

Managing the big data flood

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PWE Annual Buyers' Guide 2020

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Opportunities ahead

By the time you read this comment the next Government will be in place, and it will have to face the number one concern for manufacturers - Brexit. Industry wants real vision and ambition for the UK economy in the next parliament and the policies to back it up in a post Brexit world - moving away from blame politics. Only when the uncertainty over the direction of travel on Brexit is ended will manufacturers really turn on the taps of much needed investment to boost the UK's productivity

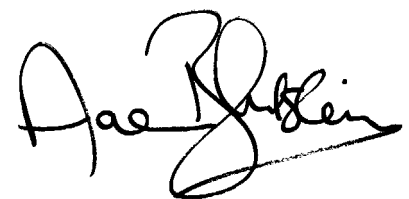
performance. This investment is critical to UK manufacturing, and with the sector facing increased global competition and major change in respect of industry 4.0 and sustainability, we now need this uncertainty to end.

As such the overriding immediate priority for the next Government must be to come to an agreement with the EU which is the basis for a future trading relationship and delivers what Made UK say are its four key tests: Frictionless trade; regulatory alignment; access to

labour, and a lengthy transition period that allow business time to adapt to change.

I agree with Made UK that it is highly unrealistic to assume a trade deal could be negotiated and ratified by December 2020, therefore these key tests must be at the heart of any new Government to create an environment of investment and certainty, where the focus is on growth and a skilled digital economy.

There are massive opportunities ahead for UK industry despite continuing political uncertainties, and we should remain optimistic about our future prospects. It is easy to forget what we do best, and only if we continue to be outward looking to reflect the world class innovation and manufacturing skills we possess as a nation, will the UK cope with the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities ahead.



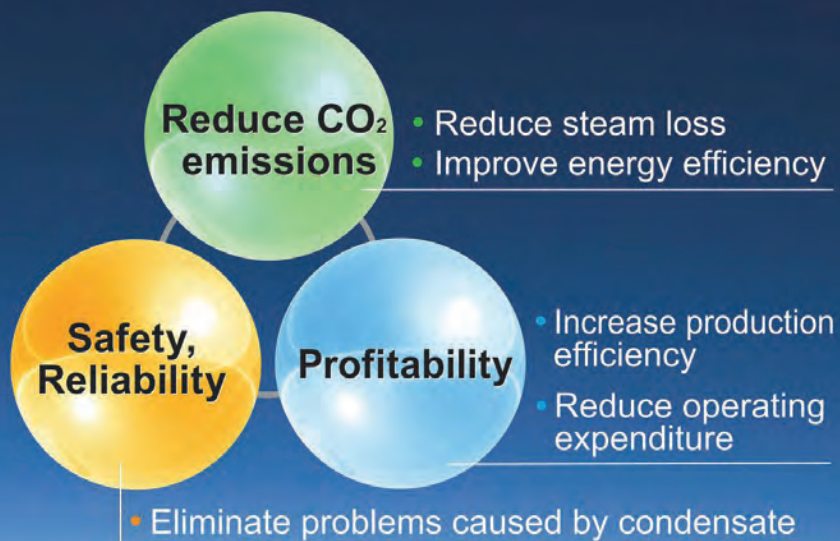

There are massive opportunities ahead for UK industry despite continuing political uncertainties

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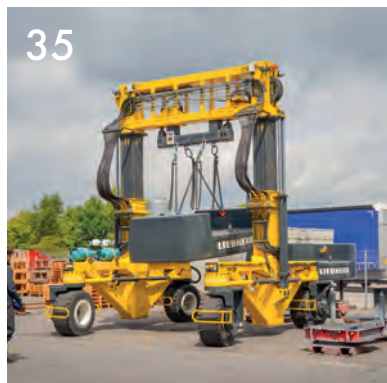
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Water treatment facilities rely on filtration systems to remove waste products as part of the process to recycle the water before it returns to the river. These filters are periodically cleaned by backwashing them with air bubbles produced by large blowers. Following two unexpected blower failures, Sulzer was asked to investigate the cause and improve the reliability of the system. PWE reports.	
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Atlas Copco celebrates 100 years in the UK

Atlas Copco has marked its century of operations in the UK with a look forward at how industrial technology might evolve over the next 100 years.

At a celebratory event in London, guests heard how Atlas Copco had been established in the UK with a single sales office selling diesel engines at the end of World War 1. It has now grown to become a large organisation, employing more than 2500 people at six production centres and multiple sales offices across the country.

During that time, there have been many notable milestones. These have included the launch of the world's first oil-free, rotary screw, stationary compressor in 1967; the first compressor with integrated variable speed drive in 1994; and the launch of the VSD+ compressor in 2013. The company has also expanded through high-profile acquisitions, including the purchase of UK-based vacuum product and abatement Edwards Group in 2014.

Atlas Copco commented that is looking forward to the next 100 years of operations in the UK at a time when megatrends such as digitalisation, electrification and artificial intelligence are set to transform the face of modern industry.

"We are proud of our long history in the UK, and the future looks very bright," said Alex Bongaerts, UK Holdings Manager at Atlas Copco. "In our opinion, there has never been a better time to be operating in the industrial sector. Digitally enabled technologies are transforming the way we design, build and operate equipment such as compressors. Indeed, Atlas Copco hopes the next 100 years will be as successful as our first century of operations in the UK."

Guests at the 100 years of operations event heard how Atlas Copco had embarked on a significant process of electrification, with battery and hybrid products expected to reduce its carbon emissions by 50 per cent by

2030.

"One of the major areas of emphasis going forward will be the continued drive towards sustainability, particularly in terms of the electrification of equipment such as mobile compressors and generators, lighting towers and pumps," said Bongaerts. "Traditionally, much of this type of equipment has been driven by diesel engines, but in urban environments or events such as music festivals, there is a desire for cleaner and quieter performance. That is resulting in the development of a wide range of battery-powered and hybrid products, which deliver reductions in carbon emissions. The future will require all of our products to be designed with a great deal of environmental consideration in mind."

Atlas Copco described how technologies such as the Internet of Things - driven by the application of sensors, software and connectivity - would give industrial organisations much better visibility of their assets, delivering significant advances in areas such as remote monitoring and predictive maintenance.

The use of artificial intelligence, meanwhile, would allow equipment such as compressors to track and make process improvements autonomously as independent cyber-physical systems. This could ultimately lead to a situation where compressed air systems operate independently in their own right, making autonomous adjustments to pressure and flow to facilitate process improvements.

The company also described how connected technologies such as virtual and augmented reality would transform the way that maintenance workers repaired industrial equipment, both in factories and out in the field.



Former apprentice and motorsport legend opens new OAS training centre

Motorsport legend and former apprentice, Ross Brawn OBE has officially opened the new Oxfordshire Advanced Skills (OAS) Training Centre, which is run by the Manufacturing Technology Centre, on the UKAEA Culham site in Oxfordshire.

Coventry-based MTC Apprenticeships has been procured by the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) and the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) to provide industry leading training to hundreds of apprentices in the new centre at Oxfordshire

Advanced Skills.

Ross Brawn, who is currently managing director of Formula 1 Motor Sports division, began his career as an apprentice with the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

On the new facility and the launch, Ross Brawn commented: "I am truly delighted to be present at the opening of Oxfordshire Advanced Skills and back where it all began for me as a young apprentice at the UK Atomic Energy Authority.

"My time here provided me with the skills

and experience I needed to go out into the wider engineering world and laid the foundation for the career path I have pursued. Apprentices are our next generation of designers, engineers and global problem solvers and the importance of advanced skills training and this facility in the modern world has never been so important."

OAS aims to develop the next generation of engineers to support the future skills needs of businesses across Oxfordshire, the Thames Valley and the surrounding area - one of the

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David Martin, director of Oxfordshire Advanced Skills, said: "The vision was an employer-led skills hub that would provide high quality training contextualised by being delivered in the workplace, but OAS is so much more than that. We have created something very special here that has the potential to impact careers and business performance for decades to come."

Work has completed on the new 3,800m² training centre at UKAEA Culham with the first cohort of apprentices starting their journey in September this year. Using some of the UK's most advanced equipment, it will provide more than 350 apprentices a year with sought after technical skills for the local economy and the fundamentals they need to succeed in their future careers. The centre is looking to recruit 100 apprentices to start in September 2020.

Training at the new facility is being delivered by MTC Apprenticeships, replicating the industry-leading tuition provided at the Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre (AMTC) on the MTC campus at Ansty Park, Coventry. The AMTC has built a rapid reputation for equipping apprentices not only with core engineering skills but also the latest advanced manufacturing techniques.

The new centre is furnished with industry-standard equipment covering a wide range of engineering and technology disciplines.

Paul Rowlett, managing director of the Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre, added: "The opening of the new OAS Training Centre is a culmination of more than a year's hard work, but it is only the start of our partnership with UKAEA and STFC that will see

us deliver the OAS training programme. The new building has allowed us to create a programme that will seed the next generation of engineers for high value technology businesses within the region and address the current skills shortage."



Managing director of the Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre Paul Rowlett, OAS director David Martin, engineering apprentices Rebecca Marsh and Ella Quigley, and F1 managing director of Motor Sports, Ross Brawn.

Formula One World Champion Lewis Hamilton joins the Academy

Fresh from securing his sixth Formula One World Championship, Lewis Hamilton visited the Royal Academy of Engineering to formalise his admission to the Academy as an Honorary Fellow, in recognition of his role in inspiring

interest in engineering, especially among young people.

The Royal Academy of Engineering commented that Lewis Hamilton is an inspiring role model for young people in the UK and

around the world, winning his sixth Formula One World Champion title at the US Grand Prix on 3rd November 2019. The Institution added that as the only black Formula One driver, and one who has come from a working-class background, Lewis has broken down barriers and demonstrates that those from non-traditional upbringings can succeed at the highest level.

Lewis also met with a group of young engineers who are supporting This is Engineering, a nationwide campaign led by the Royal Academy of Engineering - and supported by a range of brands and engineering companies - to improve the representation of engineering online, celebrate the contribution of engineers, and encourage more young people to consider a career in the profession. EngineeringUK estimates that every year the UK is short of up to 59,000 engineers, while only 12% of the engineering workforce in the UK are female, and 9% are from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds. On the first ever This is Engineering Day on 6th November, over 130 organisations signed a pledge to address the misrepresentation of engineers and engineering online and in popular culture.



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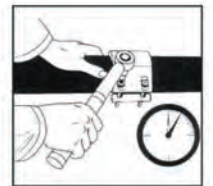
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MAKE uk - the manufacturers' organisation monthly news comment



By MAKE UK chief executive,
Stephen Phipson

For years, the film industry has portrayed Artificial Intelligence as a futuristic, often dystopian technology that we should be fearful of. Cinematic greats from the Terminator, the Matrix, and even the Avengers portray AI in a way that, although entertaining, bares little relation to reality.

While the UK's AI scene has yet to use the technology to create an alternative reality, we are a global leader in Artificial Intelligence, with a respected landscape across academia and industry. Moreover, investment in the UK's AI sector reached £998m in 2018, almost the sum of the rest of Europe's investments combined. The vast amount of knowledge is good for UK manufacturers, as they incorporate AI and machine learning to improve business performance and productivity.

AI in manufacturing includes programmes that can predict failures in equipment before issues arise, as well as programming that can allow collaborative robots to detect and evade collisions, and recognize particular parts on an assembly line.

The 2018 Artificial Intelligence Sector Deal made clear the Government's intention to ensure that the UK realises AI's full potential. As well as setting out a plan to improve the supply of AI skills in the UK and ensure that the UK remains a world class hotbed of R&D and tech entrepreneurship, the sector deal discusses how manufacturing could progress the sector and harness AI to improve the manufacturing of goods.

Although the majority of manufacturers are aware of the benefits that

AI can bring to their business less than a quarter of manufacturers are currently using it. There could be several reasons for this, including lack of awareness of the market and not having the capacity to engage with the technology.

To combat some of these challenges, manufacturers who have successfully incorporated AI and have seen positive effects should share best practice, whether in online forums, events or publications.

With the AI Sector Deal attempting to make headway in improving the AI skillset, it is also important that manufacturers ensure that they are up to date with progressions in the market and that individuals take relevant courses when possible.

Though the majority of companies still have time to do horizon scanning for technology, this figure has dropped since 2016. It is possible that with companies having to keep up with what Brexit means for their business over the past three years, they have been redirecting their priorities elsewhere. As such, it is important that companies do not get so distracted by the UK's departure from the EU that they miss out on key methods of improving productivity.

Of course, it is unlikely that AI will be relevant to every business. As with any technology, it should only be implemented when it makes business sense for the company. However, for those companies that it is relevant to, it is important that they take full advantage of the UK's expertise and live up to the expectation that the industry is most likely to fully harness and capitalise upon it.



BCAS supports new UK-based supply chain development platform

BCAS, the UK's only trade association for the compressed air industry, is pleased to announce its partnership with Reshoring UK, a new platform designed to connect manufacturers and suppliers across the UK's engineering market.

Developed through a collaboration between over 20 leading industrial engineering associations, the platform supplies businesses with a wealth of information that they can use to successfully determine a new supplier partnership.

Businesses can target by industry, sector and region, with the results appearing on an interactive map; these points can then be interrogated to show more data and an individual company website link. Other functions of the website include a search box

to find bespoke products and services, with plans in motion to further expand the website over 2020.

Vanda Jones, Executive Director for BCAS, commented; "In a world of constantly changing legislation and standards, it pays to work with a supplier that can offer the right levels of support, backed by engineering and technical expertise.

"As the only UK technical trade association open to manufacturers, distributors and end users of compressors, vacuum pumps, pneumatic tools and allied products, it is an approach we have always advocated - helping to connect our members with industry end-users to help specify, install, maintain and service their equipment.

"We are therefore delighted to be partnering

with Reshoring UK to help businesses source the right engineering expertise, that can help avoid downtime, save costs and maintain the highest safety standards."

Baroness Burt of Solihull, Patron of Reshoring UK added: "This facility will support the high value and technical requirements of such industries as aerospace, automotive, rail, marine, energy and medical from conceptual design to complete product delivery for companies searching for UK-based support for their businesses.

The development of the Reshoring initiative is to encourage engagement with our manufacturing supply chain and to recognise the strength, skills and innovation available to manufacturers in the UK."

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CASE STUDY

Asset data in real time

PWE takes a look at how Fetch Data Collector software from MAC Solutions has allowed a water treatment company to view critical assets data in real-time.

Industrial Data Communication and M2M specialist MAC Solutions has supplied its Fetch Data Collector software to Nordikeau, a water and wastewater treatment company based in Quebec province, Canada. The software enables Nordikeau to log data from critical assets and equipment in real-time (every 10 seconds), providing data for alarms and early notifications of any equipment or process issues.

Fetch Data Collector is a software package designed specifically for Ewon remote access VPN routers that makes data collection easier, faster and more secure than ever. The software collects historical data from the data storage memory within the Ewon Flexy remote access VPN router. The software can be configured in an easy three-step process with minimum technical knowledge required and minimal configuration within each Ewon device.

With more than 100 sites across Canada, Nordikeau specialises in drinking and waste water treatment. Martin Fafard, Director Smart City at Nordikeau comments: "We wanted to view asset data in real-time so that we could react more quickly to issues and to provide our staff and clients with live data and dashboards via mobile phones and laptops using alarms and notifications. We therefore installed the Fetch Data Collector and an Ewon Flexy



Nordikeau is using Fetch Data Collector to view real time data from critical assets at a water treatment plant in Canada

remote access router in September 2019 at one of our water treatment plants."

While maintaining the highest levels of data security using HTTPS encryption, Fetch Data Collector can connect to any number of remote machines via the Ewon device and Talk2M Remote-Connectivity Cloud. Alternatively, Fetch

Data Collector can be configured to collect data on a local basis, from locally connected Ewon devices. This is designed for end-users, who wish to store production data in local machines and then archive the data into a centralised data storage, for real-time analytics. Data collected can be stored to either ODBC-compliant databases or a series of CSV files, with fully customisable file formats and naming conventions. This ensures maximum compatibility with third party software, such as historians, analytical tools and IoT (Internet of Things) connectivity environments.

As Martin Fafard states: "We've configured the Ewon Flexy router to collect data from more than 50 sensors connected to critical processes and items of equipment at the treatment plant. For example, parameters being collected include water levels in tanks and reservoirs, pump speeds, turbidity, network pressures and flow rates. These are critical parameters where the data needs to be collected or refreshed every 10 seconds, so it really is 'live' data. Fetch Data Collector was the only tool that allowed us to do this. It is very flexible and easy to adapt for our own purposes."

Fetch Data Collector stores the data in a SQL Server database at Nordikeau and is shared with the company's Nordicité global software solution, where staff and clients can visualise the data in customised dashboards. Alarms and notifications can be sent via SMS text messages to engineers or clients on remote devices such as mobile phones or laptops.

Martin Fafard recalled a recent incident where Fetch Data Collector helped: "One of the reserve water levels in the plant reached a critical level and so an alarm notification was triggered. We were able to react quickly and find the source of the problem, which turned out to be a breach in a water pipe that was losing water quickly. We were able to repair this breach quickly and effectively."

He added: "At present, we are only using Fetch Data Collector on one water treatment plant, but we plan to roll out the software to other sites in Canada. We are very pleased with the software and the technical support we've received from MAC Solutions and we look forward to continuing this relationship in the future."

What is Ewon + Talk2M?

Ewon + Talk2M is a Remote-Access solution which provides a secure, reliable method, to connect with machine control devices (PLCs, HMIs, etc), anywhere in the world, across the Internet. Launched in 2007, there are now more than 245,000 devices connected and 21.5 million VPN connections made. The Ewon + Talk2M solution consists of two elements: the Ewon remote-access VPN Routers and the Talk2M cloud-based connectivity service.

The Ewon remote-access VPN Routers are packed full of features that are powerful and valuable for machine manufacturers and automation systems integrators, including real-time PLC monitoring, e-mailing capabilities, customisable web-server pages, scripting engine, data and event logging.

Talk2M is a cloud-based, Internet-connectivity service that works with the Ewon VPN Routers, and is free to use, in its basic form. It has changed remote-access for machines and process plant, by overcoming the typical IT and security obstacles which are inherent within other solutions.

For further information please visit: www.mac-solutions.net

Additional measurements can be manually triggered by pressing a single button on the side of the sensor. The signal processing algorithms and calculation routines used are the same as in the high-end Intellinova[®] online system and the sophisticated portable Leonova[®] Diamond and Leonova[®] Emerald instruments.

EASY INTEGRATION AND TROUBLE-FREE USE

Practical and robust, the Airius sensors have a compact design and an efficient and energy-saving communication protocol. The careful design and optimal choice of battery technology ensure years of troublefree use and stable monitoring. In idle state, sensor power consumption is extremely low. Using the well-established and stable WiFi data transfer technology, Airius is an easy-to-implement solution that works well within existing IT environments.

STRAIGHTFORWARD INSTALLATION AND EFFORTLESS SETUP

Airius does not require any supplementary equipment besides WiFi routers. The sensors have the shortest response times in the segment, making installation and commissioning straightforward and fast. The SPM Connect App, downloadable for mobile devices, is used to configure the necessary communication parameters to connect to the database; either through the Condmaster Entity Server (CES) communication program or through secure transfer via SPM Cloud to Condmaster.NET. Once installed and configured, the Airius sensors are managed and run alongside SPM online and offline measurement systems. REST API support allows other devices or process control systems to retrieve vibration data from the sensor.

When used with Condmaster Ruby, rotational speed and process parameters can be retrieved as a global value and registered along with the vibration reading. Furthermore, condition parameters can be utilized to determine whether or not a reading should be saved.

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Plasma cutting consumables

ESAB has launched its new Cutmaster Black Series of enhanced performance plasma cutting consumables, which can extend operating life by 60% compared to standard life electrodes. They are featured on the SL60QD 1 Torch, which comes with the Cutmaster 60i handheld air plasma cutting system. The company says coupled with internal enhancements on the Cutmaster 60i, the new electrode design increases the unit's rated cut and piercing capacity to 20 mm, a 16.6% improvement.

"At 16.8kgs, the Cutmaster 60i already offered the best power-to-weight ratio on the market. With the Cutmaster Black Series consumables, this 60-amp unit is even more of a cutting beast," says Kris Scherm, global manual plasma business & product director. "With Cutmaster Black Series consumables, users will enjoy lower overall operating costs through extended electrode life and obtain more quality cuts per electrode."

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Inventory cycle count system

International supply chain solutions provider TOUCHPATH has announced it is launching 'TouchCount', an everyday, continuous cycle count system that can be used to keep a current and accurate, 360-degree view of warehouse inventory. TouchCount is the first of its kind according to TouchPath. It can be integrated with and post cycle count results to most ERP systems, recording cycle count data from all types of warehouse data capture device. Importantly TouchCount can live-count inventory with no production stoppages and with zero disruption to live warehouse product flows, unlike ERP systems whose inventory cycle counting is limited by more restrictive system rules. TouchCount can be customised to support company-specific working practices and so is easy for warehouse operatives to use following minimal training.

w| www.touchpath.com

Hot air blower



LEISTER says its HOTWIND SYSTEM 230v 3680W is impressive with its wide range of applications suitable for industrial heat processes and is ideal for fast paced production lines with its 'Plug in and Go' operation designed to deliver a cost-effective solution.

With the highest power output in the system range, the HOTWIND is user friendly with a digital display allowing more visible control of temperature settings up to 650°C. The HOTWIND boasts a long service life, maintaining maximum uptime in production with an auto cool-down mechanism ensuring continual operation and preventing the device from overheating.

Developed by Leister - a leading name in process heat applications, the HOTWIND is supplied to the UK by WELWYN TOOL GROUP who supply the full range of Leister plastic welding and industrial process heat equipment.

t| 0800 856 0057 e| info@welwyntoolgroup.com
w| www.welwyntoolgroup.com

Armed Forces Covenant

Lifting equipment manufacturer and service provider, KONECRANES DEMAG UK, has announced it has signed the Armed Forces Covenant. The company says it has made a commitment to support the Armed Forces community and recognise the contribution to society and business made by serving, reservist and veteran military personnel.

As an Armed Forces friendly organisation, it has pledged to promote a recruitment pathway for service personnel, their spouses and partners, ensuring that no member of the Armed Forces faces disadvantage in seeking employment. The company also recognises that in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate and has promised support, including special leave and deployment, for reservists and leaders of military cadet organisations.

The company already has military leavers within its ranks, including former RAF personnel who are working in training and branch management roles.

t| 01530 419037

e| vivienne.pearsons@konecranes.com

w| www.konecranes.com/en-uk



Sensor-to-cloud platform

iCOMOX, the sensor-to-cloud platform for intelligent condition monitoring by SHIRATECH, took centre stage at SPS Drives 2019 in Nuremberg (hall 4A, stand 400). The company says this end-to-end solution is proving a hit with more than 4,000 units of iCOMOX sold to date. The product is a smart predictive-maintenance solution that can boost industrial productivity and enhance safety. iCOMOX is very fast to deploy. It comes ready to use with embedded software and on-board time-domain, as well as FFT analytics for condition-based maintenance (CBM) of industrial assets such as machinery, production lines and structures. CE and FCC certified, iCOMOX is housed in a compact and rugged IP66-rated enclosure. A selection of adapters is provided to facilitate attachment to various types of equipment.

w| www.shiratech-solutions.com/products/icomox



Extra-wide mobile yard ramp

Marubeni Komatsu, UK supplier of Komatsu construction, mining, quarrying and utility equipment, says it has experienced significant success with its recent purchase of a bespoke, extra-wide mobile yard ramp, designed by THORWORLD INDUSTRIES and supplied through Loading Bay Service.

Marubeni Komatsu was looking for a safer and more efficient unloading process for its warehouse facility. To begin sourcing the best solution, Marubeni Komatsu director Derek White found Loading Bay Service, and through association, Thorworld Industries. "We were keen to find a solution that could completely meet our needs. We knew that a standard ramp, designed for a forklift with rubber wheels wouldn't be appropriate, as the tracks on our excavators can cause a lot of damage. We required a more durable loading surface - long lasting, but also safe - and found the answer at Thorworld."

w| www.thorworld.co.uk



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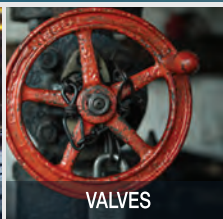
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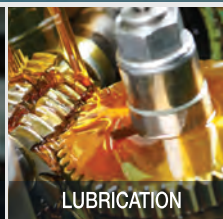
The Ultraprobe instruments from UE Systems can help with one or for all of the above applications. This makes it a very versatile tool that lets you get the most out of your investment and time.



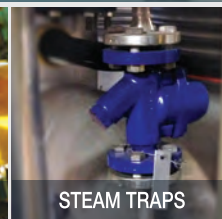
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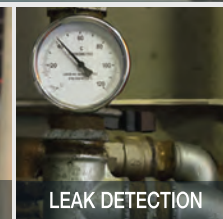
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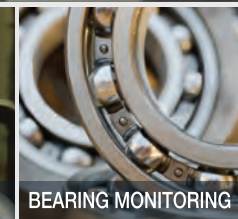
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The *ultrasound* approach

Bearing beauty is only skin deep

Beauty is only skin deep. Albeit cliché, the same is true of ball bearings. External signs of rust do not necessarily equate to poor performance. However, many customers are falling foul of this misconception. Chris Johnson, managing director of miniature bearing specialist SMB Bearings, explains.



When assessing the suitability and quality of bearings, it's important to look beyond the external aesthetic. Many industries that use 440 grade hardened stainless steel bearings, for instance, may start to see signs of corrosion. While the instant reaction may be to assume this will cause the bearings to fail, this isn't always the case. External corrosion may have no effect on the bearing's internal rollability.

For salt water environments, there are marine

grade alternatives that are very resistant to corrosion. Also known as 316 grade stainless steel bearings, these bearings can be used in many marine applications and will maintain their good looks for much longer than hardened steel alternatives. However, because this 316 steel cannot be thermally hardened, it has much lower load and speed ratings so is not suitable for high load applications.

Take this as an example. A customer is using bearings in rowing boat seats to allow the seats to move back and forth and make room

for the rower's legs. The bearings in these seats don't have an easy life, with regular salt water exposure and some shock loading as rowers move the seat back and forth.

These bearings need to be hard. In this case, hardened 440 stainless steel bearings can handle the impact. The more corrosion resistant marine grade versions cannot and, for this application, cost rules out full ceramic bearings. The answer is use 440 grade bearings and allow some corrosion on the exterior surfaces, while protecting the internal surfaces with the correct amount of a water-resistant, corrosion-inhibiting grease.

Clearly, it is more important that bearings perform well rather than look good. There's no doubt marine grade bearings have their place in the industry, as their corrosion resistant properties are essential for some applications. However, in the rowing boat example, marine grade bearings would wear far too quickly.

Of course, excessive corrosion will be problematic for some applications. In these instances, increased corrosion resistance is essential as offered by 316 grade steel bearings and non-metal bearings, such as ceramic or plastic. Small particles of corroded steel that find their way into the bearing, will cause accelerated wear to the ball and raceway surfaces. These particles will also mix with the grease to form an abrasive paste and will lead to bearing failure if ignored. If in doubt, check with a bearing specialist who can advise if performance has been compromised.

Choosing the right bearings means weighing up all the options. High impact loads will automatically rule out some materials. By assessing the operational environment, required longevity and loads that will be applied to the bearing, the best bearing may not necessarily be the one that remains looking beautiful for years.

For further information please visit:
smbbearings.com



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INDUSTRY RECOGNISED COURSES FROM THE BFPA

The BFPA have for many years been passionate about raising standards within the fluid power market and industry as a whole, with this objective in mind we have created a suite of valuable training courses now available.

FOUNDATION SAFETY COURSE

This course has been developed to provide an introduction into hose, connectors and the safe assembly of these components for industry use. During the day the attendee will gain a knowledge and understanding of safe hose assembly and if applied will only enhance the safety within the hydraulic industry and the attendee.

HOSE ASSEMBLY SKILLS COURSE

The skills course will take the candidate through the many techniques and considerations essential for the safe production of a quality hose assembly and ultimately leading to installation. This two day course involves both the theoretical and practical elements in working with hose and connectors.

SMALL BORE TUBING INTEGRITY COURSE

Delegates are offered a valuable understanding of the complexity surrounding small bore tubing and compression fittings. The course covers generic manufacturers twin ferrule compression fittings, thread awareness, tube and pipe differences and the preparation process, tube manipulation (bending) principles, common installation and routing techniques.

HOSE INTEGRITY, INSPECTION & MANAGEMENT

The key themes covered during the one-day course include: hose life expectancy; risk analysis; competence by way of a robust competence assurance system; identify, inspect & record; hose register – recording of a hose assembly prior to it going into service; and visual hose assembly (installation) inspection check list.

HYDROSTATIC PROOF PRESSURE TESTING

The course will help give the delegate a greater understanding of the dangers associated with pressure testing. During the one day course the delegate will learn how to safely test hose and connector assemblies by taking into account a safe system of work best practice procedure (HSE GS4 document) along with relevant pressure test standards commonly used within industry.



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Smart condition monitoring solution

Mitsubishi Electric has integrated a lot of smart sensing and automation technology into its comprehensive Smart Condition Monitoring (SCM) package. The latest condition-based monitoring solutions offer a predictive approach to production and process plant maintenance for engineers and site operators. These ensure asset performance is optimised, while keeping downtime to a minimum by providing live visibility of machine status. This includes primary assets and their wear components such as motors, fans, pumps and gearboxes.

The automation systems specialist now offers all this capability through an integrated package solution that collects live data from advanced measurement sensors, analyses it and then provides updates and warnings to anything from a smart phone or single HMI to multiple levels of management systems.

The SCM combines smart sensor intelligence with online monitoring and control. The ability to detect variations in machine condition comes with the facility to display information on various devices, including linking to wider control systems – leading to practical early warning signals and the ability to prevent costly downtime and loss of production.

A teach function allows the SCM sensor to learn how the machine behaves in its normal operating state and creates a memory map of the vibration readings (all machines vibrate to one degree or another). Using sophisticated analysis techniques, the sensor can detect abnormal operation locally. Further advanced methods of vibration analysis are also possible using software tools.



The ability to link multiple SCM sensors back to a single controller leads to a better understanding of the complete area to be monitored. This information can be networked to the controller and on to higher level systems in many ways, including wired and wireless connectivity. While the advanced networking capabilities will be welcome to many plant integration specialists, the fact that the system can work as a virtually stand-alone system and send the critical information to an iPad or phone will be equally well received by others.

For further information please visit: gb3a.mitsubishielectric.com

Improving product performance and longevity

At the forthcoming Southern Manufacturing Exhibition (Stand H165), Henkel will be demonstrating how its latest generation Loctite, Bonderite Technomelt and Teroson products can benefit the entire value chain.

Core technologies including threadlocking, sealing, gasketing, retaining, instant and structural bonding, will be demonstrated using the latest product introductions.

Henkel's range of adhesives incorporate five core technologies – epoxies, acrylics, polyurethanes, silane modified polymers and silicones. Continuous development across the range has now led to products that are more tolerant of contamination, able to support a wider range of operating temperatures and therefore be applied to a greater number of tasks.

As a result of these on-going developments, adhesive technology is being widely adopted across all engineering sectors to improve the performance and longevity of products, as well as allow dissimilar materials to be joined to reduce overall weight and energy consumption.

The company will also focus on the

merits of its Universal Structural Bonders. Based on Henkel's Hybrid Technology these products can significantly extend the scope of application for structural adhesives in both design and repair. They harness the strengths of different adhesive technologies to provide what the company

says is a unique combination of characteristics. Currently four different adhesives complete this range, each with its own distinguishing features and benefits.

For more further information please visit: www.henkel-adhesives.co.uk



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- VA CAT I, Stratham Lodge Hotel, Lymm - 3rd to 6th Mar
- VA CAT III, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 23rd to 27th Mar
- VA CAT II, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 8th to 12th June
- VA CAT I, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 15th to 18th June
- VA CAT III, Stratham Lodge Hotel, Lymm - 13th to 17th July
- VA CAT I, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 7th to 10th Sept
- VA CAT II, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 12th to 16th Oct
- VA CAT III, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 16th to 20th Nov

Asset Reliability Practitioner (ARP)

- ARP CAT I, The Stoke by Nayland Hotel, Essex - 10th to 12th Feb
- ARP CAT I, Dates to be confirmed. See Website - circa June
- ARP CAT I & II, Dates to be confirmed. See Website - circa Sept



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Managing the big data flood

Jonathan Wilkins, marketing director at obsolete parts supplier, EU Automation looks at how to effectively funnel big data for use in operational risk management.



Freak floods caused by downpours can cause devastating effects, but what's that got to do with big data? Much like constant downfalls of water, there's lots of data being generated – and it needs to go somewhere.

Just as a huge volume of water won't be managed effectively without the correct infrastructure in place, neither will huge volumes of data. Yet ironically, you can use big data to prepare for flooding and other environmental or operational risks.

Operational risks refer to any kind of disruption to normal processes that could lead to a loss of customers and revenue. While you

can't anticipate every possible eventuality – like a freak downpour – you can focus on getting the level of risk in your facility down to a tolerable level.

Accidents, in their broader sense, are rare events that occur when a series of failures of risk management barriers occur. However, post-incident investigations often show that several near misses actually occurred before the accident took place. While these failures may not have been observable to the human eye, they could have been detected through rigorous data collection and analysis.

So, what exactly is 'big data'? Given the buzzword's widespread use across industries, it

is not surprising that the exact meaning of the term is often subjective. As per the IBM Institute for Business Value, it really all comes down to four Vs: volume, variety, velocity and veracity.

Volume

Big data is, unsurprisingly, big. As the name suggests, big data relies on massive datasets, with volumes such as petabytes and zettabytes commonly referenced. However, these large datasets aren't as difficult to collect as you might imagine.

New technologies are increasing the size of data sets that every device, facility and process generates. It's growing at an exponential rate

Smart Maintenance Management Focus

and bringing with it new challenges. Factories, as an example, are getting overloaded with data. Every machine, process and system on the factory floor will be generating data during the plant's operation. However, these facilities have commonly become data rich, but information poor.

For example, technologies allow plant managers to extract data on the condition of mechanical equipment, such as a motor. However, tracking huge reams of data on the condition of a motor will only go so far. You need to use data, for it to be useful. What's the solution? Keep your data collection streamlined by investing in a data management system. Here, you gain insight into the data you care about and use it in accordance with your risk management plan.

Velocity

The second 'V' in the big data flood is velocity. Velocity refers to the accelerating speed at which data is being generated and the lag time between when data is generated and when it is accessible for decision making.

Faster analysis leads to faster responses. However, today's data is created at such a rate that it exceeds the capability of many existing systems.

Consider the motor condition monitoring as

an example – you may be tracking 500 vibration datapoints per second to check its performance, but if your vibration analysis system is only able to analyze 200 data points per second, you have a problem. Ultimately, you need an entire big data infrastructure that is capable of processing this data quickly.

Variety

As more technologies begin to generate data, this information is becoming more diverse. From vibration analysis and condition monitoring, to data from enterprise systems such as market trends and product lifecycle management (PLM), organizations are finding they need to integrate increasingly complex data types from an array of systems.

This often requires the vertical integration of several different systems. Using this more complicated integration model, condition monitoring data could identify when an industrial part was showing signs of failure, then automatically cross check inventory data to see if a replacement part is in stock. If a replacement part isn't available, this system could make even more intelligent decisions by automatically repurchasing the part using an enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. However, this is just one example.

Plant managers may find themselves wanting to collect all data types, even data that isn't useful to them and store it in archives for historical analysis. Businesses need to keep their risk mitigation goals at the forefront of their data collection, rather than collecting data for data's sake.

Veracity

The final 'V' refers to Veracity, the reliability of a particular data type. The key issue here is that the other dimensions of big data – that's volume, velocity and variety – challenge the capacity of many existing systems.

Consider the replacement part example. The scenario sounds ideal, but how can you integrate the condition monitoring big data of a legacy motor, with the availability data of the parts supply if it needs replacing, when this data belongs to a third party?

To achieve true veracity, your data infrastructure must be able to make intelligent decisions, without hitting a wall when it requires action outside of the factory walls.

Don't let your huge reams of data flood your facility. There's no value in generating data for data's sake. For the most effective analysis, make sure you have all four dimensions of big data being in place – volume, variety, velocity and veracity.



Managing food waste

Tobius Antius, CEO of food process automation company Novotek AB, explains how, with automation and systems, manufacturers can help to minimise the creation of food waste in manufacturing.



According to a report by Boston Consulting Group (BCG), food waste will be a \$1.5 tn problem by the year 2050. But it's not all bad news. The same report says that better supply chain infrastructure and efficiency could reduce this figure by \$270 bn within the same timeframe.

How can food waste be reduced at the manufacturing stage of the supply chain? In an ideal world, there would be no food waste and manufacturers would be able to derive a perfect yield of production, relative to the ingredients put in. Nevertheless, food waste is an issue; albeit one that automation and optimisation technologies can help solve, including by maximising the efficiency of generating gas from food waste.

The food and beverage industries were late to adopt automation and plant IT. Yet progress

has been made, and 50% of Europe's recycling plants now feature automated processes.

Meanwhile, a recent report by PwC claims that, in the waste management sector alone, 62.6% of jobs have a chance of being automated by the year 2030 – the highest percentage in any sector. An upside is that quality and effectiveness of automation in the food industry is far higher than in other prominent industries.

But the downside is that many food plant managers are still experiencing a learning curve with new technology. One way to address this is with dedicated technical support of automation systems.

Technical support programs are often overlooked, or disregarded to some extent, by food manufacturers who consider it to be an additional service. In reality, it's arguably the most effective way of ensuring your

manufacturing IT investment offers long-term value.

However, for other food plant managers, the learning curve of onboarding automation systems can be attributed to a lack of defined purpose. In other words, managing waste through automation is about more than just installing new equipment. Food and beverage companies instead need to take an intelligent approach to deriving energising gas from food waste.

Customised modular approach

Novotek has found that solutions like Predix OPM allow firms to conduct analysis of the complex mix of factors that affect gas production. Through this analysis, they can learn the best ways to run digestion processes with different blends of food waste.

With SCADA systems, operations can make

the most of the insights derived from OPM. It is through this understanding that operators can have a clear understanding of performance, day-by-day and hour-by-hour. A mix of historical, real-time and predicted performance indicators can support decision making and speedier responses to unusual conditions.

Many food and beverage plants opt for custom-made modular solutions that are embedded with automation and operational technology. For instance, trusted automated elements like eddy current separators can separate non-ferrous materials from waste with a powerful magnetic field. Or, electromagnets can be used to recover tins and cans in combination with MESs.

Other modular approaches include fully automated material recovery facilities (MRFs). They are found to improve productivity and yield better quality recycle while also allowing for greater flexibility to grow. Some operators regard the ideal as being an MRF that operates independently of human interaction. That said, the human element should not be completely disregarded in meeting waste management targets.

Some areas of the recycling process are still

a long way from automation. For example, the pre-sorting and recovering of valuable materials, e.g. plastic, from municipal solid waste is still performed manually; although the process can involve cutting edge analysis equipment, like optical sorters, further down the line.

Europe's largest anaerobic digestion plant

In the UK, AD technology is embraced as a valuable source of renewable energy, particularly for the purposes of converting waste food matter into bio methane and maximising the efficiency of generating gas from food waste.

AD is the breaking down of organic matter, in the absence of oxygen, with micro-organisms called methanogens. A digestion plant is very much like a human stomach and relies on a constant stream of food waste to keep going. This waste is broken down to produce energy-rich biogas – or methane plus carbon dioxide – and digestate. Otherwise the bacteria which breaks down the waste, dies.

The UK's first AD plant is located at Cannock Chase, Staffordshire, and operated by the waste management firm Biffa. Biffa says that the

120,000 tonnes per year capacity facility, which cost £24 mn to build, is the largest of its kind in Europe. It mainly treats commercial and industrial food and organic waste from the nearby Sainsburys – specifically in the form of unsold food – and Bakkavor.

Biogas can then be used as a heating fuel for the plant itself or be converted into electricity by using a combined heat and power (CHP) unit.

Biogas is converted into biomethane or bio compressed natural gas (CNG) for use as vehicle fuel. It is also used to generate green energy that is then exported to the National Grid. Meanwhile, digestate can be used as a soil conditioner. Those are just some examples of how AD is fast emerging as a plausible way for food manufacturing plants to manage organic waste.

There would be no food waste, in an ideal world. Nevertheless, whether it's through bespoke modular IoT solutions or inventive recycling technologies like AD, the continued marriage of processes and technologies in food and beverage plants can do their part to ensure that the \$270bn goal to reduce food waste by 2050 is not a dream, but a reality.

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Southern Manufacturing returns

Southern Manufacturing & Electronics returns to Farnborough between February 11th-13th 2020, and will again include a range of exhibitors spanning the full spectrum of engineering activity. PWE reports.

As in past years, the 2020 event will include a range of exhibitors spanning the full panorama of engineering activity, from high-tech machine tools, automation and Industry 4.0 solutions to components, consumables, industrial furniture and subcontract services. Firms from across the UK will be presenting, as well as a significant selection of off-shore exhibitors from across Europe, Asia and the Far East.

Amongst the range of machinery makers exhibiting, Matsuura will showcase its popular single table 5-axis MX-520 CNC machine tool and HP Multi-Jet Fusion 580 3D printer. Exclusively for the show, Matsuura is going to be machining live on the MX-520, employing fixtures and work-holding printed on the HP Multi-Jet Fusion 4200 3D printer, working in harmony to demonstrate the hybrid additive and subtractive production strategies now available. New products being presented by Laser Lines this year include the XM200C metal powder-bed fusion 3D printer from Xact Metal. The XM200C is a compact and affordable system that can produce quality metal parts from a variety of metal powders at a low cost. Also demonstrated will be the new Method 3D printer from MakerBot that combines the speed and accuracy of an industrial 3D printer with the space-saving design of a desktop unit, plus the latest Form 3 3D printer from Formlabs. Other interesting 3D print solutions on show include a high-resolution DLP from CDG and the Nexa3D high speed printer from Creat3D.

Planning and management tools are vital for the smooth operation of any manufacturing facility and technology has a vital role to play in this area too. Exhibitors offering MRP/ERP solutions at Southern 2020 include 123 Insight and E-Max Systems, returning to Southern for the third successive year with the latest updates to its system, designed specifically for manufacturing and engineering businesses.

CIM will be exhibiting its new manufacturing software solution Cim50.

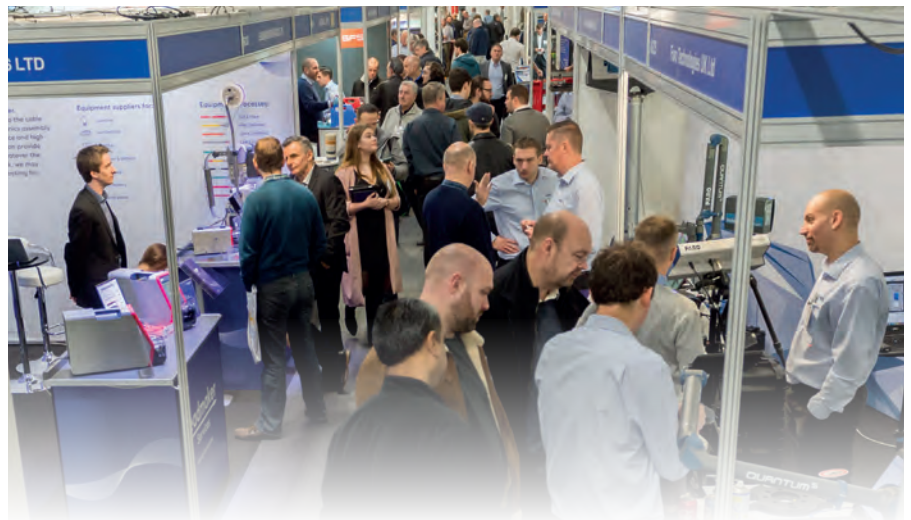
Components and consumables are well represented at the show, with a wide selection of vendors offering an equally wide variety of products. ACE Fabreka UK will demonstrate its selection of industrial shock absorbers, safety shock absorbers, TUBUS profile dampers, rotary dampers, hydraulic dampers/feed controls and industrial gas springs. Polymer specialist igus returns for 2020 with its vast portfolio of bearings, energy chains and linear guides. Lee Products highlights its range of hydraulic components, while CEJN UK will present its range of hydraulic/pneumatic connectors. Large scale suppliers of C-Class components exhibiting this year include Wurth Industrie, WDS Components, Austria's CODICO and Transfer Multisort Elektronik, one of Europe's largest distributors of industrial components. Enclosure specialists include Camden Boss, Hammond Manufacturing, Verotec and Gem Cable Solutions, and bespoke solutions from GSM Valtech and Hitaltech UK amongst others.

Plant equipment, tooling and measurement system suppliers exhibiting include Dustcontrol UK, a leading supplier of fixed and mobile cyclone-based dust extractors and air cleaners; BCAS, compressed air and vacuum system specialist and distributor for leading manufacturers such as CompAir, Hydrovane and Elmo Rietschle; and KNF Neuberger, which designs and manufactures high quality OEM vacuum pumps, air compressors, liquid/metering/dosing pumps. There are industrial heat treatment systems from Nabertherm and Carbolite Gero, and manual handling systems from Yaplex. Bott will showcase its range of industrial storage solutions, a range of powered hand tools from leading Japanese firm Nitto Kohki and powerful inspection, measurement and metrology systems from Faro and VisionAid amongst others.

Following last year's successful collaboration, Southern Manufacturing & Electronics 2020 will once more be teaming up with the Farnborough Aerospace Consortium, alongside national organisations including Composites UK, NetComposites, the Confederation of British Metalforming, the GTMA and the British Gear Association. Also taking part this year is Locate in Kent, an organisation offering a wide variety of services and assistance to firms looking to locate in the region.

As well as the exhibition and demonstration zones, the event includes a free seminar programme. Two programmes run in tandem across two theatres, devoted to manufacturing and electronics respectively. Themes covered include technology, innovation, business management, Lean, and even sales techniques, together with a look at the current and anticipated regulatory landscape as it relates to engineering businesses.

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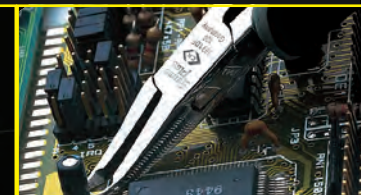


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End of year flourish

HART DOOR SYSTEMS says orders for a range of door types from a broad spectrum of industrial categories has ended 2019 with a flourish. Working for a chemical processing company Hart received an order for a further five Speedor Storms following the earlier installation of one Speedor Storm. For a construction company Hart delivered 12 pedestrian doors, eight Speedor Minis, two Speedor Storms, one insulated roller shutter and one electrically operated roller shutter and for a major car manufacturer Hart delivered a further Speedor Cleanroom for a test booth in its trim and chassis facility. Finally for a major port, Hart delivered six ATEX-rated Speedor Supers and two electrically operated roller shutters. "This sample of recent orders demonstrates the breadth of door types we can supply," said a Hart spokesperson. "Despite some macro economy concerns Hart continues to supply its customer base with doors that deliver, sometimes in very testing environments."

t| 0191 214 0404

w| www.hartdoors.com



Premix burners now up to 3MW

RIELLO says its RX premix packaged burners are now available in outputs up to 3MW, offering NO_x levels of less than 40mg/kWh, with high turndown ratios of up to 8:1, across a wide range of models.

The company says Riello RX burners feature an exclusive design that includes a patented woven wire gauze 'sock' covering the combustion head cylinder. Gas and combustion air are mixed upstream of the combustion head and then pass through precision-located ports and the gauze 'sock' to ignite on the external surface of the combustion head. This arrangement enables a very compact flame with a diameter directly related to the burner firing rate, ensuring precise heat control and optimum efficiency at all loads.

w| www.rielloburners.co.uk



Factory magnets solutions

BUNTING says magnetic technology to improve manufacturing efficiency and safety will be its focus on stand B270 at the Southern Manufacturing & Electronics Show 2020 (11-13 February, Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre). Bunting is one of the world's leading designers and manufacturers of magnetic separators, metal detectors, magnets, magnetic assemblies and magnetising equipment. The Bunting European manufacturing facilities are in Redditch, just outside Birmingham, and Berkhamsted.

The range of factory magnet solutions includes magnetic sweepers, magnetic chucks, magnetic lifters, and holding magnets and Bunting will also be exhibiting its extensive range of magnets and magnetic assemblies. Bunting is also one of the world's leading suppliers of high strength neodymium magnets, as well as designing and manufacturing plastic-bonded magnets and magnetic assemblies at its facility in the UK.

e| press@buntingeurope.com

w| www.buntingeurope.com /

www.mastermagnets.com

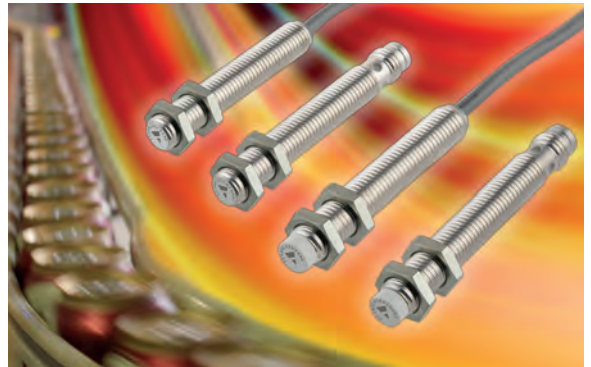


Proximity inductive sensors

CARLO GAVAZZI reports it continues to extend its product offering of high-performance proximity inductive sensors by launching the stainless steel ICS08 4 wire in M8 with an operating distance up to 4mm.

The company says the ICS series represent the optimal solution for industrial automation equipment in applications where space is very limited and where non-contact detection of metal objects in general position-sensing and presence sensing is required such as tool selection, robotic position-sensing and control of micro-mechanisms and are particularly suitable for rotational speed monitoring thanks to the high operating frequency. The IP67 rated ICS family can provide excellent protection against water and humidity penetration. Available in robust stainless-steel housing in either short or long housing, flush or non-flush, M8 plug or cable output, PNP or NPN.

w| www.carlogavazzi.co.uk



Modular connector system

WIELAND ELECTRIC says its revos Modular is a new, modular connector system that is compatible with the market standard and enables the transmission of energy, signals, and data all in just one connector. The company says the modules can be assembled and disassembled easily without the use of tools to allow quick and error-free commissioning, in addition to the simple replacement of assemblies, saving both time and costs. Thanks to the hybrid configuration, the system can be used in a wide variety of applications, including plant construction and mechanical engineering, control cabinet construction, and also in energy generation plants. As machines and plants become increasingly modular in their design and production, the connection technology of revos Modular will offer numerous advantages for manufacturers and operators.

t| 01483 531213 w| www.wieland.co.uk





"Jamie Cole, operations director"

Tackling the skills gap

WES – a leading UK manufacturer of chemical dosing systems for a wide range of industrial process applications, says it is taking action to bridge the skills gap with the launch of the WES Academy. WES says it is addressing the situation by taking positive action with a series of proactive initiatives. These include working with Southampton Engineering Training Association (SETA), running a highly regarded apprenticeship scheme and, through its recently launched skills programme, to upskill its current workforce with the WES Academy training programme. The Academy includes technical and commercial training documents, modules and seminars held at WES' inhouse training facility. New starters can get to know the basics such as understanding the use of chemicals, through to more specific technical training. [e| info@wes.ltd.uk](mailto:info@wes.ltd.uk) [w| www.wes.ltd.uk](http://www.wes.ltd.uk)



Tough stainless-steel sensors

WITH the release of Inox versions of its GR6 rectangular and GR18 cylindrical sensors, SICK says it has delivered rough, tough, high-availability photoelectric performers for detection duties in harsh environments such as chemical washdown or the presence of aggressive oils, lubricants and dust. Designed for universal compatibility and easy installation in industrial machines, the SICK GR6 Inox and GR18 photoelectric sensors are ECOLAB-certified and feature corrosion-resistant V4A (316L) stainless steel housings rated up to IP69K, combined with specialist screen coatings and seals that ensure high resistance to corrosive chemicals. While the GR6 Inox is no bigger than a sugar cube, the GR18 Inox offers standard M18 thread-mounting, so the sensors together present versatile options for through-beam, retro-reflective or proximity sensing duties. [t| 01727 831121](tel:01727831121) [e| andrea.hornby@sick.co.uk](mailto:andrea.hornby@sick.co.uk) [w| www.sick.co.uk](http://www.sick.co.uk)

Supporting the food industry



Spray nozzle specialist THE SPRAY PEOPLE GROUP (SNP) reports it has made moves to bolster its support for the UK's food processing industry. With increased pressure on prices and the ongoing uncertainty over supply due to Brexit, SNP says it is reconfirming its commitment to supporting UK food producers with advanced spray technology. Ivan Zytynski, marketing director of SNP comments, "In these uncertain times the last thing our customers need is to have to worry about whether a key component is in stock". Sometimes a 2 week lead-time is unacceptably long so SNP has taken the followings steps: improved UK stock levels; improved information and improved product range. Ivan continued "The food industry faces more uncertainty than most sectors so our efforts are a small, but important contribution to help our customers". [t| 01273 400092](tel:01273400092) [e| ivan@spray-nozzle.co.uk](mailto:ivan@spray-nozzle.co.uk) [w| www.spray-nozzle.co.uk/spray-nozzles](http://www.spray-nozzle.co.uk/spray-nozzles)

New distributor announced

DIRECT AIR has announced its appointment as Elmo Rietschle's newest distributor for vacuum and low-pressure solutions. Headquartered in Coventry and with a branch in Cheltenham, this partnership provides coverage across the Midlands and South West regions. The company says having been a distributor for other Gardner Denver brands, such as CompAir and Hydrovane, the commitment to quality service and knowledge was understood from the beginning. Direct Air will be providing full-service support to vacuum pumps and systems, as well as delivering new plant and installations. Elmo Rietschle solutions cover a wide range of technologies including both oil lubricated and dry running. To support the expansion into this new service area, Direct Air have appointed a sales engineer for vacuum, Alex Place. [t| 024 7668 8890](tel:02476688890) [w| www.directair.co.uk](http://www.directair.co.uk)



Pyrometers for high temperatures

FLUKE PROCESS INSTRUMENTS has announced it has extended its Thermalert 4.0 spot pyrometer series, adding new shortwave versions and various additional interface options. The compact, extremely robust infrared thermometers provide noncontact, automatic temperature monitoring. The company says three new spectral models measuring at wavelengths of 1 μm , 1.6 μm , and 2.3 μm have been primarily designed for high-temperature applications and are particularly suitable for monitoring metal, steel, and glass. The full Thermalert 4.0 lineup covers measuring temperatures between -40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 2300 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and offers various different spectral models and focus distances. All models are now available with connectivity options for Ethernet, EtherNet/IP, and PROFINET IO, in addition to analog or RS485 interfaces. Voltage can be supplied via Power over Ethernet (PoE). [t| +49.30.478 008-0](tel:+49304780080) [e| marcom2.emea@flukeprocessinstruments.de](mailto:marcom2.emea@flukeprocessinstruments.de) [w| www.flukeprocessinstruments.com](http://www.flukeprocessinstruments.com)



Process heaters for flour miller

BABCOCK WANSON reports it has supplied flour millers Whitworth Bros. with two TPC Thermal Fluid Heaters for its flour heat treatment process at its Selby site. Whitworth had been using another manufacturer's thermal fluid heater, originally installed in 2004, "Support from the other company had been very poor over the years" states Alan Boyce, Whitworth Bros. engineering manager, "and in August 2018 the heater suffered a catastrophic failure of the heating coils rendering it useless." With the incumbent company unable to supply a swift solution, and with productivity directly affected, it turned to Babcock Wanson. Babcock Wanson's Thermal Fluid Heating System rental service proved an invaluable solution. Two 'plug and play' TPC 400B Thermal Fluid Heater were delivered to site and set up by Babcock Wanson's experienced commissioning engineers. [t| 020 8953 7111](tel:02089537111) [e| info@babcock-wanson.co.uk](mailto:info@babcock-wanson.co.uk) [w| www.babcock-wanson.co.uk](http://www.babcock-wanson.co.uk)



CASE STUDY

Optimising product performance

A wireless torque sensor provided an effective solution to an interesting engineering challenge when Advanced Design Innovations (ADI), a specialist supplier of custom manufacturing and testing equipment, was asked by Bristan, manufacturers of bathroom taps and showers, to develop a new durability test rig to help optimise product performance.



In order to ensure that Bristan’s products always meet its high standards, the company regularly subjects samples to an exhaustive testing regime, an important part of which is durability testing for taps, thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) and the rotary controls on its show units.

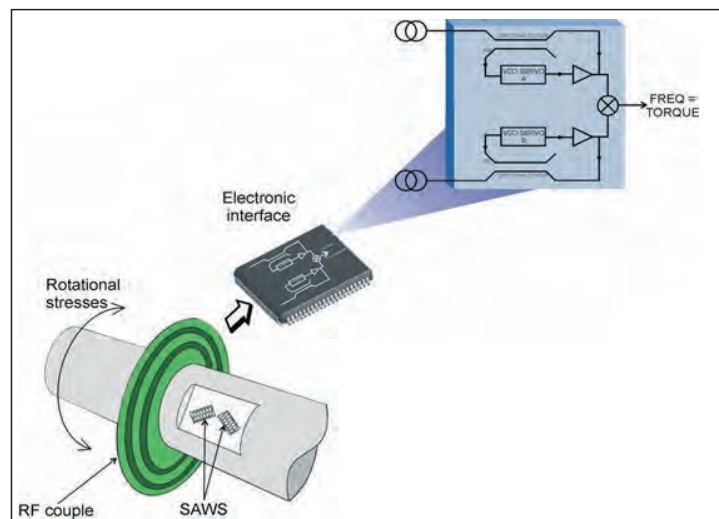
Until recently, the company carried out these tests by continuously operating the taps and controls using a pneumatically operated test rig with fixed stop positions for the rotary motion. This arrangement was not entirely satisfactory, however, as it made little allowance for any increase in operating torque that occurred during testing and it could not accommodate the effects of wear in, for example, the rubber washers used in taps.

For help with devising a better method of testing, Bristan approached ADI, a company that it knew had wide experience in developing specialist test equipment. After carefully analysing the application requirements, ADI proposed a completely new test rig, which would be driven by servomotors rather than pneumatic cylinders, as this would allow much

more accurate and consistent control to be achieved.

In addition, instead of using fixed stops for the rotary motion, the new test rig would be arranged to stop when the torque in the drive system reached a preset value. This

arrangement was preferred as it would not only compensate automatically for wear in the component under test, but would also more accurately reflect the real life operation of the component, since users typically stop tightening a tap or rotating a control when a certain level



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of "stiffness" is reached.

While the design of the new test rig was in many respects straightforward, ADI did face one particular challenge - how to measure the torque developed by the drive system accurately and in real time, so that the stopping points could be determined.

Preliminary investigations revealed that typical torque sensors were far too bulky to accommodate in a reasonably sized test rig, and also that they were incapable of delivering accurate results over the range required - from 1.5 Nm to 3.0 Nm. In addition, most of the torque sensors had non-optional speed monitoring functions built in, which increased costs even though they were not required for this application.

After further research, however, ADI discovered the TorqSense range of sensors from Sensor Technology. "These versatile sensors were exactly what we needed," said Jeff Lowe of ADI. "They're tiny, so they were easy to accommodate on the test rig, they're dependable, and they provide very accurate results in real time, even at the very low torque levels we are interested in. Also, because they're not tied to unnecessary extras like speed



monitoring, they were a very cost effective choice for this application."

The TorqSense units are a new type of sensor based on patented technology that makes use of surface acoustic wave transducers. These transducers comprise two thin metal electrodes, in the form of interlocking "fingers", on a piezoelectric substrate such as quartz. When an RF signal of the correct frequency is applied to the transducer, surface acoustic waves are set up, and the transducer behaves as a

resonant circuit.

The essential feature, however, is that if the substrate is deformed, the resonant frequency changes. When the transducer is attached to a drive shaft, the deformation of the substrate and hence the change in resonant frequency is related to the torque applied to the shaft. In other words, the transducer, in effect, becomes a frequency-dependent strain gauge.

Since the transducers operate at radio frequencies, it is easy to couple signals to them wirelessly. Hence, TorqSense sensors that incorporate the SAW transducer technology can be used on rotating shafts, and can provide data continuously without the need for the inherently unreliable brushes and slip rings that are often found in traditional torque measurement systems.

"Adrian Lowe, test laboratory manager at Bristan, commented: "Our previous test rig, while fit for purpose, didn't allow for such thorough and accurate testing. The new rig is an invaluable tool in ensuring that we continue to maintain the high quality for which our products are known, and also for helping us develop new and groundbreaking products in the future."



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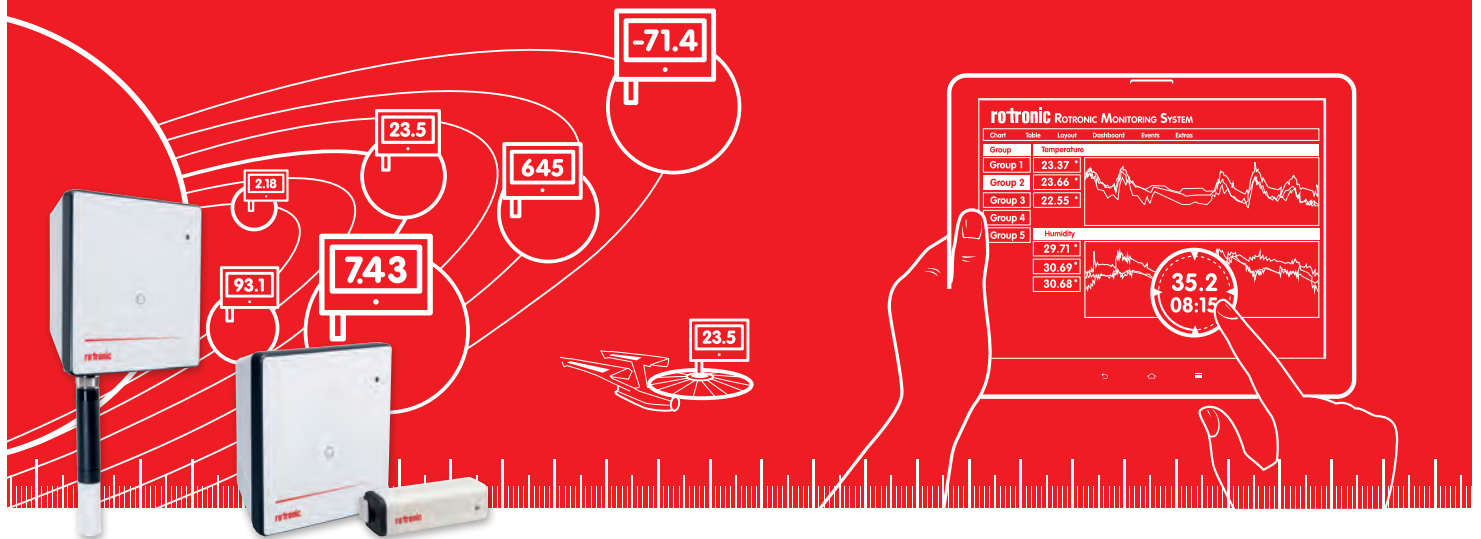
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Investigation resolves issue with blowers overheating

Water treatment facilities rely on filtration systems to remove waste products as part of the process to recycle the water before it returns to the river. These filters are periodically cleaned by backwashing them with air bubbles produced by large blowers. Following two unexpected blower failures, Sulzer was asked to investigate the cause and improve the reliability of the system.

In the UK, one of the regional water companies has an agreed framework contract with Sulzer for the repair of the blowers on its sites. The contract came about through a need for the company to have a single source for blower repairs, rather than having to deal with numerous original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). Fortunately, Sulzer has engineers at its Bristol Service Center that previously worked for blower manufacturers and can offer considerable expertise to the customer.

Matt Knight, blower repair engineer at Sulzer, explains: "We have a contract to repair blowers from any manufacturer. All the work that Sulzer carries out is done in-house, which means that the customer always knows how a repair is progressing and they can come and see for themselves."

Unexpected problems

In this case, the water treatment works operates three blowers as part of a complex cleaning cycle for the media in its filtration system, but two of them had failed in quick succession and been sent to Sulzer's service centre. The repairs were completed, and the assets returned to be installed by the site's own engineers.

The maintenance team on the water treatment works had only just reinstalled the two repaired blower units and shortly after they were commissioned, they failed again. This left the aeration process with only one blower, the bare minimum for operation, but there was also considerable concern for the reliability of the remaining unit.

The units were removed once again and returned to Sulzer's service centre. Once they had been stripped down, it was clear that they had both suffered from overheating which had



Sulzer's engineers refurbished the rotors and casing to OEM dimensions

caused the rotors to expand and become seized.

The intensity of the heat build-up in the blowers was evidenced on one of the units by the fact that the plastic cabinet extraction fan had melted. Once the blowers had been disassembled, it was found that the rotor had friction-welded itself to the housing.

The fact that both blowers exhibited the same failure mode, suggested that the cause of the problem was not related to the unit itself, it was

more likely to be a restriction, either on the inlet side or in the discharge line.

Investigation resolves issue with blowers overheating

Matt continues: "We have a very good working relationship with this customer and the blower repairs are just one aspect of the service we provide. The fact that we complete all of our repairs in-house gives us complete confidence in the quality of the repairs that we deliver. It also means we can give progress updates whenever they are required and return the repaired equipment with minimal delays."

As soon as the blower repairs got underway, Sulzer offered to carry out an investigation at the treatment works to find the root cause of the problem. The engineers inspected the inlet filters along with the discharge pipework, using a borescope, but no obstructions were found.

Attention then turned to the pressure relief valves (PRVs), which were situated inside the acoustic cabinets, and should have lifted in the event of the blowers operating against a restriction or excessive load. Both PRVs were removed and found to be seized, however, while this accounted for the failure of the blowers, these valves were not the cause of the restriction.

Understanding the application

The blowers operate on a 24-hour cycle, producing scour air that backwashes the filter media. During the cleaning cycle, the blowers are not required to operate all of the time, and they are regulated by an unload valve, which vents excess air to the atmosphere. This avoids stop/starting of the blowers during the cleaning cycle.

All three blowers are regulated by this valve, and closer inspection found that the diaphragm

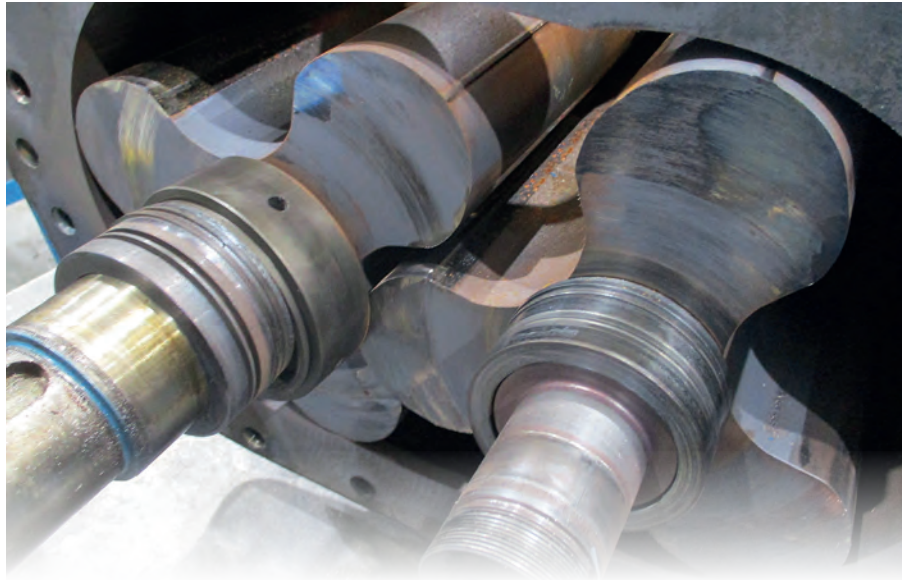
chamber was full of water, preventing it from operating. This, combined with the PRV failures, had led to the blowers becoming distressed very quickly; only the proper function of the remaining PRV had prevented the last blower meeting the same fate.

The unloading valve was stripped and cleaned, but the recommendation was to replace all of the PRVs as well as the unloading valve to be sure the blower circuit would continue to function reliably. With over 15 years of service, these valves had performed well, but without a regular maintenance schedule, their operating condition remained unchecked.

Delivering the solution

While the on-site investigation was completed, the engineering team at the Bristol Service Center removed the damaged rotors and, using OEM drawings, machined the rotors and the casing back to original dimensions, ensuring the correct clearances were provided. The blowers were reassembled and returned to site, where they were reinstalled.

The Sulzer engineers compiled a field report for the customer that detailed the findings of the investigation and recommended implementing



Excessive heat build-up caused the blower rotors to seize

a maintenance routine for the PRVs, the unload valve and the non-return valves, to ensure continued, reliable operation.

Matt concludes: "Without the on-site investigation, we could have just repaired the

blowers and they would have continued to fail. The combination of our technical expertise and application knowledge has been invaluable in resolving this issue and ensuring long-term reliability for our customer."



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of your pumps can provide a solid foundation for saving 30-50% on the operational costs of your pumps. Any installation with old, over-sized, inefficient or unsuitable pumps is likely to hide this kind of savings - and the Energy Check helps you discover the potential. Grundfos offers a number of different energy efficiency assessments: Energy Check, Energy Check Advanced, Pump Audit and Thermo Dynamic Testing.

The company says if you want a quick assessment of the typical savings that can be made by upgrading to high efficiency pumps on one or more of your pumps, then the Grundfos Energy Check is a good place to start. With an advanced energy check it can monitor the energy and performance characteristics of every pump in your facility at once, this can often provide wider benefits than just energy monitoring, often highlighting problems with valve performance and incorrectly specified pumps.

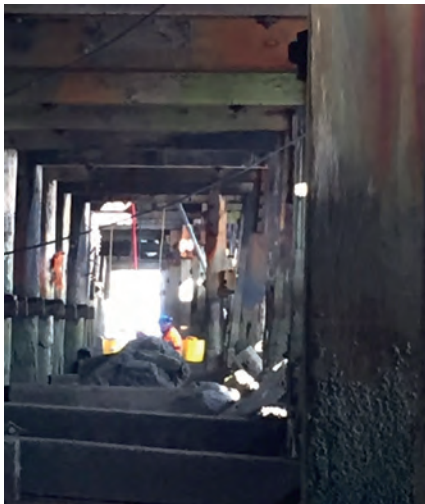
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HADLEY GROUP has announced that following the move of Hadley Steel Framing to its Oldbury site, an extension to scope of the existing ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System registration has been completed and successfully audited by the UKAS accredited Steel Construction Certification Scheme. The scope of registration is: 'The manufacture of cold roll-formed metal sections and allied products, including the design and assembly of steel framing systems' which now covers the site activities of both Hadley Group - Building Products Division and Hadley Steel Framing. ISO 14001 certification was originally achieved by Hadley Group on its Oldbury site in February 2010. The latest extension to scope further demonstrates Hadley Group's continuing commitment to determine its environmental aspects, reduce impacts and maintain legal compliance through the application of ISO 14001:2015 the International Environmental Management Systems Standard.

w| www.hadleygroup.com/about-us/environment-sustainability

Protecting marine-side rising main



On a recent Yorkshire Water contract J N Bentley of Skipton was faced with the complexity of replacing approximately 25m of a 350mm diameter rising main pipe at Whitby, which was situated within a shaft. J N Bentley employed PMP Utilities of Burnley to install the rising main after using WINN & COALES (DENSO) SeaShield 80 system to provide protection from the sea water. To make the installation easier the SeaShield 80 was applied to the barrel lengths of the pipe prior to lifting the 25m long pipe into place. PMP Utilities then applied the system to the bolted flanges in-situ. SeaShield 80 System comprises Denso S105 Paste, Denso Marine Piling Tape, Densoclad Tape and Denso SeaShield Smart Band. Densyl Mastic was also used to profile the joints.

t| 020 8670 7511 e| mail@denso.net

Pumps prove to be the solid solution



Pumps of all shapes and sizes can be looked upon as the beating hearts of the UK wastewater treatment process, especially when recurring storm events lead to increased volumes of rag and debris entering the system. VAUGHAN CHOPPER PUMPS offers uninterrupted pumping even in the most challenging, arduous conditions and there is a growing list of success stories to prove this.

An ongoing example of reliable pumping performance with VAUGHAN is at Thames Water Banbury. As it was back in June 2006 a 10" Vaughan SP10R, the only auto self-priming chopper pump on the market, was installed in the RAS (Return Activated Sludge) line at Banbury. It was the first of its kind to be used in the UK and was replacing one of 4 existing old style, extended shaft axial flow pumps. However, when rag and solids content became more and more evident failures were common due to continual blockages.

As floor space in the pump house was restricted a powerful, yet compact pump set was required and the SP10R with an over/under drive configuration and its suction line simply dropped approx. 3m down the existing axial flow discharge line, with no down well fittings, was installed in 2006.

It has been operating 24/7 for almost 13 years at the Banbury site with a reported flawless performance and no requirements to unblock or inspect the pump. With this success a second SP10R was soon installed.

t| 01487 830123 e| matt@pumpmix.co.uk w| www.pumpmix.co.uk

Heavyweight solution

PWE takes a look at how a German concrete manufacturer is using a mobile gantry to lift its very heavy loads.

Concrete is the foundation of the German company Tenwinkel GmbH & Co. KG, which develops and manufactures concrete counterweights, moulded parts and technical components and is the world leader in its market. Established over 60 years ago it continues to be a family run operation headed up by brothers Stefan and Markus Tenwinkel. Based not far from the Dutch border, it supplies its international customers with front and rear weights for agricultural equipment, special ballasts for construction machinery and has recently added crane test weights to its portfolio. Tenwinkel has also developed award winning coatings for its high density concrete products which offer protection in the event of impacts or collisions.

Products range in weight from just 10kg to around 30t, and the challenge of handling ever larger and heavier loads prompted the brothers to rethink the handling equipment that was previously used. "The demands of customers we now deal with, such as Liebherr for example, are influencing the size and weight of our finished products, so the combination of a counterbalance forklift and an indoor crane wasn't up to the job any longer. This why we now have the unmissable yellow Combi-MG mobile gantry on site, which not only impresses everyone who sees it but does an impressive job for us too," said Stefan Tenwinkel.

Stefan had a good idea of what he was looking for, and once he had found it the highly customisable Combi-MG's specifications were worked out together with the help of the local Combilift dealer to accord to the company's exact requirements. This has resulted in a very flexible and mobile solution for lifting weights around the premises and loading them for dispatch, and one which is constantly on the go. It's more efficient than the forklift, which was only really suitable for handling the lighter loads, and its ability to move around independently is of course an improvement on the limitations of the fixed indoor crane.

With a lift capacity of 30t, the LPG powered unit needs surprisingly little space to manoeuvre, can access all areas of the facility



and is able to move above and between finished products stacked in the yard. Its light own weight enables it to cope well with the varying ground surfaces, even poor ones such as gravel - and in all weather conditions. When products are ready for delivery they are simply attached by chains fixed onto the Combi-MG, lifted up, driven over to the transporter and lowered onto the truck bed.

Stefan commented: "Thanks to its design, manoeuvrability and its multidirectional steering which enables it to turn on the spot we can ensure space saving storage in the yard and can move our loads in a safer manner than with the forklift.

"The remote control function - which is quick, intuitive and precise to use - allows the procedure to be carried out by just one operator without the need for a banksman and offers good visibility of the load and machine from any angle and at all times"

To ensure easy access to the production facilities, the dimensions of the Combi-MG were tailored to fit: the width of 4750mm and height of 5425mm enables it to pass through hall doorways and the telescopic facility with a maximum height of 7725mm means that it can also be used for positioning manufacturing tools. This indoor/outdoor capability is

therefore a further benefit.

During busy times output can be as high as 100 weights per day (so around 18,000 - 20,000 a year), therefore versatile and speedy handling is a must. The quick travelling speed of the Combi-MG enables schedules to be adhered to - loading 14t counterweights for Liebherr mobile cranes for example is now done in a matter of minutes.

When using specialist machines with no spare equipment available, reliable operation is crucial and the dependability of Tenwinkel's Combi-MG has been excellent explains Combilift. As a manufacturer, Combilift has a policy of avoiding the use of over sensitive components and electronics in its products to make them tough workhorses for tough jobs and to reduce the likelihood of downtime.

"It was a bit of a challenge to find a suitable solution," said Stefan, "but Combilift made it happen. We're also not the only ones to benefit by the way: when we needed to lift really large loads we used to borrow a forklift from a neighbouring company and now when they need a heavyweight we can help out with the Combi-MG."

For further information please visit:

www.combilift.com

<https://tenwinkel.com/>

How IIoT technology can help H&S

Standfirst: Serious workplace injuries cost US manufacturers more than \$7 billion each year, according to Liberty Mutual's 2019 Workplace Safety Index. Overexertion, falls, collisions with equipment, getting caught in equipment and repetitive motion injuries are the most common reasons that workers in this sector miss 5 or more days of work. Sam Cece, founder, president, & CEO of Swift Sensors, reports.

Compliance with OSHA standards and a culture that emphasises safety are important elements of injury reduction. However, more solutions are needed, and the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) is delivering them.

Network-connected wearable, sensors and tags are starting to make workers safer, and more safety innovations are in the pipeline. Beyond preventing accidents in the moment, IIoT analytics can help identify areas that need safety overhauls for better long-term worker protection. Here's how the IIoT is improving safety in each of the major manufacturing injury categories.

Prevent overexertion with real-time monitoring

Overexertion involving outside sources is the most frequent serious injury in manufacturing, costing \$1.77 billion annually. Lifting, pulling, or pushing heavy objects is a frequent culprit. If the work takes place in hot weather, heat stress can make overexertion even more likely. IIoT technology can help reduce these risks.

It's now possible to monitor individual workers' stress responses with IoT-enabled wearables such as wristbands, vests and shirts. For example, Japanese textile company Mitsufuji produces shirts made of conductive fiber to monitor the wearer's heart and respiration rates, as well as the ambient temperature and humidity. The shirt's transmitter sends data to the cloud for analysis. It can also alert supervisors when worker's readings fall outside the safe range.

Real-time temperature and humidity sensors can also let workers and managers know when it's unsafe to do physically intense tasks in an area, and identify times or days when it's safer to work in those spaces.

A new and promising approach to cutting exertion injuries is the addition of IIoT

capabilities to exoskeletons. Manufacturers like Ford have started adopting mechanical exoskeletons for their line workers, to assist with lifting heavy objects and managing repetitive tasks. Recently, German Bionic developed an IoT platform so its exoskeletons can connect with Smart Factory systems. This allows the exoskeletons to collect and report data that companies can use to improve working conditions and pinpoint the causes of injury, while the exoskeletons help workers avoid back injuries.

Getting help for falls faster

Falls on the same level (as opposed to falls from ladders and other equipment) are the second most common cause of serious injury in plants, representing \$1.13 billion in yearly losses. Right now, IIoT wearables that include accelerometers and gyroscopes can detect worker falls in real time and alert supervisors for faster emergency response.

Keeping workers safe from collisions

The next most frequent cause of injury in manufacturing is collisions with objects, equipment, or vehicles, which accounts for 11% of total injuries. Two ways IIoT technology can help are real-time location systems and proximity detection. Real-time location systems can monitor worker movement out of and into hazardous or restricted zones. These systems can alert workers when they walk into an unsafe area—for example, a space where heavy equipment is in use—and alert supervisors, too.

Proximity detection uses RFID tags on machinery and worker clothing to keep workers and moving equipment from colliding. For example, the IIoT-enabled Guard hat hardhat system warns workers and equipment operators when they're getting too close, so they can change course before there's an accident.

Keeping workers away from hazardous equipment

Another application for proximity detection is to keep people from getting caught in equipment or crushed by objects, which is the 4th largest category of manufacturing injury. Combining proximity detection with real-time location detection can keep workers away from hazards and reduce entanglement risks even more. If there is an accident, biometric stress monitors and fall detection sensors can alert supervisors so they can summon help quickly.

Guarding against repetitive stress injuries

Repetitive motion injuries round out the top five in manufacturing. Posture monitors can reduce this kind of injury by alerting workers if they're moving in ways that put them at risk. Feedback based on device readings shows workers how to move more safely and it gives them a dashboard where they can track their progress in changing their behaviour.

Vibration sensors can help workers who handle pneumatic equipment to avoid potentially disabling hand-arm vibration syndrome. These sensors can collect exposure data for individual employees and send alerts when out-of-range vibration readings are detected.

In all these injury-prevention scenarios, the data collected by the IIoT system can be analysed to make the plant safer. For example, an employee's history of repetitive movement or hand-arm vibration exposure can help supervisors know when it's time for breaks or assignment to different tasks. Analysing proximity and real-time location datasets can reveal physical locations, times of day, or specific processes that have a higher risk of collisions, falls or entanglement of workers and equipment. Based on these capabilities, it's safe to say that IIoT technology can reduce injury risks right now and has the potential to make plants safer overall in the years to come.

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Inrush current – a hidden safety problem

Alarm sounders and sounder beacons are safety-critical notification devices present in building procedures and manufacturing processes across the globe, so you need to be aware that there is a hidden issue that could cause problems resulting in unwanted plant downtime. James Morgan, product manager at Eaton, takes a closer look at how to mitigate or prevent the effects of inrush current.

Health and safety is at the top of any plant manager's agenda, so if there is a problem then equipment or plant is rightly shutdown until you can rectify it.

Against this backdrop there is a hidden problem that can cause safety critical alarms to stop working, which, given the right information for better system specification, is entirely preventable.

The problem is caused by the inrush current needed by alarm devices on start up. This generates a high initial current spike that only occurs for a very short period of time but its affects can be serious.

For these devices, it is the capacitance within the product that causes this inrush current. The capacitors provide a large reservoir of energy to smooth out the current draw that the device needs to produce a sound loud enough that people can hear in a noisy environment or over a large area and/or provide a flashing beacon as a visual alert. When the device is switched on these capacitors draw current rapidly to fill up this energy reserve (see diagram 1 blue line). This initial current can be between 50 to 100 times larger than the operating current.

If there are only one or two devices on the circuit, this load will only have a small effect on the system as a whole, but it could still damage switch and product rectifier components.

The problem becomes more serious when there are multiple devices on a line starting up simultaneously. The sum of the inrush currents from all these devices can cause a voltage drop on the line delaying their start or even blow a fuse or trip the RCD. If equipment is on the same line as the devices then it will also be affected, but regardless of this if the sounders are not working then there is a critical health and safety issue that needs resolving.

This issue is even worse in low voltage DC systems that have long cable runs and /or minimum gauge cabling where the increased



resistance causes further voltage drops.

Yet we find that such notification devices are typically on low voltage DC lines routed along existing conduits. In fairness there is a good reason for this, since by using low voltage lines you do not need qualified electricians to do the maintenance. It also means that you don't need to isolate the circuit and therefore switch off any other plant or equipment on that line in order to work on it.

Demand the information

Why do I call inrush current a hidden problem? Well for one thing it is generally not stated on a product or even a product datasheet. Typically, you will find details about the operating current, which is the current required after the device has started up, but there is generally nothing mentioned about that initial inrush current.

So, the first thing to do is ask your supplier what the inrush current is for its sounder or sounder beacon, especially if you intend to install a number of devices on a low voltage line.

Without this figure it is extremely difficult to calculate the supply componentry and power supply needed. Get this wrong and there is a risk of current overload and the devices not working.

Another tactic to avoid the cumulative affects

of several devices switching on simultaneously is to stage a progressive switch on of products over a short period of time. If a PLC controls the plant, you may find that it switches everything on at the same time making this impossible.

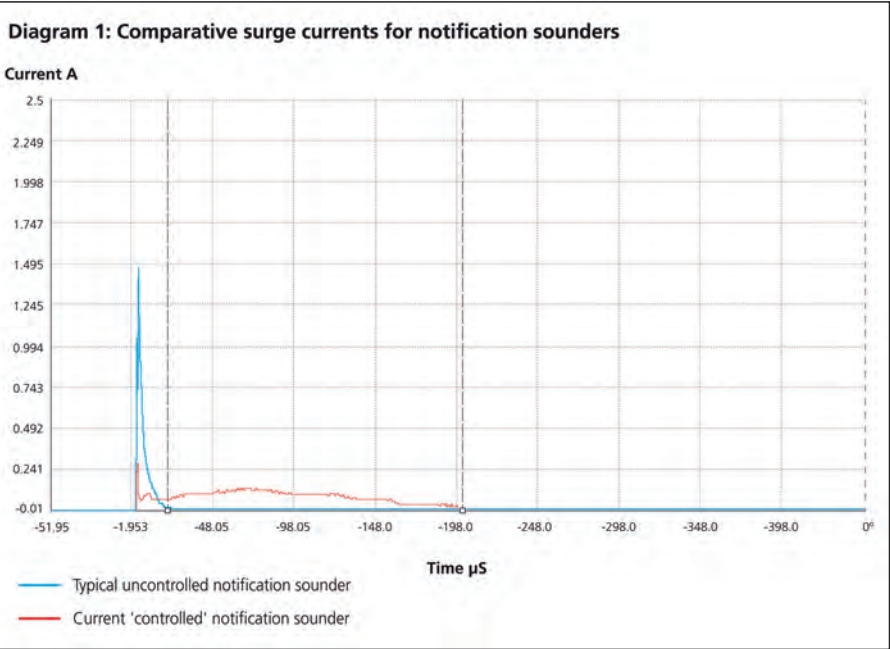
Alternatively, you can over specify the power supply, switchgear and cabling. At face value you have now dealt with the issue, but at a cost. You end up with an over-engineered solution with unnecessary cost by using bigger cables or transformers that you don't need for everyday operation.

Minimising inrush

Faced with such a conundrum it is worth exploring what lessons you can learn from other applications of notification devices. In this case I'm referring to fire detection, which also warn people about a hazard.

On a typical fire detection system in a large commercial building there will be several notification devices on a 24dc line that could be several kilometres long. It is a heavily regulated market so you cannot increase the voltage or add additional equipment, such as transformers, into the system.

This means that any startup surge current can cause serious voltage drops on the system, so



example our engineers developed patent pending current clamping technology for our X10 industrial sounders and sounder beacons. The result is less voltage drop and a far lower chance of a circuit breaker tripping or the fuse blowing (see diagram 1 red line).

Such solutions mean that you will need to purchase slightly more expensive devices, because of the componentry needed to achieve this; but in relation to the cost of over engineering an entire system or stopping preventable downtime, this pales into insignificance.

Of course, not every application will require you to install devices with this capability. If you are using a mains voltage line, or only require one or two devices then there may be nothing to worry about. The problem is that for too long the issue has been hidden.

Surely it's time for manufacturers to clearly quote not only the operating current on sounders and sounder beacons but also their startup current. Given all the information that you need, you can then design a cost-effective notification system that will avoid downtime and keep your personnel and equipment safe.

the devices do not start up at all or, because the output lines from the fire panel are fused, the sum of this initial surge current from several devices can blow this fuse.

The answer is to manage the inrush current over a longer period of time to reduce any spikes. There are several ways of managing this inrush current for alarm devices, at Eaton for

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Winter jackets and gilets



SNICKERS says these new AllroundWork jackets and gilets are just what the name suggests - delivering a great all-round performance on site with a Ripstop water-resistant outer fabric and a coated inner fabric for extra durability. The company says they are wind-resistant too and all have the features and functionality that you'd expect in Snickers Workwear clothing. Designed for optimum comfort and flexibility when customers are on the move, they're great-looking working clothes that will keep customers feeling comfortable wherever they are and whatever they are doing at work in cold and windy weather. With smart designs and an ergonomic fit, Snickers says its Workwear AllroundWork garments are packed with must-have features that focus on functionality and freedom of movement as well as using innovative fabrics that deliver long lasting protection. [t| 01484 854788](tel:01484854788) [e| info@snickersworkwear.co.uk](mailto:info@snickersworkwear.co.uk) [w| www.snickersworkwear.co.uk](http://www.snickersworkwear.co.uk)

Anti-fatigue matting

COBA EUROPE says its Orthomat anti-fatigue matting has been installed by Hotter at its Lancashire headquarters, considered to be one of the most advanced shoe-making facilities in the world. Hotter had conducted a survey which revealed that staff carrying out repetitive actions, such as standing in a static position, were twice as likely to experience work-related absence, such as a fatigue, foot and muscular pain, compared to those roles where walking and movement were present. Anti-fatigue mats, coupled with microbreaks, role changes and better employee 'rest' initiatives, are proving part of the solution for Hotter. COBA says Orthomat's foam composition provides underfoot cushioning which encourages feet to adapt to the mat's surface; aiding blood circulation and helping to delay the onset of fatigue from standing.

[t| 0116 240 1088/](tel:01162401088)
[e| sales@cobaeurope.com](mailto:sales@cobaeurope.com)
[w| www.cobaeurope.com](http://www.cobaeurope.com)



Get winter-ready



Cold weather should be taken seriously, so in preparation for whatever hazards and safety concerns may lie ahead, JSP says it provides the solutions to all winter problems, to keep workers' minds on the job, not the weather.

Products include: the new JSP Surefit Thermal Helmet Liner - this thermal helmet liner will keep workers' heads snug and warm in all weathers; the JSP Visilite Helmet Illumination System - bleak winter weather combined with fewer daylight hours means that the need for optimum worker visibility on site at all times increases and JSP's Winter Hardcap A1+ Bump Cap - designed to easily exceed EN812+A1 standard, which requires protection at four impact sites and features fold-down flaps that cover the ears and neck for added warmth and protection.

[t| 01993 826050](tel:01993826050) [e| uksales@jsp.co.uk](mailto:uksales@jsp.co.uk)
[w| www.jsp.com](http://www.jsp.com)

RoSPA Gold Award

Lifting equipment manufacturer and service provider, KONECRANES UK, has announced it has been awarded the RoSPA Gold Award for health and safety. The RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Occupational Health & Safety Awards are recognised internationally and have fast become the most sought-after accolade by organisations from every sector. Through the scheme, which is open to business entities of all types and sizes, from across the UK and overseas, judges consider entrants' overarching occupational health and safety management systems, including practices such as leadership and workforce involvement.

Mark Goringe, area director UK, stated:

"This is the fourth consecutive year that Konecranes has achieved Gold Award status, which has required both commitment and consistency. We thank everybody involved for their dedication in helping us secure this high-profile recognition."

[t| 01295 676100](tel:01295676100) [e| sales.uk@konecranes.com](mailto:sales.uk@konecranes.com)
[w| www.konecranes.co.uk](http://www.konecranes.co.uk)



New safety lock out

Now available from MARTINDALE ELECTRIC - a leader in safe isolation and electrical safety - is the new LOK6W, a simple and effective locking off device for Henley and Lucy mains supply cut outs.

The company says designed to restrict finger access to live contacts and prevent the reinsertion of a fuse whilst maintenance is in progress, the LOK6W is an essential accessory to keep electricians, installation teams and their customers safe in accordance with Electricity at Work Regulations.

In common with the LOK6, the new LOK6W features an extendable design which also makes it suitable for larger Red Spot type fuse holders rated at 63A and 100A. Manufactured without any metal parts - to reduce the risk of use in live working environments - the LOK6W is constructed from a resilient flame-retardant blend of Polycarbonate and ABS.

[t| 01923 441717](tel:01923441717)
[w| http://martindale-electric.co.uk/](http://martindale-electric.co.uk/)



Increasing protection through layers

SNICKERS WORKWEAR says this fully accredited and independently tested protective wear for heat, flame, electrical arc and chemical risk environments delivers market-leading risk-protection in a wide range of hazardous working environments.

The company says the key features and benefits of the clothing includes the hi-tech, advanced fabric technology integral to the base, mid- and top-layer garments for both men and women that combine well with the Snickers Workwear hallmarks of best-in-class durability, comfort, ergonomics and fit.

Research carried out by Snickers Workwear in the toughest of working environments has concluded that the best ways to improve your level of protection is to wear layers. The main benefit of wearing layers is that the air gap formed between different garments provides increased protection.

[t| 01484 854788](tel:01484854788) [e| info@snickersworkwear.co.uk](mailto:info@snickersworkwear.co.uk) [w| www.snickersworkwear.co.uk](http://www.snickersworkwear.co.uk)



Industry Update

Two new compressors

Quickslide has grown to become one of the UK's largest manufacturers of UPVC and aluminium window frames and doors and has invested heavily in the latest machinery which uses compressed air. This is fine when the compressor is working, but a recent mechanical failure of the main, old rotary vane compressor meant that production had to stop. Leighton Harris, THORITE'S capital equipment sales engineer was able to quickly organise a rental machine, which meant that Quickslide was soon able to return to full production. In the meantime, an order was placed for two new compressors: A 37 kW Kaeser HPC BSD 75T variable-speed compressor with Sigma Control was chosen as a direct replacement for the failed main compressor and a 22 kW Kaeser HPC ASK 40T variable speed compressor was ordered to replace an old screw compressor.

t| 0800 034 5850 0900 w| www.thorite.co.uk



Compressed air quality analysis

SUTO iTec has announced that its S600 portable compressed air purity analyser has been upgraded with a new particle sensor to provide particle measurement fully in line with the requirements of ISO 8573-4. The S600 measures dewpoint from -100°C and oil vapour from 0.003mg/m³ in addition to particles from 0.1 µm.

The unit will be operating live at Air-Tech 2020 at stand AF104 from the 21st to 23rd April and visitors will be able to see how easy it is to use and observe the practical benefits of this highly portable analyser to deliver accurate measurements quickly. The particle sensor is also available as a standalone unit in the S132 model with touchscreen display and integral datalogger and there is also a wall mounted version of the S600, the S601 for continuous monitoring.

e| sales@measuremonitorcontrol.com

w| www.measuremonitorcontrol.com



Ramp installation proves fruitful

Summer Berry Company, a farming group renowned for its nurturing approach to growing and harvesting soft fruits, has become among the latest enterprises to improve its logistics with the addition of THORWORLD INDUSTRIES' loading equipment.

Sourced via agent, Loading Bay Service, Summer Berry has bettered loading function at two of its locations; Kives Farm and Manor Farm in Chichester, West Sussex - in time to gather its propagated raspberry cane crop for over-winter protection.

The annual process had room for improvement, as moving the delicate canes was considered time consuming with the potential for accidents, senior team leader, Ivo Spasov found a website for Thorworld Industries and contacted the manufacturer through its agent

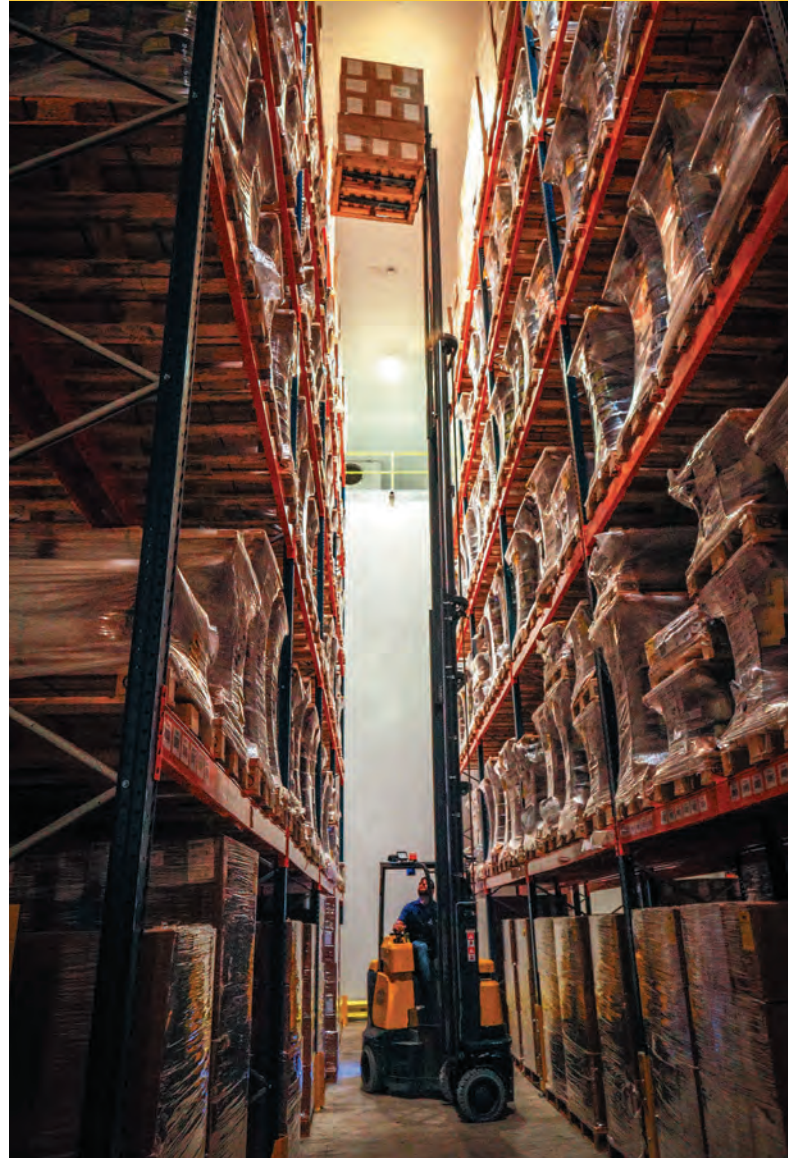
From Ivo's requirements, Thorworld suggested the implementation of two, type 10, 7-tonne mobile yard ramps.

w| www.thorworld.co.uk

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MATTEI - EFFICIENCY FIRST



Mattei's research and development team has been increasingly focusing on environmental issues. It is the passion about the energy efficiency of its compressors that continues to inspire its design ethos; with the aim of creating machines with ever improving environmental performance, by reducing energy consumption and waste, without reducing reliability. Mattei firmly believes that a greener future is better for everyone.



Annual Buyers' Guide 2020



The magazine for plant, works and maintenance engineers

Welcome to the Plant & Works Engineering 2020 Buyers' Guide

This annual at-a-glance listing is a comprehensive user-friendly and indispensable source for identifying a cross section of industrial products and services. The Guide's easy-to-use format can provide end-users with contact information for many of the leading suppliers in a particular product or service sector - from condition monitoring right through to boilers, pumps and valves or compressed air. Looking through the following pages you will see many long-established names alongside new comers looking to make their mark within the engineering and manufacturing sectors.

As we move into 2020 there are massive opportunities ahead for UK industry despite continuing political uncertainties, and we should remain optimistic about our future prospects. UK manufacturing is back on the map, due to the brilliance of our companies, which have made such a success of supply chains and the modern marvel of just-in-time logistics. During these unsettling times, it is easy to forget what we do best, and only if we continue to be outward looking to reflect the world-class innovation and manufacturing skills we possess, will the UK cope with the challenges and take advantage of the new opportunities. Key to this is investing in effective processes, condition monitoring controls and skilled engineers, and as a result plant efficiency can be significantly enhanced through preventing shutdowns and the possibility of expensive downtime. This is where the PWE Buyers' Guide can help provide readers with the necessary contact information to aid in the search for companies offering the right maintenance solutions and strategies.

One of the primary purposes of the guide is to ensure readers are kept up-to-date with what manufacturers, suppliers and distributors from across a variety of industrial disciplines can offer end-users in terms of products, as well as after-sales service and on-going support. We hope you agree this guide is an ideal means to determine at a glance the type of company that is geared towards providing the right solution for you and your business.

On behalf of the PWE team may I wish you a prosperous 2020.

Aaron Blutstein
Editor



Is your machinery repaired to standard? IEC BS or EN 60034-23:2019

The new international standard to ensure the efficiency of rotating electrical machinery is maintained after being repaired, overhauled, or reclaimed.



- ✓ A more **sustainable future** can be achieved if service centres follow the best practices outlined in this standard.
- ✓ **Carbon emissions can be reduced** when rotating electrical machinery is put back into service, rather than scrapped and replaced.
- ✓ The **cost-savings** of a good repair over a poor repair can save disruptions in production down the line.

5 Questions to ask your AEMT Service Centre:

Should I repair or replace the equipment?

Your service centre should present you with the facts so you can make an informed decision on whether the equipment should be repaired, or replaced with a more efficient machine.

Is the efficiency maintained after service?

Your service centre should be able to maintain the efficiency of the machine or improve it after servicing.

What is the end-of-life recycling practise?

To ensure a sustainable future, you should confirm if your equipment is split into its component parts for recycling, so as not to sell it onto the second-hand market.

Do you follow best-practise guidelines?

Service centres must use the best practices outlined in the international 60034-23 standard to ensure all work and procedures are carried out correctly

What quality system do you have in place?

Your service centre should have a suitable quality system in place, such as ISO 9001 to ensure your project is managed properly.



One True Brand



Since the first SEPURA™ oil/water separator was developed over fourteen years ago, others have attempted to imitate its success - producing units that might look similar to the untrained eye.

Bowman Stor's owner and managing director, Richard Potts, is keen to stress that buyers should beware of inferior products designed to look like SEPURA equipment - sometimes using the same colour finish. "Just because it's blue, it doesn't mean it's a SEPURA separator," says Richard. "If there is no SEPURA badge on the front, it isn't a genuine SEPURA product."

And only SEPURA-branded separators, manufactured exclusively by global filtration specialists Bowman Stor, contain the

revolutionary, SILEXA™ media, developed by the company within its own laboratories. Since its inception, the internationally-patented media has set a new standard in condensate treatment, providing industry with a cleaner, lighter, more adsorbent media.

Bowman Stor continues to manufacture SILEXA at its ISO 9001-2015 accredited UK production facility; a fully sustainable, renewable material made from recycled waste glass.

It was also Bowman that developed SEPURA's flagship unit, the SEP60 - the world's first fully disposable separator - a single-use, compact, quick-fit unit which out-performs equipment more than twice its size.

As the sole manufacturer of the only authentic SEPURA series, the filtration firm's approach has always been one of constant evolution. "We have continued to enhance the range," says Richard Potts, "Delivering a



SEPURA's groundbreaking SEP60 condensate cleaner.

broad spectrum of filtration solutions from low to high capacity. Our ongoing mission is to offer industry-leading systems designed to suit a wide range of applications, providing greater efficiencies, as well as the crucial environmental benefits".

Winning Formula

Bowman's ongoing drive for quality and improvement is also receiving recognition from some of the most influential voices in industry. The Walsall-based firm was the proud winner of the International / Enterprise of the Year Award at 2019's prestigious Nachural Summer Business Ball and Awards - a programme which highlights the achievements of individuals and companies from across the West Midlands region.

Against significant competition, the filtration specialist received acknowledgement for its continuing research, innovation, growth, and performance. The awarding body also took into consideration glowing endorsements from a selection of Bowman's customers.



The Bowman Stor team, headed by Managing Director Richard Potts (third from right) were delighted to receive the Nachural International / Enterprise of the Year Award.

factfile

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Tel: 01543 379212

Email: info@bowmanstor.com

Web Site: www.bowmanstor.com



TLV – The Steam Specialists

Established in Japan in 1950, TLV has grown to become a world authority in steam engineering products and services. TLV now counts companies in 12 different countries and offers products through over 100 distributors worldwide.

Our Services:

- Manufacturing of steam products
- Consulting and Engineering Solutions

Our Policies:

- Quality First
- Incomparable Originality

Since its founding over a half century ago, TLV's goal has been to produce dependable, long-lasting steam traps. One early outstanding success was the A3, a thermodynamic steam trap offering an amazing 10 times the durability of previous products.

Behind the A3 was the concept of the 'Trouble Less Valve', from which the company name originated. From this solid foundation, the line of products and services has expanded until now, more than 50 years later, TLV has become a Steam Specialist Company - a recognized leader in the steam-engineering field.

TLV maintains a level of craftsmanship that surpasses customer expectations. To achieve this, research and development does not imitate present and industry standard designs, but instead completely reengineers concepts and ideas. Driven to design and build only patented products, TLV has obtained over 3700 patents and utility models to date. This number is in and of itself a testament to originality.

Original ideas with technical ability

Original products are not created by a mere idea. A firm grasp of the needs involved, a precise understanding of the physical properties of fluids and metals under various conditions and the ability to combine the pieces of information, technology and materials are all required for original product design.



Development based on proof

Rather than the products, the first priority must be the creation of a test environment, so that the properties influencing the products can be fully understood. In development, definite proof holds the key to success. This is the stance of TLV's research and development, which uses its own ISO certified test apparatus.

Partnerships for superior design

No matter how superior the vision, products must fill an industry need and be technologically viable to be successful. Working in a partnership with the customer to identify needs and find new solutions, as well as sharing TLV's technical skill, helps produce superior products and assure customer satisfaction.

Consulting, Engineering, Service

TLV believes that true customer satisfaction can only be obtained by finding solutions to the various difficulties customers encounter in running their businesses and operating their plants. TLV consulting, engineering and service activities are designed to find the best solutions to increase productivity, maximize energy savings, improve quality and promote environmental conservation. CES activities are the embodiment of the complete customer satisfaction philosophy.

Engineering a better solution

Improved systems & new products

Optimizing the design and engineering of steam equipment systems to reduce production costs, increase automation, stabilize operations and improve the quality of goods produced. Communicating directly with the customer to improve existing TLV products and to aid in the development of new products and technologies inline with user needs.

Producing quality equipment you can trust

From casting to machining, assembly and more, TLV prides itself in having created a highly accurate, quality-driven production system. State-of-the-art machinery helps maintain outstanding levels of precision, while rigorous quality control ensures that equipment delivers the performance you need right from the start.

TLV has continuously worked towards improving the quality of its production system. Certifications of compliance with global standards were sought out and received as early as 1991 (ISO9001) for our centralized plant in Kakogawa, Japan. Also, the acquisition of ASME N certifications (2010) is a testimony of our dedication towards providing the best quality steam equipment available.

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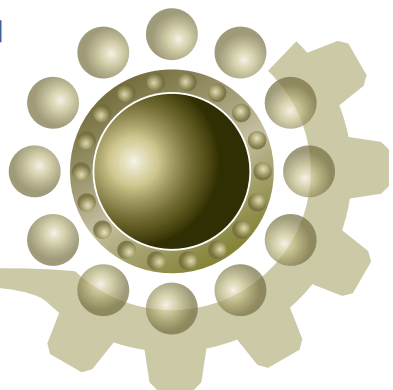


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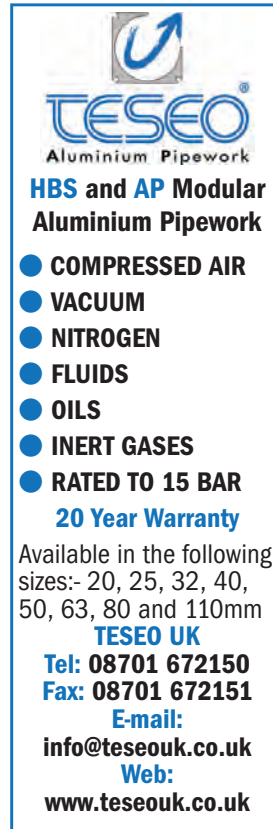
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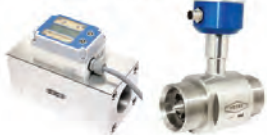
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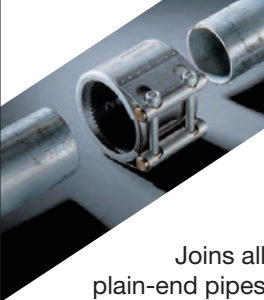
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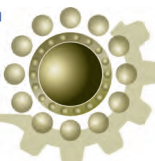
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