**Kickstart recycling with shredding: new R&D facility allows ‘testing before investing’**

In this issue of Sustainability Today, we are proud to announce Ulster Shredders as our shredding manufacturer Company of the Year.

Industrial recycling remains rightfully, a hot topic across global business sustainability targets, as we edge towards a total circular economy.

Ulster Shredders has been a stalwart manufacturer of industrial shredders for over 50 years, providing everyone from SME’S to national recycling organisations with world-class shredders. These phenomenal shredders have impressive shred capacity across a diverse range of materials from: paper, plastics, biomass, computer hard drives, glass, wood, tyres, metal and clinical waste. The U-45 shredder was even adapted to help clean up plastic waste across the Irish seas, shredding plastic waste collected by fishermen and even recycling end-of-life fishing nets.

As the leading manufacturer of industrial shredders, these precision-designed shredders can handle everything from production processing, mobile shredding, confidential waste to volume reduction, propelling the circular economy.

The experienced sales and engineering team are also happy to design and manufacturer bespoke shredders, mobile or otherwise for customer applications.

Based in Castledawson Magherafelt, Nothern Ireland, this globally renowned AAC ISO 9001-company was founded by Jack Gowdy in 1970. With an initial remit working in partnership with the aerospace and textile industries, the company has diversified over the years to specialise in industrial shredding manufacturing.

With an existing state-of-the-art 40,000sqft manufacturing facility, dedicated CNC machine shop and assembly area, the company has kickstarted 2023 with a brand new 5,000sqft research & development facility. Using the framework of, ‘testing before investing,’ customers are invited to safely view the testing of products for shredded output.

The R&D facility houses the full range of shredders, conveyors and hoppers and welcomes customers to book a demo to see the next-generational R&D facility in action, with specific configuration to demonstrate pre and post shredded materials.

We caught up with Edele Mallon: Marketing Officer to find out more about this pioneering company and how it’s fared over the last 12 months,

“This last year has been challenging, given the current economic climate but rewarding. We have continued to work hard to support our existing customers through our aftersales teams as well as securing some new business customers.

“We have attended a variety of trade events post-COVID and are delighted to be able to once again interface with existing customers & new contacts.

We have also added new members to team in a variety of roles, managerial, design and operational roles. We have launched new products to complement our range as well as our new R&D facility.”

The team successfully showcased the T-50 4-shaft shredder at the IFAT 2022 Expo, to impressed industry enthusiasts. The ergonomic shredder is user-friendly, offering a cost-effective one-stop-shredding application, across numerous applications. The advanced shredder is powered by two electric motors, driving the four shafts through a series of reduction gears.

The T-50 has been expertly designed to allow versatile application feeding from all sides via the conveyor belt, forklift, tipping devices, or indeed manually. Designed to be effortlessly added to pre-existing production lines; compatible with upstream or downstream shredding solutions, this shredder is suitable for many operations.

The T-50 is particularly well suited to the more challenging materials from mixed material streams, plastics, piping and wood, guaranteeing a high throughput to regulated particle size.

“From the T-50 showcasing to our new R&D facility, we have weathered the last 12 months remarkably well, showing timely business acumen. We have doubled our engineered capacity and welcomed two new Business Development Managers on board: Jude & Chris, working alongside our Sales and Service Director Paul Atkinson, who has been with the company for 25 years.

“We continue to provide first-class turnkey solutions for all our customers, assisting with the full product lifecycle from design, installation, dedicated after sales, inspections, service, and repair.

“We can provide spare parts from our well stocked supply, across the UK and Ireland within 24 hours. With our in-house manufacturing facilities, we can offer competitive, reduced lead times,” continues Edele.

This pioneering company puts customers at the heart of its operations by providing comprehensive training programmes for all machine operators, from novice to advanced levels. The training provides operators with all the necessary skills to operate the shredding machinery at the highest level, offering assured health & safety compliance and confidence.

The waste and recycling industry has driven machinery design over the years and all customers are welcome to contact Ulster Shredders, to test new material shredding. This prototype testing helps to push the boundaries in the recycling industry: adjusting and recalibrating the machinery to accommodate new materials.

With cutting-edge in-house 2D and 3D CAD systems, the engineering team at Ulster Shredders can continuously design and evaluate shredding capabilities. With the Autodesk Inventor: a 3D solid modelling and 2D draughting software package, the team can visualise a virtual 3D modelling of components, driving high standards and manufacturing perfection. This investment in state-of-the-art digital technology has allowed Ulster Shredders to maintain its position as manufacturer of industry-leading shredders.

The future looks bright for Ulster Shredders as Edele outlines, “We are excited to be launching further new products over the next year, hopefully launching at some trade shows across the UK and Europe.

**“**We will continue to scale up operations to meet demands, as the recycling industry heads towards the 2050 UK Government net zero targets and all eyes are on 100% business sustainability.

**“**Our in-house engineering team never stop and they are busy focussing on existing product enhancement features.

“We are of course, delighted to be recognised as the shredding manufacturer Company of the Year. It is a privilege, an honour and a fitting tribute to the hard work of all the Ulster Shredders’ team.”

Ulster Shredders will be at Plastics Live 2023: Coventry Building Society Arena from 10-11 May, the E-Waste World Conference & Expo in Frankfurt Messe on the 28-29 June and will be returning to RWM/Lets Recycle Live on the 13-14th September.

To book a free demo at the new R&D facility or to view the full shredder range, see below:

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