

PANEL, WOOD & *Solid Surface*

Issue No. 165/166

February/March 2022

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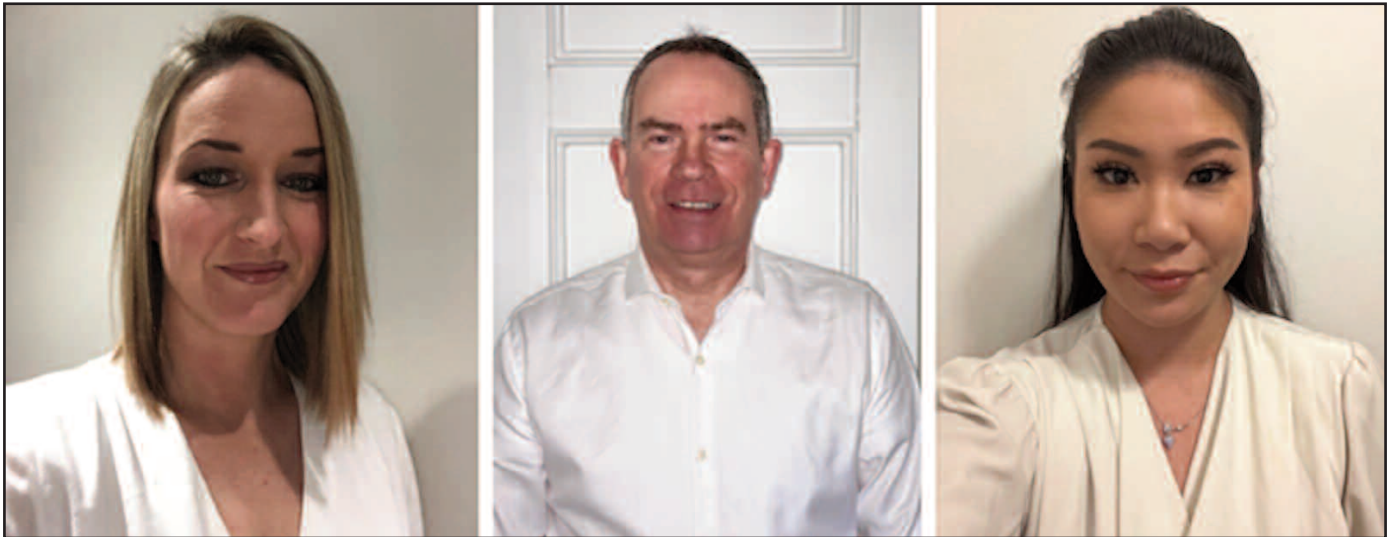
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BA expands its sales team with three new Area Sales Managers



Left to right: Charlotte Hall, Area Sales Manager, Yorkshire & North East of England; Gerrad Woods, Area Sales Manager, Republic of Ireland; Olivia Parelai, Area Sales Manager, North West of England & Isle of Man.

BA, ONE of the UK's leading manufacturers of factory-built, bespoke and made-to-measure kitchens and bedroom and specialist components, continues to expand and grow its team with three new appointments in January 2022.

Each new Area Sales Manager will be responsible for their own territory ranging through the UK and Republic of Ireland. The primary objectives are to serve the company's new and existing customer base, increase sales, maximise market presence and establish new dialogue with cus-

tomers on the products and services available. They will also be responsible for developing new sales strategies, customer comms and market analysis across their assigned geographical location.

Charlotte Hall: Taking a territory-oriented approach, Charlotte Hall is dedicated to covering Yorkshire and the North East of England. Bringing invaluable industry experience, Charlotte has been working in the KBB sector for five years with significant experience in selling kitchen appliances and worktops into kitchen retail showrooms across the UK.

Since joining the team at BA, Charlotte has already shown herself to be a driving force within the company, securing a high volume of bathroom product displays across a range of retail showrooms up and down the country.

Charlotte explains, "I have always been passionate about bringing the very best products and services and I cannot wait to get out in the field, meet with customers in person and share the exceptional range of products we offer for the kitchen and bedroom space.

"Becoming a member of the team at BA is a hugely positive step forward for me both personally and professionally, and I can't

wait to continue making a difference together."

Gerrad Woods: Responsible for tracking, recording and monitoring sales teams across the Republic of Ireland, Gerrad Woods will make great use of his two decades of experience specialising in B2B sales and brand development for businesses in the KBB industry.

Highly passionate, Gerrad's work experience includes 25 years as a successful sales & business development manager where his desire to exceed expectations and deliver impeccable customer service will benefit his new role at BA substantially.

His previous roles include senior sales management positions at Tippto International, O&S Doors (ROI) and Collier Kitchen Supplies.

Gerrad says, "A cabinetmaker by trade, I am able to bring a unique approach and methodology to my new sales role at BA, an attribute I believe has contributed greatly to my level of success to date in the industry. Throughout my career, I have been able to earn the trust and respect of my customers and so I look forward to applying the same level of customer focus and in-depth knowledge here, with a view to offer best-in-class service and generate repeat business in the long term."

Olivia Parelai: In charge of cov-

ering the North West of England and the Isle of Man, Olivia brings a wealth of experience in both CAD software and all aspects of kitchen design having worked in the KBB industry for the past five years including time at a market leading German manufacturer.

An expert at client relations, Olivia has worked closely with retailers, manufacturers and designers in her previous roles, with BA being a former key account. More recently, she has worked alongside builders, developers and national merchants selling kitchens to trade customers on and offline.

Olivia says, "To have the opportunity to work with such an established brand in an industry I love and already have excellent business ties with, is a great prospect and I can't wait to make real impact across my target accounts and respective sales regions.

"With KBB 2022 just around the corner, I feel energised to have the chance to meet existing customers face to face, as well as forge new relationships moving forwards."

Meet the new BA team members at KBB 2022, 6-9 March, NEC Birmingham, Stand N70.

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Panel, Wood & Solid Surface

is published by

Pawprint Publishing Ltd

121 Warren Drive
 Hornchurch
 Essex RM12 4QU

Tel 07913 783510

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 info@pawprintuk.co.uk
 www.pawprintuk.co.uk

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West Fraser's Inverness plant takes centre stage in Portillo BBC series

THE WEST FRASER (formerly known as Norbord) Inverness plant was in the spotlight recently when it featured in Michael Portillo's Great Coastal Railway Journey series where the processes of wood panel production were highlighted to the broadcaster and former MP during a guided tour of the plant.

The manufacturer, referred to by its previous name Norbord in the documentary series, showcased how the mill created the wood panels from planted woodland, which are then used in construction to create walls, floors and ceilings.

Mr Portillo was given a guided tour by Steve McTaggart, who has worked at the mill for 35 years, and was shown the inner workings of how timber is treated and how the facility produces 16 million boards per year.

Located next to the railway, the



show also highlighted the West Fraser mill's plans to build sidings to allow for freight train deliveries to the site.

Stuart Hendry, general manager at West Fraser's Inverness mill, said: "We were delighted to invite popular broadcaster Michael Por-

tillo for a guided tour of our Inverness plant and showcase how we continue to provide vital and sustainable wood panelling to key suppliers and operators across Europe. It was fantastic to see the hard work of our Inverness manufacturing team highlighted and

we're thrilled that the beloved broadcaster and documentary presenter found our industry both fascinating and hugely important for the Scottish industry."

West Fraser

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New tech, new capacity & new capabilities at William Hughes

ADVANCED assembly, forming and fabrication assets from Sertec's recently closed springs and wire forms division have been given a new lease of life at Dorset-based William Hughes Ltd.

When the assets became available, engineering director at William Hughes Ltd, Emma Burgon, spotted an opportunity to not only bolster her company's existing capabilities, but also introduce new ones.

"We've been able to increase our welding capacity," she explains, "growing from eight weld cells to 12, and we will be adding a further four bending machines, taking us up to 10 in total. We're also planning to move some plant to our facility in Bulgaria."

Some of the machines are up-grades too. "We already have Itaya machines, but they are 10 years

older than the Sertec machines, which also have some added functionality, so we are just going to swap them out and put the older machines into storage. We picked up some extra coiling machines too, so five new coiling machines will be coming through the door."

William Hughes has also gained some new capabilities thanks to an EDM wire eroder. "We've never had EDM capabilities before. It will allow us to pre-cut locks prior to CNC milling, meaning a lot less work will need to be done.

"Our customers don't normally give us very much time to make weld jigs, but if we can get off tools quicker than anybody else, we will win the project. Speed of design coupled with speed of manufacture of weld jigs is definitely a big plus as far as our customers are concerned."



Expanded production area at William Hughes.

The new assets have almost immediately resulted in new business too, with the company recently winning significant business for welded-assembly work and contracts for six new wire frames for two of the world's leading tier one automotive suppliers.

"It all looks very positive," Emma Burgon concludes. "We still have a few hoops to jump through before

it all stabilises, but our additional capacity and capabilities, not just here in the UK, but also in our Bulgarian and Polish plants, will put us in an amazing position to go into 2022 with some real optimism."

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"It's time to get tough on asbestos", says IOSH

Ruth Wilkinson,
head of health
and safety (Policy
and Operations),
Institute of
Occupational
Safety and Health
(IOSH).



STRONGER MEASURES on asbestos management are needed to save lives, according to the global body for health and safety professionals. A lack of consistency in managing asbestos among duty holders and a lack of awareness and a lack of knowledge about the material, particularly among smaller businesses, are among the issues concerning the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH).

IOSH has highlighted these concerns in a verbal and written submission to the UK Work and Pensions Committee, which is undertaking an inquiry into the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) approach to asbestos management.

It says that although the regulations have been around in the UK for some time, the "full implementation and application" of them is lacking through the responsibility chain, which is putting lives at risk. "Awareness is not reaching down to those who are fulfilling those roles, coming into contact with the hazard and those who are placed at risk," it adds.

IOSH also highlights that with the adoption of renewed climate resilience and the transition to net-zero goals by the UK government, it is expected that millions of buildings will be maintained, renovated or demolished in the coming years, something which could disturb large amounts of asbestos. With this in mind, IOSH is keen to see stronger measures introduced, with a collective effort by policy makers, government,

regulators, employers and worker representatives. It is estimated that at least 5,000 people die every year in Britain from an asbestos-related cancer caused by exposure at work. The global toll is over 107,000, yet an estimated 125 million people are still exposed to asbestos at work every year.

IOSH is supportive of the possibility of introducing a national digital register of asbestos in non-domestic buildings, though it has warned this would need clear processes to remedy concerns around data capture, use and dissemination. IOSH has also called for improved training for employees in how to deal with asbestos, clearer guidance around working with asbestos and more awareness raising about the dangers of exposure.

Ruth Wilkinson, head of health and safety for IOSH, said: "We know that asbestos is still all around us. This, coupled with a worrying lack of awareness about the danger it poses and how to prevent exposure, means people are being put at risk every day. This is simply not good enough. There are many measures which can be taken to prevent exposure and we would like to see a collective effort to ensure that these are put in place and used across industry. Only by doing this can we begin to stop people being exposed to asbestos and being placed at risk of contracting an awful disease. It's time to get tough with asbestos."

**Institute of Occupational
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Biesse Open House 15th-17th March 2022

BIESSE will open its doors once again from 15th to 17th March 2022, demonstrating wood processing technologies to help increase quality and efficiency. The event will include live machinery and software demonstrations, where Biesse's experts will be available to help visitors find the best solutions to solve their production challenges.

Machines on display include CNCs for five-axis and nesting applications, edge-banders — including EVA, PUR and AirForce, sizing machines, sanders and vertical CNCs for drilling.

Focus on Fixings: Working with connecting systems specialists Lamello and CAD/CAM software experts Microvellum, Biesse will also present a focus on fixings, where visitors can discover how to accurately machine panels for the vast array of fixings that are available.

Maximising Machinery Investments: With a range of finance options available, combined with the UK Government's super-deduction scheme, it is a perfect time to come and see how Biesse can help visitors find the best solutions for their factories.

Commenting on the event, Steve Bulmer, CEO Biesse Group UK, said, "Biesse is more than just a machinery supplier, we work hard to be a partner for our customers, helping them to get greater efficiency and therefore better value from their machines. Our Open House provides the ideal opportunity to discuss your needs and challenges and discover solutions best suited to your business."

Biesse Group UK Ltd ● Tel 01327 300366 ● www.biesse.com/uk/wood/events/march-wood-open-house-2022



BSW Group sees timber in new light

BSW, BELIEVED to be the UK's largest integrated forestry and sawmilling group, has unveiled its new brand, with an expanded vision of 'seeing timber in new light'. The brand launch sees the group uniting its capabilities under a new, overarching, BSW Group brand, forging an integrated supply chain to create value and sustain long-term growth.

Tony Hackney, CEO, BSW Group, said: "As the sector's biggest integrated business, with capabilities including tree nurseries, forestry management, harvesting, production and energy, we believe we have a responsibility to drive positive change.

"Following a period of intense acquisition activity, we commissioned a robust, independent review of our brand and market positioning to guide the actions needed to support a more sustainable future. The feedback we gained has been invaluable. It has inspired our vision to become the most innovative, technologically advanced and sustainable timber business in the UK."



As part of the launch, BSW Group is committing to ensuring a seamless, circular supply chain, to investing in innovation and education, and to giving people more stability and choice.

"By growing markets, increasing efficiency and resilience, and elevating our craft, we can help secure the future of our industry and our planet. We have a shared will to create value and achieve sustainable growth," added Tony.

The brand launch follows BSW Group's acquisition by Binderholz, which completed on 5th January 2022, strengthening the brand's positioning in the value-added timber market.

The businesses — Maelor Forest Nurseries, Tilhill, Dick Brothers, BSW Timber, BSW Timber Solutions, Bayram Timber and BSW Energy — will continue to operate in their own specialist areas under the new overarching BSW Group brand, with a shared vision to create and achieve sustainable growth.

BSW Group ● www.thebswgroup.co.uk

Electric Combilifts help digital growth for English Woodlands Timber

WHEN the pandemic hit, English Woodlands Timber (EWT) pulled out all the stops for its online marketing activities, and as a result has achieved record sales as well as a large number of new customers. Based in the South Downs, EWT caters for the bespoke and high-end construction, joinery and furniture sectors, and its niche products include boards and cladding as well as a wide range of species such as oak, elm, ash and sweet chestnut. Fundamental to its success is that each and every item stocked is now also available to view and buy via the web shop.

Equally important however is the ability to efficiently fulfil what director Ian McNally calls the “pick, pack and dispatch” side of operations once orders have been received. Switching to electric trucks from Combilift has been instrumental in enabling EWT to keep pace with the recent 50% growth in business. “What differentiates us from other suppliers is our quality and diverse range,” said Ian. “The Combilifts can handle all the varied and awkward sized boards we stock, they are nimble, manoeuvrable and allow us to work more quickly.”

Two 4 t capacity C4000 models and two 2 t capacity Combi-WR4 multi-directional pedestrian stacker trucks are in operation at the four acre site. The latter feature Combilift’s unique patented multi-position tiller arm which enables the operator to work at the side of the unit rather than at the rear when working in narrow confines for enhanced safety. The ability to move 6 m lengths sideways with the C4000E trucks has created at least 35% extra storage space in the existing footprint.

Sustainability is also a byword at the EWT woodyard, with solar panels



on roofs wherever possible, charging stations for those who drive electric vehicles, chippings are used for biomass and other material is recycled into bedding for horses for example. “It’s electric power wherever possible here and nothing goes to waste,” says Ian. Electric Combilifts were therefore the machines of choice, as they are emission free and are also very quiet which is much appreciated by all on site.

Owner and managing director, Tom Compton, is particularly impressed with the performance of the Combi-WR4s. “This one operator/one machine combination has been transformative and has improved productivity by 30-40% compared to the old trucks. In spite of their relatively small size they can easily lift packs of timber from the top bay of racking. An added bonus is that training staff to use them takes just a few hours.”

Thanks to its digital offering, EWT’s customer base has expanded not

only in quantity but also in geographical reach. “We used to typically sell to a radius of 20-30 miles but now we sell nationwide,” said Ian. “Also whereas customers generally used to come in person and look through the range with our experts, they can now browse and find exactly what they are looking for from the comfort of their office of their workbench. But if people want to visit us and meet the team, then of course they are always more than welcome!”

Ian sums up: “The latest digital technology and the innovative engineering from Combilift has been a winning combination which has enabled our business to expand and flourish, without having to worry about building extra space too.”

Combilift

<https://combilift.com>

English Woodlands Timber

<https://www.englishwoodlands-timber.co.uk>



BA appoints Publicity Engineers to handle all PR & marketing communications

BA, ONE of the UK's leading manufacturers of factory-built, bespoke and made-to-measure kitchens and bedrooms and specialist components, has appointed lifestyle & design PR specialist, Publicity Engineers, to commence all PR and marketing communications on its behalf from 1 January 2022: trade and consumer press in the UK & Ireland.

Established in 1990, BA currently operates out of three state-of-the-art factories with one in Cookstown in Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland and two in Yorkshire: Rotherham and Doncaster. With over three decades of success in the KBB industry, BA has become an instantly recognisable brand name within the trade.

The company manufactures kitchens and bedrooms, bespoke, made-to-measure doors and one of the largest ranges of matching accessories in the market place today. Built with passion and quality at the heart of everything, the company has justifiably become a name that people trust.

Made in the UK, the award-winning and exclusively designed product range by BA includes:

- BA: Kitchen & Bedroom Components and a Complete Kitchen offer available made-to-measure, Flat-Pack and Rigid, plus BA Bedroom Collection offer.



- Kitchen Kit: Three options, Slab, J-Pull & Shaker — available Rigid, Flat-Pack & Made-to-Measure.

- Blossom Avenue: Made to measure, Rigid Kitchens & Bedrooms.

Publicity Engineers will help grown Kitchen Kit, an exciting kitchen furniture solution by BA. Launched as an online e-commerce collection, its primary focus is supplying the trade, so professionals can order a kitchen and have it despatched within 48 hours in the UK. Its dedicated website even includes a 'kitchen builder' facility to simplify the design process and to eliminate incorrect ordering from the outset. It's a limited range,

selected from the most popular styles so each style is highly current and relevant. Kitchen Kit is also available from all good builders merchants.

Nuala Brady, group marketing manager at BA, says: "Our business is performing extremely well across all of its markets right now and by strategically appointing Publicity Engineers, a specialist KBB PR consultancy, it will accelerate the recognition of all our brands, ultimately taking our business to an even higher level and help us achieve our goals. Exciting times ahead!"

Emily McCullagh, managing director at Publicity Engineers, says: "Well established across the KBB industry, BA has a unique talent for furnishing trade with a comprehensive range and brand portfolio for the kitchen and bedroom. I am so pleased to have an opportunity to work with BA and become an integral support to the company as the market transitions into 2022."

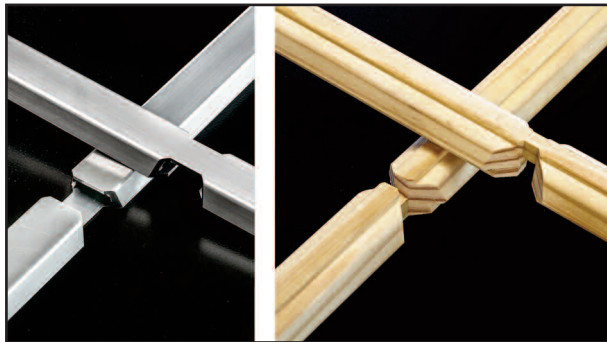
Rob Nicholls, chairman at PE, adds: "We are really excited to be working with Nuala and her team at BA. The company is so progressive and ambitious that there is much for us to do and we feel that we are a perfect fit for them. We look forward to sharing a long partnership."

BA ● Tel 028 8676 4600

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The Stegherr joint

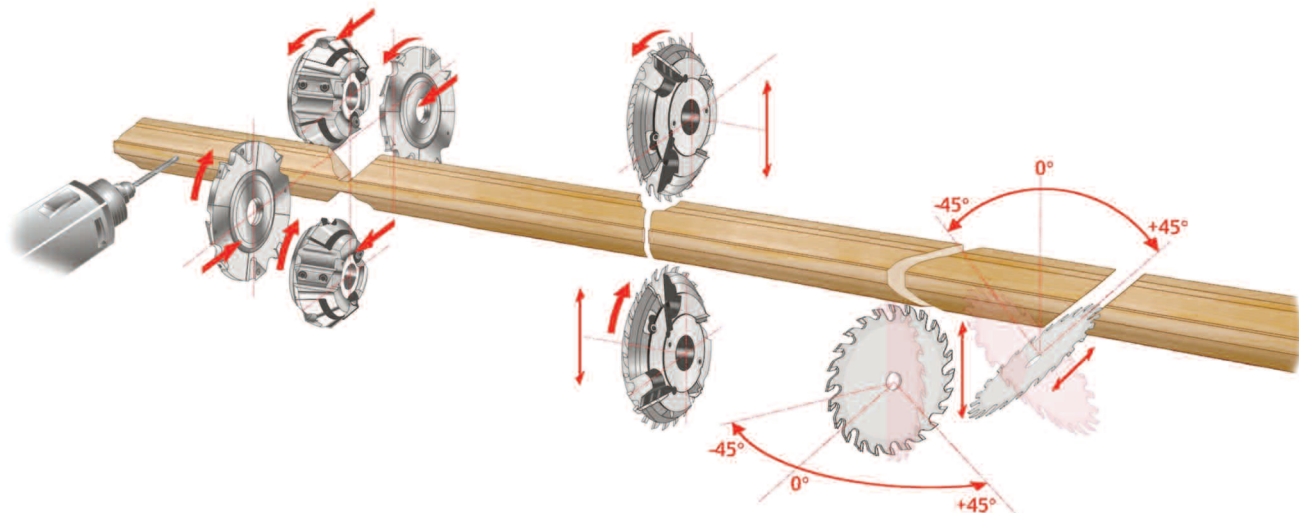
THE STEGHERR joint is now very well known in the window manufacturing industry after many installations over the last four decades. The users of these machines include small joinery companies through to large national manufacturers all of which have seen improvement in quality and ease of Georgian bar fabrication.

The machine range starts with the KSF Mini which can handle varying sizes of timber bar as well as composite, uPVS and aluminium. The cutting cycle is performed manually with one single clamping so ensuring complete accuracy.

For larger production requirements, the KSF2 model is available which can be specified from a manually fed machine right through to a full CNC linear processing centre with scribing, drilling and variable angle saws.

John Penny Woodworking Machinery Ltd ● Tel 01235 531700 ● john.penny@btconnect.com

<https://youtu.be/9T-HPQQRvIY> ● <https://youtu.be/ixn2kfHU0eM>



Sheldon Marlborough laying future foundations

A BIRMINGHAM cricket club has enjoyed a perfect start to 2022 after winning £1,000 worth of building materials to enhance its ground.

Sheldon Marlborough claimed the prize from a competition run by Birmingham Bears in conjunction with leading UK builders merchant, Selco Builders Warehouse, and will use the prize to help construct a new electronic scoreboard.

The Club Together initiative saw cricket clubs from across the Midlands invited to take advantage of a special discounted ticket offer for Bears home matches at Edgbaston Stadium throughout the 2021 T20 Blast campaign.

The club which sold the most tickets over the summer won £1,000 worth of products from Selco — which has branches in Perry Barr, Solihull, Stirchley, Tyburn and Tyseley — and Sheldon Marlborough came out on top.

Club spokesman Adrian Maguire said: "It's fantastic that we won the prize and a major boost to the club.

"We have plans to install an electronic scoreboard at our ground for next season and this donation will enable us to provide the external structure.

"We are always aiming to improve on and off the field and this will help us towards achieving that."

The first team of Sheldon Marlborough play in Warwickshire

League Division Three while the club has three other senior teams and six junior boys and girls teams.

Carine Jessamine, marketing director of Selco Builders Warehouse, said: "We have been involved in the Club Together initiative with Warwickshire and Birmingham Bears for a number of years and it always produces worthy winners.

"Sheldon Marlborough is no different and we hope our prize will make a big difference to the club."

Ben Seifas, commercial partnerships manager at Warwickshire CCC, said: "We're very grateful to Selco for showing such strong support for the recreational game through Club Together.

"We want to make our Vitality Blast games an entertaining and rewarding experience for as many people as possible and having a programme that supports recreational cricket clubs is fantastic.

"We're very grateful to all clubs that supported us in 2021, particularly the winners at Sheldon Marlborough."

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 72 branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

As well as offering trade services, Selco also has a strong digital presence including Click & Deliver, and Click & Collect services.

Selco
www.selcobw.com



From left to right: Dan Henebury from Selco Solihull, Birmingham Bear George Garrett, Adrian Maguire of Sheldon Marlborough Cricket Club and Ian Westwood, Birmingham Bears coach.

Makita's new products: powering construction

LEADING POWER TOOL manufacturer, Makita UK, has expanded its powerful XGT 40 V Max range of machines with the launch of the new HS009G 235 mm circular saw and ML006G flashlight. It has also released the DX15 'on-tool' dust collection system (191X40-4) that is compatible with its HR007GZ XGT rotary hammer.

The HS009G is a fantastic tool for anyone looking to reap the benefits of cordless, whilst still experiencing the power associated with corded models. Thanks to a large brushless motor and XGT battery technology, this machine can deliver the same — or higher — performance than that of corded alternatives. As such, the HS009G is considered ideal for higher demand applications.

For precision cutting, the HS009G is compatible with the new 191141-8 guide rail and it can produce bevel cuts up to 1° left and 60° right, with positive stops at 22.5° and 45°. It offers a maximum cutting capacity of up to 61 mm and a cutting speed of 4,000 rpm, making light work of any cutting task. The HS009G also features an LED job light to keep the work piece clearly visible, regardless of the site conditions.

To improve user safety, the HS009G features Makita's auto start wireless



system (AWS). When fitted with an optional AWS chip, the HS009G can be wirelessly connected to compatible dust extractors via Bluetooth and ensures that when the machine is in use, the extractor automatically turns on.

Makita has also launched a range of accessories for the HS009G, including the 191141-8 guide rail and E-05664 guide rail holder, 196664-7 bevel guide set, 194385-5 clamp set and E-01909 Efficut saw blade.

The XGT 40 V Max flashlight is considered an ideal site companion, featuring 18 extra bright LEDs that can deliver up to 500 lumens (depending on the setting chosen).

The specially designed light diffusing lens softens the LED light to prevent glare and provide widespread illumination. What's more, the ML006G offers an impressive 82 hours of continuous illumination (when used in low mode) and the flashlight head can be easily adjusted to ensure the work area is always lit.

For ease, the ML006G features a battery capacity warning system, so users are not unexpectedly left in the dark. It is also compact, lightweight, has an ergonomic design and rubberised soft grip, making it easy and comfortable to hold and transport around site.

Compatible with Makita's XGT 40 V Max HR007GZ rotary hammer, the DX15 makes dust collection a breeze. It can be used with drill bits up to 260 mm and the depth gauge can be effortlessly adjusted. Thanks to the inclusion of a HEPA filter, the DX15 can even capture fine particles for maximum user safety — and the filter can be easily cleaned to ensure longevity.

Kevin Brannigan, marketing manager at Makita, said: "Makita's XGT range has been designed to offer professional users a range of powerful machines that are ideally suited to higher demand applications. We are dedicated to providing the industry with an array of innovative solutions and have spent years refining our battery technology so that our products deliver the high output needed without compromising on battery run time, meaning professionals can work disruption free for longer."

Makita ● www.makitauk.com

Liberon's Superior Danish oil makes students shine

STUDENTS at Burton & South Derbyshire College have been put through their paces by Liberon as part of a carpentry and joinery competition.

The woodcare experts called on learners on the college's City & Guilds Bench Joinery course to design, build and finish a side table, using Liberon's Superior Danish Oil.

Teams of three were given 15 teaching hours in total to complete the project. The winning team came up with the idea to use birch plywood to form an eye-catching four-panel upper surface for their minimalist-style table, making use of the grain direction of the timber in order to define the panels. A mix of straight-grain and cross-grain panels resulted in a stunning but simple effect, bordered by European oak, which was also used for the table's legs.

Richard Bradley, marketing manager at the competition sponsors, Liberon, says: "The table de-

signs were fabulous — a real testament to the skills of the students. We'd like to congratulate the winning team, and wish all the students on the course the best of luck in their future carpentry and joinery careers."

Course leader, Ian Vanes-Jones, added: "All the students should be very proud of what they achieved in this competition. I've been so impressed with their healthy attitude to competing. Being put in a team and asked to design, build and finish a project within a tight time frame has brought out the best in them. The whole process is useful training for real-world, commercial activity. Also it's great that it has introduced them to new skills such as veneering. I've always been a strong advocate of Liberon's Superior Danish Oil, which really brings out the beauty of wood, but this competition has highlighted its attributes even more."

The side table entries were



From left to right with their winning table design: Tristan James-Furley, Haneef Harriffudin and Oliver Thatcher.

judged by staff at the college who agreed that the standard of work was high and that making a choice had not been an easy decision. The three members of the winning team each won a £25 Amazon voucher provided by Liberon.

The application of oils is one of the oldest forms of wood finishing. The process results in a natural,

hardwearing effect with an unmistakable, beautiful sheen and silky smoothness. A good quality Danish Oil such as Liberon's Superior Danish Oil achieves a lovely glossy sheen, whilst also feeding, protecting and adding long life to both hard or soft woods.

Liberon
www.liberon.co.uk

Terence completes apprenticeship double — with a 50 year gap!



A SHOPFLOOR assistant at one of the UK's leading builders merchants has completed his apprenticeship — a few months before turning 70.

Terence Archer, who works for Selco Builders Warehouse in its Crayford branch, achieved a distinction in his Level Two Retailer working with training provider Realise. The achievement is all the more remarkable as Terence, who turns 70 in April, left school with no qualifications at 15 and has now made the grade in English and Maths as part of his recent studies.

Terence, who completed a carpentry apprenticeship 50 years ago and speaking as part of National Apprenticeship Week, said: "It just goes to show you are never too old to complete an apprenticeship. I'm really proud of myself because I pushed out of my boundaries to achieve this. I've only been in retail for two-and-a-half years and wanted to learn as much as possible to be as good at the job as I can. The opportunity to complete an apprenticeship came from Selco and I jumped at the chance. Part of the qualification was to achieve functional skills in English and Maths which I didn't achieve at school. I also had to learn a lot of new IT skills from pretty much scratch and that was difficult. There were many times when I wanted to give up but my trainers at Realise were brilliant at helping me through the tough periods and keeping me going. I'm very glad I got to the end and achieved a distinction."

He continues, "I started at Selco because, after I retired from building, I got bored sitting around at home and wanted to keep busy. I never dreamt at that stage I would do an apprenticeship but I'm so glad I have and it's one of the best things I have done. I would encourage anybody thinking of doing an apprenticeship — whatever their age or occupation — to go ahead with it. It's extremely rewarding and, for people far younger than me, can be crucial in them enhancing their careers."

Selco ● www.selcobw.com

West Fraser partners with Youth Employment UK

WEST FRASER, formerly known as Norbord, is pleased to be a partner of Youth Employment UK.

Founded in 2012, Youth Employment UK is a not-for-profit social enterprise offering young people skills and career support to equip them for the world of work, as part of the quest to tackle youth unemployment. The organisation

strives to present young people between the ages of 14 and 24 with opportunities to explore education and training options and connects them with youth-friendly employers. One such employer is West Fraser.

With a designated West Fraser page West Fraser — Youth Employment UK on the information-packed Youth Employment UK

website, young people can read inspiring profiles of current West Fraser graduate trainees and explore real vacancies at West Fraser's sites in South Molton, Cowie and Inverness. There are details of summer internships and placements, apprenticeships and graduate jobs.

Visitors can also download West Fraser's Young Professionals book-

let west-fraser-careers-booklet.pdf (youthemployment.org.uk).

For further information on the opportunities available to young people at West Fraser, contact Carol Brown.

West Fraser ● Tel 01786 812921
carol.brown@westfraser.com
<https://uk.westfraser.com/>
Youth Employment UK
www.youthemployment.org.uk



Makita: making it mess free

MAKITA has launched its latest XGT 40 V Max vacuum cleaner, providing tradespeople with a powerful cleaning solution that they can rely on for quick and efficient clean up at the end of the working day.

The XGT 40 V Max CL002G brushless vacuum delivers the high output needed to tackle large areas and achieve a spotless clean up with ease. It offers an impressive sealed suction of 21 kPa and suction power of up to 125 W. Thanks to the option of four power modes, users can also adjust the output to suit different surfaces. It also comes with a redesigned nozzle for efficient floor and carpet cleaning when working in furnished premises.

As part of Makita's powerful XGT battery platform, professionals can use their existing XGT batteries to power the CL002G so that they can easily swap between construction and vacuuming tasks. The CL002G's compact design means that it can be easily stored in the back of the van and transported to and from site when needed.

As well as a cloth dust bag, the CL002G is also compatible with a paper disposable dust bag for easier and mess-free disposal. The redesigned filter structure also works to minimise dust ingress to the motor, ensuring maximum performance efficiency and extending the product's life cycle.



Despite its powerful performance, the CL002G is quiet when in operation (with sound power levels as low as 54 dB(A)), making it ideal for use in occupied premises.

Kevin Brannigan, marketing manager at Makita said: "Our XGT range has been specifically designed to offer the increased output and optimum performance needed for professional applications, and we are delighted to extend our XGT collection to offer tradespeople powerful cleaning solutions that can aid them with quick and efficient clean up at the end of every job."

Makita ● www.makita.com



Makita adds cordless screwdriver to its LXT range

LEADING power tool manufacturer, Makita UK, has introduced the DFR551 18 V LXT brushless auto feed screwdriver to its leading LXT platform. Powered by Makita's innovative 18 V LXT battery platform, the DFR551 delivers on both output and ease of use, helping to maximise on site efficiency.

With extreme speed and precision, the DFR551 is considered ideal for repetitive fixing tasks and rapid screw driving tasks. Trigger activated for easy use and complete control, it offers a no load speed of up to 6,000 rpm and the screw feeding mechanism has been designed to reduce screw fall and ensure durability.

With no power lead restricting movement, operators have maximum flexibility to use the DFR551 anywhere on site.

The DFR551 also features Makita's brushless motor which means that, as there are no brushes in the motor causing friction, no energy is lost through heat production. As a result, battery run time is extended — reducing the need to regularly stop to recharge or replace batteries and improving onsite productivity. In addition, the DFR551 features Push Drive Technology. This means that the motor only rotates at full speed when the screw is pressed against the workpiece, further reducing power consumption and extending battery run time. This feature also minimises noise, which is safer for the user.

This lightweight machine has been ergonomically designed and features a rubberised soft grip handle for maximum comfort, even when used over extended periods of time. The DFR551 has also been designed to make reversing and replacing the bit effortless. Finally, the DFR551 comes with a belt clip so users can keep it close at hand wherever they are on site.

Kevin Brannigan, marketing manager at Makita, said: "With our LXT battery platform at its core, the DFR551 18 V LXT brushless auto feed screwdriver offers the output needed to tackle any task with ease, as well as the safety and improved usability benefits of cordless.

"With over 270 products in Makita's LXT range, professionals can easily switch LXT batteries between power tools, outdoor power equipment and accessories depending on the task at hand."

Makita ● www.makitauk.com



BA announces new Brand Ambassador for Kitchen Kit

UK MANUFACTURER BA is delighted to announce joiner TV presenter Mark Millar as its new brand ambassador for Kitchen Kit.

Kitchen Kit, the new choice for trade kitchens, is a new trade kitchen proposition by BA which is easy to choose, easy to buy and easy to sell.

Mark served his apprenticeship as a carpenter in Ireland in the late 1970s. Based in Bristol, he's worked as a carpenter ever since all over the UK, Europe and the US. Mark said, "I am over the moon to front a quality product by a UK manufacturer that has been trading for over 30 years.

"I have toured the Kitchen Kit factories in Doncaster and Rotherham and the product is second to none. It's the UK's best kept trade secret!

"The clic technology means you can build a kitchen cabinet in half the time. What a result for any fitter!"

Kitchen Kit is available to order on-line, rigid or flat-packed in standard sizes or made to measure on fast lead times. The cabinet, the door and the hinge are all on one sku so ordering and pricing a kitchen couldn't be simpler.

BA's CEO, Peter Rush, said: "Mark is a great ambassador for the Kitchen Kit brand. He is a seasoned joiner who understands kitchen products and the challenges fitters face on a day to day basis. Together we feel this product will change how fitters work, it will free up time which will give them the opportunity to fit more

kitchens and earn more. The added bonus of being able to design, price and order on-line 24 hours a day direct from the manufacturer means prices are transparent and keen, quality control is given and delivery is fast and direct to site."

**BA ● Tel 028 8676 4600 ● Email sales@byba.co.uk
www.byba.co.uk ● kitchenkit.co.uk**



Left to right: BA's CEO, Peter Rush, and TV presenter Mark Millar.

Rotpunkt expands UK team & 2022 product ranges

AS A DIRECT response to its significant success in the UK, Rotpunkt has expanded its UK team to welcome two new recruits: Paul Banting, sales manager for the South East & South West of England and Dave Humphries, sales manager in the Midlands & North of England.

Starting in summer 2021, Dave Humphries has already set a new standard for customer service and project management in his territory. A very knowledgeable and personable KBB professional, Dave is renowned for his people skills

and diplomacy, wanting each and every customer under his remit to thrive and move forward with purpose. Previously national sales manager for In-toto and also a partner in Signum Interiors, Dave says, "I joined the KBB industry as a designer and am delighted to be in an environment which is all about design, utility and sustainability. Rotpunkt ticks every box for me as an employer with a supportive community and an outstanding product mix to deliver to my customers."

Paul is set to bring a wealth of

multi-faceted KBB expertise to the role along with his creative mindset. He has spent over 15 years in KBB, working in senior business development roles at Arlington Kitchens, Air Uno, CD-UK, Glen Dimplex and Kenwood.

Paul says, "I'm so excited to be joining such a fantastic and well established company with an amazing reputation! I'm looking forward to getting out and meeting my old customers again as well as new clients too.

"With a trip to headquarters in Germany already booked and KBB

Birmingham to look forward to in March, this year is going to be exceptional."

2022 will also see the company fill an additional sales manager position who will be dedicated to the North, to further grow and develop the business and ensure it can meet clear demand for the brand. Head of UK operations, Matt Phillips says, "Despite the unpredictable market, 2021 was a very strong year for us in terms of sales and product growth, so I would like to thank each and every retailer in the Rotpunkt family at a time when change became the new normal. In fact, our sales for 2021 are up on 2020, so we are excited to be able to further increase production at head office by the end of 2024 early 2025, as we continue to make a difference as eco-pioneers and ultimately grow our retail presence and sales force in the UK."

Rotpunkt is an award winning designer and leading manufacturer of German kitchen furniture.
Rotpunkt UK
matt.phillips@rotpunktuk.com
www.rotpunktkuechen.de/en/



Left, Matt Phillips, head of UK operations at Rotpunkt with Paul Banting, pictured centre, and Dave Humphries, right.

Leading timber group grows with high level appointment

ONE OF THE UK'S leading timber groups has made a high-level appointment to consolidate its position within the industry and drive the business forward to reach ambitious growth targets.

Andrew Francis has joined Premier Forest Group as its new UK Sales Director to lead the experienced sales team.

As part of this exciting new role, he will help grow both the scale and profitability of the business, across all of the group grands, with both new and existing customers and suppliers.

With over 30 years of experience in the timber industry, Andrew brings a wealth of sales and management experience to Premier.

He previously worked for Norbord Europe Ltd for over 20 years, progressing from Area Sales Manager to UK & Ireland Sales Director. Norbord has long been an important strategic supply partner for Premier Forest Products. Andrew's

appointment will ensure that relationship remains strong whilst being able to further develop opportunities for the benefit of all parties. His exceptional knowledge of both the panel products industry and Premier's product range and capabilities mean Andrew is perfectly placed to help push Premier on to even greater growth.

In his new role, Andrew will be tasked with helping to develop the already strong sales team and leading Premier's sales operations across the country.

Andrew said: "After working alongside Premier Forest Group for over 15 years, I've always admired their entrepreneurial attitude and positive, team focused culture, which have helped them reach the strong market position they enjoy today. I'm looking forward to helping develop the team whilst aiding the business in strengthening its market position across the UK.



"Even though I know some of them already, I'm keen to get to know the team better; it already feels like a great fit and I'm sure we'll succeed together."

On the new appointment, Joe Walker, managing director at Premier Forest Group, said: "Andrew knows the emphasis we place on product quality and has seen first-hand the excellent customer service that we offer. I am confident that he will be a huge asset to Premier Forest Group and I'm excited to see the success that he will bring to the business and our customers."

Pre-
mier Forest Group is a vertically integrated timber operation engaged in the importation, sawmilling, processing, merchandising and wholesale distribution of timber and timber products from its eight sites in the UK.

Premier Forest Group
<https://premierforest.co.uk>

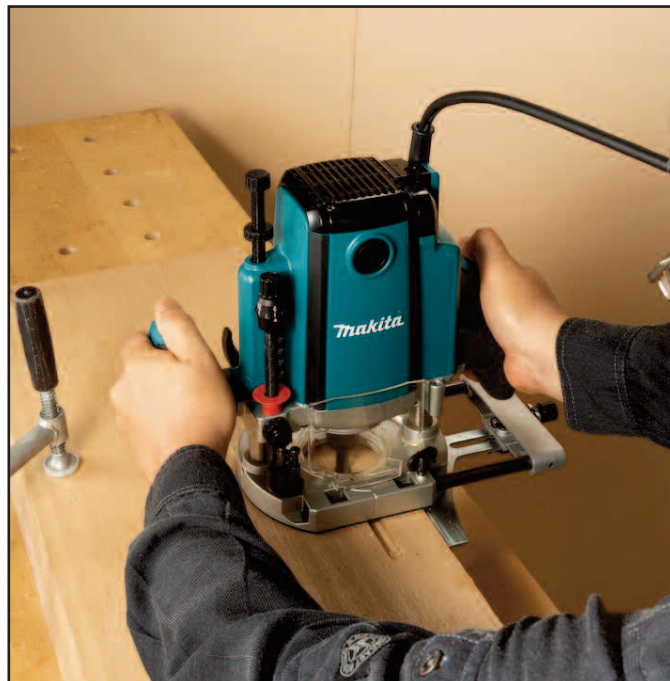
Take the plunge with Makita routers

LEADING POWER TOOL manufacturer, Makita UK, has added two new plunge routers to its range. Engineered for finish woodworking, the RP1111C 1/4" plunge router and the RP1803 1/2" plunge router deliver superior performance with smooth plunge action and powerful precision.

Driven by a powerful 1,100 W motor, the RP1111C plunge router with 1/4" collet, delivers 8,000-27,500 rpm for the most demanding applications. Housed in a compact design for precise routing work, this solution has a plunge depth capacity of up to 57 mm for easy penetration into the work piece, and a soft start feature for smooth start-ups and increased user safety.

The RP1803 — 1/2" plunge router provides a deep 0-70 mm plunge depth capacity, a quick release plunge depth adjustment feature and three pre-set depth stops for added precision. Driven by a powerful 1,650 W motor that offers 22,000 rpm for clean, consistent results, this new product with 1/2" collet, also features an electric brake and soft start.

Notably, the RP1111C and RP1803 features an anti-restart function to



minimise accidental start-up even if the tool is plugged into the power source with the switch on. Furthermore, both offer variable speed control to adjust the output to the application, as well as constant speed control to maintain speed under load.

Designed with superior finishing in mind, these impressive new tools also feature fine bit depth adjustment to achieve exceptional accuracy, and both units can be connected to a dust extraction unit and a range of accessories, such as nozzles and straight guides, which can be purchased separately.

Kevin Brannigan, marketing manager at Makita, said: "We are delighted to add these new routers to our line-up, which offers users even more choice for all applications and needs — from fixed base, or plunge models, with either 1/2" or 1/4" collets: all

designed and underpinned with Makita's exceptional power tool technology and engineering."

To find out more about Makita and the complete range of corded and cordless power tools visit the website below.

Makita ● www.makita.co.uk

New year, new structure: dedicated teams created to support both stand alone machines and automated systems customers

BIESSE GROUP UK, a leader in machining technology for wood, glass, stone, metal, plastic and advanced materials, has announced a commercial restructure that will significantly enhance the customer experience and support the company's ambitious growth plans.

The remodelled commercial business will comprise two distinct teams that have been structured around customer requirements: one will focus on stand-alone machines and the other on key accounts and larger, more complex projects involving conveying, integrated lines, full factory layouts and automation.

This binary structure makes provision for the contrasting sales, project management and servicing approaches that are required for these two customer groups. It will also ensure all customers benefit from a streamlined service delivered by a re-

sponsive, accessible team that is solely focused on their needs and commands specialist knowledge of their sectors.

Commenting on the move, Biesse Group UK CEO Steve Bulmer said: "A number of factors fed into the decision to restructure the business. More and more of our customers are looking to automate and they are looking for a very different relationship versus those customers who come to us for individual machine purchases. With the previous structure, the commercial team were having to switch between the two. This was not only resulting in a level of responsiveness we weren't happy with, but was also restricting our ability to capitalise on growing demand for automation. Creating two dedicated teams will allow us to do a much better job for our customers and to realise the vision we have for our UK business."

Paul Willsher, formerly Brand

Sales Manager CNC & Drilling, will head up the Machinery Sales team, as UK Commercial Director, Wood. Under his leadership, the team will be charged with growing sales of Biesse's wood processing machines and delivering a world-class customer experience. Paul joined Biesse seven years ago as an Area Sales Manager and has vast experience in programming and operating CNC machinery in the joinery, shop fitting and office furniture sectors. His team of six Area Sales Managers, between them covering the entire UK, will be the first point of contact for customers. They will be supported by three Brand Sales Managers, who have the in-depth machine knowledge to provide technical assistance and prescribe the best, application-specific solution.

"From many years in the wood manufacturing industry, I completely understand the challenges that our customers face. I am look-

ing forward to drawing on this experience to drive a team that is committed to helping customers arrive at machining solutions that will address their pain points. By having a dedicated team that is singularly focused on this outcome, we have the best possible chance of supporting our customers and delivering growth for the business," says Paul.

André Myers, formerly a Regional Sales Manager, will be responsible for the new Key Accounts & Integrated Systems team, as Systems & Key Accounts Director. Prior to joining Biesse 12 years ago, André was part of the senior management team at a furniture manufacturing company and went on to run his own furniture business, giving him a commercial grounding that has since proved crucial when supporting customers on major investment decisions. Thanks to the new structure, customers under his charge will have a dedicated point of contact and a direct line to the Group's technical team in Italy, facilitating the smooth handling of processes such as factory testing, commissioning and logistics for an enhanced customer experience.

"System integration projects require a long-term partnership approach. Our customers need to be dealing with specialists who can advise on layouts, capacity, ROI and so on, and large projects spanning several months need to be carefully structured and managed to minimise downtime and risk. Our dedicated systems team is looking forward to providing the continuity and knowledge that these projects demand," says André.

The formation of the new Key Accounts & Integrated Systems team reflects a wider automation and digitalisation trend that is gaining traction across the UK's materials processing industries. With this new model, Biesse is perfectly placed to help customers improve operating efficiency and deskill complex processes through digital transformation and automation in their machining operations.

Biesse Group UK Ltd
Tel 01327 300366
www.biesse.com/uk/



Selco unveils new charity partner for 2022

SELCO Builders Warehouse has announced Cancer Research UK as its new charity partner for 2022.

The nationwide builders' merchant will stage a range of fundraising events in support of Cancer Research UK, which funds doctors, nurses and scientists to carry out pioneering research to help provide a solution to defeating cancer.

Selco has a strong reputation for its fundraising exploits and, despite the pandemic, raised in excess of £100,000 for its previous charity partner, Globals Make Some Noise, in each of the last two years. Selco's charity coffers have already been boosted for Cancer Research UK with a dona-

tion of £5,861.78 being made from sales of carrier bags over recent months.

Carine Jessamine, marketing director of Selco Builders Warehouse, said: "We are thrilled to be supporting Cancer Research UK in its fantastic work to try and find the answers to an illness which touches the lives of each and every one of us in some way. Every pound we raise will help fund vital research and that will be the huge motivation behind our fundraising during what will be a busy year of charity activity."

"Cancer Research UK was selected by a vote from our colleagues and we are excited by our new charity partnership. Along with the support from our generous customers and suppliers, we hope to raise a significant amount of money and play our part in supporting vital medical research."

Georgia McCormack, divisional manager at Cancer Research UK, said: "We are incredibly grateful to Selco staff for voting for us and helping achieve our ambition of seeing three in four people survive their cancer by 2034. Our progress relies on the incredible dedication and commitment of volunteers and supporters like this — without whom we would not be able to fund our life-saving work. One in two of us will get cancer in our lifetime. All of us can support the research that will beat it."

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 72 branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

As well as offering trade services, Selco also has a strong digital presence including Click & Deliver, and Click & Collect services.

Selco ● www.selcobw.com



Selco makes plenty of charity noise

ONE OF THE leading UK builders merchants has produced a huge fundraising effort by donating more than £100,000 to its nominated charity in 2021.

Selco Builders Warehouse has raised £105,000 for its nominated charity, Global's Make Some Noise.

It means, despite the pandemic limiting traditional charity events, Selco has raised six figure sums for its nominated charity in each of the last two years.

Global's Make Some Noise improves the lives of disadvantaged people in communities by working with small charities across the UK keeping crucial services going, such as food banks, domestic violence and mental health helplines, carer support, community projects and employment programmes.

Funds were raised through a variety of methods including colleagues participating in charity walks, in-branch bank sales, dress down days, a golf day and darts challenges.

Carine Jessamine, marketing director for Selco Builders Warehouse, said: "We are proud to have raised such a significant amount of money for Global's Make Some Noise during a period of CoViD restrictions.

"Many of our traditional fundraising events were either scaled back dramatically or cancelled completely but we were determined to continue our proud record of supporting charities and local communities and came up with creative innovative activities to raise funds.

"Global's Make Some Noise has done outstanding work throughout the pandemic and we are delighted to have provided support during a difficult time for charities."

Emma Bradley, director of Global Charities, said: "It's a phenomenal effort for Selco to have raised such a substantial amount of money during a global pandemic and we thank all customers, colleagues and suppliers from the

bottom of our hearts for their incredible generosity. The money will go towards supporting the most vulnerable members of the community and helping them recover from the pandemic."

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 72 branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

As well as offering trade services, Selco also has a strong digital presence including Click & Deliver, and Click & Collect services.

Selco
www.selcobw.com



Timber group eyeing significant growth in 2022

NEWPORT-based Premier Forest Group is predicting further significant rises in both turnover and profit as it continues to successfully navigate the global supply issues in the timber industry, caused by the pandemic.

With just four months to go before the end of their financial year in April, Premier Forest Group was confidently forecasting in January that its annual turnover in the UK will have increased by 35% to circa £120 M, and that profits will have jumped from £8.8 M to over £20 M, a growth of 130% since last year.

This is in part thanks to the sale of Premier's Irish timber group in the summer of 2021. Brooks Timber, Premier's biggest company in Ireland, was rescued from the verge of bankruptcy by the Premier Forest Group nine years ago, and was successfully reengineered into a highly profitable operation, rising to become the second largest builder's merchant group in the Republic of Ireland. The sale freed up significant capital for Premier Forest Group, allowing the directors to further increase investment in its core UK business, Premier Forest Products.

Managing Director of Premier Forest Products, Joe Walker, said: "The ability to invest even more this year has fast-tracked improvements in operational efficiency and productivity. It's further enhancing our ability to respond to, and capitalise on, the opportunities presented to us. Looking ahead, the focus for us will be very much on organic growth and suitable acquisitions."

Premier Forest Group made significant IT investment in 2021, with the company's first foray into e-commerce for the Mill Timber brand. For the first time, the Mill Timber Direct website, which carries over 1,000 products, allows customers the ease of ordering online for delivery direct to site.

New products have also proved successful. Premier Forest Products has a long history of finding innovative and environmentally sustainable alternatives to existing, less effective products in the market. With customer surveys conducted by the business indicating a distinct appetite for new



solutions to long-standing problems, the successful introduction of high-quality new products that save time and money will continue to be a key strength for the company.

Further developing and strengthening the management team of the business is another core objective. Recently this was given a significant boost with the appointment of Andrew Francis as UK sales director. Andrew, a highly respected figure in the industry, is setting ambitious plans for growth in motion: read more on page 15.

Premier's plans for 2022 are very much focussed on further significant expansion. The board of directors is already considering several potential acquisitions that would be a good fit for the existing organisation.

Terry Edgell, founder and CEO (illustrated), said: "The sale of our Irish group, which included Brooks Timber and Building Supplies, Dublin Plywood and Veneer and Premier Forest ROI Ltd, was done as part of our wider strategic planning.

"If we hadn't of sold our Irish assets our group turnover for the current year would have been approaching £220 million, our goal now is to replace this lost turnover as quickly as possible through a series of small, strategic acquisitions and with strong underlying organic growth.

"We are hoping to close an early

acquisition at the start of the year, if we do it will result in a further £30 million growth in turnover for the next financial year, supplemented by the 15-20% forecasted organic growth.

"I'm optimistic for 2022 and, based on what we've seen in the last quarter, I believe the market is looking robust for the new year. The pipeline is stronger than we have ever seen, with stocks as high as they've been, which is no small feat given the supply chain challenges we have faced over the last 12 months.

"To be frank, the biggest barrier to growth we faced in 2021 was that we could have sold more if we'd had it. Although we worked hard with our supply chain partners to have continuous supply of product wherever possible to support our customers in challenging times, we saw numerous sectors who had to slow down production based on product availability. Hopefully, this is something we're all in the process of addressing.

"The past two years have demonstrated just how resilient our sector can be and with pent up demand, government funded infrastructural investment and a national housing shortage, all signs point to a serious demand for timber products in the short, medium and long term.

"Of course, CoViD is likely to present an ongoing challenge, es-

pecially with the Omicron variant causing issues now and other potential mutations likely in the future, but we have learnt to work smarter, using hybrid working wherever we can. It has been more of an issue on the operational side and in December we were hit hard by cases amongst staff. However, we are doing everything we can to protect the team by reducing contact and making the working environment as safe as possible.

"Looking ahead to 2022/23 there is going to be continued focus on climate change and the need for businesses to move towards net zero. Reducing our carbon footprint has been on our agenda for many years now and I like to think that we're ahead of the game in terms of our environmental impact, but there is always more that we can do and we will be continuing to invest in green technology next year and beyond.

"This is a very exciting time for Premier Forest Group and I'm really looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that the next twelve months will bring."

Premier Forest Group is a vertically integrated timber operation engaged in the importation, sawmilling, processing, merchanting and wholesale distribution of timber and timber products from its eight sites in the UK.

Premier Forest Group
<https://premierforest.co.uk>

Covers celebrates 175 years of trading with special anniversary year events

COVERS Timber & Builders Merchants will be celebrating its 175th year of trading in 2022 with a range of special events, offers and activities for its customers, staff and suppliers.

The family run builders' merchants, which opened its first depot in Chichester, West Sussex, now operates from 14 different locations across the south of England, supplying specialist timber services and products to the building trade and for home DIY.

Originally founded by William Cover, who was eventually joined by his son David in the 1850s, the company has remained a family run business throughout after it was bought by the Green family in the 1940s. Today, Covers has more than 400 staff and its annual sales exceed £90 million. It is believed to be the leading family-owned timber and builders' merchant in the south of England.

The 175th anniversary year marks an important milestone for the company and to celebrate the occasion Covers will be hosting a range of special events, competitions and discounts, including supplier demo days, exclusive offers and the chance to win some top prizes such as televisions, iPads and gift cards worth £175.

In keeping with the spirit of its mission to serve and support communities, Covers will also be making a variety of donations throughout the year to local charities and community projects in honour of its anniversary.

Rupert Green, Chairman of Covers Timber & Builders Merchants, said: "Our 175th year of

trading is a huge landmark in the company's history, and we are absolutely delighted to be celebrating it with our customers, staff and suppliers. We are extremely proud to be part of a company that is so rich in heritage and intrinsically connected to the communities it serves. We have come a long way since the early days, consistently investing in our depots, vehicles and state-of-the-art timber machinery so we can offer unrivalled products and service to our trade and DIY customers. Covers has grown due to a dedicated team of staff — many of whom have been with us for twenty to forty years or more.

"We are excited for our forthcoming programme of celebrations and hope that our customers and suppliers will join us in wishing Covers a very happy anniversary."

Covers Timber & Builders Merchants
www.coversmerchants.co.uk



WOOD WASTE & DUST CONTROL

Joinery company saves money by turning waste into free heating

A LANCASHIRE joinery company has purchased a wood waste heater from Wood Waste Technology to save money on its operating costs.

Station Yard Joinery Limited manufactures high end bespoke furniture from its woodworking machine shop in Earby, Lancashire. When the business moved into its current unit about a year ago, the 4,500 ft² building, with its high roof, proved to be a cold place to work in the winter months. Having experienced the benefits of wood waste heaters at a previous company, managing director of Station Yard Joinery, Martin Conboy, decided the business should invest in one, so contacted Wood Waste Technology.

Following a survey and a quote, the business purchased a WT5 that was installed by Wood Waste Technology's experienced engineers, to provide much needed heating for the workshop in winter, but also to provide free disposal of the large amount of waste wood generated from the manufacturing process.

Having previously invested in a dust collection system and a briquetting machine, Station Yard Joinery also has the ability to recycle some of its waste into briquettes, to be used in the wood waste heater alongside its general wood waste.

Martin says, "It makes no sense to spend hundreds of pounds on skips to get rid of our wood waste when we can burn it to convert it into heat for the factory. We've definitely made the right decision for our business by investing in the wood waste heater. It's a great piece of kit which will keep us warm and save us money. In addition, we're looking forward to recycling our dust into briquettes, which will burn really well in the wood waste heater!"

Managing director of Wood Waste Technology, Kurt Cockroft, says: "It's great that the team at Station Yard Joinery can burn their waste and briquettes in the heater to generate warmth in the workshop, instead of paying for skips to take it away."

Wood Waste Technology offers a full range of wood waste heaters, from small hand fired units to larger fully automatic systems, and offers site survey and design, as well as manufacture, installation and ongoing maintenance. The company also services all types of wood waste heaters and supplies genuine spares up to 60% cheaper than other suppliers.

Wood Waste Technology ● Tel 01785 250400

www.woodwastetechnology.co.uk ● www.grossuk.co.uk ● www.putzmaus.co.uk



Extractly system is quiet, dust-free, and half the price to run

EXTRACTLY Ltd has commissioned additional energy-saving extraction plant at Tom Howley's kitchen manufacturing facility near Glossop, Derbyshire, where the custom-designed system serves the machining operations side of the company's 5,000 m² factory.

Established in 2004, by design director Tom Howley, the luxury kitchen brand has a nationwide presence through its 18 showrooms located across the UK, with another due to open later this year. Employing the highest quality materials to produce bespoke fitted kitchens in oak, walnut and hand-painted finishes, Tom Howley kitchens range in style from classic to contemporary. Through acquisition by Neville Johnson Group in 2011, the company is now part of the renamed Bespoke Home Interior Design Group (BHID) which also comprises Neville Johnson Furniture, Neville Johnson Staircases, and the London Door Company.

Over the years, and in common with many furniture manufacturers, the company has replaced older machinery with newer, faster equipment, as well as adding new machines to increase capacity. The well-equipped production facility now houses two CNC machining centres, with another due to be installed in the spring, along with numerous saws, spindle moulders and routers, plus two Boere wide belt sanders which alone account for over 35% of the factory's total extraction requirement.

In summer 2021, in order to optimise workflow, a reorganisation of machinery was being undertaken at Tom Howley, and Extractly Ltd was contracted to reconfigure the ductwork arrangement and integrated Ecogate® equipment which was controlling extraction to an existing, externally-sited,



The six-module Nederman NFKZ3000 unit supplied and installed by Extractly Ltd.

filter unit which continues to serve the finishing side of the factory.

Over on the machining side, however, planned installations of new, high-speed, dust-producing equipment would require a significant increase in extraction capacity. As factory manager, Alan Ashmore, explained: "The previously-installed, internally-sited, filter unit was going to need at least an upgrade, but probably replacement, so we approached Extractly for a quotation to bring the system up to specification." After a full review of current and expected future extraction requirements, Extractly's proposal included decommissioning the old filter and replacing it with a new, externally-sited unit.

Extractly director, Jake Oldfield, commented: "There were three key areas that needed consideration at Tom Howley: the requirement for increased extraction capacity; the need to expand the energy-saving Ecogate® system; and, since the only sensible option was to install a new fan and filter unit outside the building, to protect neighbouring residential properties from excessive noise pollution." With projected airflow demand approaching 55,000 m³ per hour, and suction provided by a 90 kW main fan, Alan Ashmore had highlighted from the outset that it was crucial for the extraction system to be silenced to an acceptable level for residents living less than 50 metres from the location earmarked for the new dust plant.

To ensure there would be no environmental impact at residential properties closest to the site, Extractly commissioned a BS4142 noise impact survey from specialists Beechfield Design Consultancy (BDC).



The two Boere sanders naturally require high-powered extraction when running but, with Ecogate® installed, energy consumption is significantly reduced when the machines are idle.

Armed with environmental noise measurements and using acoustic calculations, BDC established requirements for noise attenuation at the site, and designed and manufactured bespoke absorptive silencers.

Fabricated from galvanised steel sheet, these particular silencers are designed to reduce the sound generated by turbulent air inside the fan, as well as the noise which travels down the ducting. Internally, the enclosures contain sound insulating materials, sandwiched within sheets of perforated steel, and spaced to allow efficient, unimpeded flow of dust-laden air through to the filter unit.

Extractly's engineers installed the noise attenuation equipment at the same time as the new fan and filter unit, and the design will ensure sound levels at the nearest properties are equivalent to normal background levels.

The filter unit Extractly installed at Tom Howley is a Nederman NFKZ3000 5+1; a six-module unit fitted with Nederman's patented, high performance, polyester SUPERBAG filter bags. Filtered dust waste drops into the hopper below where a drag-chain conveyor transfers the collected waste to a rotary valve discharge unit.

A series of five 1.1 kW regeneration fans enable filter bag cleaning to be carried out automatically during operation, and waste dust is transferred, pressure free, directly to a covered box cart.

Designed for continuous oper-



Bespoke absorptive silencers significantly reduce noise levels from the 90 kW main fan.

ation and to handle high dust volumes, these units are manufactured to strict safety and emissions standards and are fully ATEX compliant. In addition, the modular construction will allow Tom Howley to add further modules if future equipment acquisitions

further increase demand for dust extraction.

The installation has also benefited from the inclusion of a second Ecogate® greenBOX12 controller; doubling the capacity of the existing on-demand energy-saving system. Ecogate® technology works in conjunction with a variable speed drive unit, which automatically adjusts and optimises the running speed of the main extraction fan as individual woodworking machines come on line or shut down. When compared to standard installations, where the fan operates continuously, at full power, an Ecogate® system can typically reduce energy consumption by over 50% — with the resulting cost savings becoming more dramatic as energy prices continue to rise.

Extractly's technical director, William Kenyon, who has been involved with Ecogate since the technology was introduced to the UK woodworking industry back in 2010, explains how these savings are made: "With Ecogate®, sensors on each machine constantly monitor usage, and extraction is independently controlled, in real-time, to match the requirements of each individual piece of woodworking machinery. Since the extraction sys-

tem only operates when machines are running, the total extraction volume requirement is significantly reduced, creating potential for huge energy and cost savings, as well as lower noise levels both at the fan, and inside the factory."

Extractly completed the installation over the Christmas downtime and commissioned the system in time for full production to get underway as the company returned to work again in the new year. Adam Slack, Howley's production supervisor, said: "Everyone is delighted with the job Extractly has done here; we now have a fully-automated, future-proofed system which just gets on quietly and efficiently with the task of dust extraction — levels of both dust and noise on the factory floor have been reduced significantly. We were also very impressed with the standard of work, and the way Extractly handled every aspect of what was a very time-contingent contract."

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Top left: Rotary valve unit discharges filtered waste pressure-free.

Top right: Ecogate technology controls extraction throughout the factory.

Bottom left: Ecogate automatic dampers fitted to all machines.

Bottom right: Bespoke cabinetry produced at Tom Howley.

Commercial millwork and cabinetry specialist American Millwork & Cabinetry, Inc, uses Cabinet Vision to produce high-end, custom cabinetry

CABINET VISION user American Millwork & Cabinetry, Inc, or AMC, is a group of companies founded in 2002 that are devoted to the production and installation of high-quality commercial millwork and cabinetry.

"We have relationships with 85 contractors and deal with 15 general contractors at any given time," says George Reitz, AMC's president, CEO and founder. "We are at record employment and record sales, which should top \$12 million this year."

All of the company's manufacturing operations are housed in a 65,000 ft² facility in Emmaus, Pennsylvania, where the talents of 80 employees are applied to the production of a range of both popular and custom profiles. The AMC group of companies also includes an installation business, a specialised panelling business dedicated to acoustic design, and a research and development branch.

"We harness all of the experience of all of the associates in the company," Mr Reitz says, noting that his staff represents a collective 150 years of trade experience. "What the end user and architect



receive from us is semi-custom cabinetry, which we are able to make in a production setting."

AMC's projects include a significant amount of work for educational institutions — which entails everything from elementary schools to colleges and universities — as well as medical facilities,

veterinary clinics, office spaces, assisted-living facilities, and even eateries.

"We also do a degree of historical work, replicating mouldings and wainscot panels, and we just received our first casino job," Mr Reitz says. "Our projects range in scope, but we take on jobs both

small and large because we feel that we're in the service business; we just happen to make cabinets."

AMC implemented the Cabinet Vision design-to-manufacturing solution in 2017, after researching its CNC software options for about one year. The company had used a different solution for 13 years, but knew that a change was needed after realising that its former system was unable to keep up with its evolving needs.

"With Cabinet Vision, we have a good support network, which is one of the things we looked for in a company in moving away from our former software," Mr Reitz says. "As we have continued to grow, the software has grown with us."

The automation tools provided by Cabinet Vision have helped the company produce a high volume of custom work while maintaining efficiency and quality. "With Cabinet Vision, we are fairly automated, and we actually are the first one in the US to integrate an automatic panel retrieval system," Mr Reitz says.

Though the company also utilises the Alphacam computer aided manufacturing (CAM) system, primarily for the millwork





portion of its project load, AMC uses Cabinet Vision extensively for cabinet production.

"Cabinetry is what we put through Cabinet Vision the most, and one of the reasons that we went with Cabinet Vision are the customisations that we can make on the fly," says process engineer, Tom Hill. "When you change the size of the cabinet, it changes everything about the cabinet. We can type in the number and we're good; we don't have to reprogram the whole thing. One change without the software can take 15 minutes and, when you're doing 30 to 40 cabinets, you can lose a day's work."

Among automation tools used by the 11-member engineering team at AMC are Cabinet Vision's parametric capabilities. Applying parametric tools allows users to quickly and easily change the dimensions of projects while maintaining the desired scale of part features. The software's parametric tool is especially helpful with jobs that are very similar or even



identical in every aspect except for size.

"Cabinet Vision allows us to parametrically change cabinet sizes relatively easily," Mr Hill says. "Every aspect that we are looking for, we have the ability to customise."

To further automate its processes, AMC takes advantage of Cabinet Vision User Created Standards, or UCSs, which are customisable company production standards that can be written

within the system and automatically applied to specific manufacturing conditions. UCSs allow users to customise and standardise production to both reflect construction preferences and ensure quality. Some of the company's UCSs were written by Cabinet Vision staff, while others were produced by Mr Hill.

"A UCS is applicable to many projects down the road. We like to fabricate all of our cabinetry the same way, but we also want to

have that customisation ability, and that's where UCSs come in handy," Mr Hill says. "Every job is unique, but we try to figure out what we can use as a template to work from."

Barcodes produced in Cabinet Vision help with tracking parts as materials make their way from the shelf to CNC machinery, and beyond. "It allows us to pull the materials to cut and process labels to cut, and take the cut material to the point-and-points," Mr Hill says. "The saw that we use actually puts the labels on the parts, so the point-to-point machine scans the barcode on the labels and we just move on down the line."

Due to the complexity and volume of production at AMC, reliable software support has been a must.

Operations manager Ron Burke says that AMC's commitment to Cabinet Vision required that the software provider be able to understand and fulfill the company's unique and evolving needs. Over a period of nearly two years, the number of employees using the software on a daily basis has grown from two to seven. AMC continues to invest in both employees and process improvement with ongoing training.

"Cabinet Vision staff came in for training so that we understand the software at a base level. Since then, we have software techs come and work with us on issues that we struggle with," Mr Burke says. "Cabinet Vision sales reps will spend half a day or more with us to work with us. The support is tremendous and they just keep getting better; it's been a good relationship."

Cabinet Vision
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www.cabinetvision.com

Alphacam
Tel 0118 922 6677
www.alphacam.com



AkzoNobel Powder Coatings unlocks a new world of opportunity for heat sensitive substrates with the new Interpon W range

AKZONOBEL has launched Interpon W, a range of powder coating solutions that can transform how designers and manufacturers work with heat sensitive substrates (HSS) such as wood and plastic.

Bringing benefits beyond physical attraction and with sustainability as standard, Interpon W is not a single product but rather a comprehensive range of powder coatings that include the Interpon W Core, Flex Pro, Fast and Fast Pro*. They are claimed to be better by design so that even the most challenging shapes and substrates can be given a seamless, consistent finish and all-round protection. They enable furniture, kitchen and bathroom products or building and construction materials to be protected and enhanced in minutes in ways that could not have been imagined before, according to the company.

The Interpon W range utilises various innovations to achieve re-

markable results. These include ultra-low bake technologies that deliver indoor and outdoor products with excellent chemical, scratch, liquid and heat resistance. They also include a lower thermal curing process that offers even higher weatherability and gloss retention for the more challenging applications. These innovations are used for Interpon W Core and Interpon Flex Pro respectively.

The technology behind the Interpon W Fast and Interpon W Fast Pro powder coatings is similarly innovative and takes advantage of AkzoNobel's leading capabilities in UV curing. UV curing systems combine lowest temperature curing range (80° C-120° C) with the shortest curing time (2-5 minutes) to deliver optimal efficiency.

The full range allows materials such as MDF/HDF, plywood, OSB, natural wood, gypsum board/plasterboard, fibre cement and plastic composites to benefit from a pow-

der coating that is free from volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and have a high utilisation of material — up to 99% — with any overspray able to be recycled. And being a powder coating, all sides can be coated at once, ensuring consistent edge coverage and reduced reworking time. This process also reduces the cost per unit.

Daniela Vlad, managing director of powder coatings at AkzoNobel, says the company is committed to continuous innovation: "Through innovation and worldwide market development, we are creating solutions that are transforming the potential of low cure powder coatings, and taking sustainable solutions and business performance to new heights."

Daniela adds that the 'Safe and Easy' process has been introduced to ease the transition to new technologies: "We know that switching to new technologies may come with uncertainty which is why our dedicated teams will support you

in making a Safe and Easy choice for your business.

"In close co-operation with a global network of powder coating line manufacturers, we will help you from start to finish in creating and implementing a fully-operational coating line. This includes understanding the products and processes required, and the financial benefits you can expect. It also includes supporting you with staff training and ensuring a smooth integration between the powder and coating line."

Interpon W was developed in AkzoNobel's Global Competence Centre for powder on heat sensitive substrates in Como, Italy. The Interpon W performance has also already been proven through partnerships with several Interpon customers in the company's regional hubs and in close co-operation with market-leading line manufacturers.

AkzoNobel
www.akzonobel.com



SCM Surface Technologies for ever more exclusive surface treatment solutions



SCM STANDS OUT as a unique partner for the entire surfaces treatment process with all-round products and services as well as exclusive, sought-after finishing solutions, which are able to meet all process and end product type requirements.

The presence in the Group of

the very wide range of Superfici technologies ensures the supply of integrated painting lines of all kinds, for exclusive and sophisticated finishing solutions.

Today the extensive offer of DMC technologies for sanding, Sergiani for pressing and Superfici for finishing is further enhanced

with new devices and models to meet all the process and end product type requirements.

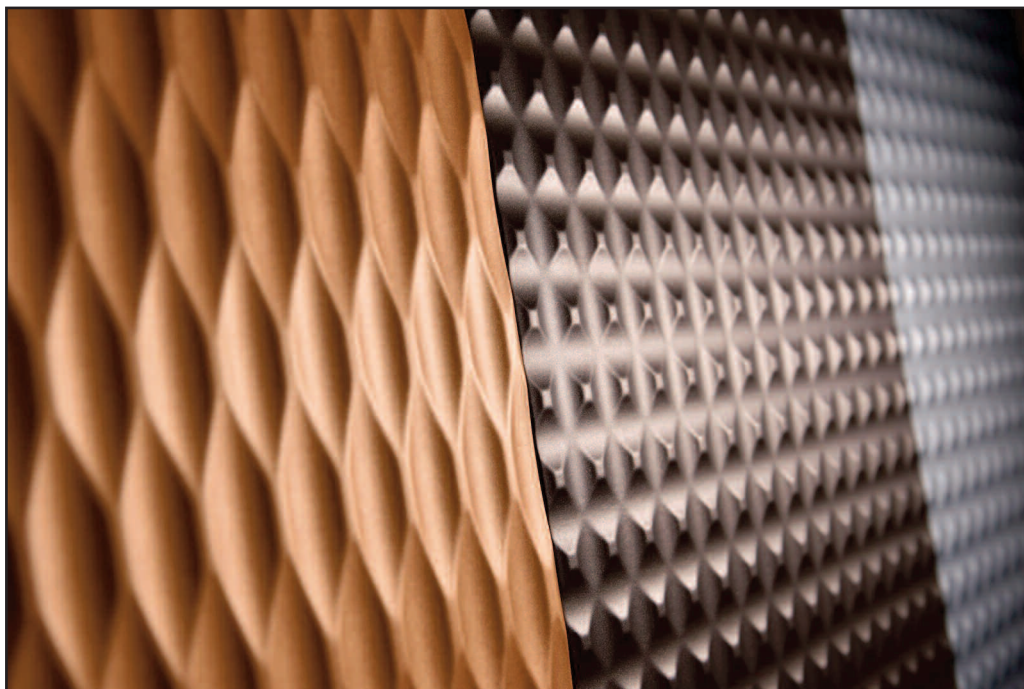
Pressing

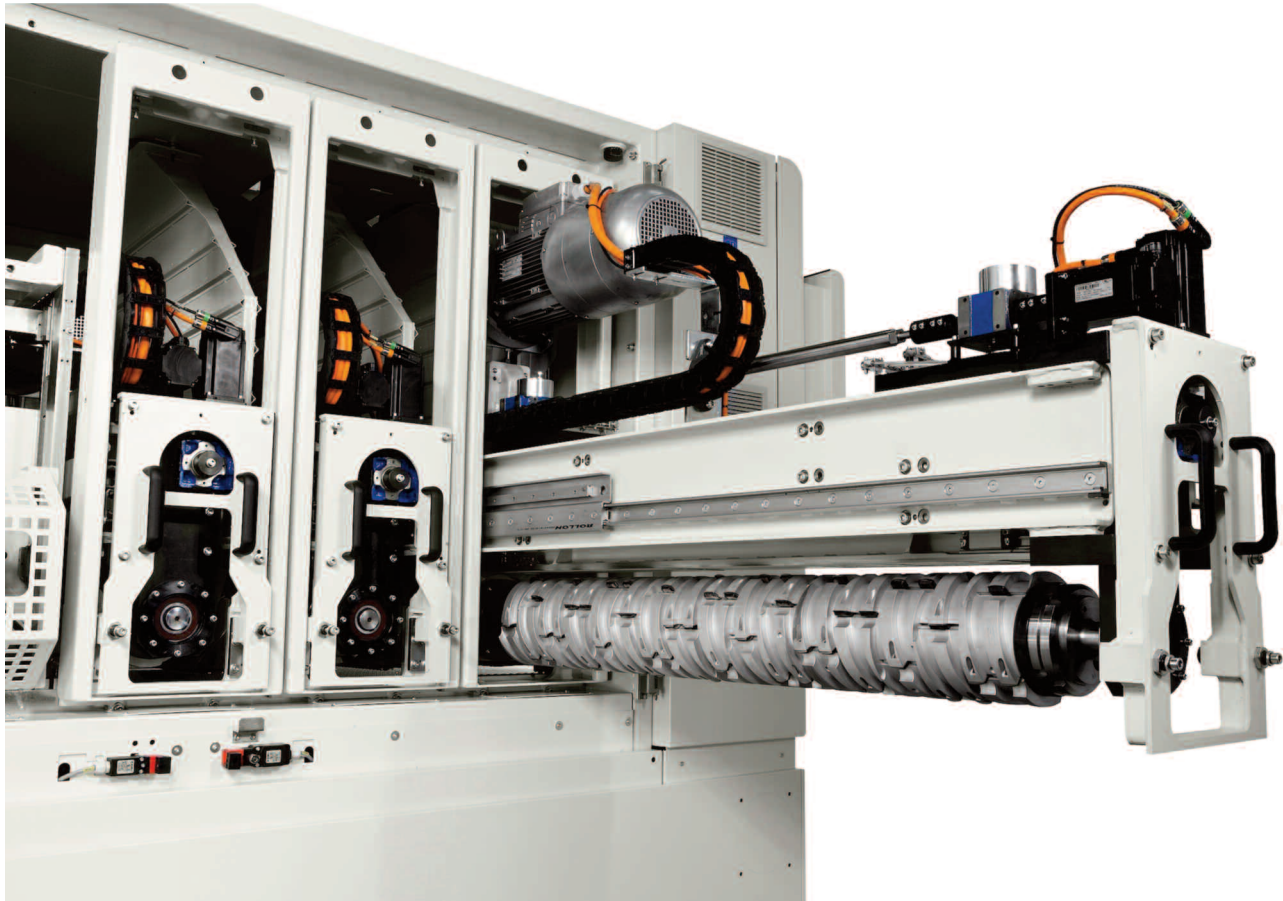
Sergiani pressing solutions for the lamination of panels with 3D surfaces and the production of block-board panels.



The Sergiani 3D Form and Sergiani 3D Form HP presses can satisfy any production demand in the versions with a single manual tray and right up to the one with three automatic trays that cut the cycle time to just the pressing time for any kind of machining. This can be achieved with both high gloss coatings and more complex three-dimensional shapes, guaranteeing a product of unparalleled quality.

Also the Sergiani GSL-A press for continuous production of blockboard panels with automatic loading/unloading guarantees





high flexibility and productivity. Highly configurable to meet customers' demands, it presents different blockboard loading solutions and the option of adding pneumatic stops to create multi-row panels.

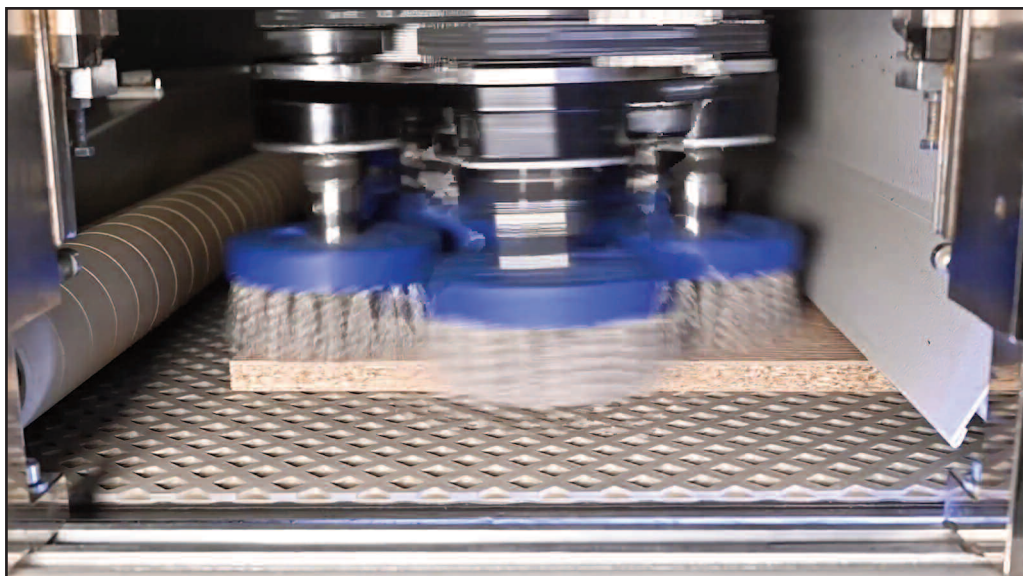
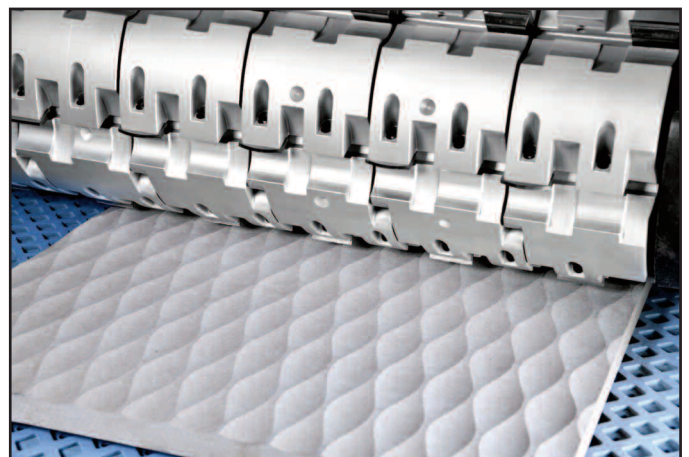
Sanding

The latest DMC products are easy-to-use solutions with high productivity and keep in mind the specific needs of the individual customer, especially research into high quality finishing and an improved user experience in production cycles.

Absolute protagonist is the new "eye-S" control panel of the DMC SD that, as of January 2022, will replace the LOGIC SC and PRO-SAND electronic control panels. Another new entry is the brand new planetary unit on DMC Eurosystem designed to create any kind of finishing effects. Lastly, the carving unit, on the top-of-the-range DMC System sanding machines to achieve sophisticated three-dimensional effects.

Finishing

Superfici's new release is the Valtorta Bravo 2, the two-arm Carte-



sian robot, designed to halve spraying times without sacrificing excellent quality.

The seven-axis (extendible to 11) Maestro robot, developed for windows and doors painting lines, has also been updated: new devices and software for an even faster change of colour, ideal for "batch 1" production needs.

Key player is the new Compact XL sprayer designed to satisfy a higher production capacity and ensure a perfect handling of the overspray in the spraying booth. Combined with the Excimatt innovative Excimer UV system, for an exceptional super-opaque finishing, a surprisingly silk effect (if requested) and an incomparable surface resistance thanks to the



absence of mattifying agents in the product. Indeed, Excimatt allows for a

mechanical micro-texturing to be achieved on the layer of paint applied. This replaced the opaque-

ness achieved using chemical additives that would normally reduce the scratch resistance on the

final painted surface. This technology is extremely effective when treating flat, shaped surfaces, and on the profile, thanks to specific Superfici devices for three-dimensional spraying.

Excimatt can be applied in roller lines or in thin layers for flat surface painting, and in spray lines to finish shaped panels and edges:

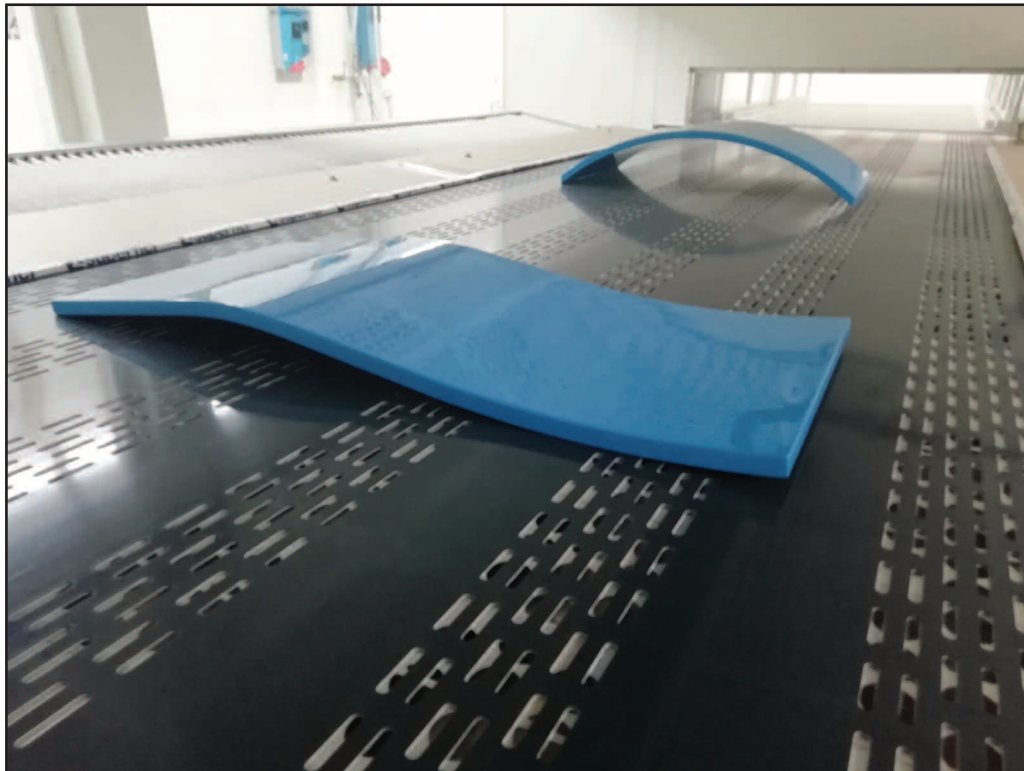
- maximum focus on the environment and cutting consumption, thanks to particular energy saving devices that reduce air and water volumes needed for ventilation and cleaning;
- fast, first classing cleaning, thanks to the filters with automatic change, an innovative, fast cleaning system for the paint recovery unit, and air circulation conditions that are always optimal in the spraying environment;
- an even simpler, more integrated use with other SCM group technologies, thanks to the new Maestro Active Finishing software control.

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Sanding technology for small to medium producers of furniture & joinery



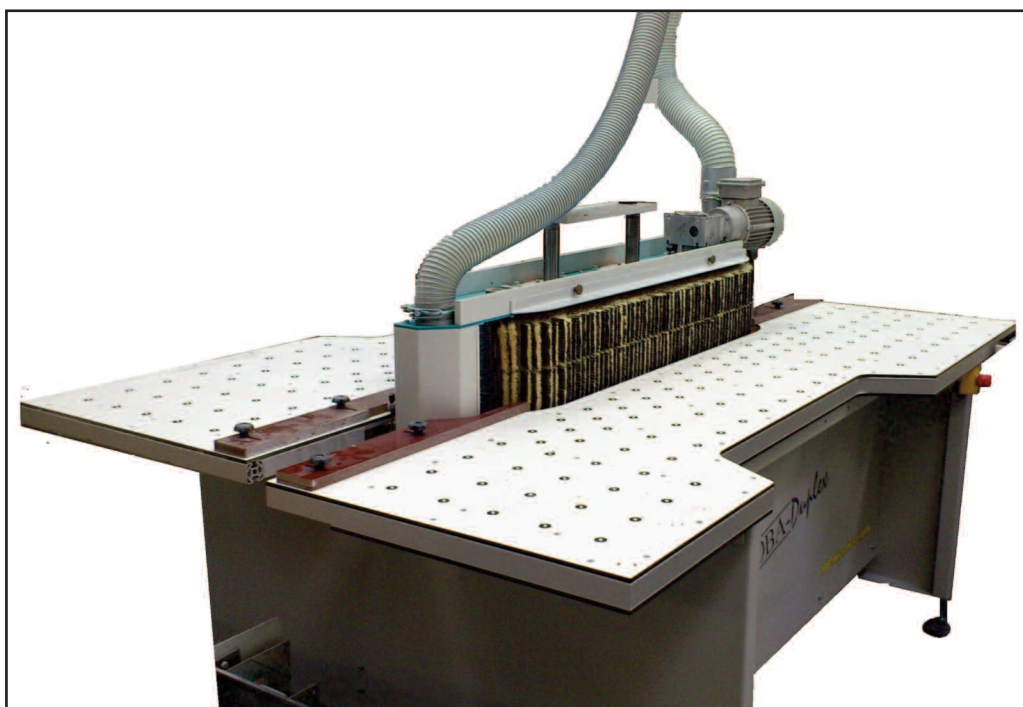
THE ROBA Twin Flat machine stands out due to the simple operation and optimal denibbing results. Processing time is shortened considerably.

The machine sanding aggregate is divided into two areas: the flat part of the work piece is sanded in an area with a short sanding paper setting. This area is 150 mm wide. The shaped profile part is sanded in a second area, set-up with narrow slotted paper, to be able to get easily into the depth of the profiling. This area is 100 mm wide.

In this way the four-sided denibbing process lasts only a few seconds and does not strain the employee due to the ergonomically favourable construction of the "lying" sanding aggregate.

The Twin Flat contains two brush belts whose movement directions are outward orientated. This avoids a too aggressive rounding of the edges and burn through during sealer sanding procedures. Another advantage is the improved handling of long work pieces. In this way the Twin Flat is also suitable for companies who need to sand small batches fast and at a reasonable prices.

The ROBA Simplex/Duplex consists of one or two sanding areas of 100 mm. The height adjustment is done pneumatically in fast motion mode. In the Duplex machine two different sanding paper settings can be used. For example, for intense wood sanding a grit 120 is placed on the upper belt, while the lower belt contains a grit 240 for the fine finishing or sealer





◀ sanding. The change of the sanding area is done by a pneumatically enforced movement by the use of a manual switch. That means that no pre settings are needed if the operator wants to change the sanding operation.

The system is based on a sanding belt system instead of rotating brushes. The advantages com-

pared to rotating brushes are obvious: the system offers an effective and plain surface sanding. The work pieces must only be pressed against the sanding belt and not, compared to a normal brush system, be moved from right to left through the brush. This results in considerably lower processing time.

For companies needing even more sanding capacity coming from the ROBA Duplex, MB offers the newly developed Twin Duplex. The machine is equipped with two work tables and offers access to the sanding belt from both sides. In this way the machine can be used by two operators simultaneously.

If there is a need to sand long

work pieces such as table tops, MB offers the new ROBA Duplex XL. This machine has a work range of 1,900 mm in combination with all other options the standard Duplex offers.

John Penny Woodworking Machinery Ltd
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Intercoat's eco-friendly Aqualine + AQ400 set to revolutionise the furniture industry

A LEADING British coatings manufacturer to the wood finishing industry has just released a totally new cutting-edge product that is claimed to be greener than anything else on the market.

Intercoat Paint's AQ400 is a 2K water-based replacement for conventional 2K solvent-based finishes primarily aimed at the kitchen, bedroom, contract furniture and shopfitting industry.



AQ400 has FIRA Gold Certification, the quality mark recognised across the furniture industry, and complies with the relevant FIRA 6222-3 specification which meets the highest of quality standards.

AQ400, which was in development for two and a half years, is easy to use, contains no formaldehyde, minimal solvent content and is therefore better for the environment, safer and more pleasant to use than solvent based pigmented finishes, according to the company.

Intercoat Paints managing director Michael Vann said that currently available enamels, unlike AQ400, usually contain some unpleasant chemicals, including harmful and offensive smelling formaldehyde which can cause unpleasant working conditions for sprayers and workers in the spray shop vicinity.

This new technology is claimed to eliminate many of the issues that are associated with the use of traditional solvent-based products and offers a pigmented water-based product to a high specification.

Mr Vann added: "The AQ400 is the first genuine game-changer to come out of the industry for many years. Currently there is a huge consumer-driven desire for green technology in all sectors.

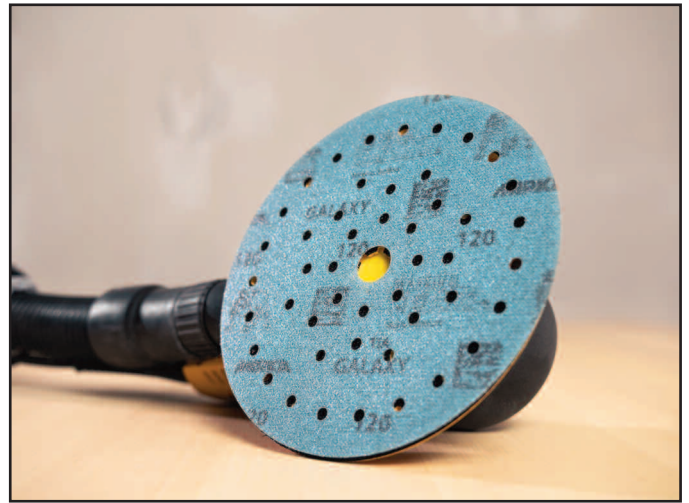
"Intercoat is proud to continue to lead the way in technology development, performance and environmental responsibility."

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www.intercoat-paints.co.uk

Mirka reaches for the stars with Galaxy

THE EXPANSION of Mirka's innovative abrasive line-up is continuing in February 2022 with the addition of the Galaxy. This new multi-purpose, film-backed abrasive has been designed to stay sharp from the first cut to the last, whilst also providing the user with dust-free sanding, efficient performance and a high-quality consistent finish.

Galaxy is the first abrasive to use Mirka's innovative Multifit™ hole configuration. The result of extensive research from the development team in Finland, this technology utilises optimal hole placement to allow the largest amount of dust extraction without sacrificing sanding performance. The alternating hole sections and grip areas are designed to channel the dust away from the sanding process which, combined with Galaxy's special coating, helps eradicate clogging. Multifit™ also supports full extraction on any type of machine or block with no need to waste time aligning the holes.



Galaxy is considered an ideal abrasive for sanding both soft and hard materials as well as various substrates that are prevalent across the automotive, marine production and wood sectors. The specially mixed blue ceramic grains have been engineered to form abrasive edges which break down during the sanding process and present fresh grain; this allows Galaxy to cut quickly and efficiently from edge to edge, which further increases the lifespan of the abrasive and reduces sanding time. The cut is so clean that scratch patterns in finer grits are especially easy to polish out and there are no loose grains left behind in the substrate.

Pete Sartain, national sales manager industrial, Mirka UK, says: "We are constantly evolving our abrasive line-up and are very excited to be adding Galaxy to it. We believe this abrasive's new technology will help our customers increase their productivity, while also opening up new revenue streams within their business."

Visit the link below to find out more about Galaxy.

Mirka ● www.mirka.com/uk/galaxy/

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Complete automatic or robotic spraying lines, with vertical and linear dryers and UV systems. Complete roller painting lines, printing lines for panels and painting systems for doors, windows and three-dimensional components. Sanding machines that become flexible abrasive solutions for the most varied finishes. Complete solutions for 3D lamination.

The latest in pre-treatment and finishing applications become tools for creating **aesthetically beautiful finishes**, even with **special three-dimensional effects**, extreme opacities or that generate surprising sensations to the touch, so as to respond to the newest design trends.

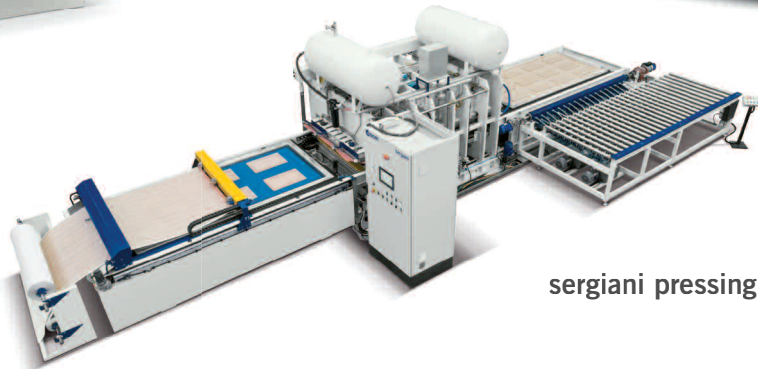
High-tech integrated solutions that enhance the **uniqueness** and **beauty** of the human touch.



dmc sanding



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BA exhibit at KBB Birmingham 2022

BA, ONE of the UK's leading manufacturers of factory-built, bespoke and made-to-measure kitchens and bedrooms and specialist components, set the pace for 2022 with a host of new product launches taking place at this year's KBB show.

Taking place from 6th to 9th March 2022 at the NEC Birmingham, BA, from Booth N70, will display a series of true-to-life kitchen and bedroom schemes, where the company will be taking a community-style approach to this year's exhibition with a range of brand slogans that echo the emotional decision when buying a new kitchen or bedroom. Nuala Brady, group marketing manager at BA, says: "Synonymous with the latest industry products and services, KBB 2022 provides us with a highly saturated captive audience that is ready and willing to talk shop and get down to do business safely in person. This will mark our 12th year exhibiting at KBB Birmingham and given the recent market disruption, we are so pleased to be able to illustrate our latest innovations and retail packages specially designed for our trade customers to take their



business to the next level. Giving direct access to what we believe to be the best product and marketing support in the KBB industry, we aim to grow our network of trusted retailers and make our customers' selection process simple and enjoyable right from first enquiry."

From Stand N70, BA will here the new InRail true handleless kitchen range available rigid M2M and a limited range of flat-packed stocked options. This will sit alongside the new Bella classic square panel shaker called Buxton, one of several new door styles being

added to the range. The company's new bedroom collection will introduce three new door opening styles and three cabinet colours across its ranges, with several wardrobe interior options to excite the modern homeowner and answer current retail trends





where the bedroom has become all things, to all people. BA will also introduce 72 new handles from Formed's 'Momo' handle range plus let visitors take a first look at the company's newly upgraded MyBA 24-hour online ordering portal with live demo on stand. The hospitality area will provide a dedicated space to network and makes way for the new Jayline

J-Profile handleless range and handle collection for both standard and made to measure sizes. Following an investment of over £2 million, BA is now proudly believed to be the UK's only automated process line to manufacture a J-Profile handleless door for both standard and made to measure sizes. In addition to its latest product

developments, the company is also primed to emphasise its consumer-facing brand Blossom Avenue, which offers a complete range of full rigid kitchens with an endless choice of innovative designs, styles, materials and accessories to choose from. Providing an attractive retail package that is designed to be any size, style, colour and finish, Blossom Avenue

offers the perfect mix of quality, sustainable materials and cutting-edge design for the modern homeowner. By attending the show, BA hopes to serve existing customers as well as ideally convert new Blossom Avenue retailers and signature stores. **BA ● Tel 028 8676 4600**
Email sales@byba.co.uk
www.byba.co.uk



Rotpunkt exhibit at KBB Birmingham 2022

ROTPUNKT, award winning designer and leading manufacturer of climate friendly German kitchen furniture, is pleased to confirm its attendance at Europe's leading kitchens, bedrooms and bathroom show, KBB Birmingham, where it will showcase its exciting new kitchen living solutions.

Taking place from 6th to 9th March 2022 at the NEC Birmingham, KBB 2022 will provide a perfect platform for Rotpunkt to present its sustainably manufactured furniture and creative innovations for the contemporary kitchen from Stand Q90 — with highlights including its new utility room solutions and new wood-effects, as pictured.

Matt Phillips, head of UK operations at Rotpunkt, says: "We believe that the modern homeowner wants the very best in style and sustainability, so we look forward to revealing our luxurious new furniture ranges which are designed to emphasise longevity, adaptability and high-design for the contemporary kitchen.



"The company is delighted to showcase the latest evolution of industrial design as we bring a fresh approach to user-friendly working spaces, which are designed to bal-

ance the complex needs of a modern household. As a forward-thinking manufacturer with a proud heritage, we are eager to tell the story of our climate-friendly manu-

facturing process and our commitment to planet-friendly policies including our 'Together to Zero' journey being rolled-out this year," adds Matt.





Rotpunkt will be presenting its collections of contemporary furniture for the kitchen living space with an emphasis on the latest wood effects and ergonomic solutions. The brand's kitchen displays will be geared to meeting key requirements for the hygienic, well-

ness kitchen as well as practical daily tasks combining beauty and utility in the ultimate 2022 package for the ethical consumer, according to the company. New innovations will be shown across four kitchen displays and two utility room displays and include a range of

Memory RI doors, new Fenix colours, laminate furniture solutions, a series of new finishes along with fresh new concepts like its laundry/utility room units, hidden door mechanisms, integrated dishwasher drawer, new wall-panel system accessories and so much more.

The Rotpunkt pathway to continuous growth is set to define the company's future with considered investments in machinery, advanced technologies, and the expansion of national and international dealer relationship in the pipeline.

"We believe in 'sustainable kitchen design with a conscience' and the KBB show offers us a captive retail audience that we can showcase our new cycle of product innovations while underpinning our unwavering commitment to green living," adds Matt.

Introduced over two years ago, BioBoard Gen 2 by Rotpunkt, is made from up to 90% recycled wood and has grown to become one of the most environmentally friendly chipboards ever used in the global kitchen industry. Becoming a key pillar of the company's social-environmental policy up to 2030, and 'Together to Zero' climate strategy, BioBoard Gen2 will again define the latest innovations by Rotpunkt and create new retail opportunities for customers who do not wish to trade-off style or sustainability in the home.

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www.rotpunktkuechen.de/en/



REHAU presents 'seamless style' at KBB 2022

LEADING polymer innovator REHAU returns to KBB this year with an industry-first holistic approach to its surfaces, edgeband and tambour door collection, to support the world's new blended way of living and working.

For the first time, REHAU will display its latest RAUVISIO noir monotonous matte surface in a full kitchen display at booth R114 from 6th-9th March at the NEC in Birmingham. With Real Homes having already coined matt black kitchen units as the number one 2022 kitchen trend, this is something around which REHAU is already receiving much interest.

The range is sold on the fact it is fully integrated, so it runs seamlessly from kitchen front to worktop, to edgeband, to tambour door — synonymous with the popular invisible kitchen trend. It is this holistic approach that sets REHAU apart at KBB this year, as the one-and-only edgeband originator that can provide all solutions in one holistic approach via distributor Waivis.

Having won seven prestigious design awards in 2021, REHAU is a well-established provider of furniture solutions that suit residential and commercial interiors. Awards include Red Dot, Iconic, Interzum and German Design, with noble matt scooping three of the seven accolades.

With blue set to be the colour of the year symbolising change according to Pantone, REHAU will also be unveiling two brand-new colours within its RAUVISIO crystal glass laminate surface range. These include Laguna, a modern light blue based on Iceland's Blue Lagoon, and Atlantico, a modern dark blue based on the Atlantic Ocean.

Another KBB-first for REHAU will be the display of its RAUVISIO fino metallic surface in bronze. This finish, believed to be unique, further demonstrates the capability and versatility of the REHAU range.

REHAU's latest innovations in edgebanding will also be available to see, including the long-awaited sustainable edgeband lines. The two new product lines RAUKANTEX eco and RAUKANTEX evo impressively demonstrate how sustainability can be applied to furniture edgebands.



Notably, RAUKANTEX eco is composed of 50% post-industrial recycled material equal to conventional PP edgebands in terms of design, quality and processing. RAUKANTEX evo is based on renewable raw materials, the use of which creates no additional demand for crude oil.

Scott Williams, national sales manager, says: "Our research has proven how much customers value being able to physically see and feel our products. This helps them explore the quality of our range and appreciate why we've won awards. REHAU has also seen various product updates since the 2020 KBB show, which makes this exhibition the ideal place for sector professionals to discover first-hand what can be achieved by partnering with us. We're very proud of everything we've achieved at REHAU."

From large industrial businesses to independent joiners, REHAU is experienced in providing furniture to customers on a global scale. Having acquired its subsidiary distribution partner, Waivis, 15 years ago, REHAU is perfectly positioned to service smaller businesses around the country too.

Scott adds: "When it comes to attending the KBB show this year, we are most looking forward to being able to engage with our loyal customers, as well as having the opportunity to introduce the brand to any newcomers as well."

REHAU ● <https://rehauregistration.co.uk/kbb-2022/>

Wignall's Fire Door expansion aided by Joinerysoft's Commercial Door Software

TRADING since 1998, Wignall's is a family run business with a strong focus on quality. The company's wide product range includes bespoke joinery as well as cubicles, and more recently fire doors.

Wignall's has recently been awarded its BWF Fire Door Certification and invested in a new CNC machine, edge bander and drum sander. This has meant the company can expand its fire door capacity and has recently taken on its biggest fire door job yet, 150 doors for a Nightingale Hospital. The company does not claim to compete with the biggest companies in the marketplace, content to have a reputation for quality and shorter lead times. This means that Wignall's picks up the smaller jobs that some of the large companies are not interested in.

Estimator, Luke McIntyre, joined the business just as Wignall's expanded into fire doors and has very quickly taken the lead in this side of the business. When he started a year ago his first job was to evaluate software to improve both Wignall's ability to price fire doors and produce production paperwork. Luke says, "Fire doors are not particularly complicated but there are a large number of variables that mean that customers can end up getting confused. We needed to find a friendly way of displaying what the customer is buying without using lots of words on paper. A year ago we had a demonstration of Joinerysoft's Commercial & Fire Door module and knew this was just what we were looking for." He adds, "Part of Joinerysoft's JMS 3D Pro software and 3D visual imagery jumped out. It makes it easy to price large numbers of fire doors and gives customers a clear idea of what they are getting."

Luke confirms, "Some orders can take just minutes to price, even if there are multiple doors and variations." The software uses pre-set materials to shorten quoting time and Luke adds, "Even if I need to create a new material set it may take longer but I'm aware that I'm constantly updating my library so it will get even quicker to quote."

Customers are benefiting from true scale diagrams and once the job has been secured Joinerysoft's software uses Excel output to cre-



ate a door schedule. Where jobs are provided in a PDF spreadsheet, Joinerysoft can also use Excel input to quickly upload the job into the software.

Joinerysoft's Commercial & Fire Door Module has been designed with commercial door and fire door manufacturers in mind allowing custom configuration for manufacturers to design and build all doors including fire doors, their way. After three months, Wignall's has been able to produce customised questions for estimators to select the correct materials, fittings packs and finishes. They can now quickly and easily select multiple door types for projects that range into the hundreds. Job revisions are easily tracked with visibility of the original order and all revisions simultaneously.

The benefits don't stop at estimating, with production printouts all fully customisable so Wignall's can print just the information relevant to each stage of the production process, provide delivery notes for each batch and even create invoices. All this can be done within the software on headed paper with links out to email or Excel output to accounting packages as required.

CoViD hasn't stopped Wignall's development in its business, with all configuration and training led by Joinerysoft conducted remotely. Luke says, "Online support has been ideal as after the hard graft initially with lots of communication explaining how our processes work, Joinerysoft was able to take all this onboard and quite quickly give us back a usable platform to start using. I was able to start using the system, with help as and when I needed." He adds, "After the initial stage it's been a quick progression to where we are now."

One of the reasons that Luke says Wignall's chose Joinerysoft is that the company quickly realised that Joinerysoft believes in continuous development, as does Wignall's. He says, "If I see something that I would like to improve I know that I could ask Joinerysoft for it and it is very likely to be taken onboard and implemented. I've received many improvements in the last year that other manufacturers have recommended. I've never been told, 'No, we can't do that — it's not going to happen.' That would be a huge disappointment. Joinerysoft has always said,

'If we don't have it we can work towards it and implement it further down the line.' That's why we signed up and why we are continuing to move forward with Joinerysoft." Luke concludes, "I would highly recommend Joinerysoft and JMS Pro (Commercial & Fire Doors) to everyone."

Recent Joinerysoft enhancements include a large batch import, linking to five axis CNC machines and barcoding, introduced for an Australian customer but available for all.

Managing director, Alan Turner, says: "Joinerysoft is pleased to be part of Wignall's development process and help them expand the fire door side of their business. We've invested greatly into the fire door industry and our commitment to continuous development means that we are constantly adding new improvements."

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Seven reasons designers and architects choose Formica® Laminate for doors

WHEN IT COMES to choosing materials for door applications, there is no shortage of options. Formica® Laminate offers a powerful mix of performance, endurance, hygiene and long-term value.

That combination of benefits is why Formica® High Pressure Laminates (HPL) are so well regarded across the design and construction industries.

Nina Bailey, European Design Lead at Formica Group, says: "Doors are not only functional fixtures to close off spaces – they are a key part of the overall interior design and can often be the finishing touch to creating a crisp and refined look."

When you choose Formica laminates for your door applications, you enjoy:

- **Impressive toughness.** All Formica laminates are highly resistant to stains, impact and scratches – making them ideal for busy areas or high-touch surfaces such as doors or work areas.

- **Long-lasting performance and beauty.** Formica laminates can be installed with the confidence that they will maintain their quality and aesthetic appeal for many years to come offering better life-cycle value than lower-cost alternatives.



- **Inherent hygiene.** All Formica laminates are inert, so they don't promote bacterial growth. You don't have to worry about specialist cleaning materials, either. Warm, soapy water is all you need to keep your laminates in perfect condition.

- **Moisture resistance.** The surfaces of Formica laminates are non porous. A well fabricated door with sealed edges can be used in

washroom and changing room settings, without fear of imminent damage or degradation.

- **Cost-effective production and easy fabrication.** Formica laminates are lightweight and easy to cut to size. To ensure optimised door design and to provide maximum efficiencies in conversion, saving time and reducing material wastage, four different sheet sizes are available: 2,150 x

950 mm, 2,350 x 950 mm, 2,350 x 1,300 mm and a large general 3,050 x 1,300 mm sheet size.

- **Natural product textures.** State-of-the-art textures can be incorporated into the laminate manufacturing process, instantly changing the look and feel of the final product. Linewood, Puregrain and Naturelle are favoured surfaces for wood decors while Matte58 is a timeless classic for colours.

- **Extensive aesthetic choices.** The Formica Doors Collection includes 20 new wood decors. Additionally, a large selection of 120 plain colours are available, including 15 new colours offering the ultimate flexibility in creating an eye-catching feature door. Sheet-to-sheet consistency minimises the risk of non-matching doors across an installation.

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Keconomy wood complements Portuguese landscape

KEBONY, a global leader in the production of sustainable wood, is one of the defining features of the FdP house, remotely located in Alto Alentejo, Portugal and designed by architect Gonalo Bonniz.

With a vanguard design and clean, sleek lines, the house is fully integrated into Alentejo's landscape, complementing the morphology of the land and its surroundings. This was achieved by using materials that blend with the local colours, in a perfect combination of concrete and Keconomy Clear wood.

"One of the main goals was having a house that dominates the landscape, with this project strongly inspired by its location. The morphology of the land, the solar orientation and stunning views all acted as guiding elements to the design. The preserved trees helped to carve the shape of the house and made it more integrated, and the natural colours were essential to the development of this project," explains Gonalo Bonniz. This chromatic integration "was a major factor in causing the natural blending of the house into this rural landscape, marked by the existence of multicoloured slate, grey and brown, concrete with grey pigment and Keconomy Clear wood being used to make this chromatic connection."

Low-maintenance and sustainably-sourced, Keconomy Clear has been applied to the faade, requiring no further surface treatment or maintenance. The wood is defined by a dark brown colour that, over time, will acquire a beautiful silver-grey patina when exposed to the elements, allowing it to blend together with the reinforced concrete used in the building. The colouring plays well with the other materials, which was just one of the reasons for choosing Keconomy for the exteriors of this particular house. Its durability and stability are also noteworthy and especially important in an area of harsh climate, in addition to the controlled ageing and the fact that maintenance operations are unnecessary.

Keconomy Clear wood also has a strong presence in the interiors of the FdP house. In addition to its application on the exterior faade and deck, Keconomy Clear was also chosen for a large part of the furniture in the house, including the kitchen area, as well as for the wardrobes and mobility areas, with doors of more than 3 m tall. These complementary features produce a house of harmony that coexists with its stunning, natural and remote location.

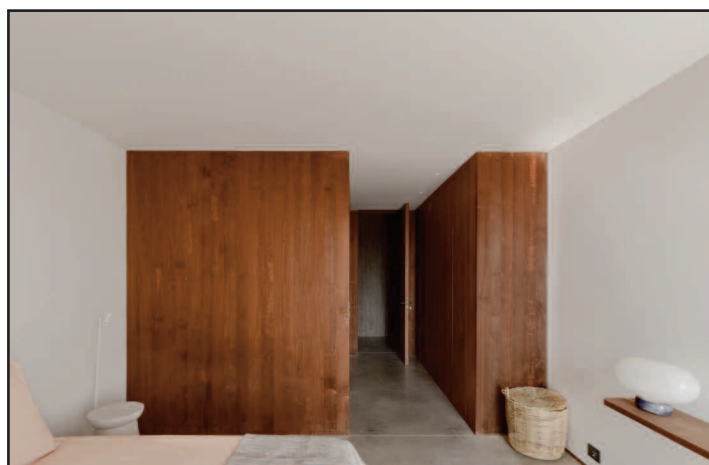
All construction work of Keconomy Clear was carried out by Matriz-Sociedade de Construoes, Lda. In terms of the application of the wood, it is easy to handle and work with, resistant in nature, and soft to the touch, all the while producing a superior quality without adding any additional products.

"This versatile application of Keconomy on faades, decks and furniture reflects the fact that it is a material with high durability and stability, but also that it is aesthetically very appealing, and sustainable. Without a doubt, the FdP house is already a reference for Keconomy's portfolio around the world," comments wood engineer Mrio Neves, Keconomy's representative in Portugal.

Keconomy, which integrates the Clear range, is a sustainable and high-quality wood, which is FSC® certified. It stands out due to its appealing appearance, hardness, stability and resistance, as well as its ease of maintenance, making it a perfect material for projects such as the Alentejo home.

Images: Woodtarget.

Keconomy ● www.keconomy.com



West Fraser's CaberFloor provides a solution for all applications

WHEN CONSIDERING flooring products for new-build or refurbishment projects, the housebuilder and specifier can be sure that West Fraser's CaberFloor range includes a perfect solution. Just as sound foundations are essential for any building, the right flooring system lays a good foundation for a quality flooring finish, saving problems and costs later.

The West Fraser website contains a handy flowchart to help builders, specifiers and architects choose the right flooring system for every project, coupled with handy installation guides and videos for the individual CaberFloor products.

Leading the field in the popularity stakes, CaberFloor P5 is considered the UK's most specified moisture-resistant P5 flooring. The high-strength particleboard is considered ideal for domestic and most other floors and removes the need for intermediate noggins. The boards are moisture-resistant, stable, durable, easy to lay and, with a tongue and groove or square-edge profile, provide an excellent surface for subsequent floor laying operations.

Some floors require more advanced solutions and, no matter the size or shape of the floor being laid, there are key questions to ask. Although not necessarily obvious, the first point to consider is whether the building's roof will be in place. If the answer is no, the floor will need to withstand the elements. This is where CaberShieldPlus proves its worth, as it is designed to allow building work to continue in all weathers.

CaberShieldPlus is an advanced product that has all the inherent benefits of CaberFloor P5. In addition, it offers double-sided protection with a tough, permanent waterproof coating and is BBA approved for 60 days exposure, when laid according to manufacturer's instructions. It is also a non-slip, safe working platform that withstands high site traffic.

An alternative solution is CaberDek which is BBA approved for 42 days exposure, when installed with CaberFix according to the manufacturer's instructions. The P5 grade flooring has the advantage of a strong, waterproof and slip-resistant peelable film. It provides protection from the elements and construction mess and, when removed, leaves a clean, finished floor. The film is impact, puncture and tear-resistant to withstand high site traffic. CaberDek also provides 44 dB sound reduction when used in conjunction with leading I-beam and insulation manufacturers.

All three CaberFloor products comply with BS EN312 and are designed

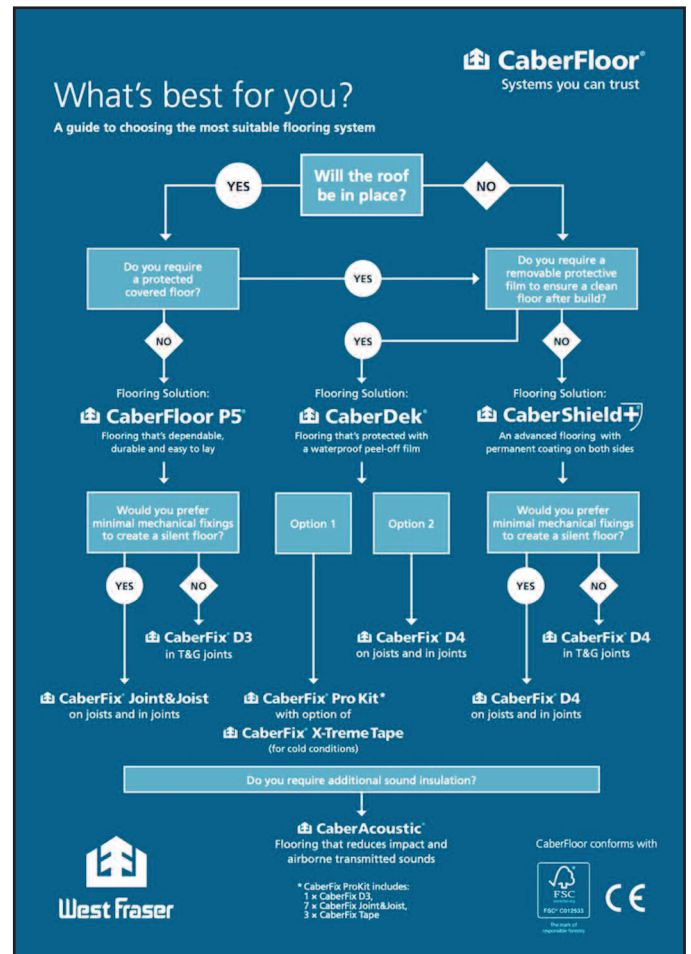


to be used with the CaberFix range of specially developed sealing and fixing products that include powerful adhesives and tapes. For example, CaberFloor P5 is best used with CaberFix Joint&Joist, an adhesive and sealant that will adhere to a wide variety of materials, creating a strong, silent and flexible bond. Similarly, CaberFix D4 complements CaberDek and CaberShield-Plus. This adhesive bonds flooring to joists, T&G joints and seals exposed perimeter and edges.

Beyond the advantages and practicalities of using CaberFloor, the materials and processes used to manufacture the product offer the reassurance of being sustainable. Unsurprisingly, West Fraser's range of board products is available in a wide selection of sizes to minimise waste. All timber used is responsibly sourced and FSC certified. The panels are manufactured in the UK from locally grown timber and are net carbon negative. Additionally, all of West Fraser's UK mills have obtained the coveted ISO 14001 environmental accreditation.

Samples of all West Fraser construction panels can be ordered on the website below. Head to the housebuilder page on the website to download a selection of tools including a fully-interactive guide to all West Fraser products and a checklist to make sure you have everything you need for your build.

West Fraser ● 01786 812921 ● UK.westfraser.com



West Fraser's net carbon negative SterlingOSB Zero — sustainability for all applications

FROM TIMBER-FRAME construction to furniture building, retail interiors to trendy nightspots, West Fraser's (formerly known as Norbord) portfolio of OSB products, all of which are net carbon negative, has the panel for the job!

West Fraser's OSB portfolio comprises SterlingOSB Zero 3, SterlingOSB Zero Tongue and Groove, and SterlingOSB Zero StrongFix. They are variants of the precision-engineered OSB3 board: BBA-approved and designed for humid conditions, the board contains zero added formaldehyde (ZAF) and is considered unique in the market by being the only ZAF OSB manufactured in the UK. Produced in Scotland from forest thinnings taken from sustainably managed forests, the board is certified according to the guidelines of the FSC or PEFC.

The SterlingOSB Zero family from West Fraser uses a methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (poly-



A cycling themed pop up café, Velo Life, has been decked out in sturdy and stylish SterlingOSB Zero.



Ollie Allen outside his SterlingOSB Zero clad workshop.



Bon Tot children's clothing beautifully displayed on SterlingOSB Zero.

urethane MDI) resin to bind the thousands of strands that make up each board. SterlingOSB Zero is even more environmentally-friendly to produce than its predecessors. The pMDI binder cures at a lower temperature than UF/MUF resins so less heat energy is consumed during manufacture. It is also safer to produce since pMDI resin uses water as a catalyst in the curing process.

What are the other environmental benefits to those using West Fraser panels? West Fraser delivers a net carbon benefit in all the products produced in the UK, locking up more CO₂e in the products (and lifetime of use) than is emitted in the manufacture of them. That accounts for everything from forest to customer, including harvesting, production, sales and logistics.

To find out more about West Fraser's carbon negative status visit <https://uk.westfraser.com/carbon-negative>

West Fraser ● Tel 01786 812921 ● <https://uk.westfraser.com/>

The practical benefits that make SterlingOSB Zero a great choice for the UK construction industry

WITH AN ever-increasing checklist of requirements, UK builders have very exacting standards when sourcing the right materials for their project. Choosing panel products that satisfy building standards, have sound environmental credentials and are quick and easy to use when battling all that the Great British weather has to offer, it's no wonder West Fraser's (formerly known as Norbord) SterlingOSB Zero range is one of the most popular in the construction industry.

West Fraser's OSB portfolio comprises of SterlingOSB Zero OSB3, SterlingOSB Zero Tongue and Groove, and SterlingOSB Zero StrongFix. They are variants of the precision-engineered OSB3 board; BBA-approved and designed for humid conditions, the board contains zero added formaldehyde (ZAF) and is believed to be unique in the market by being the only ZAF OSB manufactured in the UK. Produced in Scotland from forest thinnings taken from sustainably managed forests, the board is certified according to the guidelines of the FSC or PEFC.

Among its multiple uses, SterlingOSB Zero is ideal for timber frame construction. The boards are designed to speed up the build process and are available in a wide range of thicknesses and sheet sizes. For structural use in dry or humid



load bearing situations, SterlingOSB Zero OSB3

is the board of choice. When undertaking dry lining, SterlingOSB Zero StrongFix quickly provides secure anchorage areas. Flooring and roofing applications are served by SterlingOSB Zero OSB3 and SterlingOSB Zero Tongue & Groove. Panels are easy to saw, drill, nail or plane. SterlingOSB Zero's smooth surface gives improved adhesion qualities for all flat roofing applications with no sanding required, even for GRP finishes.

In building sites all over the UK (and other rainy, snowy or generally mucky climates), the art of getting buildings wind and watertight quickly is an important one that the builder needs to get right! Choosing a quick, easy to install, reliable and versatile roofing system is, therefore, vital. High quality roof decking or pitched roof sarking is an essential component and Oriented Strand Board (OSB) is now the preferred option for many today. And winning the game with outstanding attributes is West Fraser's SterlingOSB Zero OSB3 or SterlingOSB Zero T&G.

Considered ideal for structural use in load bearing dry or humid conditions, SterlingOSB Zero OSB3 offers great value and durability. Stronger than most softwood ply, thanks to its makeup of multiple layers of real wood strands pressed together, it is designed to withstand the toughest of conditions. Working with the boards is trouble free as they are uniform in quality with no knots, voids or delamination issues. Helping to cut waste, a range of panel sizes and thicknesses is available to suit all needs. The boards are square edged so butt together easily and cleanly. Panels are cut and installed on a roof using conventional roofing equipment and are easy to saw, drill, nail or plane. Nails can be driven as close as 8 mm from the panel edge without causing splitting. SterlingOSB Zero's smooth surface gives improved adhesion qualities for all flat roofing applications and no sanding is required, even for GRP finishes.

With all the advantages of the SterlingOSB Zero range, SterlingOSB Zero T&G is specifically designed for flat roofing and is BBA approved and fully compliant to BS 6229:2003. The panels are consistent and machined to exact tolerances. Reliable fixings are easily achieved across the board using 3 mm diameter ring-shank nails or 50 mm long screws at 100 mm centres across the supporting joists.

The inherent strength of SterlingOSB Zero makes it the natural choice for site hoardings and for boarding up windows and door of vacant properties. Hoardings formed using SterlingOSB Zero may be finished with most popular surface treatments, allowing marketing messages and designs to be displayed to create a smart site perimeter.

Along with its many practical attributes, the SterlingOSB Zero range has strong environmental credentials. All West Fraser panel products in the UK are net carbon negative and manufactured in mills that have obtained the coveted environmental ISO 14001 accreditation.

Responsibly sourced, the panels are FSC certified and created from locally grown timber, cutting embodied carbon from transportation.

SterlingOSB Zero is also believed to be the first OSB product to be made in the UK with zero added formaldehyde, ensuring an even 'greener' board that meets all standards with ease.

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<https://uk.westfraser.com/housebuilders/>



Advantages of Trotec's laserable wood

TROTEC, a market-leading supplier of laser technology and engraving materials, offered huge savings on solid and veneered wood sheets throughout February 2022.

Wood is one of the most diverse creative materials available, used in everything from fridge magnets and model kits to signs and wall displays. Trotec's high quality woods are perfectly suited for laser cutting and engraving so designs can be taken from ideas to reality in a few minutes, with outstanding results.

With Valentine's and Mother's Day just around the corner, this offer gave creative business a cost-efficient way to build profitable product ranges for the first months of the year, or to bolster stock levels for later in the year. Both the solid and veneered ranges feature a selection of wood finishes, with five solid wood and six veneer options, including popular finishes like cherry veneer and solid Alder wood.



Dan Wilkinson, consumables manager, said: "Our wood sheets remain a staple of our materials range, with the high quality finish of each sheet providing customers with the optimal material to create high quality products. This is the perfect time to stock up on these products."

"Our dedicated consumables team is always available to advise businesses large or small on which products are right for their application, so don't hesitate to get in touch."

Trotec ● 0191 580 1182 ● engraving-supplies.co.uk

DESIGN INSPIRATION

West Fraser launches a new Architects' page

FOR THE PAST six years, West Fraser (formerly Norbord) has partnered with RIBA Journal to hold an annual competition that challenges architects to use the industry's most popular OSB brand, SterlingOSB Zero. With a different brief each year, the competition has been hotly contested by some of the industry's most creative architectural practices, all vying to win the top prize of £2,500.

The interest from architects in West Fraser products, and the company's environmental credentials, has led to the development of a specific architect hub on the website. The new page details the competition as well as providing tailored information such as CPDs, downloadable product datasheets and BIM objects. The architect can also order product samples.

As one of the world's leading manufacturers of engineered wood-based panel products, West Fraser's OSB, particleboard and MDF products are used extensively by architects. Crucially, all West Fraser's engineered wood panels have been certified as being net carbon negative which means that they lock up more carbon in the products than is emitted making them, helping the UK construction sector comply with net zero targets. The company is also committed to sourcing all timber from responsibly managed forests, and the European manufacturing facilities manufacture products that are certified to Forest Stewardship Council standards.

Previous competitions include:

2021: Off Grid 2030. The 2021 challenge saw RIBA asking entrants to design a family home of no more than 200 m² GIA that ad-

heres to RIBA's 2030 Climate Challenge principles. The winner was Kevin Sulca's Ventanilla House, as featured in our October/November 2021 issue.

2020: Second Skin. Reimagining existing structures, breathing new life into them by adding or removing layers of their fabric, was the theme of the 2020 competition. Paper Architecture and Bethan Watson's designs for Hilder's Yard, a disused site of a former garage in Sevenoaks, Kent, transformed it into a mixed-use retail scheme for small local businesses and social enterprises in a supportive commercial model.

2019: Raise The Roof. In 2019 the competition was all about making the most of the urban roof, an exciting space that is often overlooked. Architects were challenged to design a rooftop space of up to three storeys on an existing urban building of their choice. The winner was Reed Watts Architects' Rooftop Refuge, a dual use roof extension that operated as a bar in the summer to fund its use as a homeless shelter in the winter.

2018: Room Within A Room. Entrants were invited to create a proposal for a portable, transformable workspace made from SterlingOSB Zero in a room within a house, public building, school or office. The winners, Tom Gregory and Fraser Wallis, created The Playwright's Retreat, an isolated SterlingOSB Zero workspace eyrie set up from the ground, which unfurled back to earth to act as a performative space for the playwright's work.

West Fraser
Tel 01786 812921
<https://uk.westfraser.com/resources/architect-support/>



BAFTA's HQ by Benedetti Architects wins top prize at the 2022 Surface Design Awards



A CANTILEVERED hut in an Italian ski resort, a cancer care facility on the UK's south coast and a fine dining restaurant in Shanghai are among the winners at this year's Surface Design Awards. The results were announced during a breakfast ceremony on the final day of the 2022 Surface Design Show, held at London's Business Design Centre.

The dozen awards, chosen from nearly 200 entries whittled down to just under 50 finalists, celebrate material innovation in both interior and exterior applications and recognise the role those involved in the built environment have to play in tackling climate change.

The BAFTA headquarters in London by Benedetti Architects clinched not only the award for the Public Building Interior category but the scheme was also selected as the Supreme Winner. The judges were captivated by the sensitive reconfiguration of the Grade II Listed project and the expansion of the original space, balancing members' needs with raising income and increasing public access. Classic travertine has been used throughout with warm natural colours harking back to the area's Art Deco heyday, repositioning original Victorian plasterwork and reusing oak flooring.

The use of a revolutionary new Eyrise™ s350 Licrivision liquid crystal rooflight 'smart' insulated glass which removes up to 80% of harmful rays shows the designers' and the clients' desire for future-facing solutions too. Co-chair of the judging panel, Joseph Henry, a senior regeneration officer with the GLA, praised it for "showing retrofits can be incorporated into the demands of the 21st century".

Maggie's Southampton by AL_A won awards in two categories: Light + Surface Exterior and Public Building Exterior. The architects transformed what was a set of nondescript buildings surrounded by car parks into an understated space that lifts the weight from the shoulders of all who work and visit this cancer care centre. Simple brick was re-defined to create texture and colourful walls.

Ceramic stoneware blocks form a holistic loadbearing and insulating construction system while rippled steel on the corners of the building reflect the garden, create a calming, Impressionist-like portrait. Judge Jonathan Hagos, director of Freehaus, praised "the idea of care and how good architecture and design can form a sense of wellbeing".

Reflecting the global appeal of the Awards with entries coming from 24 different countries, the

Commercial Building Interior category was won by the Oberholz Mountain Hut in Italy. A cleverly cantilevering structure, by Peter Pichler Architecture, in collaboration with Arch. Pavol Mikolajcak, contains a restaurant and is located next to a cable station, with a direct connection to the ski slope. It is constructed with wood: structural elements and interior in spruce, the façade in larch and furniture in oak to create a homogeneous timber structure using local materials.

The Housing Interior category was won by the Mountain View project in London, a radical transformation of an Edwardian House using materials as diverse as dining table legs from recycled rubber tyres to kitchen worktops made from milk bottle tops.

Meanwhile, out of the Housing Exterior shortlist, Freeholders in Wells Next the Sea in the UK was selected for the "narrative of the pickled steel, how it responds to its coastal complex, difficult environmental considerations."

Two projects shared the spoils in the Commercial Building Exterior category. Three New Bailey, a gateway building immediately adjacent to Salford Central train station, impressed with Make Architects' use of intricate brick façades. Describing Sangini House by Urbanscape Architects in

Gujarat, India, judge Rosie Haslem, director of Streetsense, singled out its "intriguing pattern and use of planting". The Peacock Cellar restaurant in Shanghai took the top honours in the Light & Surface Interior. Here, August Green combined ancient craftsmanship with contemporary fabrication technologies, parametric script, and 3D printing to create a beautiful melding of past and present.

In the Landscape + Public Realm category, a Special Commendation was given to Climate Innovation District in Leeds by Layer.studio with the winner named as Valley Gardens in Brighton by Untitled Practice, a project described as a "romantic gesture, uniting strategic ambition and managing to deliver it". Les Voutes Filantes, an installation within a 16th century Gothic-style cloister in Cahors, France by Atelier YokYok was the winner from the Temporary Structure shortlist.

New for this year is the Architectural Photography Award. Out of nearly 20 images entered, the judges selected four finalists from both professional and amateur photographers. The winner in this category was Chaos Theory, an image of Gurugram, India by Ekansh Goel.

Surface Design Awards
www surfacedesignshow.com/
surface-design-awards

Rearo Laminates becomes exclusive UK distributor of new kitchen décors



*Worktop
décor:
Carrara
Marbe.*

◀ **BATHROOM and kitchen surface specialists, Rears, will be the sole UK distributors of a collection of new kitchen worktop décors.**

Having secured an exclusive supply deal with leading European designers, the latest review of the company's existing and very popular Sense range consists of five complementary palettes and two additional FENIX® premium laminate worktop options. All of which have matching kitchen splashback panels, worktop upstands and breakfast bar worktops to complement.

Hand selected by Rears's head of design, they can ensure that the chosen décors are future-proofed for a minimum of three years against predicted design trends. And, for added peace, from a qual-



*Above: Worktop décor: Fenix Bianco Kos
Left: Worktop décor: White Yule*



ity perspective all goods are supported by a comprehensive 10-year guarantee.

Fiona Kennedy, head of design, said: "With over 30 years' experience in laminates, we ensure that our products offer the best in quality and appearance. The new collection features authentic stone and wood textures to bring a sense of the outdoors inside, whilst adding a hint of luxury to kitchen areas. Whilst the neutral colours bring elegance to sleek, stylish and modern kitchen designs and pair perfectly with a range of fixtures and fittings."

In addition to the 21 exclusive décors within the Senses collection, there are also two FENIX® premium worktops. FENIX® features soft touch surfaces, premium thermal healing properties that correct superficial micro-scratches, anti-fingerprint technology and a super-matte finish. The worktops have won numerous awards including Germany's Interzum "Best of the Best" award in 2021.

Managing director, Graham Mercer, said: "We are delighted to be adding the new collection to our Senses range, and particularly proud to have exclusive access as the UK's only supplier of these 21 laminate worktops, kitchen splashbacks, kitchen upstands and breakfast bar décors. This adds an extra dimension to our current Senses range, and we believe customers will love the modern and natural décors."

The new décors, and FENIX® worktops, are available from Rears's online store, or to view in the company's showrooms in Glasgow, Rosyth, Washington and Northampton.

Rears
<https://rears.co.uk>

An experts guide towards installing the perfect basement kitchen

BASEMENTS are versatile and offer homeowners the opportunity to be creative and design to inspire. They say that the kitchen is the heart of the home, so what better way to transform a kitchen than to dedicate an entire floor.

Although converting a basement can be an expensive project, it can be cost-effective, according to Wren Kitchens. Wren Kitchens has shared its advice for those wanting to convert a dark, unused space into the kitchen of dreams.

Measure for headroom — basements are known to have lower ceilings, so you must allow for 2.4 m of headroom which complies with regulations.

If floors need to be lowered and underpinned, this can increase costs substantially.

Planning permission — it's worth checking with the local authority as to whether a renovation can go ahead. Small changes such as making a room water-proof may be okay, but customers don't want to invest time and money into something which isn't allowed.



You will also need to consider regulations including ventilation, damp proofing, safe supply of water and electricals. If the plan to change the basement would change the look of the house, then planning permission would need to be sought for this as well.

Adding light to an underground kitchen — natural light is hard to come by when a kitchen is underground. Adding lightwells is a great way to let natural rays into the room from street level, but if this isn't possible, it's smart to plan for extra lighting in key parts of the basement kitchen.

Pendant lighting, and accent strip lighting for underneath the cabinets are smooth and stylish ways to bring cool light into the space. Using colour-changing LED lights can also enhance the levels of light.

Colour schemes are a great way to add light to a basement. Making sure that darker spaces are well-lit for aesthetic and safety purposes is a top priority. Using cabinets and counters with high-shine finishes are a great way to maximise light.

Pale colours such as whites or creams will not only keep a kitchen looking fresh but can make the room look that bit bigger. A mirror is always a great piece to use in darker rooms, as they reflect light which will keep a kitchen shining.

Darren Watts, Wren Kitchen, says: "Whilst home renovations are fun projects, you need to make sure they're properly planned and that no stone goes unturned. Once your main plans have been approved, you can then look forward to styling your kitchen to your needs."

"Emphasising light in any basement room is essential, but more so in a basement kitchen when handling sharp and hot objects. Using LEDs under your cabinets and spotlights on your ceiling will instantly add all the light you'd need and more. Finish your room with silver and copper décor which will reflect the light you already have back into the room, and you'll have the perfect kitchen, ready for any occasion."

Wren Kitchens
www.wrenkitchens.com

Stunning Kebony-clad cruise terminal welcomes visitors to the Port of Tallinn

LOCATED in the hustle and bustle of the biggest port authority in Estonia, the Port of Tallinn has opened what is believed to be the most modern and multi-functional terminal in the region. Beautifully designed to reduce its negative impact on the environment, the sustainable cruise terminal can operate outside of cruise season, making the capital more accessible whilst reducing its environmental footprint. A striking feature of the terminal — designed by Salto Architects — is the remarkable use of Kebony, a global leader in the production of sustainable wood, which was selected for the expansive decking and to clad the building's imaginative exterior.

The vast scale of the project allows for the terminal to be used to host events, such as concerts and conferences, accommodating up to 2,000 people. The generous size also means that, even during the peak cruise season, some level of social distancing will be possible if required due to CoViD-19.

The new facility is also distinguished by an 850-metre-long promenade, designed to connect the port's ten million plus passengers each year to the new leisure areas.

Featuring tiered outdoor seating, visitors can enjoy the scenic ocean views at the highest point of the terminal.

Based in Norway, Kebony is a



global leader in producing sustainable wood materials, which made it a perfect solution for this innovative project. It created an elegant exterior which complements both the structural design and the oceanic surroundings. Kebony wood develops a silver-grey patina believed to be unique over time and will also complement the silver tones of the surrounding sea, whilst requiring little or no maintenance.

Kebony's revolutionary technology is an environmentally friendly process which modifies sustainably sourced softwoods with heat, enabling them to permanently



take on the attributes of tropical hardwood, including high durability, hardness and dimensional stability. This process, believed to be unique, also provides Kebony with its characteristic appearance.

Nina Landbø, international sales manager, added: "We are delighted that Kebony was chosen for the exterior cladding and decking of this flagship cruise terminal in Estonia, and hope it can be used to inspire the development of many more sustainable projects for the cruise-ship industry worldwide."

Following the COP26 climate summit which saw 100 world lead-

ers promise to end and reverse deforestation by 2030. Salto Architects' decision to make extensive use of sustainably-sourced Kebony wood for the cruise terminal reflects the global shift to favour sustainable materials in construction, which will soon become an imperative for architects, homebuilders and real estate developers to rapidly curb the impacts of climate change, including the destruction of trees which depletes forests that absorb vast amounts of CO₂.

Images: © Tõnu Tunnel

Kebony
www.kebony.com

The year of the kitchen: Brandt Design 2022 Trends

BRANDT Design, a leading expert in the design and conception of bespoke kitchens and living spaces for the luxury market, pinpoints the latest in interior design to provide its own trends forecast, so customers can discover the most innovative ways to create their dream kitchen in 2022.

"2022 is definitely set to be 'the year of the kitchen' as the design possibilities extend to all areas of the home with bespoke fitted furniture, rich finishes and special effects answering the demand for creative kitchen living. We are seeing that home-owners are increasingly keen to commission spaces which combine high fashion colours with personalised designs which are in perfect harmony with architectural details for a 'meant to be' feel. Going forwards we anticipate that the most appealing kitchens will be those with a unique dynamic, anchoring and supporting family life in a progressive and elegant way," says Julia Steadman, commercial director at Brandt Design.

Fluid focus: The desire for



multi-faceted and tailored spaces is leading to an increasing appreciation of both open-plan and broken-plan kitchen schemes alongside a willingness to rip up the rule book. Large connected spaces bring the best in con-

temporary kitchen living environments with island seating, separate dining tables, standalone bar areas and a matching family cinema room, if required. This fluidity is enhanced by a new lightness of touch with colours in pale greys

and greens and rich wood veneers. Adding individuality into the kitchen space is coming through loud and clear in 2022. Kitchen specialists set to deliver even more design expertise when sourcing lighting, seating and Wifi





enabled appliances for a complete lifestyle solution which extends far beyond the traditional cook zone.

Beauty with utility: Levelling up the practical areas of the kitchen is a key theme for 2022 as homeowners continue to invest in bespoke boot rooms and utility areas. Laundry management will be enhanced by a new generation of eco-conscious appliances to manage water effectively whilst caring for clothes. The ability to configure the laundry room to include an extra washer or dryer is leading to ever greater personalisation to areas adjacent to the kitchen, allowing for greater flow to the garden, home office or living areas so that space-planning and bespoke fitted furniture are even more important.

Wonder worktops: Increasing the functionality of kitchen living relies strongly on versatile and durable surfaces to protect units as well as providing ample work space for the keen home chef making the worktop the jewel in the crown of the 2022 kitchen. You have the option of mixing and matching a range of beautiful natural and manmade surfaces throughout the kitchen suite, so that if you want a different look and feel for the utility room go for it. Surfaces are now a key compo-

nent of setting the tone in the kitchen, with the ability to elevate a simple island design into a designer statement. Fusing aesthetics with practicality to withstand heavy daily use, the latest generation of quartz worktops are the ideal solution for busy kitchen lovers — offering the timeless appeal of marble with fuss-free cleaning. Classic black, white and grey will be failsafe choices for

clean lines with contemporary appeal.

Sophisticated styling: driven by a desire to upgrade and future-proof the forever home, the 2022 kitchen blends comfort, style and practically with intelligent appliances. As home tech leads to a greater home integration, we are seeing further refinement in kitchen storage to hide and reveal flat screens, tuck away utensils

under the hob or to create designated areas for home bars or coffee stations. Luxe finishing touches continue to be all-important from a visual and tactile point of view with glass splashbacks and gunmetal accessories bringing a modern edge to classic painted kitchens.

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Daval 2022 furniture trends — kitchens, living and bedrooms



DAVAL FURNITURE, an award-winning British designer and manufacturer of quality fitted furniture, predicts a rise in made-to-measure furniture for the kitchen, living space and

bedroom as UK consumers seek interior solutions that optimise space management in 2022.

Simon Bodsworth, managing director at Daval, says:

“Kitchens: Painted kitchens will

embrace the mellow and gentle hues of nature where land meets the sky so look out for shades of grey, cream, green and blue echoing the colours of the British countryside. When it comes to

material, timber will be a go-to solution providing both traditional grounding for modern in-frame kitchens, as well as a tactile and organic contrast to pared back linear schemes with Scandi-style undertones and eco-attributes.

“Two key looks will dominate the kitchen market next year — Refined Country, inspired by the timeless beauty of painted Shaker-inspired furniture and Natural Renewal, in which recycled materials and tactile surface treatments and finishes take precedence.

“It’s safe to say the market is enjoying the ability to create whole-house interior design schemes so that the kitchen living space now includes added-value living areas like a home bar or utility/boot room with ease. Broken plan and open plan will continue to evolve with elegant and versatile made-to-measure, made-to-order furniture serving real needs in custom kitchen design.

“Still the cornerstone of the modern home, optimising how the kitchen space can adapt with lifestyle to create a supportive environment with ample storage





and worktop space to accommodate family life is going to be vital next year.

“Post pandemic life will bring a deeper appreciation of the capabilities of custom-made furniture, alongside the introduction of hygienic surfaces and hardworking kitchen storage like walk-in pantries.

“**Living:** Hybrid home-office lifestyles have brought new options to the meaning of a healthy work/life balance, and this is set to continue next year with flexible interior spaces becoming increasingly important. In fact, we are getting requests to assist customers with personalised garden rooms to work as an outside office or entertaining space. This alone underlines the market’s determination to optimise indoor outdoor living all year around and offer a home office which is separate from the main building for extra privacy and comfort.

“Beautifully designed media rooms, home offices and space for outside entertaining will all see resurgence next year and built-in furniture is an answer to achieving both style and function affordably. There is real benefit to selecting furniture which is designed around the evolving needs of a growing family or changing lifestyle and so carefully curated

personal spaces will become standard fare next year.

“**Bedrooms:** In 2022, the master bedroom is all about quality time with considered space management becoming critical to enhancing wellbeing at home. This will see a rise in tactile surfaces with silky-soft finishes and ergonomic handles topping the charts alongside easy-to-use storage components, which help

create a deluxe space built for comfort and relaxation.

“Added to that, tailor-made dressing tables, walk-in wardrobes and fitted drawer systems will evoke a five-star feel to the home, so regardless of any potential travel restrictions, customers can enjoy a boutique and feel at their leisure.

“I believe the sustainability theme in interior design and grow-

ing responsibility to reduce carbon footprints at home and in business, has already encouraged more people to ‘shop local’ and Buy British. This has led to a greater appreciation for family-run British manufacturers in the creative industries both regionally and nationwide.”

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Classically modern: The White House project by Brandt Design

CREATIVE and inspiring British interior design specialists, Brandt Design, modernise the much-loved classic Shaker-style kitchen in to a fresh and vibrant family living space for a large countryside home in the affluent village of Radlett, Hertfordshire.

Beautifully refined and practical by design, this timeless kitchen is considered an ideal space to cook, dine and entertain the entire family and Julia Steadman, commercial director at Brandt Design, says: "As a design studio specialising in bespoke kitchens and living areas, we have noticed that demand has been growing over the past two years for rooms which maximise the link between homes and gardens. 'Bringing the outside in' has therefore become increasingly important as we are socialising more at home and this has led to a greater appreciation of how being closer to nature can boost our health and wellbeing."

Soothing shades feature upon the company's made-to-measure



in-frame Heritage kitchen furniture, which is finished in a mix of Pavilion Grey, Treron and Down Pipe hand-painted finishes by

Farrow & Ball. Walnut interiors are included throughout, and the hero island unit is shown in a dark grey Down Pipe finish, with state-

ment extractor unit, streamlined TV unit with integrated deep-fill drawers and pocket doors in dark green Treron.





◀ The Pavilion Grey painted kitchen is both functional and spacious, maximising the scenic views of the beautifully manicured gardens, which enhance the traditional in-frame furniture arranged in a generous I-shape for easy navigation. 20 mm Quartz worktops in Frosty Carrena custom made at Brandt Design's dedicated fabrication centre provide a strong easy-to-clean, ultra-hygienic work surface to prepare and cook food and to finish, a vintage antique mirrored splashback gives depth and added perspective.

For added drama, the Brandt Design team introduced a distinct corrugated design technique upon the canopy hood and central island unit. Designed to wrap around existing elements in the room, the vertical lines and ribbed texture of this surface solution, believed to be unique, add new areas of interest and visual texture throughout the space, elevating the look and feel in an intriguing and individual way.

Premium appliances include a heritage-style Chalonais range cooker by LaCanche, seen here in a Graphite finish and brass trim, plus a range of Siemens built-in refrigeration, Miele Active plus fully integrated dishwasher, and Caple under-counter wine cabinet to

further enrich the working triangle. Discreetly concealed by the beautiful dark green Treron finish is a Westin Cache 1100 canopy hood and opposite, Gun Metal grey kitchen sinks and taps finish the look.

This attractive and functional painted Shaker kitchen by Brandt Design features: Brandt Design Heritage Furniture painted in Pavilion Grey, Treron and Down

Pipe by Farrow & Ball; 20 mm Frosty Carrena Quartz Worktops from the Brandt Collection; glass splashback in Antique Grey Mirrored finish; the 1810 Company 600 mm Undermount Kitchen Sink ZENUNO 15 500U in Gunmetal finish; the 1810 Company 800 mm Undermount Kitchen Sink ZENUNO 15 700U in Gunmetal finish; Quooker Flex Pro 3-in-1 Hot Water Tap, Gun Metal

finish; InSinkerator ISE56 Continuous Feed Waste Disposal; LaCanche Chalonais range cooker; Westin Cache 1100 canopy hood; Miele Active Plus Fully Integrated Dishwasher; Siemens iQ500 fully integrated built-in Fridge Freezer; Caple Sense Premium Under-Counter Wine Cabinet, Black.

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Daval Furniture is commissioned for made-to-measure cinema room

DAVAL FURNITURE, an award-winning British designer and manufacturer of quality fitted furniture, caters to contemporary lifestyles and new forms of connectivity in the home with this custom Cinema Room, which was made to order and commissioned by professional interior design studio, Anna Crecraft Interiors.

Simon Bodsworth, managing director at Daval, says: "We are always proud to collaborate prestigious design businesses which are local to us in Yorkshire, so we were delighted to work with Anna to create a made-to-measure, made-to-order solution. Our custom-made, sustainable furniture in Varenna Cuban Oak and Mayfair Bronze is considered perfect for the Main Lounge at Ackworth Park, a premium family home, near Pontefract, West Yorkshire, ensuring that the owners can enjoy the ultimate in luxury and practicality."

The rich architectural style and depth of colour adds a contemporary impact to the minimalist design, with integrated Cuban Oak alcoves and custom storage ensuring a neutral and inviting vibe for movie night.

Cuban Oak gives interiors the look and feel of natural wood.



However, being a laminate solution, it is not restricted by weight or limited by the permeable qualities of genuine timber, so it naturally lends itself to bespoke storage solutions which work with the unique proportions of a customer's home. In addition, the large TV is integrated into the sloping ceiling with Daval Mayfair Bronze furniture — which has a subtle metallic effect elevating the

deluxe look and feel of this relaxing room scheme.

James Bodsworth, design director at Daval, explains: "It's vital to use your imagination to maximise storage and design potential in your home. Don't just look for the one flat, full height wall in a room. Remember that in nature, a straight line does not exist, so design as nature intends. Look for the angles, crevices, corners and

floor space. We manufacture our products specifically to your orders, so that the furniture fits the space, not the other way around. We designed the cabinetry for this cinema room and additional storage on the third floor of this beautiful home, integrating the AV system with access behind the television. Integrated lighting really makes a difference to the aesthetic, helping to set the tone for a cinema room which is welcoming by day or by night."

Simon Bodsworth says, "With huge home-benefits being unearthed in terms of material, design and proficiency, fitted furniture trends in the living room have shaped the way for increasingly spacious, well-lit interiors that place an emphasis on 'stylised functionality'."

Each cabinet by Daval is made from sustainably sourced materials and comes in a range of high-fashion finishes like the featured Cuban Oak and Bronze, which add warmth and sophistication to the living area. Precision engineered in Britain, the Varenna and Mayfair Furniture Collection by Daval is made-to-order and made-to-measure, as standard.

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