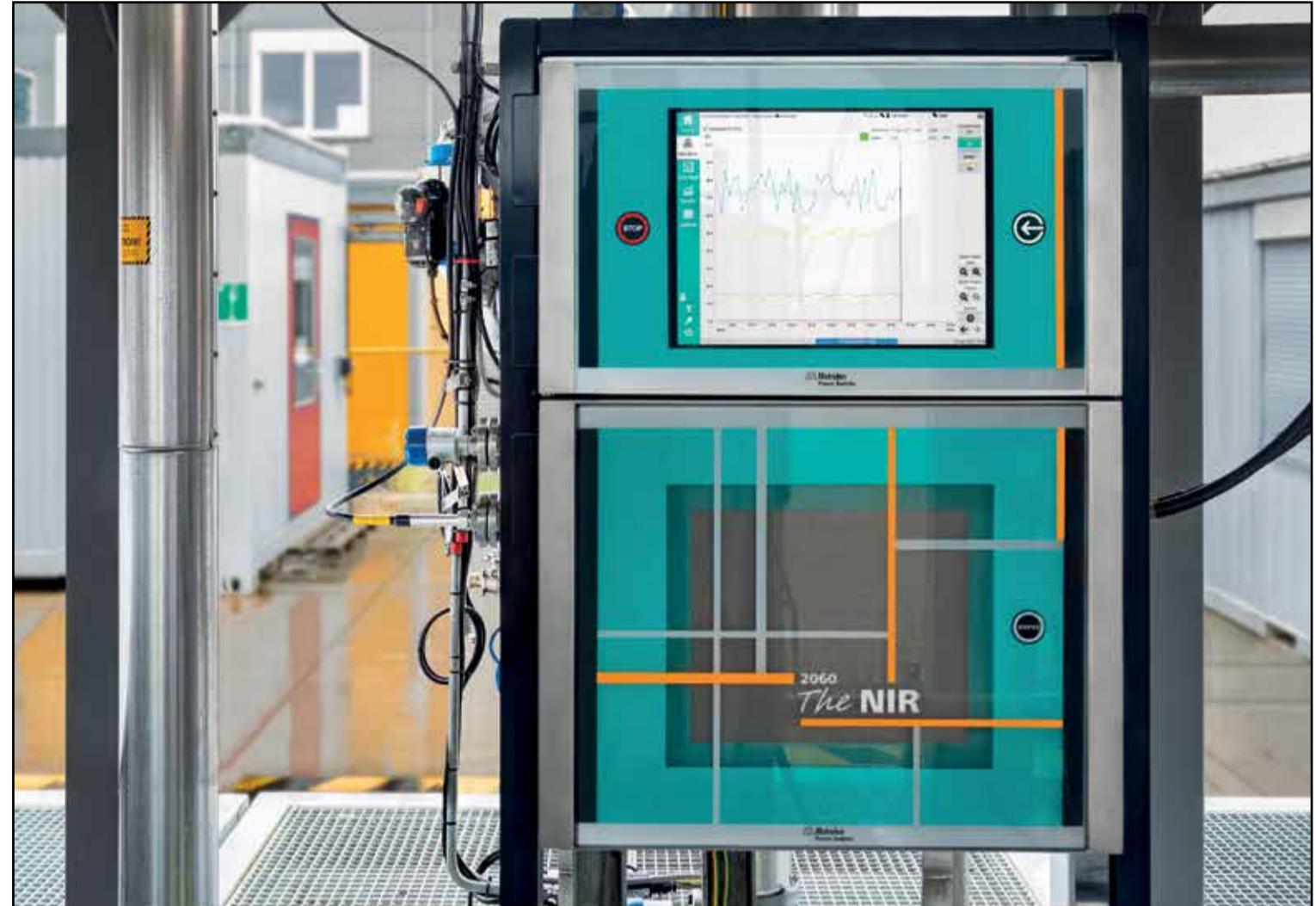
Key Features:

- Multivariable two-wire, 24 VDC loop-powered transmitter for level, volume, or flow
- 80GHz signal with beam angles as narrow as 4 degrees
- Process connections down to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch NPT
- Measuring range of 30 meters (100 feet)
- Proactive diagnostics and troubleshooting tips
- Transmitter head replaceable without breaking process seal
- SIL 2 compliant with 92.3% SFF



■ Global hazardous area approvals
■ FCC, ETSI, and ISED communication approvals for use on both indoor and outdoor vessels.

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Load Cell, Torque and Pressure Sensor Specialist – People and Products you can trust

Interface is an internationally recognised brand and decades of experience have gone into making Interface manufactured load cells the benchmark for thousands of users around the world, and Interface Force Measurements was established in 1996 by Neil Johnstone.

Based in Crowthorne, Berkshire, and covering the whole of the UK, Interface Force Measurements was originally established as the exclusive UK distributor for the well-known Interface Inc load cells. Since then, the company has expanded its product range into associated electronics, data collection, torque and pressure sensors and XSensor pressure mapping systems. All of these products complement one another as they are often supplied to the same customers, and the company also offers calibration and repair services to support its products.

As specialist force, torque and pressure sensor suppliers, Interface product reliability is second to none and all of its product lines have to match the highest standards. Early in 2022, the company launched an E-commerce site, store.interfaceforce.co.uk from which customers can purchase load cells from the Interface G-series of small form factor load cells at competitive prices.

The store includes detailed photos, which you can zoom in on, a wide product range, product descriptions and Google Pay options. While many companies in the industry are seeing lead times extend, the target of Interface is to supply small volume orders from stock on a next-business-day delivery promise.



products. These products are designed for an international buyer and user, and all specifications are in metric specs, a global standard for force measurement products.

Distributors of Interface have direct competition in market for force measurement solutions, as competitors are manufacturing in regions outside of US, soaking up short-term demands. Interface Global provides a benefit of near market production, shortening the time and cost to receive quality Interface products. Interface Global presents a new opportunity to brand solutions for a global audience.

Into this saturated marketplace, Interface load cells and torque sensors have a hard-won reputation for reliable, accurate and repeatable test results. The range of pressure sensors and pressure mapping systems from industry leaders GP50 and XSensor back this reputation. Interface also has a very wide customer base, from research and development engineers and designers in the aerospace, automotive, and autosport

The latest range of force measurement sensors, the G-Series Industrial Load Cells and Load Buttons are a range of miniature and small sensors for industrial applications. Capacities for the Interface G-Series Industrial Load Cells start from just 4.5N Newton up to 200kN with metric threads, and these fully stainless-steel load cells offer an environmental protection rating of IP64 or better.

interface
FORCE MEASUREMENT SOLUTIONS.



industries, to production control engineers, renewable and alternative energy and university engineering departments and students.

Interface is the world's trusted leader in technology, design and manufacturing of force measurement solutions. Its clients include a 'who's who' of the aerospace, automotive and vehicle, medical device, energy, industrial manufacturing, test and measurement industries.

Interface engineers around the world are empowered to create high-level tools and solutions that deliver consistent, high-quality performance. These products include load cells, torque transducers, multi-axis sensors, wireless telemetry, instrumentation and calibration equipment.

As it looks to the future, Interface is developing solutions for remote monitoring which involve both Bluetooth and GSM-based solutions via a phone app. This will offer the ability to monitor sensors from almost anywhere.

For more information, please see below:
T +44 (0)1344 776666
info@interface.uk.com
www.interfaceforce.co.uk



Precision instruments manufacturer locks on Cloud to drive growth

Physik Instrumente Group (PI), which specializes in producing precision instruments, has chosen to implement Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise to advance its growth strategy fuelled by unified, standardized data management harnessing the potential of AI/ML in a multi-tenant ERP cloud.

Infor had been a partner of PI since 2006 and due to the long-standing, trusted partnership, PI chose Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise, a multi-tenant, highly scalable cloud platform for next-generation enterprise resource planning,

powered by Amazon Web Services (AWS). CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise is specifically tailored to the needs and requirements of manufacturers. Key assets include the ability to standardize and optimize business processes in a way only a true multi-tenant cloud-offering can, whilst ensuring round-the-clock availability of all systems and continuous live updates to the most current version.

"We are a long-standing partner of Infor and are understood – and this is the crucial aspect for us," says Florian Geistdörfer, Chief Operating Officer of Physik Instrumente Group. "Infor



CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise is therefore not just a software package, but an elementary component of our corporate group that supports us in achieving our ambitious growth targets."

For more information, please visit: www.infor.com or www.physikinstrumente.com/en

New E-commerce site from Interface Force Measurements



Interface Force Measurements, suppliers of the popular and whisper-quiet 1,200 precision series load cells are 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> 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.

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Purchase our G-Series at store.interfaceforce.co.uk or visit www.interfaceforce.co.uk

Maximising manufacturers efficiencies, productivity, and profitability



In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Optimas Solutions as our Fasteners and Components Company of the Month.

Optimas Solutions, a global distributor and manufacturer of fasteners, components and industrial supplies was founded around this simple objective: efficiency, the term now a part of the company's slogan.

Optimas is owned by American Industrial Partners (AIP), a private equity firm that boasts a portfolio comprising many innovative, world-leading manufacturing and technology businesses. Following investment by AIP in 2015, Optimas was formed in a carve out from Anixter Fasteners. While the company name maybe unfamiliar to some, Optimas has a rich heritage and legacy that dates back over 100 years.

In 2022, Optimas has a truly global footprint, with offices and distribution throughout the UK, America,



While inventory management is far from a new concept, fasteners and components can be subject to varying rates of consumption and excess stock can negatively affect cash flow. Tried-and-true methods, backed by advances in technology, give customers greater foresight, demand planning and real-time access to accurate automated data. This yields significant time and cost savings, ultimately providing unparalleled efficiencies.

The ability to easily identify demand vs capacity and highlight potential production bottlenecks via Kanban is of the utmost importance; particularly as soaring inflation levels are causing economic pain for so many businesses.

Beyond the company's products and services Optimas brings new meaning to the term, Full-Service Provider (FPS). Demonstrating an all-encompassing approach to boosting partner efficiencies, Optimas has its own modern, fully equipped quality labs and fastener engineering team. This engineering expertise helps to prototype designs, streamline customer Bill of Materials, identify part proliferation, and ultimately uncover significant cost savings. This pairing of engineering and quality allows the company to work with customers



support is on-hand from design stage to production with the singular goal of analysing and streamlining the customers' Bill of Materials through part assortment analysis, consolidating SKUs and product re-engineering – finding the right solutions to save costs."

Optimas are also heavily involved in construction, agriculture, renewables, marine and truck and bus where customers rely on Optimas' deep industry and manufacturing expertise to create custom-tailored programs to help them streamline their production and reduce risk.

In more recent times, Optimas has made substantial investments in software tools including NetSuite and



Toolsgroup to not only increase its own efficiencies and those of their customers, but to further increase and automate its forecasting and demand planning for those customers. These investments are global initiatives, and ones that will ultimately benefit customers by ensuring unrivalled supply accuracy.

Sustainability is also crucial to Optimas as it moves forward, and each of its UK facilities are now powered by renewable energy. This initiative will be rolled out to the company's global facilities over the coming months as a part of a core strategy to become carbon neutral.

Simon concluded, "We're now finding that many existing and potential customers are looking to partner exclusively with businesses who can back up their eco-friendly credentials, and so for the remainder of 2022 and into 2023, sustainability will be a significant priority for Optimas as we continue to participate in and promote sustainability in manufacturing."

For more information, please visit:
<https://international.optimas.com>



China, India, Japan, Turkey, and France supported by a network of over 4,000 suppliers. The company's UK headquarters in Gloucester is bolstered by several distribution facilities in all corners of the country while in the heart of the midlands is Optimas' cold form manufacturing plant. Optimas is the only industrial fastener supplier with its own manufacturing facilities on both sides of the Atlantic and as global supply chains buckle, onshoring and nearshoring have never been more important.

Amongst a diverse portfolio of industrial products, Optimas specialises in supply chain solutions for manufacturers seeking to improve both efficiency and profitability. The company's advanced data driven OptiTech Vendor Managed Inventory systems (VMS) simplify sourcing and mitigate risks that are so often inherent within supply chains. These systems ensure that customer parts are delivered at the right place, at the right time, while also reducing total cost of ownership by allowing their partners to consolidate their vendor base.



from the initial research and development stage through to the production line.

Director Business Development, UK and Marketing, International, Simon Wright, told us, "Optimas excel in maximising customer profitability and productivity through vendor consolidation, securing supply chains through our vast distribution network and allowing UK and American customers to onshore supply with our cold form manufacturing and engineering expertise."

Optimas deals with manufacturers in almost every industry but is primarily known as a leading supplier to the automotive sector, supplying fasteners and components to OEMs and Tier 1s on a global basis.

Simon continued, "The automotive industry is evolving at pace to adapt to the changes in technology and the push for electrification has ignited and inspired a new generation of automotive builders. Our engineering



Our proven process: How UNISIG leverages experience & expertise to solve customer challenges

For over 40 years, we've helped our customers achieve success in deep hole drilling, providing them with the machines, automation and support they need to be competitive and profitable.

We have found that the initial energy we and our customers spend at the beginning of a quoting process pays off throughout the entire project, from inception to installation. We take a systemised approach not only during this critical phase but also throughout the entire sales process. This ensures there are no surprises and that our customers know



exactly what they can expect when starting discussions with UNISIG about their gundrilling and deep hole drilling needs.

This is our approach at UNISIG:

1. We listen to our customers, ask questions and understand what they need.

This may seem obvious, but often the temptation is there to just skip to a quote because we think we know what is needed after a brief discussion. Sometimes that is true, when the application is straightforward and familiar, or it is something we have a packaged solution for. We always try



to make the quoting process quick and efficient, but there are times when the application deserves a more in-depth conversation. Our salespeople and engineers listen very carefully and often pick up on small details – a specific tolerance, material condition, process requirement or a future need for flexibility – that may change our recommendations.

When it makes sense, our experienced sales team or engineers will visit a customer to see what is needed firsthand. Whether a site visit or just a virtual meeting, this initial investment of time to clarify the need saves the customer money and provides them a truly valuable solution.

2. We first identify a standard solution from our product line that can be applied at the lowest cost and shortest delivery possible.

At UNISIG, our product development mindset is to systemise solutions from our experience in many different industries, make them automation ready and embed application flexibility whenever possible. We invest millions of dollars annually in our product line and related spare parts, giving us a strong starting point for new applications. Our standard product line encompasses much more than machines, including standard automation, workholding, accessories and tooling that we can offer as part of the solution.

Once we have identified a standard machine as a starting point, our engineers seek out smart, practical ways to meet the customer's application needs. The goal is to innovate within the machining operation planning, work holding or automation, as opposed to engineering a completely special solution without first exhausting opportunities to solve problems with standard products.

For our customers, this approach provides them a reliable, standard machine that can be used for many years and that has the built-in flexibility for easy re-tooling to adapt to future needs. For us, initially working within the boundaries of our catalogue cultivates new ideas that can then be applied to improve our standard products as well as help us direct future research and development budgets.

3. If a standard solution isn't available, we consider a customised solution and we stand behind it.

UNISIG is very good at building customised machines, and we do so often. Once we and our customers agree that a special solution is needed, we move forward with a great deal of confidence and experience. We start by evaluating how we might approach the design using standard modules or proven concepts, thus eliminating long debug cycles and/or high costs. Then we use our mechanical and electrical engineering disciplines to virtually test the new machine before we build it.

One of the key reasons our customers are confident moving forward with a UNISIG custom machine is that they know we will stand behind it and that we have substantial capabilities to ensure it always exceeds their production expectations. We approach these special projects with the mindset that a custom machine will be used for decades in production, which is why we provide the same documentation and long-term technical support for all our machines whether standard or custom.

4. If a commodity solution is readily available, we recommend that rather than upsell a machine the customer doesn't need.

We build machines that can gundrill or BTA drill deep holes that are impossible to drill on machining centres. Even if it may be possible to drill some deep holes on a CNC machining centre, our machines have the power, speed, dimensional accuracy, spindle density, coolant systems and process control that will improve productivity, tool life and reliability.

Typically, though, when a customer comes to UNISIG with a specific part need, at that point they've most likely already struggled with a conventional machine and realised that a deep hole drilling machine is obviously the way to go.

However, our team knows how to identify whether or not an application would truly benefit from a UNISIG solution. When it wouldn't, we will suggest viable alternatives. It's not that we don't want to sell a machine. But the fact is that our experience has shown that at some point the alternative-solution direction becomes obvious, and we want to make that apparent early on in the process so as to avoid wasting a lot of our customer's time.

Our customers expect the best from us, and we believe that our proven process ensures we never disappoint. Our goal is to leverage our core values to serve our customers as best we can and build strong, productive relationships for years to come.

Please contact us at: www.unisig.com

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DEEP HOLE DRILLING SYSTEMS

The world's first 100% recycled white plastics flooring systems

Abacus Flooring Solutions has received a number of awards and accolades over such a short time and its award portfolio boasts many remarkable achievements for the company and all involved. As recent short listers for not one but two awards at the FeRFA, The Resin Flooring Association Awards 2022 for The Small Industrial Project Award and The Small Commercial Project Award, the company is set for a fantastic future. Going above and beyond for every single customer, both in terms of service and quality of work delivered is obviously paying off and Nick Megson, Managing Director at Abacus Flooring Solutions only had positive things to say about their success.

"We are consistently searching for the highest levels of customer care every day and, on every project, and the awards we have won over the years is a great reflection of the work undertaken to entrench our position as an outstanding resin flooring specialist."

For over 30 years, Nick has been involved in installing industrial resin flooring across a wide range of commercial and industrial environments. It's this experience that has ensured its market leading position, offering the latest products, technologies & bespoke solutions to its customers. "We have built up a fantastic portfolio across all industries, however, the British Manufacturing Industry will always be a key sector for us," stated Nick.

Nick joined the industrial resin flooring industry in 1989, working for resin manufacturers and resin flooring contractors where he gained a great deal of knowledge and experience in both parts of the industry. Over his

career, Nick has worked tirelessly to promote sustainability and the diversion of trade waste from being sent to landfill. After winning the industry's first environmental award in 2005, Nick went on to receive a number of other awards, with three of those being bestowed

at the Houses of Parliament. Nick established Abacus Flooring Solutions in July 2020, to offer resin flooring solutions across the UK. The company has enabled Nick to continue striving towards delivering environmentally friendly systems as all Abacus flooring systems are manufactured using up to 48% post-consumer recyclates. The company has grown quickly over the past two years, to which its employees and customers have contributed greatly towards. "Caring, Service, Future. We care for our employees, sub-contractors, and customer's needs. We offer a service where each member of our customer care team is trained to not leave customers waiting and will return quotations within 24 hours. We will endeavour to continue to build a business that we can leave for the next generation, so they all have a future," stated Nick.

Based in Leicestershire, Abacus Flooring Solutions is geographically best placed to reach customers from all over the country. Being able to offer such a unique service underpins the reason why customers stay with the company for many years. "I believe our continued customer service is quite unique, moreover, I'm proud to state we are the only company in the world who can offer a flooring system made using 100% recycled white plastic. That fact really sets us apart from any competition," said Nick.

Nick researched and designed a floor screed that can be used in the resin flooring industry, which instead of using silicone aggregates, is made from recycled white plastics. Compared to silicone aggregates, its less eco-friendly alternative, Abacus's recycled solution instead creates an epoxy self-smoothing screed that works extremely effectively and is made from items such as toilet seats and light switches. By using white plastics otherwise destined for landfill, Abacus were able to form a screed, which has since revolutionised the industry.

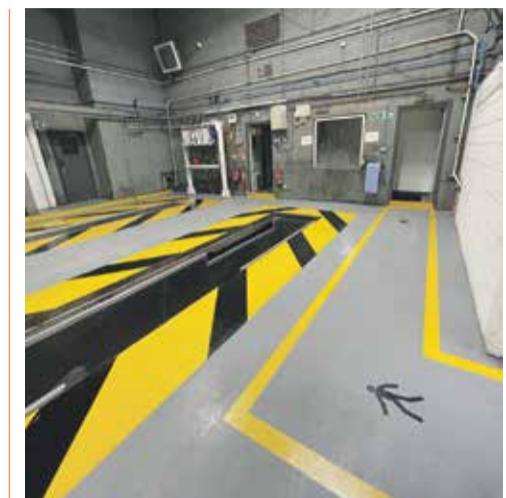
Marked as a world first innovation and a very proud landmark for Nick and his team, sustainability will always remain at



the heart of the company. "As the Industry Ambassador for Recycling since 2005, and a Director of our Industry Governing Body, FerFA, I feel I provide a large amount of my time helping and advising, marking the company as a real asset to our industry," stated Nick.

Starting the business only four months into COVID-19, Abacus Flooring Solutions has gone above and beyond just survival and has surpassed with evident ongoing growth. From such turbulent times however, Nick believes the company has learnt some valuable lessons that have evidently been reflected through its recent success. "Starting the business only four months into the biggest pandemic known, meant we could sympathise with customers and learn to be patient. I feel that COVID-19 has made everyone a bit more patient and understanding."

Abacus Flooring Solutions offer a resin floor installation that you can rely on. From preparation to installation and after care, its team of highly skilled and fully trained professionals are on hand to provide the advice and value required from initial contact through to a complete after care service. From supplying coloured, high build coatings for light



manufacturing areas, to busy, pedestrian filled food halls in retail environments, resin flooring can be applied to a range of industries.

Abacus Flooring Solutions offer a full range of different systems from coating through to screeds that are specific to the environment to which it will be installed into. What's so unique about its flooring system is that it uses recycled plastic in lieu of quarried materials, which are good, safe materials that would usually just be going to Landfill. This sustainable system negates the need to dig up more land when looking for minerals to be used in the flooring. However, customers can certainly expect more than just a delivery of a resin floor.

Nick has served on the Resin Flooring Association (FeRFA) Council for a number of years, making him uniquely placed in the industry to bring a wealth of knowledge and invaluable experience to every project. In closing, we asked Nick what the plans for the business were going forward, he answered, "To build the business so it is sustainable whereby 50% of the business can be employee owned."

If you are looking to improve your working environment, get in touch below:
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Health & Safety

Safety Showers: Are your workers properly trained?

Imagine a work setting with all the latest and greatest safety showers and eyewash stations located within 10-15 seconds of a potential hazard.



Whilst this scenario depicts a facility well equipped to handle an exposure crisis, the question still remains: Are your employees adequately trained to use the safety showers and eyewashes properly and successfully in the event of an emergency?

Repeated experience with operating safety showers and eyewash stations will help emergency response become second nature.

All safety shower units should be visually inspected and activated weekly to flush the line and verify proper operation.

Workplaces and workers are notoriously busy, and schedules are tight, but wouldn't this weekly test and inspection be a good time to actively keep your workers educated and aware of equipment's purpose and function?

Another training suggestion is using role-play techniques to help employees mentally and physically work through processes when faced with an emergency.

It is important to remember that your equipment cannot do the job on its own – it must be operated and trained by individuals.

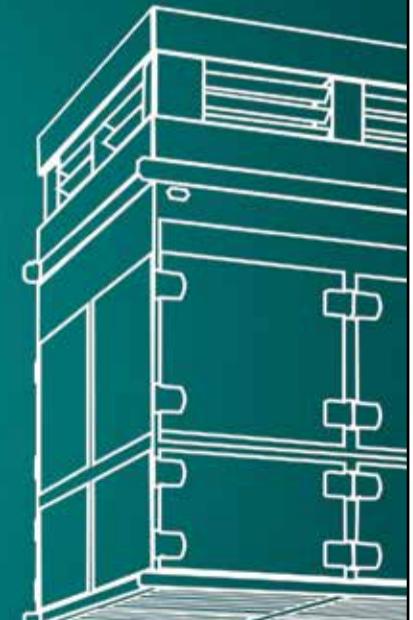
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Additive Fusion Technology for continuous fibre composite parts



In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are proud to announce 9T Labs as our Carbon Composites Additive Manufacturing Company of the Year.

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

9T Labs aspires to mass-produce high-performance composites as easily as metals. This is done by automating and digitizing the production workflow of composite production at the most innovative companies.

The company sets out to provide an all-in-one solution to help its customers radically ramp up their composites series production and turn their series production ideas into production cases within months – not years.

9T Labs built a software as a service suite, powered by integrated FEA simulation tools that quickly comes up with highly optimised designs. Then it combines additive manufacturing with advanced post processing technology to enable serial manufacturing of structural composite parts.



The last twelve months for 9T Labs, has been about upscaling the organisation with regards to the technology, the market, and the people's side. This has taken a number of forms, beginning with the company delivering its Red Series manufacturing solution to customers – with this unique software, clients are able to design the fibre path in any way imaginable.

9T Labs also announced the closing of a \$17 million Series A funding round, that will be harnessed to support the commercialisation of the Red Series Additive Fusion Solution as well as to expand internationally. Stratasys and Solvay Ventures are among the key investors, with contributions also coming from Verve Ventures, ACE & Company, Zürcher Kantonalbank and Wingman Ventures.

Head of Marketing & Business Development, Yannick Willemain commented, "The Red Series solution received the Red Dot Design Award in its category, and we have hired new and very talented people onto our team to develop this work, meaning that we now have over 60 employees."

The Red Dot Award has aimed to appraise diversity in the field of design for more than 60 years, from businesses that distinguish their activities through appealing and conceptual ideas



The Red Series is a standout in aesthetic design, while delivering prolific innovation for advanced composites in the field of additive manufacturing (AM). It is able to create continuous fibre-reinforced polymer components that weigh up to 80% less than traditional metal parts while increasing product strength significantly. These benefits are delivered while being cost competitive vs. metal benchmark parts and 9T Labs' Red Series has been granted with the Efficient Solution Label from the Solar Impulse Foundation. This label shows that this technology supports the goal to reduce the environmental impact of manufacturing.

The Red Series Additive Fusion Technology, includes a design software, a build module (3D printer), and a Fusion Module (compression moulding machine). This offers a simple and cost-effective way to design and manufacture functional composites.



Clients can design even their most advanced parts with help of 9T Labs Fibrify® software, which enables the user to quickly define the fibre designs and fully optimise them by directly exporting the composite parts to commercially available FEA simulation packages for verification of their structural ability. This means that for the first time, true 3D fibre orientation allows the client to design applications which have not been possible to manufacture in composites before.

The company obviously found going to market with so many new innovations – software, hardware, materials – an interesting but exciting challenge! Yannick continued, "As a startup, we set ourselves ambitious goals and certainly learned crucial lessons, which have allowed us to challenge and optimise our processes. By implementing these learnings in an efficient manner with a team of talented people, we are on a good path but certainly have the motivation to go for more."



As part of the upscaling process, 9T Labs have appointed a dedicated person for HR and for finances to its leadership team, and it also implemented foundations for the organisation to scale with functional



groups, and adapted management structures, and proper processes to ensure the sustainability and consistency of the business.

Two months ago, 9T Labs opened a new office in Boston, USA, and this first office in the United States will allow the country's latest minds and innovators in structural composites the opportunity to learn about and experience the Swiss company's unique advancements in composite



additive manufacturing. The first US team members will be signed in the coming weeks, with the following employees travelling to Zurich, Switzerland to train with the technology at 9T Labs' headquarters.

Upon receiving the Company of the Year award from Industrial Process News, Yannick concluded, "We are aiming to be recognised as the company who has defined a game-changing design and manufacturing standard. On the way to this goal, our team certainly always appreciates being recognised for what has already been achieved, and this award is very much appreciated and confirms that we are on the right path. It gives the opportunity to celebrate what has been achieved, reflect, and to move forward with additional motivation."

For more information, please see below:
T +41786656970
info@9labs.com
www.9labs.com



Pumps & Valves

Oliver Hydcovalves are hydrogen ready



Oliver Hydcovalves manufactures valves for hydrogen and carbon capture applications that support the Net Zero Emissions Targets of industrial users.

Innovation and manufacturing of high precision quality valves has earned Oliver a global reputation as the market-leader in Instrumentation, Transportation, Pipeline and Subsea valves. Research and development are a fundamental part of our success and dedicated testing facilities in Knutsford, England, has enabled us to once again be an industry first to qualify our ball valve with hydrogen. The valve was designed and tested to Oliver Hydcovalves own qualification standard that incorporates the requirements of ISO 15848-1 and was then verified by a third-party with hydrogen.

The future is now, change is constant and we embrace new ideas and ways of operation. This is why our R&D engineering team is comprised of long-term employees that know the industry, supported by new generations of engineers through our apprenticeship programme and university graduates, who all share



a common motivation: to be the best at what we do. Test facilities include a hyperbaric chamber that's capable of testing valves to an equivalent water depth of 13,600 ft. designed for subsea applications such as carbon dioxide storage, enhanced well recovery and subsea hydrogen storage.

Valves we have available for hydrogen application now include transportation valves qualified in three bore sizes to meet the requirements of ISO 19880-3 and pipeline valves that are metal-seated, endurance tested to over 400 cycles and after which remain rated with zero leakage.

The growing demand for green and more sustainable energy such as hydrogen makes it a natural step forward for Oliver Hydcovalves. Drawing on five decades of manufacturing and engineering expertise in the supply of topside and subsea valves to the oil, gas and petrochemical industries, it puts us firmly out in front to meet this new demand for hydrogen energy.

To find out how class-leading research and development facilities and our engineered-to-order solutions are energising the hydrogen valve market, contact Nick Howard or Rob Porter in the following ways: telephone: +44 (0)1565 632636, email: sales@valves.co.uk or online: www.valves.co.uk



Oliver Valves supporting Gulf of Thailand Project

Progressing through our manufacturing factory in Knutsford, England are a large number of double block and bleed instrumentation valves for the fitment to topside platforms on the PTTEP Bundle 3 Project in Thailand, ordered by Thai Nippon Steel.

Operated by Thailand's national oil company PTTEP, the bundled phase 3 project is a long-term, large-scale contract to construct 40 Wellhead Platforms and subsea pipelines for oil and gas development and to support operations in the Gulf of Thailand. Meticulous effort from our Asia Pacific team based in Kuala Lumpur and the close working relationships they have with the customer and end-user secured the order for Oliver Valves.

Oliver's Asia Territory Manager, Jarret Liew explains their winning approach, "Customers rely on having strong

communication and relationships with suppliers and want confidence that valves are manufactured to the highest quality and safety standards. At Oliver Valves, we ensure a smooth procurement process and pay particular attention to the customers' needs including valve application, specification, material and cost. We have been the global leader in supplying topside and instrumentation valves for nearly 5 decades. The expertise of our team means that we're well positioned to continue to provide the very best valve solution and service to customers in Asia and around the world."

To find out how Oliver Valves can fulfil your project requirements, contact Jarret Liew: jliew@valves.co.uk or visit our website: www.valves.co.uk

International office telephone: +44 (0)1565 654089.



Back row (Standing from left to right): Yap, Leo, Yong, KJ, Shaw Ting, Joo Lin & Carmen
Front row (Seated from left to right): Kristy, Janice, Jarret, Celina & Geraldine



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- Pipeline Ball Valves up to 18"
- 10K Ball Valves for Hydrogen Fuelling Stations

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Pipeline Valves



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- High Temperature
- High Pressure
- Cryogenic
- API 10K Design

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Subsea Valves



- Diver & ROV Operated Needle Valves
- Ball Valves Up to 15K
- Manual & Hydraulic Parallel Slide Gate Valves 3/8", 1/2", 3/4" and 1"

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olivervalves

Leading the way in recyclable pump technology



The first Quantex pump was invented by Quantex Founder, Dr Paul Pankhurst, to create a less expensive, more accurate alternative to a peristaltic pump. Several years of R&D and customer collaborations, led to the successful development of several off-the-shelf, recyclable pumps with varying flow-rate ranges. In June 2021, Quantex was acquired by PSG, an operating company of Dover Corporation and now sits alongside 13 other pump and flow measurement brands.

Quantex headquarters is located in Hammersmith, London, UK, with a dedicated manufacturing plant in High Wycombe. Through PSG's acquisition, Quantex is now a part of PSG Dover, providing Quantex with clean room manufacturing facilities in Duisburg, Germany, where Quantex is supported by fellow PSG pump brand; Quattroflow.

"Quantex is the leading provider of recyclable pump technology, where, instead of the pump being a part of the fixed equipment, it is attached directly to the liquid packaging – similar to the way a tap is already connected to a bag in box of wine. But instead of pressing the tap and allowing liquid to dribble out



using gravity, the pump is clipped into a motor drive in the fixed equipment, and the product is dispensed accurately, at a range of precision flow rates suitable for all kinds of liquids. When the product supply is finished, you simply replace the bag and pump with a new bag and pump," stated Gillian Harding-Moore, Director – Marketing.

Quantex's system is extremely hygienic and requires no costly cleaning or maintenance. The Quantex pumps also maintain vacuum capability which equips them with the ability to handle high viscosities such as mayonnaise, hair conditioner, or glue, and can evacuate the bag by 98%.

"The pumps can also reverse cycle which is widely used for cleaning the nozzle at the end of each dispense by sucking the product back into the pump. Another very exciting capability is its in-pump



dilution option, where it can pump high-ratio concentrates, and accurately mix them with water at the point of dispense. This takes water out of the distribution channel, saving the customer both money and carbon emissions from shipping their products around the world," added Gillian.

With the drive to save single-use plastic waste, the wealth of benefits of using Quantex pumps has been recognised by UK and European supermarkets, who have been attempting to trial refill stations, where consumers bring their reusable bottles to refill in stores instead of using single use pre-packaged goods. Dispensing liquids has been proving to be too expensive and labour intensive for shop-floor staff.

"Quantex technology provides the key enabler for scaling up refill in supermarkets, with a low maintenance, low cost and flexible solution that can be standardised for dispensing virtually any fluid. Quantex is working with several refill equipment manufacturers, who are designing their next



generation of dispensers around the Quantex system." Gillian continued, "Several global brands and retailers are excited by the early prototypes that allows product replenishment to be 75% faster, with no cleaning or maintenance, and no drips that cause dangerous slip hazards in supermarket aisles. The aim is to provide a better refill experience for consumers and therefore, encourage more refill adoption. The first machines are planned to be in European supermarkets trials from October this year, with a roll-out scheme planned for 2023. It is an exciting market to be in, as it is just the beginning of a big change to the way we shop, and Quantex is sitting at the heart of the movement."

As the company looks ahead, in addition to Refill, Quantex is moving into the Biopharma market, and aligning with other Dover brands; Quattroflow®, em-tec, Malema®, and CPC®. Gillian added, "The alignment will strengthen our PSG offering, providing pumps, flow measurement solutions and connectors that serve cell and gene therapy and bioprocessing needs from early process development through to upstream and downstream applications."

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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. Changing from a traditional laminate to one with post-consumer recyclate beats the Plastic Tax, introduced this month.



According to the Government website, the new tax has been 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."

Robert Simpson, Cake Décor

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Recycled and Recyclable OPP

NEW OPP films are now available with a minimum of 30% recycled content. This is from post consumer waste and is accredited and audited by the ISCC. Trials available now.

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Recycled and Recyclable OPP

OPP films with a minimum of 30% PCR* Recycled content

TRIALS AVAILABLE NOW

PCR Post Consumer Recyclate. Recycled content is from post consumer waste and is accredited and audited by ISCC

Breaking Down Automation Barriers



The World's Leading - One Stop Shop for Collaborative Applications

Where to start your journey in Automation?

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

OnRobot is an application provider for Cobots, which makes production more efficient and cost-effectively. When the first robot applications appeared, the advantages were quickly recognized. This made collaborative applications the fastest-growing segment of the robot market.

Collaborative application solutions are fast, easy and affordable for efficient and productive processes.

What does automation do other than being a productivity tool?

One key advantage is that it gives the manufacturers flexibility, and this helps ensure the wellbeing of the workers.

Collaborative automation keeps production running while skilled workers focus on jobs where their unique capabilities provide the most value.

Automating with the use of collaborative applications present manufacturers with new opportunities to build resilience and adaptability in productivity, competitiveness, and workforce.

The OnRobot Palletizing, intuitive software has been designed to ensure a fast set up, regardless of the end user's prior robotics deployment experience.

The Palletizer has a high-payload elevator with minimal deflection that ensures precise positioning of boxes, even at high speeds. OnRobot's Out-of-the-box palletizing integration solution shortens deployment time, and offers future-proof flexibility.



It is installed with the OnRobot 2FGP20 palletizing gripper, which offers a wide stroke and customizable arms to handle heavy or open boxes, shelf-ready products, and other containers that can't be handled with traditional vacuum grippers.

The OnRobot Palletizer also contains a Pallet Station, which is a durable, floor-mounted pallet fixture that ensures consistent positioning and includes a built-in sensor for detecting pallet presence.



Combining Hardware and Software



Get your FREE Palletizer eBook



BREAKING DOWN AUTOMATION BARRIERS
ONE SYSTEM, ZERO COMPLEXITY

www.onrobot.com

An Obvious Need



Danish company OnRobot is making automation easier and faster.

OnRobot believes deploying robotic applications on the manufacturing floor has been too complex and time-consuming for far too long. Therefore OnRobot has been working hard to break down these complexities and enable easier deployment from just one unified, automated platform.

The revolutionary approach with the use of **D:PLOY** will simplify the installation process even more, allowing the end user to focus on what truly matters in their production line and business.

"D:PLOY will be the industry's first automated platform for deployment of collaborative applications. Enabling you to build, run, monitor, and re-deploy robotic applications from one platform. The **D:PLOY** platform will enable the automated deployment of these collaborative applications to create,

run, monitor and redeploy individual cobots from a single online environment. Configuration times can then be reduced by up to 90%.

D:PLOY will allow you to log into your account and build your application in a few simple steps, by setting a simple steps: the hardware and robot will be automatically detected, and once the hardware is setup the steps are as follow:

Workspace definition

Application setup

Operate and monitor

Re-deploy

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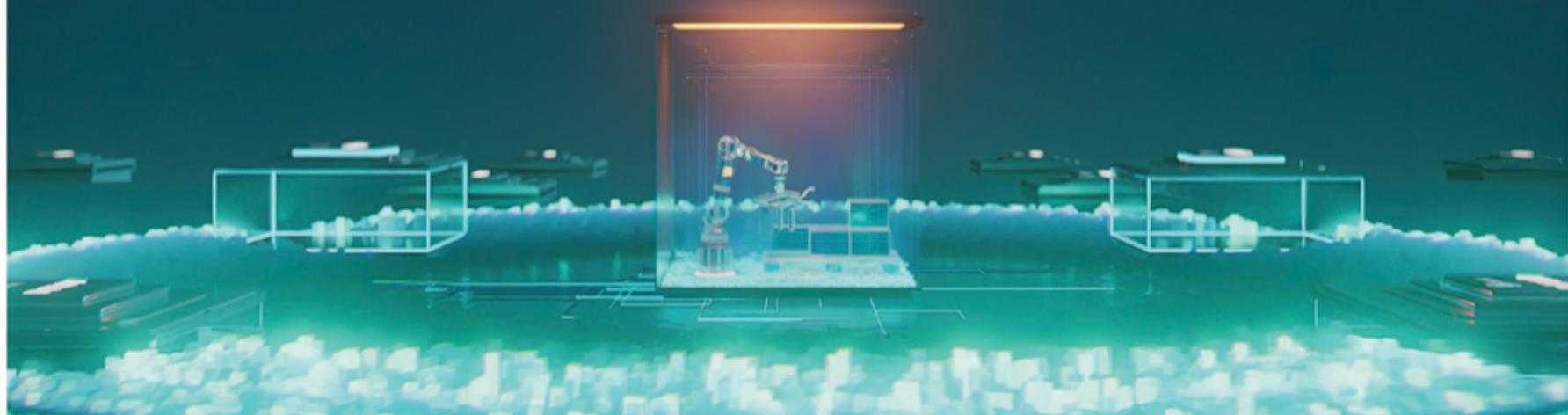
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CHEMUK 2022 Review - Top Exhibitors

CHEMUK 2022

CHEMUK is the UK's annual Chemical, Pharma and Process industries Supply Chain Expo and Speaker Programme that provides visitor groups with a diverse showcase of some 300+ specialist UK & international exhibitors, highlighting the latest plant, equipment, technology, supply chain materials & services supporting the chemical and pharmaceutical processing industries.

CHEMUK 2022 took place on the 11th-12th May at the NEC in Birmingham. The two-day event played host to over 100 expert speakers who discussed industry related news and changes with some topics that included What's New in 22/ Transitioning of the Chemical Laboratory through Digitalisation, Panel sessions, NEPIC Hydrogen, Revolutionising Medicine, Transitioning to bio-based chemicals, and many more.

Designed to bring everyone together under one roof the show welcomed manufacturers, distributors, transport logistic companies and many more for the opportunity to learn and raise awareness of the importance of chemicals, the supply chain and everything that that means. The show was great for exhibitors who were excited to meet customers who actually wanted to find out more about their products, as well as for the visitors who had the chance to meet experts and industry professionals alongside the opportunity of witnessing some of the industry's latest innovations.



CHEMUK 2023 will return on the 10th & 11th May 2023 running in Hall 1 at the NEC, Birmingham. The expo will present 450+ specialist exhibitors and 180+ expert speakers split between three major show zones:

- Chemical Industries Supply Chain
- Chemical, Process & Plant Engineering
- NEW FOR 2023: CHEMLAB

This is our second pick of the best exhibitors from this year's event, listed here in alphabetical order: Additec, Chemical Business Association, Dimensions (Part of Digital Science), Dura-ID Chemicals, EagleBurgmann, Elaflex, ERG, ESSLAB, Fluidan, Flow Control, Hager & Elsasser (H+E), Lakeland Laboratories, MorsaPack, Productive Innovations, RAS Ltd, Procentec, SAFI Valves, ScotCHEM, sera Technology & SJones Containers. Further details can be found on this page and the next 3 pages.

For more information, please see below:
<https://www.chemicalukexpo.com>

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Identify knowledge gaps and discover information you didn't know you didn't know. Co-create custom dashboards to observe early trend analysis, conduct

start-up profiling, and scope the latest outputs through competitive analysis.

Find what you need, fast

Dimensions' AI-powered search incorporates ontologies of 40 million concepts with 100 million synonyms. Our chemistry registry contains over 150 million compounds across grants, clinical trials, patents, datasets and policy documents.

Increase innovation

Conduct horizon scanning to spot changes in product demand and accelerate product development. Stay on top of global technological developments, discover under-researched areas of interest, and identify potential collaborators.

We understand that every organisation's needs are unique, so we take a personal approach to helping you. Our team will ensure you conduct the very best research with Dimensions by your side.

For more information, please visit: dimensions.ai

How the right packaging solutions support safe transportation

Transporting chemicals requires robust processes and packaging systems – and the right supplier partners to support this.



DrumClips allow drums and strapping to be secured safely to pallets

During a busy two days exhibiting at CHEMUK 2022, MorsaPack's team met with dozens of professionals from the chemicals industry.

They discussed how to ensure safety and stability when transporting chemicals, substances and hazardous materials.

Managing Director Robert McEwan said, "A conversation that we had time and time again with chemicals professionals was around balancing the absolute requirement for products to be packaged securely, with the need to not overcompensate and use more packaging than is necessary. We all have a duty to limit environmental impact by reducing resource wastage as well as preventing spillages. We're pleased to help our customers to achieve exactly this by using DrumClips and other associated packaging solutions."

Working to the internationally agreed standards of EUMOS 40509, MorsaPack support customers to correctly load and secure goods to pallets ready for transit. This includes completing rigorous testing to identify the right tolerances for goods in transit and certify stable loads, and then supplying the right packaging products. MorsaPack is an approved supplier of DrumClips, a globally certified product used to secure drums to pallets for transportation.

To learn how pallet stability testing and products like DrumClips can support your management and transportation of chemicals, search 'MorsaPack chemicals industry' or visit: <https://morsapack.com/what-we-do/industries/chemicals-industry>

MORSAPACK

PACKAGING INTELLIGENTLY APPLIED

Supporting you to safely package, load and ship chemicals

We deliver expert service and solutions for the packaging and shipment of hazardous goods. We'll ensure your chemicals can be transported securely, delivering:

- ✓ Rigorous testing to certify stable loads
- ✓ Appropriate packaging to secure loads
- ✓ Advice on loading and moving goods
- ✓ Guidance to share vital information with supply chains
- ✓ Working to EUMOS standards and protocols

Safe, secure loads without unnecessary cost or packaging waste

Pallet stability testing Pallet wrap films & machinery Strapping materials & machinery Drum Clips

With 50 years' experience, we're experts in packaging solutions
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You do not have to measure viscosity by manual methods



At CHEMUK, Fluidan presented the world's first process rheometer, designed for non-Newtonian liquids. Automation of viscosity control saves up to 40% of the production time!

Today's manufacturers of paints, coatings, adhesives, detergents, soaps, shampoos and many more



thick liquids do the measurement of viscosity by using manual methods. It is often a simple rotary rheometer or viscosimeter placed in the QC lab or near the line. When a batch has been produced, a sample is taken. Viscosity is highly dependent on the temperature, so only after the temperature has been adjusted, it can be measured by the technician. If viscosity is not correct, it must be adjusted and measured again. Then only when the target is met, the batch can be released for packing and shipping.

This is where Fluidan's process rheometer RheoStream® provides a simple solution and does the job for



you. It measures the viscosity profile even for non-Newtonian shear thinning liquids and this process cuts out the long waiting time for QC. It also opens for automation of the viscosity control, and offers a completely new level of process insights.

At CHEMUK, the interest in RheoStream was confirmed and strengthened and therefore, applications have been identified in polymers, resins, inks, battery slurries, latex and more.

For more information, please see below:
www.fluidan.com

Empowering technicians when expert protocol knowledge is scarce

On average, factories lose between 5% and 20% in productivity due to unplanned downtime, where just 1 minute of downtime can cost thousands of pounds. So, how do you keep your plant running 24/7, maximise productivity, and reduce network failure?

Procentec, the leading diagnostic solutions provider for industrial automation with over 25 years of experience, enables you to take full control of your industrial network management and maintenance with innovative solutions for permanent monitoring, in combination with AI, to diagnose physical layer errors and advise the best path of repair in under two minutes.

A permanently installed solution that you can simply fit and forget

SNAP stands for Synthetic Neurologic Analytic Processor. It is a self-learning tool that uses active and passive level measurements to identify PROFINET and Ethernet/IP faults and interpret the data. This is a true time-saver. Your technicians no longer have to waste



valuable time looking for errors or figuring out how to fix them. They just let SNAP's advanced algorithms do the work for them.

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Productive Innovations are authorised by Hauschild to provide Technical Support, OEM Parts, Product Demonstrations, Servicing, Sales, Training for any original Hauschild SpeedMixer® machines + OEM Component Parts to new and existing customers.

World leading SpeedMixer instruments, known for decades are still manufactured in the family business in Hamm, Germany and available to order globally.

A Hauschild SpeedMixer® is a programmable Dual Asymmetric Centrifugal (DAC) bladeless mixer for laboratory work and production manufacturing. Mixing occurs in a sealed container with no impeller or mixing head. 100% of the container can be used so there is no waste.

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Safety in your hand

ELAFLLEX Ltd received positive feedback from this year's CHEMUK 2022 and will exhibit there again in 2023.

Addressing today's challenges and ready for tomorrow, ELAFLEX is a leading international specialist for refuelling equipment and safe connections for dangerous goods and sensitive fluids to the Chemical, Pharma and Petrochemical industries. The company produces and supplies ZVA nozzles, spare parts, rubber flexible technical hoses, ERV rubber bellows and Dry Disconnect Couplings.

The Future in your hands... as a technical solutions company, we have been developing NEW refuelling products for alternative fuels for decades.

H2

Technical refuelling solutions include cylinder, ball and check valves and quick couplers up to 1" with high flow rates, suitable for operating pressure of 350 bar for loading or unloading of Compressed Hydrogen.

Its ERV-H2+ rubber expansion joints are suitable for the transfer of up to 100%



hydrogen as well as for 100% methane or other mixtures, so-called 'Hythane.' Very low permeation H2 hydrogen hoses for low-pressure applications, type's Ω/T for the transfer of up to 100% hydrogen compliment the range.



HOSE REELS

The Elaflex range of bespoke hose reel kits can be built to your requirements including ATEX certification where required.

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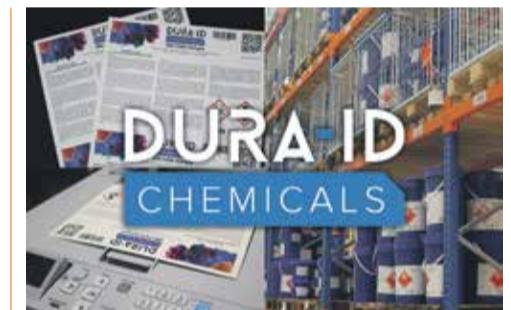
For more information about ELAFLEX Ltd, please see below:
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www.elaflex.co.uk

Label specialist, Dura-ID, on most successful CHEMUK to date

Dura-ID utilised their stand to showcase their range of full-colour label printers and resilient labelling materials, developed to withstand the most rigorous conditions of chemical distribution. Dura-ID took over 60 enquiries on the first day of CHEMUK 22 alone.

Ollie Everitt, Sector Manager and Hayley Higgins, Key Account Manager were present at the show and commented, "The volume of traffic, quality of enquiries and general buzz around CHEMUK was palpable this year. The last two years have been difficult for most businesses due to unstable supply chains and rising costs but, what we noticed at CHEMUK is this negative situation is driving buyers to benchmark their suppliers and review their labelling operations which is where Dura-ID come in."

"Since the show in May, we have conducted several site visits and submitted numerous proposals. We continue to convert these and bring on board many



new customers. Chemical label printing can be a minefield but our expertise and willingness to visit clients on site to understand requirements first hand and overcome any hurdles they face is what Dura-ID does well."

If your business uses labels, contact Dura-ID on: 0114 242 2111 or email: hhiggins@dura-id.com to request a site visit, quote or samples.

EagleBurgmann: Sealing solutions

EagleBurgmann is one of the world's leading providers in industrial sealing technology. We currently have a variety of projects, to overcome challenges that the Chemical Industry faces. These include; Sealing of a production with fluctuating nitrogen pressure, producing and developing the lipids urgently needed for the production of vaccines for the global vaccination campaign against COVID-19 and sealing 5 tons quickly and safely of long fiber sulfate pulp used to make paper.

As an ISO 9001 – 2015 Quality Approved

and certified company, we are truly recognised by our quality of product. As well as provide all of the necessary resources for a long-lasting partnership to meet all of our customers' requirements.

This year, EagleBurgmann has attended many exhibitions globally, while here in the UK joining other companies at CHEMUK 2022 with over 350 other exhibitors, and a partner presence at The Water Equipment Show in Telford. These events allowed us to share our capabilities with clients and potential users from across many sectors of UK industry.

With a reliable, dedicated and customer focused workforce both in Warwick and Cumbernauld our UK presence is set up to give the necessary support and guidance at all levels of client.

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This expertise ensures we provide our customers with the highest level of technical, application and regulatory support they need, including ISO 17034, ISO 17025, ISO 15189 & USP.

Our latest product is an innovative rapid test



strip reader – Quantofix Relax – the ideal choice for the objective evaluation of semi-quantitative test strips, combining the ease-of-use of test strips with the accuracy and reproducibility of instrumental analysis.

ESSLAB's experienced customer service & logistics teams ensure that all orders, large and small, are delivered on-time to ensure we meet or exceed the needs of all our customers.

Follow us on LinkedIn to keep up to date with the latest technical information and product developments from ESSLAB.

T 01702 555577
www.esslab.com

Supporting the chemical supply chain for a hundred years

The Chemical Business Association (CBA) has been the voice of the UK chemical supply chain since 1923 with a long and illustrious heritage delivering for its members and is the leading organisation representing the complete chemical supply chain. Many of CBA's members are SME's and include manufacturers, distributors, traders, warehouse operators, logistics and transport companies, as well as service providers and suppliers who collectively are the main chemical industry interface providing products and services to virtually every sector.

Such a diverse membership gives the distinct advantage of a 360-degree view and insight of the global chemical supply chain which, combined with the extensive and in-depth expertise of CBA staff, enables the association to provide wide-ranging services and support to its members, and to engage and work closely with Government and other key stakeholders in the UK and overseas.

Flow Control Group

Covering a wide range of sectors including oil, gas, industrial, water, wastewater, sewage, chemical and power generation, the business provides consultancy services including product design, specification, selection, valve sizing, actuation, flow and pressure management, installation and the supply and retrofit of a full range of spares and replacement products.

The Group's Site Services division specialises in 'On-Site' product support. We can undertake both new installations and carry out retrofit of valves and actuators to existing works. Where necessary we can act in a support capacity on client led installations.

The Flow Control Group incorporates fabrication and machining capabilities and can, in addition to the production of valves and penstocks design and manufacture mounting kits, pedestals, drive bushes, spindles and other ancillary equipment.

Our manufacturing facilities supply bespoke products in accordance with ISO 9001:2015 quality management systems. The business also operates to ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45000:2018 standards



**Chemical
Business
Association**

CBA members contribute more than £3 billion to the UK economy, employ over 10,000 people and make over 2.5 million deliveries of chemicals each year. Health and safety, people and sustainability are at the heart of the CBA, and it leads and participates in many initiatives such as the 'Responsible Care Programme,' which it has been part of since 1993.

Contact

T +44 (0)1270 258200
info@chemical.org.uk
www.chemical.org.uk
[LinkedIn https://www.linkedin.com/company/chemical-business-association](https://www.linkedin.com/company/chemical-business-association)



operating to the highest Health & Safety and Environmental standards.

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www.cotswoldvalves.co.uk
www.flowcontrol.co.uk

sera Dosing Systems & Hydrogen Technology

As a worldwide leader in dosing technology, sera Technology is a system provider of high-quality products and services for the dosing and feeding of chemicals and fluids. Indeed, with 75 years of experience, sera Technology is renowned for its excellent customer service and leading German engineering, offering some of the most robust pumps available on the market.

The PolyLine from sera is a series of simple and flexible as well as economical and high-performance systems for preparing polymers, regardless of whether they are liquid or solid. The systems are equipped with

precise flow measurement for solution preparation and level measurement to ensure efficient and economical operation of the systems.

The PolyLine is available in three different variants, each for use with liquid (L variant) or powder polymer (S variant) or as a variant for both polymer forms (S/L).

sera are now welcoming the new smaller version of the PolyLine: The PolyLine Flow Compact.

With a footprint of 120 by 80cm, it fits exactly on a Euro pallet. This means that it is not only cheaper to transport



but can also be placed more easily at the customer's site and finds its place in every room and every application. Come and see us at the CHEMUK 2023 show for the first look at the new design.

T 01283 753400
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www.sera-web.com

ERG Air Pollution Control

ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd supplies engineered treatment systems so you can achieve your air emissions targets.

With over 40 years of experience in process gas and effluent gas treatment, together with an unrivalled reputation for quality and innovation, ERG's specialist teams of chemical, mechanical and electrical engineers, together with design engineers, project managers and procurement professionals, design and supply bespoke scrubbing systems and odour control plants to meet their clients' requirements.



With an unrivalled depth of experience, and hundreds of reference plants across the globe to draw on, ERG solves the full spectrum of gas cleaning challenges facing its clients; whether it is a requirement to remove foul odours from air under ambient conditions prior

to release into the atmosphere, right up to scrubbing streams of process gasses at high temperatures, high pressures, or in explosive environments to remove toxic or aggressive pollutants. The level of technical sophistication and bespoke engineering content in each project is specific to the clients' needs, with industrial applications typically demanding the highest processing technology.

For more information, please contact ERG (Air Pollution Control) Ltd at:
T 01403 290000
info@ergapc.co.uk
www.ergapc.co.uk

VARIBOX®

The VARIBOX are truly Reusable IBCs (Intermediate Bulk Containers) and therefore the perfect solution to your chemical transportation and storage needs. Through its unique design and heavy-duty construction, the VARIBOX has a lifetime of up to 10 years! And by using the heavy-duty valve at the bottom of the VARIBOX SC, minimal residue will be left in the IBC. This minimises waste and enables safe transport, trip after trip, year after year.

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robust VARIBOX single containment containers are built on a fully internally recycled plastics 4-way or 2-way pallet. With this unique pallet of the VARIBOX, the VARIBOX will support chemical distributors and their customers to achieve their environmental responsibilities in the distribution and storage of chemicals and detergents.

Want to discover more about the VARIBOX? Please visit our website: www.varibox-ibc.com or contact us at: montoir@varibox-ibc.com.



ScotCHEM: Scottish Alliance for the Chemical Sciences

ScotCHEM is the strategic alliance for the chemical sciences in Scotland. We connect key sectors and broker partnerships to support and grow chemical sciences education, engagement, research, knowledge exchange, innovation, and the chemical industries.

ScotCHEM ACADEMIA represents the research expertise across our universities. We support research, researchers and research networks. We also connect the higher education pipeline between our colleges and universities and deliver industry-focused skills training and professional development.

ScotCHEM INDUSTRIES unites the chemical industries in Scotland, providing a collective voice for advocacy and lobbying. We link industry with government, ensuring



a favourable policy and investment landscape. We connect industry to research expertise and cultivate knowledge exchange to solve industry challenges through innovation.

ScotCHEM COMMUNITIES connects with individuals, schools and whole communities, growing their trust in and support for the sector. Our focus is on enabling access and equity to maximise inclusion in the chemical sciences at all stages of education. We promote the value of chemistry, chemistry research and the chemical industries to the public and ensure that all citizens benefit from the strength and growth of these sectors.



Together, our members deliver at scale, collaborate across sectors, and collectively build recognition of the value of chemical sciences.

For membership enquiries, please contact: ScotCHEM@st-andrews.ac.uk.
[https://www.scotchem.ac.uk](http://www.scotchem.ac.uk)



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Working with the latest technologies and materials, we have developed a core range of products; ball, butterfly, diaphragm, check/non-return valves, dampers, strainers and sight glasses.

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Uniquely, we offer a Polypropylene Glass Fibre (PPGF) known for its robust structure and ability to be used in a wide range of demanding applications. Other materials include PVC-U, PVC-C, PP, PVDF and Antistatic PP.

SAFI UK is an ISO 9001:2015 approved company.

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Isolating process risks with converted containers

It comes as no surprise that many processes come with inherent risks. Containing process risks to a specific location minimises the number of people in contact with these hazards. One way to achieve this is to isolate the risk by housing process developments away from the main site.



**S JONES[®]
CONTAINERS**
THE SPACE YOU NEED[®]

Hazardous processes can easily be isolated using a converted shipping container. A converted container keeps the entire process self-contained, enabling remote management and enclosing potential hazards within a purpose-built unit.

With decades of experience in project management and extensive shipping container conversion expertise, S Jones Containers can design and fabricate bespoke containerised units with risk mitigation considered at every stage.

For chemical hazards, consider units with bunded floors, louvered vents, and ceiling suspended steel shelving. We include everything necessary to ensure your container is COSHH compliant with minimised risk to personnel.

Flammable materials, or processes that need electrical points, create fire risks. Following the ATEX directives, installing explosion protection modifications, and correctly storing flammable materials greatly reduces potential damage. We can help you achieve this with a purpose-built container unit, as well as adding emergency lighting or fire alarm systems should a fire break out.

T 01922 741756
sales@sjonescontainers.co.uk
www.sjonescontainers.co.uk

Lakeland Laboratories

Lakeland
LABORATORIES LIMITED

Based near Manchester, Lakeland Laboratories is an established manufacturer of Speciality Surfactants. Traditionally serving the maintenance chemical industry, our products are now used in most areas of the cleaning sector and industrial applications. We provide technical support for existing customers and development of new business. Our products are exported throughout Europe and most other world markets. The most important product ranges for the I & I industries are the Amphoterics and Phosphate Esters. Lakeland also manufacture a range of Wax Emulsions that are successfully used in floorcare applications, as well as a range of other coating type applications. As well as providing the formulator with multifunctional properties, all these ranges possess excellent environmental profiles.

Lakeland also has facilities for contract manufacture/synthesis. Contract manufacture has always been an important part of Lakelands business. The strategic location and proven track record has led to long lasting working relationships with our clients. Lakeland currently possess reactors ranging from 1,000 to 25,000 litres. All reactors are steam heated, and will reach a temperature of 165°C max.

Lakeland have successfully implemented ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, and 45001:2018 and is committed to continual improvement of our products, services and processes. Lakeland is also a member of Groundwork's Sustainable Business Initiative. This framework helps to enhance our sustainability performance.

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85 years of exemplary solutions in access, packaging and transportation

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce ZARGES as our Access, Packaging and Transportation Solutions Company of the Month.



Initially, ZARGES was established in 1933 in Stuttgart as one of Europe's first light metal construction companies. Over the years, the business has evolved by consistently innovating to diversify its product offering. ZARGES is now known as one of Europe's leading providers of both access and aluminium cases solutions that are specifically designed for applications in sectors as diverse as construction, food, air, rail, medical logistics, utility companies, and automotive manufacturing.

ZARGES has an international presence with established sales locations throughout Europe, USA, and a sales network in more than 100 countries globally. It's UK headquarters have been based in Milton Keynes since 1993, and in 2019 the company became part of WernerCo.

Known as one of the leading companies in its field of packaging and access solutions, the ZARGES product range is built from a team that embodies 85 years of expertise in this sector. One product of particular importance is the ZARGES K470 range of universal cases that are designed to provide ultimate peace of mind for businesses.

"Among the key products, ZARGES has developed is its leading range of aluminium cases. Stringently tested, the case range provide strong and robust transportation solutions for the transit of a wide range of goods, including hazardous materials. These cases have proven particularly beneficial to the automotive sector, as they facilitate the

safe transit of lithium-ion batteries, and the medical sector, with the durability and temperature-controlled nature of the cases enabling them to transport the COVID-19 vaccine during the programme's roll-out," stated Neil Harper, Sales Manager at ZARGES.

It is of course, their ability to offer such unique products over such a consistent period of time that makes ZARGES completely unrivalled in its sector. A key offering that stands out in the current market is Creaxess which is



ZARGES's online configurator that enables users to design a bespoke solution to meet their exact needs. Neil expanded, "The intuitive online solution allows users to design made-to-measure solutions including access steps, platform stairways, bridging steps and maintenance platforms at no extra cost. Creaxess provides an immediate offer with a drawing and 3D model, significantly speeding up the specification process.

"Furthermore, one of our latest products that we are also extremely excited about is the Skymaster Plus X, an all-new combination ladder from ZARGES which offers users strength, safety and unrivalled versatility with multiple configurations, and is expertly designed to be the ultimate ladder solutions for construction, maintenance and engineering professionals. The Skymaster Plus X is part of the best-selling Skymaster™ range which also includes the Trade X model, which provides a versatile and safe solution to working at height. In accordance with the latest



EN131 Professional specification, it boasts an ergonomic design which provides ultimate user efficiency, safety and exceptional multi-purpose use."

While delivering consistently high-quality continual innovations is of the highest important to ZARGES, the ability to understand and build close relationships with its customers will always remain the key factor to its success. As the company ensures to keep developing solutions that best meet the needs and challenges of the ever-evolving sectors it serves, the company has introduced some other important factors designed to help elevate its offering and services to the next level.



Neil explained, "The business has recently appointed Andrew Dunn as a new National Account Manager. This is an important appointment for ZARGES because its relationships with customers is key, and in by providing expert advice and ensuring that customers receive the best service and access to the right products, ZARGES can further strengthen its offering to customers across the UK."

For more information, please see below:
T 01908 641118
sales@zarges.co.uk
www.zarges.com

Gearbox Technology Company of the Month

World leader in Planetary Servo Gearboxes



APEX DYNAMICS LTD.

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce Apex Dynamics UK as our Gearbox Technology Company of the Month.

Born out of Apex Dynamics Inc, Apex Dynamics UK was established in 2019 by Managing Director Mike Gulliford, and President of Apex Dynamics USA Steve Buckley. The company is based in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire – at the heart of the UK manufacturing epicentre, and while this is the only UK location, it is part of a network of 35 Apex Dynamics companies worldwide in all the major countries with substantial process machinery manufacturing activity. The UK Centre is the exclusive distributor for the Apex Dynamics Inc product range in UK and Ireland (Eire).

Apex Dynamics UK distribute the Apex Dynamics Inc product range, which includes a range of gear boxes to work with servomotors, rack and pinion drive systems for automation, and automatic lubrication systems for machinery structures. These are mainly supplied to machine builders and integrators for process machinery and include pick and place machines and they are all inside the machines as part of the overall system.



The latest range of products are the GL/GLS range of High Precision Planetary Gearboxes for AGV/AMR applications and Mike told us, "These exciting products are perfect for applications that require very high radial load. Within a warehouse, Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs) are one of the main pillars that support movement through the warehouse, and these must have the ability to move variable size and weight products quickly through the warehouse. Our GL series planetary servo gearbox is designed specifically as the interface between the servo motor and the drive wheel of AGVs."



The GL design features a rotary output housing that has a fixed internal (or ring) gear, and rotating the input pinion drives the planet gears around the internal gear. These planet gears are engaged with the output body, which rotates at the reduced speed. The unique design of the GL Series allows the rotary housing to be embedded in the drive wheel, and by having a large portion of the gearbox encapsulated by the wheel, more space is created in the body of the cart. There are three sizes



available, including a shaft driven version, and they are perfect for rotating tables or wind/unwind mechanisms.

Mike and his staff work very hard to remain at the forefront of the industry, among lots of competition. He told us further, "We have unique and excellent market products, and we have no delays due to import/Brexit issues – all of our standard catalogue product range is still on 2 to 3 weeks lead time, and our products all have a five-year warranty. Our gearboxes are also certified ATEX II 2 GD c T6 and are patented designs for superior performance. We have such confidence in our product lead times, that we offer a guaranteed delivery – if we don't meet our order acknowledged delivery, the customer gets the gearbox for free!"

Considering that Apex Dynamics UK is a relatively young company, it has had a very successful first three years, in spite of the upheaval that the world has faced. Significant recent expansion has been achieved with growth up 50% in the last ten months alone, and sales are slightly higher than Mike had forecast, and looking forward, the company aims to continue its rapid growth, and increase the network of dedicated resellers who have the right technical competence.

Mike concluded, "We have the largest range of drop-in replacements for competitor servo gearbox products available globally, and an app which makes it very easy to change from a competitor model to our equivalent model. Together with our partners in the motors and drives supply network, we are solving lead time problems for many of our customers who simply could not find satisfactory supply chain solutions elsewhere."

Apex Dynamics has a volume manufacturing facility outside Europe and manufactures more than 50,000 precision servo gearbox units a month, holding more than 100,000 units in stock. Therefore, unlike others in the industry, it is able to guarantee continuing supply arrangements to UK customers under current terms.

For more information, please see below:
T 0121 227 5340
sales@apexdynauk.com
www.apexdynauk.com

Services for the sheet metal industry

PressCare UK Limited is a West Midlands based engineering company predominantly operating in the fields of power presses, coil handling equipment & automation systems. We offer a comprehensive range of services to the sheet metal industry including servicing, safety inspections, electrical & mechanical repairs, preventative maintenance programs, installations, commissioning, guarding solutions & CE marking. We offer a comprehensive range of ancillary equipment including tool protection (load monitors, component/misfeed detection, etc), strip lubrication, scrap removal & energy saving systems.

One of our specialities is the design & integration of machine control/safety systems, ranging from minor safety upgrades to complete rewires. From a modern multi-press line to an older ring frame machine, we can design, manufacture & integrate a new state-of-the-art control system to bring your press shop equipment into line with the latest safety standards.

We have a number of global manufacturing partners allowing us to tailor an individual process solution



to your requirements. We provide a comprehensive service from initial advice on the correct equipment for your application to installation, guarding & commissioning, warranties, after sales technical support & ongoing preventative maintenance. We also carry an extensive range of spare parts here in the UK.

T 0845 226 7617
www.presscare.co.uk

Global firm TryHackMe launches unique hands-on Red Teaming security training

Global cyber security platform, TryHackMe has launched unique training that allows users to emulate a potential adversary attack.

The London-based company bases its new 'Red Teaming' interactive lessons on real-world scenarios, to help businesses expose vulnerabilities across their networks and systems.

Its gamified sessions are aimed at individuals who want to achieve high-level jobs in the security industry, alongside businesses looking to upskill their staff.

The 'Red Teaming Pathway,' launched as part of TryHackMe's Red Team Month, is designed to get employees to think like a cyber attacker in a bid to expose flaws in their company, which ultimately allows them to mitigate risk.

Over 48 hours of hands-on training and assessments, those taking part learn how to challenge defence capability by imitating a cyber criminal's actions, emulate malicious attacks, retain access and avoid detection.



Those who complete the pathway will have the advanced skills needed to pursue new career opportunities in offensive security.

Businesses can sign up to take part in the new pathway here: <https://tryhackme.com/path/outline/redteaming> and those who complete it also earn tickets for the chance to win \$21,000 worth of prizes.

For more information, please visit:
<https://tryhackme.com>

Subcon Show Review – Top Exhibitors

Celebrating 45 years of Subcon

Subcon was back at the NEC in Birmingham earlier this year from the 7-9 June where it once again confirmed its place as the UK's leading premier subcontract supply chain event.

Providing a variety of over 200 UK and international exhibitors alongside some high-quality content, Subcon also co-located with TCT3Sixty, The Engineer Expo 2022 and the Manufacturing Management Show 2022 to provide some of the latest innovations and practical advice to help build new partnerships and optimise business strategies.

Subcon is the premier subcontract manufacturing supply chain show that is designed for procurement teams from both OEMs and tiered benchmark subcontracting manufacturing capabilities in order to refine their supply chain.



The 2022 show was a roaring success for all involved in the engineering and manufacturing industries. Subcon 2022 offered visitors an exciting line-up that included hundreds of subcontract specialists, a comprehensive seminar schedule and a VIP Buyers' Lounge.

The show attracted 30% more visitors compared with 2021, and the feelings were mutual from the exhibitors with 50% already rebooking their stand for 2023, and 10% upgrading their stand size. The show offered seminars from key note speakers that gave insight into key issues and trends that are driving innovation and shaping the

UK's industrial landscape in 2022. Also new was the Supply Chain Theatre that provided on-the-spot usable and workable solutions for smart tech implementation and security, workforce development and hitting net-zero.

Subcon 2023 will take place on the 7-9 June – Hall 12 at the NEC in Birmingham.

This is our pick of the best exhibitors from this year's event, listed here in alphabetical order: European Springs, Grenville Engineering & SIC Marking. Further details can be found below.

<https://www.subconshow.co.uk>

SIC MARKING UK now have record working dimensions with the new XXL-Box laser marking enclosure

After the huge success of the L-BOX and XL-BOX, our compact marking stations, we have been asked on numerous occasions to offer a larger workspace in order to be able to mark large parts. These are the words of Eric B. Marketing and Sales Director at SIC MARKING, world leader in industrial traceability, to justify the launch of the new XXL-BOX Laser Marking Station.

Available in 3 basic sizes at a very competitive price, the XXL-BOX perfectly complements SIC MARKING's laser workstation wide range of products, which makes it possible to meet all customer requirements in terms of cabinet size.

As its name indicates, the new XXL-BOX station offers record working dimensions (up to 520mm



high) as well as great modularity thanks to its 3 standard models (800, 1,200 and 1,600mm wide) and its numerous accessories. The strength of this new product also lies in its ability to adapt perfectly to different customer requirements, illustrating SIC MARKING's extensive know-how in the realisation of tailor-made solutions:

As a result, the international French group had the opportunity to prove

all the qualities of its new product by taking up the challenge offered by ZF, a major German automotive supplier. The company wanted to mark a Datamatrix code on gearbox prototypes. The solution provided was an XXL-BOX laser marking station, with a 5-axis laser that made it possible to achieve a marking window of 900 x 500 x 500mm. The project was the result of a technical and commercial co-operation between the headquarters and SIC MARKING GMBH (the group's German subsidiary) and highlighted the great adaptability of this new product to customised requests.

Contact
T 01926 830372
salesuk@sic-marking.com
www.sic-marking.co.uk

Grenville Engineering: Cutting edge fabrication



CUTTING EDGE FABRICATION

Grenville Engineering Ltd has been at the forefront of Precision Sheet Metal Fabrication since 1984. Our factory operates from within the West Midlands, suitably located to service customer needs throughout the UK.

With nearly 40 year experience in metal fabrication, we can provide the highest quality products providing cost-effective solutions from low to high volume production needs; laser cutting, punching, metal

forming, welding, machining, finishing and assembly.

We are committed to providing outstanding customer service and technical expertise from concept to delivery to a diverse range of sectors. Collaborating with our customers to ensure we produce the most cost-effective solution without compromising on quality. We hold ISO 9001 accreditations and continue to invest in machinery catering to customer demand.

In 2021/22, we invested over £900,000 in the latest technology to increase our capabilities and capacity, our key investments were the 10kW Bystronic laser, Bystronic Xpert 200t press break and Trumpf TruPunch 3000 S11 CNC punch press. We have a highly skilled longstanding workforce, many of which have been with us for over 20 years.

Find out more about our cutting edge fabrication services and what we can do for you. Our Sales Director Stuart will be happy to offer a full factory tour and discuss your requirements.

Contact
T 01782 577929
sales@grenville-engineering.co.uk
www.grenville-engineering.co.uk

European Springs & Pressings

European Springs & Pressings are leading experts in spring manufacturing and high-speed press technology, providing a full design and manufacturing service for bespoke and standard pressings, wireforms, coil and gas springs.

Established in 1948, with a standard product range of 12,000+ items and a dynamic balance of cutting-edge facilities, experienced engineers and thoughtful customer service, we are one of Europe's leading spring and stamped component suppliers.

European Springs and Pressings understand that no two jobs are the same; similar products often require the use of different materials, treatments, variable tolerances



or specific heat resistance. This is why we invest in the latest technology and qualified toolmakers to ensure that we design and produce the very best bespoke stampings, springs and wire forms.

A custom-tailored manufacturing process and in-house design service – with CAD/CAM software and systems – means we can help you realise a range of prototype

ideas, individually cut using precision lasers for R&D testing or put into full production. Our fully-equipped tool room can design and build any production tooling needed, assuring you of competitive pricing, consistent quality and dependable supply.

Our products are used in major industrial environments all over the world, so whether you need a conventional compression, tension, die, disc or torsion spring, or want the most obscure spring clip or wire form imaginable, we are able to produce exactly what you're looking for.

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Vacuum Cleaners on the production line

Vacuum Cleaners are not just for housekeeping and general maintenance. Quirepace regularly manufacture and supply machines from the BVC range of Industrial Vacuum Cleaners to be incorporated directly in to the process or production line.

The range of BVC Industrial Vacuum Cleaners, as standard, offers a variety of specifications to suit the various applications and requirements found in Industry. Machines in the 'portables' category are available with power ratings



from 1-15kW, and fixed installation Central Vacuum Cleaning systems can be specified for very large applications with the potential for many simultaneous points of use.

In many instances, adaptation to integrate with a particular process or production line may be limited to just providing special tools or connection points, with the vacuum cleaner itself remaining as a standard specification. However, Quirepace will also customise the standard range Industrial Vacuum Cleaners to adapt them for particular applications and processes.

One adaptation is to incorporate interfaces to external systems to allow an external PLC or SCADA interface to start and stop the vacuum cleaner according to the industrial process demands. For example, the Ti80 Centurion Industrial Vacuum Cleaner is integrated on to automotive production lines in combination with industrial robots to automate the cleaning of car body shells. The external controls allow the Ti80 unit to be started and stopped to coincide with the progression of the production line.

Another example is a customised Industrial Vacuum cleaner integrated into a specific production machine.



In this case a completely non-standard sequential filter arrangement provides initial cyclonic material capture into a plastic bag, followed by a secondary filter interceptor to capture any dust that gets past the initial cyclone. Again the operation of the equipment is integrated into the process control so that the vacuum cleaner starts and stops according to production demands.

Designing and building an Industrial Vacuum Cleaner for a particular industrial process often entails considering the particular hazards of the material to be cleaned. Hazardous dusts fall in to two distinct categories, and some materials fall in to both.

The first category is dusts which are hazardous to health. It is important that any vacuum cleaner incorporates appropriate filtration to ensure that these dusts cannot pass through the machine's filters and be exhausted in to the atmosphere. Many machines in the BVC range are rated as M-Class and H-Class. Whilst special designs may not have this formal classification, we are always able to provide HEPA filtration to the highest categories depending on the application.

The second category of hazardous dusts are those that are capable of causing dust explosions and hence require Industrial Vacuum Cleaners rated for use in ATEX environments. Industrial Vacuum Cleaners in the BVC range can be provided suitable for both Zone 22 and Zone 21 ATEX dust environments. Fixed CVC installations, likewise, can be rated for use in ATEX environments. In this case the fixed plant will be specified to include explosion panels and other features designed to mitigate the risks associated with explosive dusts.

The BVC range of Industrial Vacuum Cleaners is manufactured in the UK in Fareham. As far as possible, components are sourced from UK suppliers keeping the supply chain as short and nimble as possible. Quirepace carry a very large range of spare parts, and most components are available directly from stock.

The process of designing a special Industrial Vacuum Cleaner for a particular process or production line starts with a site investigation. Quirepace's experienced sales team will be pleased to visit and discuss your requirements.

Contact
T 023 9260 3700
sales@quirepace.co.uk
www.quirepace.co.uk

BVC

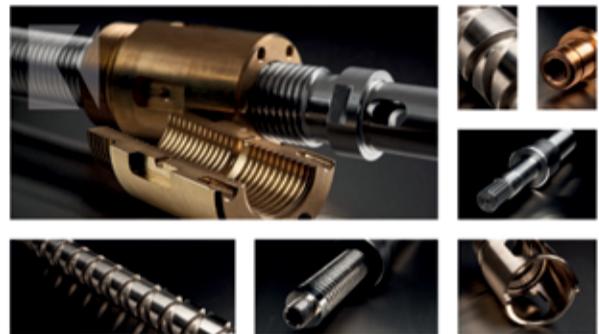
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Innovation in Vacuum and Conveying Technology



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ASH Plastics invests in HOMAG SAWTEQ B-200



Located in Wolverhampton, ASH Plastics produces premium quality point of sale displays and precision components. Its ethos is based on combining engineering excellence, a commitment to customer service and an insistence on utilising the latest technology.

This was a key reason the company invested in a HOMAG SAWTEQ B-200, as Managing Director, David Archer explains, "Our pledge to provide our customers with the very best products requires we invest in the most advanced technology available."

He continues, "We purchased a HOMAG beam saw to bring under our control the tolerance accuracy of cut parts. For us to supply the best point of sale material, every part must fit together perfectly, but even minor variances in the cutting accuracy make it almost impossible for us to consistently produce the high standard of finish we strive for."

Specifying the HOMAG SAWTEQ B-200

"We chose HOMAG for a number of reasons. Firstly, its reputation as the global brand leader gave us peace of mind. Secondly, the company's representative, Matt

Long, was extremely helpful and knowledgeable. We felt he understood our business needs and we could trust him to specify the right saw for our requirements. Matt recommended the SAWTEQ B-200 and it has proved to be the perfect machine for our demands."

"It is extremely reliable; on the odd occasion we have needed support, however, HOMAG has always responded quickly and effectively. Not only has the saw delivered cost savings and efficiencies to our production, but it has also enabled us to attract new customers," concludes Archer.

For further information on HOMAG saws, please contact Adele Hunt at HOMAG UK on: 01332 856424 or email: info-uk@homag.com.

<https://www.homag.com/en/contact/homag-uk>

Green & yellow laser modules with new wavelengths



Besides the already well-known green laser modules from Lasence with the wavelengths 532nm & 545nm, new laser modules are now available with wavelengths 520nm, 555nm and 577nm. These laser modules from the GLM series are offered with output powers up to 1W, have a fast rise time and are very reliable.

The typical output beam has a diameter of 0.5mm with divergence ≤40mrad. With dimensions of just 18mm x 55mm (Diameter x Length) they are very compact for this high output power.

There are plenty of applications in which these laser modules can be used:

- **Biomedical Applications:** Cytogenetics, Optogenetics and Intravital Imaging
- **Clinical Applications:** Photoluminescence Microscopy, Robotic Surgery and Endoscopy
- **Industrial Applications:** Agriculture, Food and Semiconductor Inspection.

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Britbots and Sapphire launch the British Robotics start-up fund



Britbots and Sapphire Capital Partners are pleased to announce the launch of the British Robotics Start-Up Fund (the 'Fund'), to take advantage of the new, more beneficial environment for investing under the Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme ('SEIS').

Over the past six years, the British Robotics funds have invested in 34 companies, backing entrepreneurs creating productivity-boosting technologies, particularly in the areas of robotics, artificial intelligence and automation. The Fund will continue this technology focus and seek to capitalise on major global trends such as shortages of skilled labour, the transition away from fossil fuels, supply chain inefficiencies and the depletion of natural resources.

The majority of the British Robotics funds investments have been made under the tax-advantageous Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme, which substantially mitigates the risks to investors of backing young, high potential businesses.

It was recently announced that the limits available to companies and investors utilising SEIS will be extended from 6th April 2023. Despite other parts of the mini-Budget having been reversed, HMRC has confirmed that the extension to SEIS will stand. This will make SEIS-eligible opportunities an even more attractive investment option for private investors. Individuals will be able to invest up to £200,000 in SEIS-qualifying companies each year, and companies will be able to accept up to £250,000 within their first three years under SEIS. It is worth noting that such a beneficial tax scheme may not survive a further change of government, therefore appropriate investors should take advantage of the scheme whilst they can.

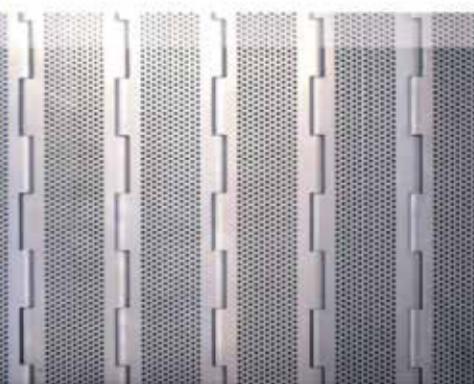
The Fund allows investors to subscribe between £10,000 and £300,000 into the fund each year with at least 60% of the investment going to SEIS-qualifying companies and the remainder in opportunities that qualify for the Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS). This means that each investor will be able to immediately offset at least 42% of the amount they invest in the Fund against their tax bill, as well as potentially also benefiting from subsequent tax benefits.

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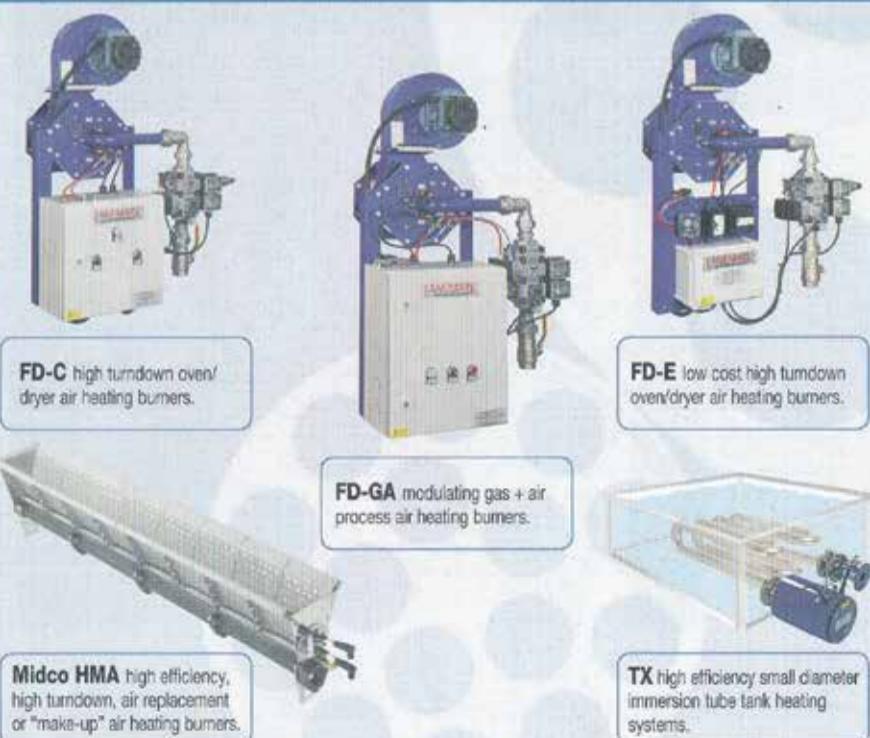
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ESAB launches Warrior® Edge 500 CX and RobustFeed Edge CX, next-generation welding platform for global heavy industrial markets

- Intuitive design delivers reliable, premium performance without complexity
- Built-in connectivity to InduSuite software applications optimise productivity

To improve weld quality and productivity in heavy industrial welding applications, ESAB has launched its next-generation Warrior Edge 500 CX multi-process power source, RobustFeed Edge CX wire feeder and Exeor MIG torches to global markets. The Warrior Edge system makes it possible for regular welders to achieve excellent welding results without a complex set-up process. It also has built-in connectivity and comes with a subscription to the InduSuite WeldCloud Fleet online software application. RobustFeed Edge CX also features a new digital gas control technology called TrueFlow that improves welding quality, saves gas and helps avoid weld defects caused by improper flow rates.

"The Warrior Edge platform checks all the boxes that will help our trusted partners in the global heavy industrial market grow," said Flavio Santos, Vice President & General Manager, Global Equipment Solutions, ESAB Corporation. "It uses future-proof technology, simplifies training, promotes continuous weld quality improvement and enables connectivity to InduSuite digital applications that optimise productivity."

The Warrior Edge 500 CX has a rated welding output of 500 amps at 60% duty cycle for synergic MIG/MAG/flux cored, pulsed MIG, MMA, gouging and Live TIG. It features the company's next-generation digital control electronics for more controlled arc starts and greater arc stability to minimise spatter. It is designed specifically for the heavy industrial fabrication, structural steel fabrication, transportation, railcar, mobile



equipment, tank and vessel fabrication and power generation industries.

InduSuite applications such as WeldCloud Fleet and WeldCloud Productivity revolutionise shop fabrication workflow with real-time insights across welding operations. They connect data, machinery and processes to optimise performance and unlock a shop's true potential. WeldCloud Fleet enables users to manage welding jobs across a fleet of equipment at one or multiple locations, saving hours of time. It delivers support for planning, documenting and providing reminders for service maintenance and calibration activities; provides remote software upgrades and prepares event logs for early detection and notification of equipment issues.

Faster control, less spatter

Warrior Edge can detect and react to arc behaviour in critical moments, such as clearing of a short circuit, up to 10 times faster than traditional inverter machines. As a result, the system minimises weld spatter and creates a stable arc and more controllable weld pool. Operators find it easier to make better welds and spend less time grinding, both of which improve productivity. The new power current control module also enables ESAB engineers to develop, optimise and update each welding method independently.



ESAB's digital and connected Warrior® Edge 500 CX multi-process power source and RobustFeed Edge CX wire feeder deliver premium welding performance without complexity.

"The digital current control in the Warrior Edge platform enables continuous process improvement and development without the need for hardware updates," says Arne Lagerkvist, Global Product Manager – Heavy Industrial Welding Equipment, ESAB. "Warrior Edge gives users the confidence of buying a future-proof system."

Simpler, more Robust

To further simplify operation, the RobustFeed Edge CX feeder locates material selection and configurations inside the case. Day-to-day settings, which include three 'quick job' buttons to recall pre-programmed weld parameters, are all managed on the clear and easy-to-understand front panel interface to allow for effective operation. Inside the feeder, a TFT LCD interface allows for menu based, clear text and intuitive interaction in the user's native language.

RobustFeed Edge features an effective and quick

to set-up operator management system that uses an RFID-reader to scan operator badges. This allows locking parameter limits for the quick jobs, improving repeatability and adherence to Weld Procedure Specifications.

The new TrueFlow digital gas control technology offers a level of precision, confidence and savings not previously possible to achieve with external pressure regulation devices. The system automatically prevents insufficient gas flow and optimises flow during arc starts and welding, a common source of quality issues and gas waste. It can save €600 to €1,200 per year in typical use cases.

RobustFeed Edge builds on the proven ESAB RobustFeed platform, which won the prestigious 2021 Red Dot Award for product design. The RobustFeed platform features SpoolSafe, a unique-in-the-market IP54 protection against dirt/dust that keeps wire dry and clean, improves feedability and reduces risk of weld contamination. RobustFeed Edge also includes the reliable PreciDrive wire drive system that maintains precision wire feeding performance to promote consistent weld quality.

RobustFeed Edge CX works with ESAB's new Exeor torch, which features a slim, balanced lightweight design with soft grip area. Remote function buttons on the top of the torch enable adjustments without an additional cable. The torch is available in both air and water-cooled versions. Both provide superior cooling performance even at high parameters, further improving operator comfort and extending consumables life. An LED light illuminates the welding area prior to arc start.

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Process & Control

Disconnected data holds back 73% of industrial businesses

Research from digital workflow leader Intoware, found that 73% of industrial businesses post-pandemic, are relying on legacy systems and spreadsheets to get tasks done, believing this inflexible, often out-of-date, disconnected data is sufficient to support corporate decision making.

This independent survey of 1,030 UK based industrial firms from the manufacturing, oil and gas, civil engineering, utilities and transport and logistics industries showed that the vast majority, 82% claimed to be data-informed and 74% said that they trust data enough to complete tasks, this is despite the majority relying on disparate legacy systems.

This research shows that almost three quarters, 74% of senior decision makers have access to data and the large majority 80%, believe that data is an asset, which is very good news. However, just under half of those surveyed, 47% use data only occasionally to help get the job done – as the reality is that their data is siloed.

While over half of those surveyed, 65% are interested in using digital software 'tools' to support their role, it seems that a significant minority simply don't have the skills to use the new data these systems provide, with 21% feeling overwhelmed and another 24% feel only slightly confident when using data to back decision making, that is almost half, 45% of those surveyed.

For further information, download our survey, 'Why is disconnected data holding your business back?'
<https://www.intoware.com/resources/why-is-disconnected-data-holding-your-business-back>

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Study by ClimatePartner shows major differences in the ecological footprint of cleaning wipes

As disposable wipes continue to be a popular choice in the industrial sector, a study by the climate-neutral consulting firm, ClimatePartner has shown the enormous ecological footprint of disposable cleaning cloths compared to reusable textile cloths.



The study looked at water and energy consumption, as well as CO₂ emissions during the manufacture (and use) of both types of wipes. The results showed significant differences, up to 40 times more, in the resources used to remove one kilogram of dirt.

A Mewa MEWATEX reusable cloth (based on an average use of 25 times) and two types of disposable wipes were tested: a 100% cellulose paper towel and a non-woven cloth made of 70% cellulose and 30% polypropylene. One usage was defined as picking up 1kg of dirt.

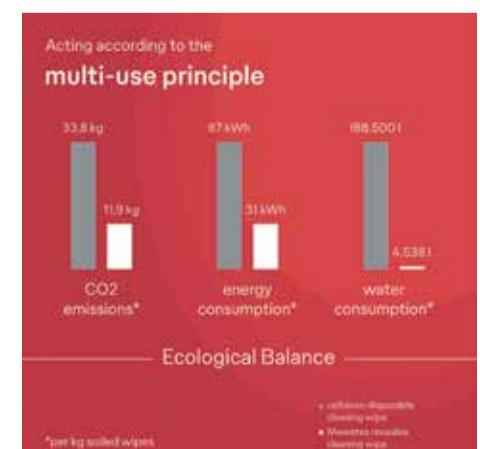
Among the results of the study, it was found that the total amount of water consumed when using a 100% disposable paper towel is 188,500 litres, compared to just 4,538 litres for the MEWATEX reusable wipe. The energy consumption during production was also clearly contrasting; a MEWATEX reusable cloth consumes nearly three times less energy than a disposable cloth with 87kWh compared to 31kWh for a reusable cloth.

In terms of greenhouse gas emissions generated, disposable wipes cause between 2.8 and 5 times more pollution than reusable cloths: 33.3 and 61.6kg of CO₂ compared to 11.9kg of CO₂.

Also remarkable was the difference in the amount of textile needed to make the cloths. The amount of textile used in a disposable paper-based cloth is 25.5 kg compared to just 0.5 kg for a Mewa cloth that has a cleaning life of up to 50 applications.

Commenting on the findings, Gunes Yenen, Mewa UK Managing Director, said, "It is obvious that the more often something is used before it is replaced, the smaller its environmental footprint, but what this study has worryingly revealed is how large the ecological footprint is to make a disposable cloth that is thrown away after a single use. Cleaning wipes are one of the most commonly used consumables in almost all industries. Millions and millions are used and disposed of every day. Companies need to rethink the impact of their choice of cleaning cloth on the environment."

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Mocean Energy

Mocean Energy is developing a range of wave energy technologies that can harness the power of waves and accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon world.



The Edinburgh company is developing two wave energy technologies:

- The **Blue Star**, a device that will power a range of subsea equipment, inspection and maintenance systems;
- And the **Blue Horizon**, a larger machine designed to generate power for remote island communities up to grid-scale electricity.

Both technologies are based on the same concept – a hinged raft with a unique geometry that improves performance by up to 300% compared to traditional hinged rafts and increases survivability by diving through the largest waves.

Blue Star, Mocean's first commercial product is designed to provide reliable, renewable power for a range of subsea applications such as subsea tie backs, fully autonomous underwater vehicles and reinstating electrical power and communications for stranded assets.

Its compact design means low-cost installation and operations at sea and uses a direct drive generator to charge on-board batteries, providing continual power.

In spring 2020, Mocean Energy entered a collaborative initiative to demonstrate how wave energy coupled with underwater energy storage can power subsea equipment.

The Net Zero Technology Centre provided grant funding, matched by financial and in-kind contributions from other partners, including Harbour Energy, Serica Energy, Baker Hughes, Transmark Subsea and energy storage developers Verlume.

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Cutting-edge subsea technology



DIGITAL EDGE SUBSEA

Cumbria based Digital Edge Subsea is a world leader in offshore digital video recording (DVR) and inspection systems. The company supplies the oil and gas industry with its digital video recording system that includes diving, remote operated vehicle (ROV) and topside operations.



Digital Edge Subsea's products fit mainly into two categories, Subsea Robotics and Inspection Systems. The former includes both single and dual use modules as well as manipulators, which are high quality state of the art robotic solutions for the subsea market.

Digital Edge Subsea is also a market leader in producing subsea inspection systems, and with 10 years' experience in the industry has nurtured strong customer relationships allowing for honest customer feedback which has been incorporated into the development of the Version 5 EdgeDVR.

The EdgeDVR has become an essential part of any ROV and Diving system offshore as it is easy to use and reliable. The new V5 software includes an online training platform and certification, as well as a powerful portable laptop version which comes in addition to the original 4U rackmounted version.

To work alongside this, Digital Edge Subsea has also recently released the Edge DVR Archive application. 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. 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 that is conducted after each dive.

For further information regarding Digital Edge Subsea, please contact:
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Flint Subsea: Emergency quick disconnect specialists

Flint Subsea is a specialist supplier of high-pressure hose emergency quick disconnect (EQD) systems to the offshore oil and gas industry for subsea and topside projects.

Flint Subsea's EQD systems are used to transfer fluids through 2" to 4" diameter hoses from vessels to other vessels or to fixed infrastructure on the surface or subsea. They are designed to protect personnel,



the environment and infrastructure. In the event of an emergency, the EQD devices separate and valves close to prevent the contents of the hose discharging to the marine environment.

The mid-line EQD system comprises a pressure balanced breakaway connector, which is mounted on deck or mid-

line in a hose subsea. It is held together with prestressed tension pins designed to break at a predetermined load. Pins break when the

hose tension exceeds their strength, initiating the disconnect sequence. Once disconnected, the valves seal prevent discharge from both ends of the connector. The design ensures that marine discharge is minimised in the cycle. The pressure balanced design ensures that net disconnect loads remain zero regardless of operating pressure or depth.

Flint Subsea design, assemble and test all their units from their headquarters in Ellesmere Port, UK.

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Reliability, durability and performance in the Compressed Air Industry

In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are very pleased to announce Sullair as our Compressed Air Technology Company of the Month.

For more than 55 years, Sullair has been at the leading edge of compressed air solutions and was one of the first companies to execute rotary screw technology in its air compressors, and its machines are famous throughout the world for their legendary durability. As the industry moves forward, the company intends to remain at its forefront with quality people, innovation, and air compressors that are built to last.



Sullair was founded in Michigan City, Indiana in 1965 and has since expanded to serve customers in every corner of the globe. It has offices in Chicago and manufacturing facilities in the United States and China – all of which are ISO 9001 certified to ensure the highest quality standards in manufacturing, and in addition, the Sullair Suzhou facility is ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certified.



Sullair became a Hitachi Group Company in July 2017 and is part of the Hitachi Industrial Equipment Systems Co. Ltd compressor portfolio. Being part of Hitachi has brought significant synergy in terms of product portfolio, geographic coverage and product R&D among others. For over 10 years now, the UK has been an integral hub for supporting all the Sullair authorised distributors and end-users within the EMEA and C.I.S. region, and it has a regional team focused on supporting over 100 distributors representing and looking after Sullair products in the EMEA and C.I.S region.

With an extensive global distribution network serving a diverse range of customers around the world, Sullair has an expansive offering of portable and stationary air compressors as well as a full line of air treatment products, genuine parts, lubricants, fluids and other solutions to keep air compressors running optimally, across multiple industries.

packaged, and transported with the use of compressed air.

It is crucial to both the food and clothing industries, the motor trade, and medication prescribed by a doctor, and Sullair provide compressed air solutions across these diverse industries in addition to construction and mining, manufacturing, industrial and power generation."



Sullair are proactive about understanding and working with customers, to meet and overcome their challenges. Different industries, regions, customers and applications have different compressed air needs, and placing the major emphasis on its customers and understanding how they use their compressed air, means that the company can provide more customised solutions.

In this crowded marketplace, there are a few things that make Sullair unique. Sullair air compressors do what they're supposed to do, and they do it extremely well for a very long time. With its expertise in analysing, managing and



A Hitachi Group Company

Sullair Vice President Sales & Marketing EMEA CIS, Victor Arnold commented, "Compressed air is used in thousands of applications and is vital to the productivity of industries around the globe, and without it, operations can shut down and the jobsite can come to a halt. Everyday products and services have at some point been handled, manufactured,



controlling compressed air, Sullair offers total compressed air solutions to help customers reduce energy costs and improve productivity.

Furthermore, from a technical and engineering perspective, there is the Sullair Air End and Spiral Valve Technology. The air ends are known throughout the industry as being bulletproof, and all aspects of the innovative air end have been carefully engineered to provide long life and optimised efficiency. This means that less maintenance is required and longer overhaul intervals, saving costs and reducing downtime and environmental impact.

manufacturing of our products and services in many ways, including remote diagnostics, predictive maintenance, new raw materials and technological innovation."

Sullair employs a talented global workforce that manufactures products and solutions, which fit future customer requirements, including those driven by climate change and the need to create a circular economy. The company is constantly innovating to help transform the future of compressed air solutions whether that be oil-free compressors, portable electric compressors, Internet of Things (IoT) connectivity which enables predictive



Secondly, the electronic spiral valve technology allows the compressor to match supply to demand, meaning that Sullair can assist all users to significantly reduce their energy costs and carbon footprint.

The journey into the future for Sullair as a manufacturer, aligns with the current driving forces of the fourth industrial revolution (which is being driven by digital and technological evolution); changing customer expectations and values; and climate change and sustainability.

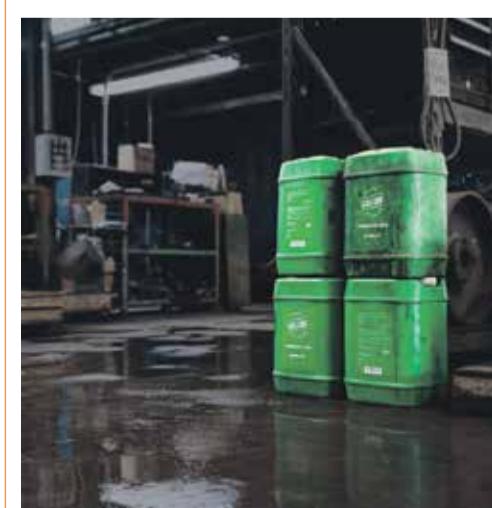
Victor continued, "Technological advancements have been gathering at pace in recent times, and the challenges and changing trends over the last few years have actually accelerated this, driving innovation in manufacturing to meet these evolving needs and demands. This impacts the

maintenance and remote monitoring of machines, or investment in technology such as the aforementioned electronic spiral valve to drive energy efficiency.

In conclusion, Victor told us, "Customer needs are changing as megatrends drive company strategies with Industry 4, environment disruptions requiring carbon reduction, urbanisation, and the ageing population in some countries. These trends are having both a direct and an indirect impact on the compressed air industry – the direct impact is the ever-increasing demand for improved efficiency to reduce power consumption, whereas the indirect impact may be the quantity, location and type of product required."

Sullair is working hard to keep its eyes on the future to ensure that it innovates and integrates new technologies, drives efficiency in both its own business and the products it manufactures for the future to best support its customers, end-users and society as a whole.

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Offshore Energy Company of the Year

Another positive year for MAATS Tech



In this issue of Industrial Process News, we are pleased to announce MAATS Tech Ltd as our Offshore Energy Company of the Year.

MAATS Tech has been supplying quality, offshore engineering solutions since 1989. With a proven track record in offshore energy spanning 30 years, MAATS is a well-trusted, key supplier to international markets and offshore engineering industries operating in both the Energy, and Oil & Gas markets. "We primarily provide design and mechanical engineering to the offshore engineering industry delivering services from design through to build, installation and commissioning of equipment, naval architecture, finite element analysis, project management and superintendence, services and support," stated Lisa Edwards, Managing Director.

With the world facing a global energy crisis and increased prices for energy, Governments and companies are switching and investing more in renewables, more efficient and cleaner technology. As a company deeply involved in providing these solutions, we asked Lisa how the last 12 months have been for the company. She responded, "It's been extremely challenging. The increase in steel prices due to the increased demand for raw materials has hit us hard. With COVID-19 and now the effects of the war in Ukraine, these prices have remained high and this in turn has created the validity of quotes to be extremely short which of course then puts pressure on cash flow. Internally, however, we have been



extremely busy with work in process. We are currently working on a large project to which we have just finished the engineering phase and are only two weeks away from shipping the equipment out to Norway ready to then start the installation phase. So this is all positive and continuing well as it should be."

The new Van Oord cable laying vessel (CLV) – Calypso, is now en-route from Romania to VARD Brattvaag to complete construction and outfit. MAATS Tech's installation team are primed and ready to travel to Norway to start installing the bespoke cable lay equipment for the vessel which is expected to enter operation at the end of 2023. Lisa added, "The Van Oord vessel is very much our main focus at the moment and for the next six to eight months."

MAATS prides itself on its abilities to create turnkey solutions that are designed to meet the client's needs and requirements. It is the supplier of choice for many world-renowned clients, and one to highlight is its relationship



Lisa Edwards, Managing Director, MAATS Tech



with Nexans, a key driver for the world's transition to a more connected and sustainable energy future. Lisa explained, "We can design and offer equipment for the operators needs because we have many years of experience under our belts to understand our client's operations and requirements. Our products are high-quality, reliable, and driven by innovation and expertise. On the back of this we are able to offer ongoing service and support once the vessel goes into operation. An example of this is the renewal of the service agreement we have with Nexans for a further 12 months, which is for us to continue to supply our Gold Level Service and Support provision for the deck lay equipment on the Nexans Aurora vessel originally delivered in 2021."

With the recent growth in the subsea cable market, MAATS Tech is also keen to continue to focus on this sector in the



near future. "We have had many enquiries coming in from the Far East in light of the current energy crisis and the move towards alternative power supply, opportunities have started to pick up pace. With pressure from governments, particularly in Europe, there is a growing requirement to find ways to provide these alternatives. This is where we see our solutions as part of that process. We don't provide off the shelf products but adapt our library of designs to suit the requirements of the operators and their individual needs, and develop it through to build," said Lisa.



Even though the UK and other parts of the world are currently gripped by the economic crises, every cloud still has a silver lining. "Of course the economic crisis is there but we are starting to see a slow recovery. There is a pipeline of opportunities – probably the biggest we've ever seen, but the difficulty we are having is getting companies to make the decision to get on with the projects at hand. There is still a nervousness in the market from the investors side, the projects are there, and needing to be delivered but it's about trying to make those investors feel comfortable in the current market to progress those opportunities. I believe 2023 will be more positive, as people will have to start taking the risk and make those decisions quicker, otherwise they will be left behind and then struggle to find companies with the capacity to deliver some of these projects."

Earlier this year the company anticipated more vessels being constructed and converted in order to deliver more offshore energy projects and that the push would be to design equipment that was bigger, more efficient and more innovative than ever before.

Six months later, we asked Lisa where the company was with this goal. "Long term, we know that these opportunities



are out there for us so we are currently recruiting young professionals which will help us to increase our capabilities, expand our offering to the market and ultimately take on more projects at the same time, but this has to be balanced in the short term with cashflow on immediate projects due to the recent global pressures."

In closing, we asked Lisa, how she felt receiving our Company of the Year award. She answered, "It's always an honour and very humbling to be recognised. But all of our success comes from my team who work incredibly hard behind the scenes to make all this happen. Receiving such awards are a great reminder to them that their hard work is getting noticed and their innovations are being recognised in the industry. We are incredibly proud to be a UK company and our work showcases what British companies are capable of."

For more information, please see below:
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