

Building & Construction Review



Eco-friendly, low carbon, maintenance free solutions

Concern for the environment and action to modify our behaviour is strongly supported by young and old alike. Climate change is not a myth. It is already happening.

In addition, the cost of ownership is often not taken into account when pricing up a project, yet it's a significant additional cost.



If you are going to spend the money, time and effort, doesn't it make sense to design properties that stay looking good, without an ongoing cost for maintenance?

The solutions

Recycled plastic profiles are an ideal replacement for traditional building materials and with no requirement for ongoing maintenance.

Rapid growth

A family business Kedel Limited, based in Burnley have just celebrated their 12th birthday. They've experienced extraordinary growth of approximately 30% a year, since 2010.

Industry recognition

It's clear that the building industry is eager to play a part in reducing its impact on the environment, having previously been regarded as a major

contributor to global warming and waste plastic pollution.

Typical example

Kedel's decking products were used for the viewing platforms on the Archelor Mittal Orbital Tower at the London Olympics to reduce its carbon footprint. More recently the National Trust is replacing wooden fencing with recycled plastic from Kedel as it means they will just need to do the job once.

Wide range

Other popular products include: V-Cladding, T&G, Decking, Fencing, even Outdoor Furniture, the list is endless. It's as easy to work with as wood, produces 250% less CO₂ in manufacture compared to virgin plastic.

T 01282 861325
sales@kedel.co.uk
www.kedeltrade.co.uk

Reflect your lifestyle with bespoke sliding doors

Transform your space with bespoke door fronts from Mirror Door Systems Ltd. Established in 1994, the company is known for its quality, workmanship and efficient delivery.

We like to work closely with our customers to explore their ideas and come up with a bespoke solution just for them. They can come to the showroom to get ideas for what they want or come to us with a fully formed idea. We can normally accommodate every customer's preference, whether they want something in a different colour, material or size. The door fronts are ideal for a wide range of things, such as walk in wardrobes, room dividers or offices – sliding doors are great for maximising smaller spaces.

Mirror Door Systems Ltd is a leading UK provider of made to measure sliding doors. Its full product range includes six different sliding door systems with over 30 different colours. All the systems also incorporate anti-jump safety features & have been designed to accept the choice of safety back mirror, opaque glass and/or panels. They are available in bulk form, door kits or made to measure.



Interested to find out more? Head to the website or get in touch.
T +44 (0)1268 573357
www.mirrordoor.co.uk

Find funding fast with SME Funding UK

Access to cash for construction contractors is still the single biggest pain point along the road to successful and profitable projects. High street banks are cautious and slow to lend, but if you know where to look you can find funding fast with terms and rates to suit almost any project.



SME Funding UK has over 30 years experience in securing commercial funding and long established relationships with over 200 responsible lenders across the UK. We arrange finance for sole traders, partnerships and limited companies.

No one wakes up in the morning looking forward to wrangling with finance. With Henry (SME Funding UK's director) you'll have an expert always available at the end of the phone. He'll guide you to the best possible repayment plan and keep things moving so you get the cash you need, quickly.

Don't take our word for it, hear from Karen Tait at the Residence Coworking Ltd, "Henry... helped me navigate the best deal and ensured it paid-out on time. I have no hesitation in recommending him to any other business owners looking for alternative

funding sources to the main high street banks!"

If you'd like to talk through your funding options, give Henry a call on 01223 848844 or email: henry@smefunding.uk or find us on the web here: www.smefunding.uk

SME Funding UK Ltd is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority – FRN: 772970.

SME Funding UK Ltd is a broker, not a lender and can introduce you to a number of finance providers based on your requirements and credit rating, we may receive a commission for such introductions. All finance is subject to status – formal application, credit approval and a supportive survey or valuation when required.

'Must have' new timber decking resource

The Timber Decking and Cladding Association (TDCA) in collaboration with the Timber Trade Federation (TTF) have jointly published a new resource – The Timber Decking Handbook. Produced with support from the Wood Protection Association (WPA) and Wood Campus, the Handbook is aimed at specifiers, buyers and installers of timber decking.

A go-to reference

The 52 page book provides clear, relevant and up to date information covering decking design, installation, material choice and UK building and planning regulations. The Handbook references the existing TRADA Timber Decking manual – the two documents will complement each other – the Handbook acting as a summarised and illustrative guidance with TRADA's being more detailed and of particular interest to the architect, structural engineer and professional installer.

Partnership agreement

The Decking Handbook has been



produced as part of the TDCA/TTF partnership agreement – and on the back of the publication of the Timber Cladding Handbook last year, will help strengthen the market for both timber cladding and decking.

Janet Sycamore, TDCA Director of Operations, commented, "The new publication is crammed with useful information to help the reader create robust, fit for purpose decking. We hope it will prove to be a valuable resource for anyone involved with timber decking."

The handbook is available to download from the TDCA website at: www.tdca.org.uk/publications with printed versions costing £15 each including P&P.



Bona
Turn to page

2



Direct Hoist
Turn to page

3



Re-flow Field Management
Turn to page

4



Spiral UK
Turn to page

5



Mobile Signal Solutions
Turn to page

6



DCON Safety Consultants
Turn to pages

12-13

Keep your property and possessions safe and secure

It sadly remains the case that theft and break-ins to property remains all too frequent and a key issue for all.

If anything, the stats show that, in some areas, crime rates have materially increased in the last couple of years. Residential properties and business addresses remaining frequent targets.

The growth around second homes, including lodges, park homes and caravans, has influenced these rates. There are also reports that a downside to the rise in staycationing has also been an increase in crime statics.

The impacts here go beyond the obvious distress caused to financial losses, as well as reputational damage for businesses as well as the increasing costs of insurance faced by all parts of the chain.

As a result, property owners and occupiers are taking steps to combat theft and damage by making it harder for theft or damage to occur. Specialist security businesses are also leading the fight.

One such business is Securian Industries. Securian designs and manufactures a range of easy to use door security devices. This is not the usual locks and chains. No, Securian's products are discrete door handle bars and door stops that keep a door protected while also being fast to install, fast to deploy and stylish.

Greg Allsopp, a director at Securian Industries, explains more. "The business as a whole grew out of the rising rates of theft and criminal damage seen in the midst of 2020's lockdown. Properties of our own were affected too. We therefore set out to provide a range of cost-effective and simple products that help to mitigate these risks. All of our products have been designed to be installed in minutes, deployed to work in seconds and not require padlocks or keys that can be easily lost or can be difficult for some to use. It was also important that our products were attractive – there are plenty of industrial looking solutions out there but these do not necessarily fit with the decorative or lifestyle looks our customers are aiming for. Our products are therefore discrete, stylish as well as working beautifully too."

The range includes double/patio and single door bars that lock in place to prevent handles and locks being broken, and slide or drop in place door stops that can withstand significant forces to deter even a determined burglar.

Mr Allsopp commented, "Our products are being bought by home owners, business occupiers, leisure providers, care home operators and schools amongst a wider range of sectors. This just goes to show that keeping our property and possessions safe is an issue for everybody. Along with our stockists and distributors, we are pleased to be able to give customers a cheap and effective route to mitigating the risks from theft and break-in."

Securian Industries reports that it's actively seeking stocklists and distributors around the UK and Ireland with a network of stockists growing all the time and with increasing numbers of its products available for customers.

Contact
T 0330 333 7279
info@securian.store
www.securian.store

Floor sealer & finish guide

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

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

Floor finishes

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

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

When it comes to helping customers choose



the right kind of floor finish, make sure the following concerns are addressed to give clients a wide range of options:

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

Fixing floor finish mistakes

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



- ▲ Streaks – Ensure job site conditions are properly prepared for optimal drying. Most streaking problems can be traced back to the application or even the applicator itself. An easy way to eliminate problems with streaking is with the use of a roller.
- ▲ Side bonding – Using a quality floor sealer will help prevent side bonding.
- ▲ Peeling – Check to make sure the coatings you use are compatible with each other. Following manufacturer's instructions will help give proper guidance on what abrasives are recommended when prepping the floor.
- ▲ Blistering – Temperature control is often the cause of blistering. When finishing a



floor, consider the sun and either cover the windows with plastic or plan the job early in the morning or late in the day. Make sure that the room is properly prepped to allow for proper airflow as the finish dries.

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

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

T 01908 525150
info.uk@bona.com
www.bona.com

RETHINK RESILIENT FLOOR REPLACEMENT
Bona Resilient Solution

RENEWING WORN HEALTHCARE FLOORS

Is it possible to achieve hygienic and safe floors without having to replace the old one? Yes, with the innovative Bona Resilient Solution, there is a complete, long lasting, effective system to restore, renew and upgrade resilient floors. The process could be repeated over and over again – throughout the floor's lifetime.

- 92% LESS CARBON EMISSIONS
- 41% COST SAVINGS
- 90% ENERGY SAVINGS



IMPROVED HYGIENE FOR HEALTHIER SURFACES

Bona's unique process along with our coatings creates a monolithic surface that seals against microorganisms thus resulting in a floor with the highest level of hygiene standards as mandated by The Technical Rules of Biological Agents (TRBA).



DESIGN CUSTOMIZATION

The Bona Resilient Solution offers numerous design options from changing the colour and design of a floor, to adding decals, graphics and logos. The possibilities are endless.

WE CALL IT BONA RESILIENT SOLUTIONS, YOU COULD CALL IT A BRAND-NEW FLOOR.

Request your free floor evaluation here!

Bona Limited: 01908 525150 | info.uk@bona.com | www.bona.com



Bona®

Commitment to excellence

When good isn't good enough. When acceptable is unacceptable. That's when you know you're committed to excellence.

Construction hoist hire and sales specialist Direct Hoist is this year's winner of Best Practice's coveted Commitment To Excellence award – a trophy that lines up alongside many other accolades to recognise this forward-thinking firm's rise to the top.

For Direct Hoist's founder Rob Wilson, the commitment to excellence is integral to his company's success. It includes every aspect of business: from first-rate customer service to dedicated staff training; from sourcing the best products to enjoying an unrivalled reputation for safety.

Rob says, "Direct Hoist is delighted to be recognised for our commitment to excellence. We set ourselves goals, and strive to ensure we're always on target."

Based in the Midlands and serving industry throughout England, Direct Hoist benefits from Rob's 30-plus years' experience in hoists. His product knowledge is second to none; Direct Hoist's free advice, site surveys and project planning means every customer receives a tailored, cost-effective plan to suit their programme's needs.

Rob says, "We establish what's essential at day one, and what may be wanted in three or six months' time. We know what, where, when and how big, and we advise accordingly. Our know-how ensures we get it right every time."

All the complicated calculations are carried out by Rob's conscientious team, but it's much more than simply working out where a hoist will stand. Static load measurements assess what equipment or personnel a hoist will be required to carry. Ground pressure figures account for voids below the surface. Dynamic load calculations establish the forces of a platform when moving, starting and stopping on the hoist. Even the existing building has to be checked for its ability to withstand the tie loadings.

Of course, Direct Hoist's commitment to excellence means safety is the top priority; no matter how short the project or how few storeys are being climbed, it's vital to afford maximum protection for workers.



All good-quality hoists have inbuilt protection, such as interlocking gates and overload sensors to ensure the operator hasn't slid one-too-many bags of sand or 7N blocks onto the platform.

Direct Hoist's long association with up-to-date and fastidiously-maintained German GEDA machinery has now been boosted by becoming the UK distributor of Electroelsa construction hoists and platforms. The Italian brand is a market-leader in safety, boasting an independent overspeed device (OSD) that intervenes by locking the platform if it descends at an excessive speed, along with an automatic safety system to protect the machine from being overloaded.

Rob says, "Electroelsa is implementing a wide range of technological innovations, which we're excited to introduce to the British construction industry."

Electroelsa's impressive range of mast-climbing work platforms (MCWPs), transport platforms, material hoists and construction hoists adds to Direct Hoist's ever-expanding fleet of modern machines, which also include scaffold hoists, mast-climbers, gantry hoists and tile hoists.

Adding environmental credentials to excellence, Direct Hoist is at the forefront of innovation by investing in lithium-ion battery-powered lifts, which can carry 120kg up

to heights of 10m, controlled wirelessly by a smartphone app. They're neat, compact and ideal for transportation and installation of roofing and solar panels.

Rob says, "Due to the Government's intention to drastically reduce the UK's emissions – especially from motor vehicles and businesses – Direct Hoist is moving forward with these demands for companies to decrease their carbon footprint down to zero emissions."

Direct Hoist's approach aims to cover all bases. Simple changes such as low-energy LED lighting throughout the firm's workshops and offices are matched by concerted efforts to monitor and separate all recycling – from general supplies to scrap metals. Direct Hoist has implemented paper-free hand-overs via phone apps, and favours green suppliers to pass sustainability down the chain.

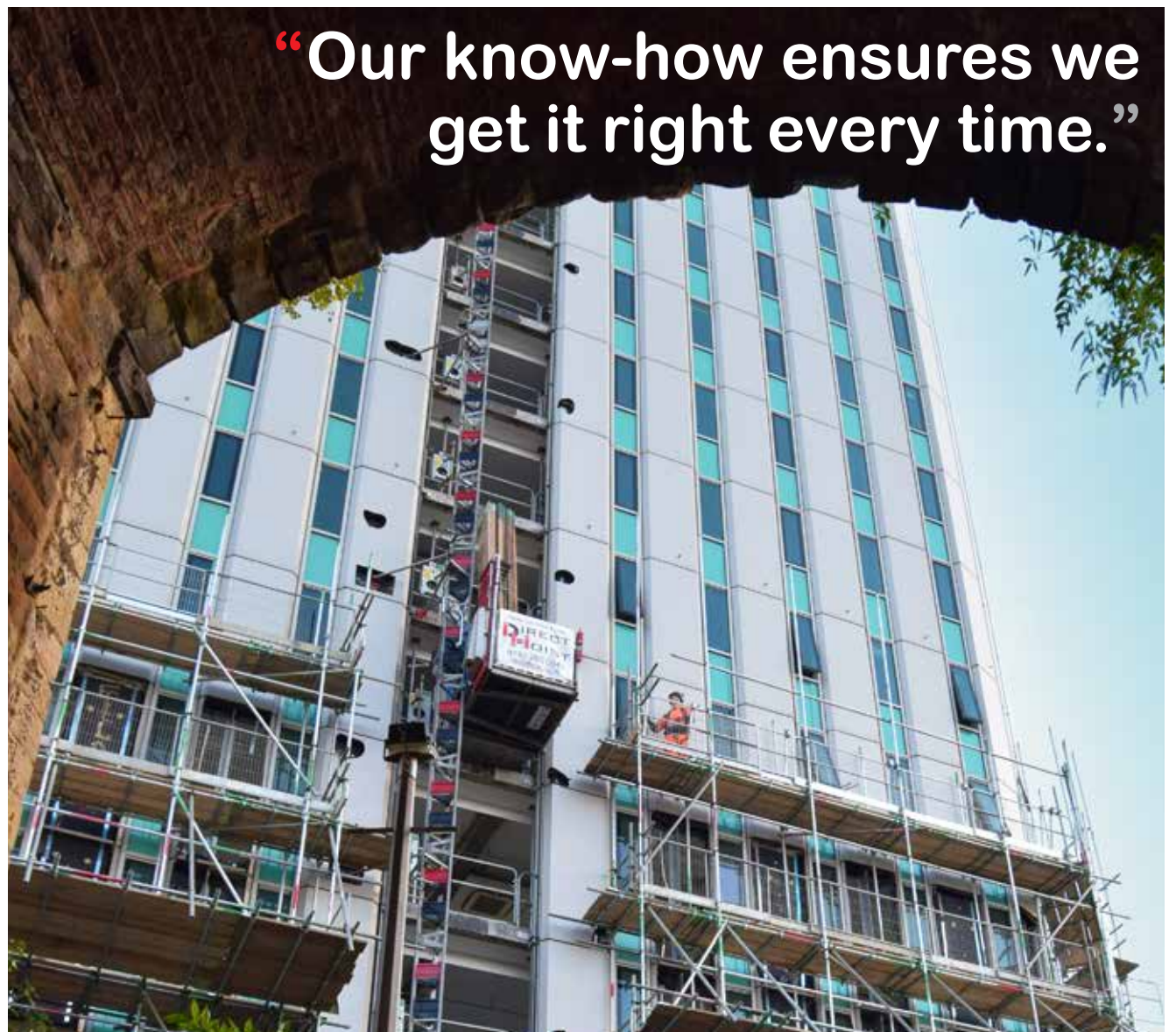
Rob adds, "Electric vehicles don't yet offer the range we need, so we've changed all of our diesel-powered vans to run on HVO (hydrotreated vegetable oil) fuel, which has benefits to health and the environment. Air pollution is drastically reduced, and it's much safer if there's an accidental spillage. We do everything we can to protect our employees and customers."

Needless to say, Direct Hoist takes no chances, and insists on a fully-skilled workforce, with professional hoist technicians and qualified mechanical engineers; supervising installers are SSSTS-certified, and all hold CCNSG safety passports and NVQ Level 2 Blue or Level 3 Gold CSCS cards. Rob realises it's critical for his team to be nurtured, and the firm even has its own fast-track scheme for NVQs.

"We've recently taken on additional premises," says Rob, "which will help our in-house training. Plus we've been expanding our sales department and can now offer finance on our products."

All this from a company that started only eight years ago. That's a commitment to excellence perfected.

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Leaders in field management software



Re-flow Field Management was established in 2016 by Michael Saunders and Leandro Wade to provide Cloud-based field management software, which aims to unite field operatives and back-office staff with a centralised system. The company has seen impressive growth since its inception and has moved its offices through its expansion, headquartered in the historic city of Exeter, Devon.

“The software was originally built to connect field operatives and back-office staff with a centralised system in the highway management sector, but eventually grew in scope as we discovered that it could be adapted to construction and civil engineering firms. In 2018, the company was incorporated under the name Workflow Management Limited and launched as a separate entity, trading under the name Re-flow,” added Michael Saunders, Co-founder & Managing Director.

Re-flow’s Field Management Software serves a multitude of sectors including construction, highways, civil engineering, landscaping, telecoms and rail. The software is highly adaptable and scalable, meaning businesses of all sizes can take advantage of Re-flow’s full potential. As such, the company’s software is currently in operation for a wide range of businesses, from a minimum of ten users to supporting operatives in the hundreds on a national scale.

Offering unrivalled support and industry leading expertise, Re-flow specialises in guiding companies who have adopted its software through their digital transformation.

“Our talented team of software specialists guide clients from their trial, through to onboarding and beyond, also lending their expertise to build complex digital work forms and adapt our software to client needs,” said Michael.

What sets Re-flow apart is its flexibility and the quality of our support. Offering an adaptable, intelligent system which offers so much more than the one size fits all approach commonly seen with off-the-shelf software.

“Almost every aspect of our software can be tweaked and tailored to fit the specific working processes of each business. This spans customisable digital forms which can be custom-built to emulate existing paper forms, branding, the terminology used across the software and more.” Michael continued, “Our support team can adapt the app and dashboard experience for each individual client, and even build forms in-house as an additional service. We understand how daunting it can be to replace the entire foundation of one’s business, that’s why we made sure implementing our software is as seamless as possible, and work can continue without being brought to a grinding halt.”



In terms of recent developments for the company, Re-flow has seen some significant advances over the past year including rapid growth for the company. One of the biggest achievements for the company was the closing of another round of oversubscribed



funding from Re-flow’s investors in January of this year, which has really bolstered the company’s expansion. This expansion has included growing Re-flow’s team with new talent, increasing its presence at industry events & enabling the company to provide even more incredible features to for its clients.

Another notable development for the company was the implementation of several new features, these include a form builder, user tracking and automated workflows.

The form builder was originally designed for in-house use by Re-flow’s support team to create

real-time data of where all your operatives are, giving field managers peace of mind that works are commencing smoothly. Thanks to digital signatures, time and location stamping, Re-flow now enables users to get a more detailed overview of operations than ever before.

“Lastly, automated workflows enable a new level of streamlining processes. Actions such as form submissions can trigger updates in the dashboard based on inputted data, including updating job progress, changing the status of plant and equipment, scheduling servicing reminders, sending automatic notifications and more.”

With many new challenges experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many companies and industries have experienced numerous changes. One of the most prominent developments through the COVID-19 pandemic for Re-flow, was the industry recognising the wealth of advantages and its importance for the future, of digital workforce solutions.

“The core aspects of our software – paperless information exchange, instant digital communication and real-time data – were exactly what businesses needed to continue working safely throughout the pandemic, and so many of our clients were able to keep operating at the same levels they had been prior to the pandemic, thanks to our software. The significance of HSE really rose to the forefront during that time and remains highly important to all the professionals we work with, even after the pandemic. We hope that moving forward, businesses in our sectors will invest into sustainable safety solutions, such as Re-flow, so that nobody is caught unprepared and unable to effectively protect their workers in the face of a crisis,” said Michael.

As the company looks ahead, Re-flow aims to continue its sustained growth throughout 2022. Indeed, the company plans to build upon its growth and maintains many plans for expansion. Some of these areas of planned growth include expanding its team, attending even more events, innovating the industry with more new features, and continuing to build an even more stable, powerful and comprehensive field management system.

www.re-flow.co.uk



Michael expanded on the other key new features Re-flow has developed, “User tracking provides



Bespoke staircases

Since 1985, Spiral UK has established itself as the UK's leading specialist staircase manufacturer. Originally set up to produce concrete spiral staircases, the company's depth of knowledge, expertise and experience in spiral staircase design and spiral staircase installation has since expanded into other forms of bespoke staircases using materials such as steel, glass, wood and stone.



Founded by father and son Buzz and Eric Nicholls, the employment of CEO Andrew Holland in 2015 became a landmark in the vast growth of the business. Today, Eric is front of house managing sales and still shares his expertise directly with clients, whilst Andrew runs the operations.

The Cornwall-based bespoke staircase specialists believe in delivering a totally bespoke service that is people-based as well as product based. "We try to keep everything in house, so we have full control over the process to ensure there are no unnecessary delays or unexpected obstacles," said Eric. Offering an unrivalled service with years of experience and expertise under its belt, Spiral UK is happy to work with seasoned



professionals as well as first time buyers looking to build their dream home. Its hands on approach ensures each customer's requirements are met, and individual designs exceed initial expectations.

However, Spiral UK doesn't just do spirals. Everything from the initial quote to the design, manufacture and installation can be completely customisable and tailored to any requirement. With over 30 years' experience in the industry offering unrivalled expertise, Spiral UK can cater to any project across a range of spaces from restaurants, shops, museums, schools and more.

"Our expertise and experience allow for even the trickiest of designs and we ensure each design is fully compliant with UK building regulations. Our design engineers have the capabilities to design, manufacture and install any less-than-straightforward staircase that requires a little more thought and skilled engineering such as steel, glass or concrete spirals, helicals, curved, dog-leg, floating and cantilever," stated Eric.



Spiral UK's services stretch nationwide and are available online or in person. If a face-to-face meeting is not possible, Spiral UK can organise a bespoke staircase CPD service online at the company's convenience. Conducted via presentation through Zoom, Microsoft Teams or Google platforms, "We exclusively offer a free service that explains our bespoke stair designs, building regulations, and manufacturing and installation processes," said Eric.

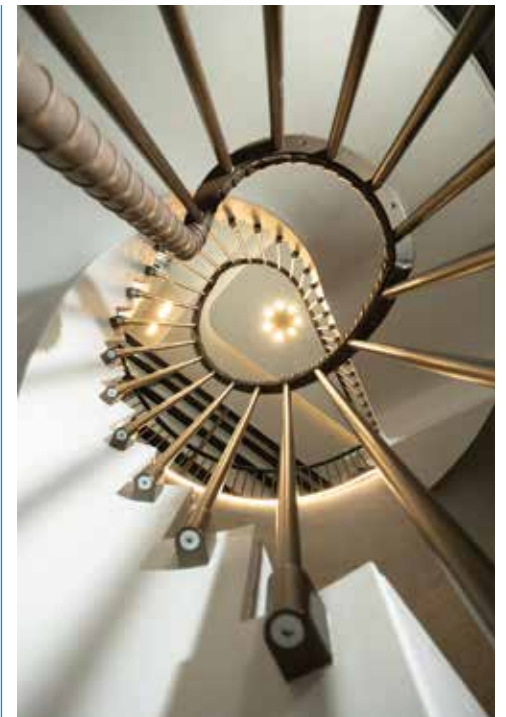
Over the years, Spiral UK has grown alongside its customer base and now operates in four distinctly separate markets,



as Katie Chown, Marketing Manager, explained. "We design, manufacture and install bespoke luxury staircases for four main audiences. We create centrepiece stairs for domestic properties, these can be refurb or new builds and made from steel, concrete, clad or almost any material the budget allows for. Our designs include anything from simple handrails to full curved glass balustrading. The main bulk of our clients are construction companies and fit out interior designers. For these clients, we are usually employed to create large- and small-scale stairs for all manner of commercial applications from office refits to grand stadium projects – we're currently working on projects for the new Swansea Arena and The Royal Albert Hall. Lastly, we have vast specialist experience of creating compliant external fire escapes for all applications and have worked a lot for the MoD on their accommodation blocks on base."

In recent developments, Spiral UK has introduced QStairs which alongside Spiral UK, is a separate online company set up to cater for high quality 'off-the-shelf' options. QStairs is essentially a self-install stair kit that offers a cost-effective alternative to using a bespoke staircase service. "QStairs are designed to be fitted by the purchaser/their builder. We have used our many years of experience and expertise from our inhouse designers to come up with a millimetre perfect ordering system for a kit of parts to build your own galvanised or powder coated spiral staircase up to four metres high," said Katie. QStairs gives customers in the building trade the option to purchase the same high quality produced by Spiral UK but at a more affordable price. Offering a straightforward installation process and a finished product that is robust and durable, further designs are already in the pipeline as it sets out to be a revolutionary product within the industry.

With future plans to heavily invest in the marketing and development of QStairs, Spiral UK is taking each step at a time to ensure a continuous steady growth. With the current economy being difficult to navigate, Spiral UK's approach to continued success is measured and tactical. "We were lucky that construction continued during COVID-19 but that's not to say that things didn't get difficult.



Commercial contract opportunities slowed, and competition increased, however, we're in a good position to continue our usual high standards for the foreseeable," stated Katie.

Spiral UK has an abundance of knowledge and expertise at its fingertips, from design engineers, time-served steel craftsmen to experienced teams of fitters that are trained to deliver a full in-house design, manufacture and installation service. With bespoke staircase designs, materials and finishes readily available, see below to find out more.

Contact
T 0330 123 2447
info@spiral.uk.com
www.spiral.uk.com



MSS Cellular Signal Boosters 4G/5G

Mobile Signal Solutions (MSS) design and install Distributed Antenna Systems for the Luxury Homes Market, Hospitality & Commercial market, bringing a reliable, high-quality network signal from outside into properties that struggle to obtain any inside. Operating in a completely niche market, Mobile Signal Solutions are leaders in their field in providing large-scale signal boosters to the UK, Ireland and mainland EU.

Its team of highly trained and experienced engineers can advise and help you to not only budget but plan for the likely coverage outcomes or even potential black areas and create a solution to how these can be minimised. That along with all the resellers in the UK, the mobile phone networks covered are Vodafone, O2, EE and Three. EE has the most resellers using its network, including ASDA Mobile, Plusnet, Virgin Mobile and BT Mobile. O2's network also includes Giffgaff, Sky Mobile and Tesco Mobile. Three's network includes iD Mobile SMARTY, and Vodafone also includes Talk Mobile.

MSS has offices in Chelmsford and Central London and brings a full 3G, 4G and 5G connectivity with a range of equipment maintenance options to clients across a broad range of industries. MSS has performed installations in some of the UK's finest hotels and Blue-chip companies, to which some of its recent customers have been Rolls-Royce, NHS, London Luton Airport, Doubletree by Hilton, Hyatt hotels & resorts, and Eurosport. Essentially, the possibilities are endless for MSS who have the capabilities to install signal boosters into any large-scale building from luxury homes to large offices, factories, airports, warehouses, hotels and hospitals.

How does it work?

After initial completion of a free estimation and refundable survey, its team of dedicated qualified engineers, surveyors and project managers will discuss with you your mobile reception issues, outline how they can help, and give you an idea of the best options and costs. Your survey report will include all the detailed information such as total area, signal level inside/outside DB, and materials used in the building. Then, its team of technical experts and engineers, who are specialists in the design and effective installation of mobile signal boosters or repeaters, will work to install the right solution for your needs in a fast and effective manner.

With the aggressive rollout of 5G, MSS is now beginning to offer 5G systems as part of its catalogue of services. Harked as the next generation of mobile internet connection, 5G offers much faster data download and upload speeds. Boasting speeds of up to 10gigabytes per second to mobile devices, 5G is likely to be up to 600 times faster than the average



4G phone connection. 5G's main function is to be able to deliver a network that will enhance and enable next-gen user experiences and new technological developments. Apart from being ultra-reliable, 5G can offer a huge network capacity, low latency, increased availability and a far more inferior user experience than its 4G predecessor.

Looking to the future, MSS is and always will remain committed to its customers, offering a high-quality, faultless service. Furthermore, it will continue to develop and deliver the latest and most innovative products in the business, ensuring to keep up with the ever-changing world that is technology.

MSS is fully accredited and has a full list of policies in place that enables them to work in any environment safely and legally. Its team of highly skilled engineers and surveyors have many years of experience between them to offer the highest-quality service to every client. All its equipment are licence-exempt and fully comply with Ofcom's UK Interface requirement 2102 (IR2102) (UK) and ComReg S.I.No.283 of 2018 (Ireland).

For more information, see below.

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<https://mobilesignalsolutions.co.uk/>



Zoo Hardware release four new premium finishes for Stanza ZPZ residential door hardware range

"These products are primarily designed for residential projects where a luxury feel is required without the luxury price tag. Premium 'living finishes' are usually associated with expensive hardware, however, our new Stanza Designer finishes have the 'living finish' look with the added benefit of the longevity associated with our other quality Zoo finishes, meaning they won't change or wear off

over a short space of time," stated Jack Burford, Product Development Designer.

Driven by design, Zoo Hardware are designers and suppliers of architectural door hardware products including door handles, knobs, locks, hinges and more. Its brand-new range includes four unique finishes across eight lever

designs accompanied by matching round and square rose Escutcheons and Turn & Releases, as well as finish matched suited hardware that includes hinges and latches. The new finishes are:

▲ Oscuro Matt Black (OMB) which delivers an ultra-matt black finish

- ▲ Etna Bronze (ETB) which delivers a dark bronze with molten red undertones that burst through under direct light
- ▲ Favo Satin Brass (FSB) which delivers a satin brass finish with a warm, honeyed hue to give a lightly aged appearance
- ▲ Tuscan Rose Gold (TRG) which delivers a satin rose gold finish with a warm brown glow evoking the sun-drenched chestnut groves of Tuscany.

The new finishes reflect the unrivalled design skills portrayed by the company's in-house design team, ensuring its customers of its high-quality, top of the range level of service and expertise at hand.

"The team constantly aims to push the boundaries of possibility for its designs, creating innovative, stylish and cost-effective hardware solutions. Giving the ability to suit the finish throughout the space in which they are used, these will truly upgrade any home and be a talking point for any design conscious homeowner," said Jack.

Zoo Hardware understands how important it is for customers to know they are receiving a high-end product at an accessible price point, which is why it will always endeavour to assist homeowners in upgrading their homes in the most simple and cost-effective way.

We asked Jack how the products have been received by customers, he responded, "Initial reactions have been positive. We truly believe these products are unparalleled in the current market, especially at this price point.

Work started on the finishes in early 2021 by identifying the gaps and needs of the market, with the aim to end up with a range of finishes to suit any taste and style of property. Once we selected the four finishes to take forward, we then worked tirelessly throughout the year to develop each finish to the best possible level."

Offering a range of finishes that are uncompromisingly brilliant and designed to flawless perfection, the company has also launched further products worth noting. "We have also launched a range of hands-free products

which help to reduce contact with hands and therefore reduces the spread of germs and a complete range of fire rated door packs which offer the ideal solution for internal doors within commercial properties. In the next few months, we will be launching our new range of anti-ligature products that will prevent individuals using the ironmongery as a means of attaching a ligature to inflict self-harm or harm to others."

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Shou Sugi Ban®: Charred timber cladding

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Our expert team handcraft sustainably sourced timbers in our on-site workshop. Our commitment to high standards has earned us a reputation as a trusted supplier to architects and building developers.

Our charred timbers are naturally insulating, as well as being weather and insect resilient. They provide a timeless finish to

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Shou Sugi Ban® has been the specification of choice on RIBA award-winning builds, Grand Designs and stunning exterior landscaping projects. Does it fit your design brief?

If, so, download the Shou Sugi Ban® catalogue from our website, or contact Exterior Solutions on 01494 711800 for samples and a quote.



SAF Woodland Management

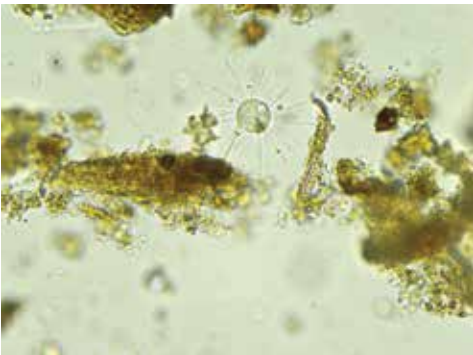


In the 1960s Maureen Iddon was a pioneer of the post war era. Her decision to start a plant nursery, earned her a reputation in growing and breeding rare herbaceous plants that spanned more than 30 years, including exhibiting at national Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Flower Shows. Observing plants, nature and creating a healthy growing stock has been the bedrock of the family business across three generations.

Grandson Daniel Iddon switched the family nursery to trees in 2019. Growing healthy plants is essential, but the challenge is whether we can grow trees to also suit their planting environment. This challenge drove Daniel to relocate his nursery operations to his woodland in Pembrokeshire. Planting trees from the growing trials in his woodland, he noticed how the trees were changing outside of the carefully controlled environment (soil moisture, air humidity, chemical food source), adjusting to the new climate local to the woodland with an abundance of bacteria, fungal species and microbes in the soil.

During growing trials to support the SAF Woodland investment in the Ellepot growing system, opportunities for improvement in the growing medium was identified. SAF Woodland are now developing a living soil to bring the woodland environment into the nursery. The research is being funded by The Forestry Commission Tree Production Innovation Fund (TPIF) in 2021 that has been designed to encourage the development and adoption of new technologies and ways of working that will enhance the quantity, quality and diversity of tree planting stock available for planting in England. By 2025, the government is seeking to dramatically increase tree planting to 10,000 hectares per year in England. To meet these planting targets domestically will require a corresponding increase in the UK production of tree planting material.

T 01239 611980
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Fisher & Co are celebrating 40 years & ISO Certification!

It's not just the Queen celebrating – it's our 40th year in business this year at Fisher & Company! We have been manufacturing high quality products for a wide variety of purposes from Highways & Streetlighting, EV Charging and Outdoor Power & Leisure to Sports Facilities, Car Parks, Markets and many other purposes since 1982.

We are also delighted to announce that we have now achieved Quality Management System certification ISO 9001:2015! We always knew our service and products were top quality – now we have official acknowledgment of our



consistent high quality of both the service and the products we manufacture.

In addition, Emily Greenway, our Sales Team legend for the last 2½ years has been promoted to the position of Operations Manager. She will now be overseeing the production schedule, dispatches and materials purchasing. We are very proud of her dedication and speedy progression within the company.

We also welcome Naomi Anderson to the Sales Team so please do give us a call to get a quote or to discuss your latest project on 0333 666 2122 or email: info@fisherandcompany.co.uk

Go to: www.fisherandcompany.co.uk to view our great ranges of Feeder Pillars in galvanised, stainless, powder coat finish and GRP, Cabinets, Belisha and Refuge Beacons, Lighting & Sign Brackets and safety tested Digging Tools.

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MAC Cabins Limited is a fast-growing Timber Building company based in Okehampton, Devon, with over 30 years' experience in the construction industry. Proud to be the providers of one of the largest selections of: Timber Buildings, Log Cabins, Leisure/Holiday Cabins & Glamping Pods, in the heart of the South West of England.

To compliment the extensive ranges of timber buildings, MAC Cabins also offers a vast variety of other Timber Frame & Modular Frame options, providing one of the widest selections of timber building options, within the market-sector.

For all timber frame styles, MAC Cabins works with



self-build and custom-build projects, where the initial design has already been completed with architects. We help to guide small to medium-sized developers, on sites of 1-30 plots, to identify the best

way to convert vision into reality.

MAC Cabins continues to expand its vast portfolio of designs and build options, allowing you to select the perfect combination of style, size and price, confident you will find the perfect selection to meet your growing demands.

With every building you will receive a structure that has a higher standard specification than most other comparable products.

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The SmartFence and EliteFence products came to life in early 2019 and have since grown exponentially across Ireland. Wholly Irish owned, the EliteGarden brand manufactures a variety of products for the home garden sector with an eye to the future in energy.

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Our extremely popular SmartFence range of retrofit flat-pack metal garden fencing systems is the perfect replacement for old wooden panels in your garden. Made from high-quality, durable steel, SmartFence is a Maintenance-free, sturdy metal garden fencing system that can be self-assembled in minutes. Visit our website to learn more.

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Looking for quality landscape & building materials from a trusted supplier?



Established in 1998, Stone Zone and Landscaping Centre are a nationwide trade supplier, offering quality landscaping and building materials at trade prices.

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Now proudly supplying a 'Developers' range, the Stone Zone offer stunning porcelain paving products designed for newly-built homes, at affordable prices.

Are you a Greensman or Greenkeeper? Their Wessex range consists of Bunker Sand, Silica Sand, Dutch Tree Sand and more. They can even make bespoke soil blends tailored to your requirements!

To cater to the environmentally conscious, the Stone Zone have developed their own eco-friendly 'Sustainable range', including FSC Certified Oak Sleepers, Composite Decking and locally blended soils.

Stone Zone pride themselves on being 'a service you can rely on' and are committed to putting their clients at the heart of what they do. With a dedicated account manager, best rates and exceptional customer service are guaranteed.

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Advanced Perimeter Systems

Perimeter security has never been more important as risk of theft or intrusion increases amid the cost-of-living crisis. Whether it be at work or at home, effective perimeter security provides peace of mind. Advanced Perimeter Systems is here to help provide solutions for your security needs.

Advanced Perimeter Systems have been installed all over the world in all sorts of locations from palaces to piggeries. You'll find APS security solutions at sites such as Military bases, Airports, Prisons, Reservoirs, Government sites, Warehouses, Art Galleries, even your home garage and many more. Advanced Perimeter Systems are built and tested to



UK standards, and have proven to be robust, highly effective and reliable.

Whatever the threat, APS has a security solution for you. From the discreet Flexiguard acoustic sensor cable which picks up on vibrations to alert you of an

attempted intrusion, to the invisible barrier Microguard which is the latest in infrared and microwave technology. Or consider the ultimate deterrent, Electro-Fence, which is guaranteed to provide shockingly good security with a non-lethal 10,000 volts.

The Advanced Perimeter Systems product range has been developed in-house over many years and designed with intelligent high security in mind.



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For information or advice on perimeter security, contact Advanced Perimeter Systems at: sales@apsltd.net or browse: www.advancedperimetersystems.com

UK trailer startup helping British industry solve supply chain headaches and get back on road



HM-D Trailers is getting British businesses on the road again by helping them overcome the crippling effects of supply chain issues we are hearing about daily.

In fact, over the past few years, British industry and in particular the road haulage sector has been battling problems with supply chains which have been further compounded by COVID-19 closing factories and borders, stalling production and cross-border trade. Brexit has created additional administration, uncertainty and delays. The knock-on effect caused lorry driver shortages; and now the devastating war in Ukraine has brought about an increase in oil prices.

This has all combined to create a backlog in production and deliveries with demand outstripping supply. It now costs more than ever to move goods and takes longer to bring products and components into the UK.

One solution to this comes in the simple form of road-trailers – the trusty workhorse of British commerce.

These trailers are typically used by industry professionals from construction and ground-works, to farming and horticulture. Tiny house trailers can also be relied on to transport the likes of food kiosks, portable toilets, accommodation and portable shops.

While many trailer manufacturers have themselves been hampered by supply chain issues – with customers having to wait until 2024 for their order, affecting trade today – UK company HM-D Trailers has avoided such delays. By locking in agreements with suppliers to maintain production it can offer immediately available trailers for all purposes. Its trailers are double-dip galvanised and come with a five-year chassis warranty. The company also offers a buy-back scheme on old HM-D Trailers.

The brainchild of Neil Hall-McLean and Leo De Watts, who have a background in logistics, transport and engineering, they started HM-D Trailers after struggling to source trailers for another business project.

"When we realised that others were having the same problem we set about solving the issue," says Hall-McLean. "HM-D Trailers provides a range of immediately available, high-quality trailers, and our strategy enables us to significantly reduce waiting times to get businesses moving again. We've reduced bottlenecks and businesses can now get on with the job."

www.HMDtrailers.com



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3R Restoration is a specialist contractor offering a wide range of services associated with repair, refurbishment and restoration work. Whether a historic building, a monument, residential buildings or commercial space we strive to resolve complex issues including design elements such as fixing systems and material interfaces.

We provide knowledgeable advice on materials from procurement to installation and maintenance. We will also provide technical and testing data, planning and programming with the focus on key milestones and deliverables. Our solid network of trusted suppliers allows us access to a wide variety of materials to suit your project, from natural stone to brickwork, render and more.



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Platinum Jubilee celebrations and a special birthday at George Barnsdale

As villagers and staff at George Barnsdale celebrated one princess Elizabeth Mountbatten becoming Queen Elizabeth II in 1952 and her coronation the following year, the Barnsdale family was also looking forward to welcoming its own little princess into the world. Helen Elizabeth Barnsdale, whose birth coincided with the Queen's coronation in 1953, was born at a time of high optimism and much excitement as well as hardship. The devastating East Coast floods that Lincolnshire suffered around this time, the continuing rationing of certain foods as well as timber and the struggling economic situation post World War II were reality for many. Helen, like Her Majesty, has witnessed so much change in the last 70 years. To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate our own achievements since 1952, we have been delving into the archives to find out what else was happening in the Barnsdale workshop at the time and reflecting on how much has changed.

George Barnsdale in the 1950s – daredevils and dodgems
Following the retirement of George Barnsdale who started the business in 1884, his sons Frederick and Walter took over the running of the business which had been steadily growing and gaining a reputation for quality and workmanship. As the business boomed, customers found themselves having to wait longer than they would have liked to have something made and "Waiting for Barnsdales" became a local catchphrase and one that also applies right now as we work our way through the post-pandemic boom.

The firm employed 50-60 people in those post WWII years where timber was still rationed and there was a licence scheme for building. More a building firm



(Barnsdale Construction) than just joinery, George Barnsdale's men travelled throughout the county helping to build homes fit for heroes. Some of the more unusual requests the company received included an order for six Walls of Death often seen

at fairs throughout the country and tested by local daredevils on rickety bikes before being despatched. The company also made seaside chalets and dodgem tack for amusement parks.

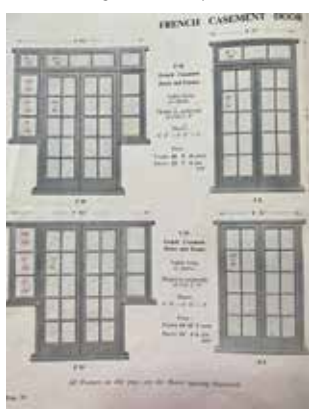
Having been instrumental in establishing the British Standard for timber windows and doors, Walter and Frederick found themselves to be quite influential outside of rural Lincolnshire too. John Barnsdale, Frederick's son and Helen's father, was a young man in the 1950s and started to get involved in the business too. Helen's earlier memories are of travelling around the area doing site visits.

Imperial measurements and gallons of lead paint
The firm would have still been using imperial measures in those days as metric measurements didn't arrive until

1965. Lengths of timber would have been measured in feet and inches, paint would have come in gallons and builders sand would have come by the tonne. It must have taken a bit of getting used to for the men working onsite to work out what the new centimetres, metres, grams and kilograms, litres and millilitres were!

Lead primers and paints were used unlike today's water-based breathable coatings that ensure products won't need re-coating for at least ten years.

Beehives and bays
The prices also looked very different in those days too. A 7' x 10" bay window, so popular in 1950s new homes would have cost the trade price of £11 15s. A set of 4.0' x 6'6" x 2" french casement doors would have set you back £6 5s. Those elegant 1950s doors we see still standing in so many homes throughout the UK



would have cost between £2 and £3.

The new millennium and beyond
Always with an eye on sustainability and taking care of the environment, George Barnsdale has invested heavily in solar power for its factory,



minimal timber waste, low energy technology to reduce consumption and recycling. The company is also a corporate member of the Woodland Trust, to support Britain's forests. We are also working with UK timber grower Vastern Timber to support our ambition to use more homegrown timber in the future. The Sylva Centre at Vastern is currently testing our windows made with home grown thermally modified timber.

Today, George Barnsdale's quality timber windows and doors can be seen all over the UK in period properties, selfbuild homes and contemporary homes as well as commercial projects like Chanel on Bond Street, The former American Embassy in Grosvenor Square London and has just completed a large project at One Palace Street; right next door to her Majesty and overlooking Buckingham Palace gardens!

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www.georgebarnsdale.co.uk

Rapid Access: Access panels & riser doors

Access panels are a key feature of building design, fitted into a void in the wall or ceiling in order to provide access to services in buildings. They are designed to fit subtly into the wall or ceiling surface, with doors often able to be painted over to blend into the surface for minimal noticeability.

Here at Rapid Access, we offer a range of discrete access panels for every application. Our range comes in a variety of sizes, shapes and dimensions allowing us to deliver a solution perfectly customised to your needs. Whether you need regular access to smaller units & hubs, or large doorways allowing the passage of a person to restricted areas, we can provide your ideal solution.

Designing manufacturing access panels for walls & ceilings, we offer the quickest manufacturing process on the market when it comes to ordering our products. As specialist manufacturers for the construction and building sector, we also extend our unrivalled service to distributors, contractors and architects.

These panels can be used in domestic properties and commercial buildings alike, with all our products offering certain levels of discretion. Our largest range of metal-faced access panels are perfect for wall or ceiling application and come with both picture and beaded-frame options for maximum design flexibility. As well as our standard metal-faced panels, our range also includes plasterboard and

tile-faced options, for maximum camouflage with its surroundings. Get in touch with our team for more information.

As well as this, we also offer products with a variety of fire and acoustic proofing, which can be ideal for protecting against noisy components, or in the case

of electrical hubs, can help contain any fire that may occur and prevent further damage. Riser doors also make up a critical part of our service as they form a critical safety component, particularly in high-rise buildings. Supplied with our rapid-fit hinge system, our products includes airtight, smoke tested, acoustic options, as well as up to 2 hours fire-rated.

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Client focused, industry leading safety consultancy services



In this issue of Building and Construction Review we have selected DCON Safety Consultants Limited as the latest recipient of our Health and Safety, Products & Services Award.

Diarmuid Condon, Owner and Managing Director of DCON Safety Consultants Limited, stated that, "DCON Safety Consultants are humbled by their selection as the recipient of this Award. This award supports our continual ambition to prioritise and specialise in the highest levels of informed and intelligent advice, senior project resource allocations and compliance assurance. DCON Safety Consultants remain fortunate to benefit from a strong understanding of the potential risks attached with these two essential project success criteria."

With a team of highly experienced construction professionals, DCON Safety Consultants are fully committed to their clients and their projects enabling them to assist with the implementation of a design and construction management plan that meets or exceeds its client's expectations.

This commitment to their clients is evidenced by DCON Safety Consultants Limited's growing portfolio of desirable clients, who reuse their services time and again. DCON Safety Consultants Limited retains an extensive client list which includes public sector departments, corporate owners, real estate developers, main contractors, design professionals and infrastructural bodies.

The main service provided by DCON Safety Consultants Limited is Project Supervisor for the Design Process (CDM Advisor Plus), Pre-Planning



Compliance, Safe Design Adherence, Health & Safety Strategy Creation and Expert Witness. Dedicated to all of its clients' projects, regardless of project size or complexity, DCON Safety Consultants Limited maintains a wealth of expertise in the built environment and generates distinctive and innovative ideas born out of traditional construction service inputs and outputs.

"We're a one-stop shop safety consultancy; we have a team of highly experienced construction professionals who consistently ensure your best interest and statutory conformity. DCON Safety Consultants is committed to understanding the specific needs, goals and desires of each individual client and project," says Diarmuid.

Diarmuid uses his extensive network of contacts to precisely recruit the right person to protect his clients' interests and uses his unique perspective to encourage, support and mentor the abilities of his colleagues. Diarmuid is an integral part of the company and ensures that it excels in providing services to its clients and displays exceptional achievement designing and executing strategic safety plans and systems.

A Quantity Surveyor by qualification, Diarmuid consistently demonstrates



his extensive knowledge and expertise including prior to setting up DCON Safety Consultants Limited, Diarmuid was responsible for Safety, Health & Quality consultancy services in Ireland for a global project management/cost management consultancy.

Diarmuid takes time to reflect over the last 12 months & on the present and future impact of COVID-19, Brexit and escalating uncertainty in Western Europe in the construction sector noting that the sector's outlook in 2022 remains positive and progressive.

It is Diarmuid's opinion that uncertainty will continue to play its part in the Irish construction industry well into 2023 where fuel and cost of living increases will inevitably challenge construction tender pricing and ongoing project delivery. Diarmuid remarks that the period between 2020 and 2022 has affected DCON Safety Consultants like all other micro | small businesses. Estimates of such abnormal impacts have not detracted from a healthy cash balance, noting annual cashflow revenues remain typical but materially lower than they were in 2019.

If you would like to find out any further information on DCON Safety Consultants, please see the details below.

T +353 (0)1 611 1556
diarmuid.condon@dconsafety.com
www.dconsafety.com



Air Conditioning and Heating Solutions

Clima-Tech was founded in 2015 by Ashley Shemmings, a self-employed specialist in heating engineering with over 18 years' experience in the engineering industry. Clima-Tech is a family run business and alongside Ashley, wife Franki Shemmings works in the office. What started off as a maintenance and servicing company, soon evolved into a specialist multi-faceted service with a proven track record in the electrical, refrigeration, domestic, and commercial sectors. Clima-Tech is well trusted and well established in the renewable energy field. Clima-Tech is hands on and works closely with its clients to ensure that the best service is delivered. Clima-Tech is an approved contractor by the following certified bodies: Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS), Renewable Energy Consumer Code (RECC), IWA, and REFCOM. Furthermore, Ashley has trained to the highest level, holding qualifications such as City and guilds 2360 NICEIC certified, City and guilds F-GAS, B-PEC G3 unvented, B-PEC Heat pump design, and B-PEC water regulation.

Clima-Tech has been the receiver of many awards over the years receiving first, second and third place in the following: 2019 National Energy Efficiency Awards, Energy Efficiency Champion and Commend Renewable Heat Installer & Contractor 2020/21 and the National Energy Efficiency Awards 2020/21. Another milestone for the company was in 2021 when Clima-Tech employed its first member of staff. Clima-Tech specialise in a range of core services in the renewable energy field for MCS/RHI registration systems, Heat pumps, Heating systems, Electrical system design and installation, System commissioning, Air conditioning, Solar panel specification, design, installation, repair and maintenance, and Underfloor Heating and Plumbing works.

T 01728 684437
ashley@clima-techservices.co.uk
www.clima-techservices.co.uk



Pumping solutions leader Selwood invests in equipment and premises



Selwood has invested millions in equipment and premises as strengthens its position as the UK's leading pump rental solutions provider.

A new London solutions centre brings more capacity, a bigger team and an expanded offering to customers across the capital and the South East. The expansion allows Selwood's team to offer faster response times and store a hugely-increased stock of pumps along with pipework, stoppers and accessories.

Meanwhile, a new larger Glasgow centre builds upon Selwood's presence in Scotland, supporting its position as a preferred provider of diesel and electric pumps to Scottish Water.

The new centre provides the full range of Selwood pumps and services and is a centre for excellence in electrical installations, with a dedicated electrical install team and testing equipment on-site.

The investment comes as Selwood celebrates the milestone of 5,000 pump units available for rental across its nationwide branch network.

John Lovell, Managing Director, Selwood Pump Rental Solutions, says, "Our ongoing investment in fleet and premises underlines Selwood's reputation as the leading pumping solutions company in the UK, enabling us to build upon the outstanding service and product range we offer all our customers."

www.selwood.co.uk

Switchable Glass and Film: Privacy & Security Solutions

If you are looking for an innovative privacy product for your building, office, home or even front of store, then you need to get in touch with D365 to find out how we can help. Since 2016, we have been installing switchable smart film and supplying switchable smart glass to both the residential and commercial sectors. Our switchable film can be retrofitted to existing glazing and gives the client instant privacy at the touch of a button compared to traditional dusty unsightly blinds and curtains.

CASE STUDY: Bristol: A client had purchased a large meeting pod and had it placed in the middle of the walkway where privacy wasn't guaranteed. They then opted to use our smart film across the top half



of the glass front for privacy and to keep data safe while also preventing distractions during meetings. The film used was our internal spec and is produced with a transparency of approx. 91% with low angle haze or 'milkyiness.' All our work is bespoke and can be site measured where possible. Otherwise we can assist you to take measurements and happily advise the best solutions available for your glazing project.



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Heart Pods based in Coventry design and build a wide range of Pods, Shepherd Huts, Garden Studios and other additional outside spaces.

Most recently, they launched their latest range in Garden Studios. These high-quality flexible spaces can be installed and ready to use very quickly.

Available in three sizes and specifications, they are built in a contemporary design with floor to ceiling windows and doors and are fully lined and insulated.

Whether you need office space, a gym, playroom, bar, man cave or somewhere to escape and relax, the Garden Studios are a great alternative to an extension and at just under 2.5m high, in most cases, no need to apply for planning permission.

The Garden Studios are a great addition to the fantastic Pods and Shepherd Huts already on offer at Heart Pods. You can see the entire range on their brand new website at: www.heartpods.uk

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Announcing the IEMA Pathways to Net Zero course

Astutis is delighted to be the inaugural partner for the IEMA Pathways to Net Zero course!

The course is designed to provide clear and practical guidance on the best practice in combating climate change. It is the first available health, safety and environmental course, that provides a complete decarbonisation plan engineered to steer individuals and businesses alike in the right ecological direction.

IEMA states the course involves 14 guided hours split across two impactful days. Ideal for supervisors and managers across all sectors, this IEMA course merits no formal entry requirements.



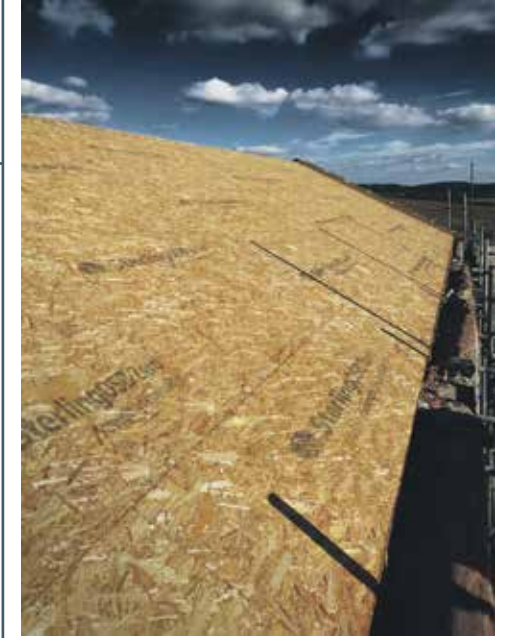
The aim is to provide leaders with a successful strategic overview of environmental sustainability as it affects their specific industry.

The IEMA Pathways to Net Zero course is spread across eight modules which are:

- ▲ Why Net Zero?
- ▲ Responding to Net Zero
- ▲ Greenhouse Gas Accounting: a Primer
- ▲ Carbon Neutrality
- ▲ Net Zero Methodologies
- ▲ Developing a Decarbonisation Plan
- ▲ Net Zero Across the Value Chain
- ▲ Communicating Net Zero

For more information on the entire course syllabus and the wide range of Environmental and Sustainability training courses, visit: www.astutis.com/iema-courses

West Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero sets the standard for OSB3



Manufactured to the highest standards by timber products specialist, West Fraser (formerly known as Norbord), SterlingOSB Zero is a precision-engineered OSB3 board which can now boast of being the greenest of its type in the UK.

Produced in Scotland, West Fraser's load-bearing board has been extensively developed to be free from added formaldehyde.

This achievement complements the company's efforts to be carbon neutral; while for builders, reliability of supply is also key in an increasingly unpredictable global market. This is backed by the knowledge that by choosing OSB3, they will be working with a product that made from timber grown and processed in the UK: resulting in lower embodied carbon from transportation and a highly energy efficient production process.

West Fraser's zero-added formaldehyde OSB3 offers further benefits too: being precision-engineered means there is less waste on site as well as production, with the rugged panels being of uniform dimensions and without weak points such as knots or voids. Importantly they will not delaminate, while the boards are easier to saw, plane, drill and fix: where screws or even nails can be driven as close as 8mm to the panel edge without splitting.

Being a much smoother OSB than many competitors means that sanding is now obsolete – even for GRP roofing applications – while the board's more homogenous surface ensures it performs well in the UK's often humid environment, as well as offering improved adhesion for all flat roofing applications.

Suitable for structural use in multiple applications, SterlingOSB Zero OSB3's inherent strength makes it ideal for decking or sarking as well as for boarding up vacant properties, as well as for hoardings. Here the product can accept most surface treatments used for marketing messages and logos around a site's perimeter.

Finally for specifiers and developers seeking to secure the higher BREEAM categories or to reinforce their environmental commitments, they can be assured that the CO₂ locked within the BBA-approved SterlingOSB Zero during its lifetime is greater than that involved in its production.

To find out more about West Fraser's products for housebuilders, get in touch with Dan Clarke – email: Daniel.Clarke@westfraser.com or download product brochures from the housebuilder page of the West Fraser website at: <https://uk.westfraser.com/housebuilders/>

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Welcome back Matt



GEZE UK is delighted to welcome back Matt Gregory as Specification Manager for the north.

Matt will be responsible for assisting architects and specifiers with compliant solutions for all products in the GEZE range which includes automatic doors, window technology and manual overhead door controls.

In addition, he will produce detailed and risk assessed NBS specifications which are supported with BIM objects and present GEZE's RIBA approved CPD to help architects and specifiers expand their knowledge.

Matt first joined GEZE in 2017 and after a spell outside the industry he returns to the company bringing with him extensive knowledge of entrance systems and automatic doors from his time as Automatic and Industrial door engineer and previous sales management experience.

Matt said, "I am pleased to be back working with GEZE and their respected and varied product range, they have a strong brand and excellent reputation in the door industry. I look forward to working closely with architects and specifiers, creating strong collaborations with them and providing a quality service."

Richard Richardson-Derry, National Specification Manager added, "It's great to be working with Matt again, he brings enthusiasm and extensive experience to the team. He will be an important part of the company's continued growth."

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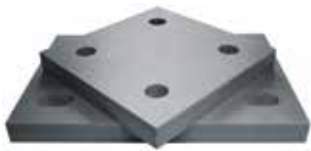
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Thermal isolation and anti-shock specialists

Established in 2006, Thermal Breaks Limited is based on a constant growing demand from specialised insulation products from its parent company AK Rubber & Industrial Supplies Ltd. Experts in thermal isolation and precision levelling solutions, Thermal Breaks Limited is committed to supplying high quality products manufactured from premium quality materials in a range of grades to suit customer needs. Thermal breaks are used in steel-to-steel and steel-to-concrete applications. Each application helps to prevent thermal transfer from the exterior of structure, in to the internal structure via the steel framework. For steel-to-concrete, the thermal break greatly reduces heat loss into the concrete foundation or slab and provides better insulation for the structure.



Thermal Breaks Ltd have partnered with Trimble Solutions UK to produce a comprehensive and innovative software Tekla Plug-in component for Tekla Structures. Tekla Structures is an advanced BIM application that includes valuable construction information, such as component properties specifications, and essential manufacturer references. The Plug-in tool allows Tekla Structures' users to ensure the correct design and detailed information is applied throughout the project, from conceptual planning to fabrication and construction.

Thermal Breaks Ltd also provide numerous other applications. TekTherm™ is a high-performance insulator used between internal and external connections to prevent thermal bridging. TekVibe™ (coming soon) is made from materials with low natural frequency, making an ideal product for shock absorption & vibration isolation. TekPack™ are high quality shims, designed to flex and absorb shock when required. TekSlide™ are low friction slide bearings that allow for movement caused by a temperature change.

Acoustic Attenuation is a high quality and high-performance noise reduction and thermal insulation range. Lastly, its Load Bearing Rubber are fibre reinforced load bearing pads manufactured using recycled high-quality tyres resulting in an economical friendly product.

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with varying sized projects and Atlantic Access Ltd has built a strong reputation for its high quality service, personable approach and competitive prices.

The company offers its services for all residential work, new build properties, demolition work and commercial. Some of its recent commercial projects include: Vinci IHP on Preston Royal Hospital, the Boohoo main office in Manchester for Hightown Construction, Grahams Liverpool flyovers demolition, Parkinson

Construction on Oldham Royal Hospital and Salford Hospital, John Turners on Whiston Hospital, ongoing Maintenance package for Daresbury Science Technology Park and ongoing works for the National Trust on Speke Hall and Chambre House in Liverpool.

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The flexibility of design, speed of construction and allowances for first fix trades means choosing timber frame for your project will mean your entire project is brought to fruition far sooner with a lot less disruption. Vision's timber frame systems also benefit from excellent thermal efficiency, considerably reducing energy bills and the requirements for additional heating systems.

Vision believe that each project they receive should be treated as individual and as such, priced accordingly. Vision provide fixed costs to their Client's that allows for more accurate budgeting.

All materials used are sustainably sourced and all their frames are manufactured and installed by trusted and experienced teams. As well as the above, Vision are certified to ISO 9001:2015 standard, ensuring a strong consistent customer focus along with quality products and services.

To get in touch with Vision to discuss your own project, call them on: 01189 712181 or email your drawings through to them at: info@vision-dsl.com. Their website has a host of information on their services and past projects they have completed, here are a selection of the beautiful homes they have supplied to their clients: www.timber-frame-suppliers.co.uk

Werner reaches new heights with LEANSAFE® X3

Werner is delighted to announce a new addition to its successful combi-ladder family with the launch of the fully integrated Werner LEANSAFE® X3, the most flexible 3-in-1 ladder range yet.

This professional ladder features a single-handed unlocking system that allows users to seamlessly change from a step to a straight ladder in one easy adjustment. It has also been uniquely designed with a multi-mode top, providing a solution for all leaning modes, enabling the ladder to be securely used against flat wall surfaces, external and internal corners, poles, and wall studs as well as having the ability to perform as a standard stepladder or extension ladder.

The leaning top allows for faster set up and in addition to providing a drill clip slot, it also offers users a power drill slot in the centre, making for easy access of power drills.

The integrated tool bin and magnet offer additional storage of tools and equipment, reducing the need to journey up and down the ladder, minimising the risk of trips and falls.

EN131 certified, the LEANSAFE® ladder is available in high-grade aluminium or robust high-grade fibreglass, weighing in at 9.5kg and 11.5kg respectively, offering a lightweight, multi-purpose solution to working at height.

The LEANSAFE® ladder provides a maximum working height of 3.13m in stepladder mode, 2.85m in leaning mode and 3.7m as an extension ladder and offers a maximum load capacity of 150kg.

Its highly visible LEANSAFE® logos make this ladder easily distinguishable from a standard stepladder to avoid any confusion on a job site. EDGE360® bracing provides protection for the bottom of the ladder from every angle and non-marring rubber foot pads protect work surfaces.

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