

# PANEL, WOOD & *Solid Surface*

*Issue No. 171/172*

*August/September 2022*

## **BA launches two new kitchen brochures**

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# Wythenshawe Amateurs secure Selco's backing



**ONE OF Manchester's largest non-league clubs has cemented its future by receiving the backing of one of the UK's leading builders merchants.**

Wythenshawe Amateurs, which has 60 teams playing at junior and senior level and across men's and women's football, will be backed by Selco Builders Warehouse for the 2022-23 campaign.

The club's home ground will be re-named the Selco Builders Warehouse Community Stadium for the new season.

Selco has 73 branches around the UK including one in Baguley which is directly supporting the Amateurs and will provide materials to support the club's 3G pitch facility used by the junior teams.

Carl Barratt, chairman of

Wythenshawe Amateurs, said: "We are thrilled to have Selco, a major national company with a branch in the immediate vicinity of the club, as a significant partner.

"We are a club looking to build for the future and with ambitious plans to continue to grow and the support of a company such as Selco plays a massive part in helping us achieve those aims. It's a real boost for everyone involved in the club as we prepare for a hectic new season."

The Amateurs men's first team currently ply their trade in the North West Counties Division One South while the women's team is preparing for a new campaign in the North West Women's Premier League.

Dave Rawlinson, manager of Selco Baguley, said: "We are de-

lighted to be supporting Wythenshawe Amateurs which is such a huge part of the local community.

"Having 60 teams is incredible and many of our colleagues and customers have a connection with the club so it's a perfect fit for us."

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 73 UK branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

**Selco** ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)

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# Abode Family Fun Day celebrates 20-year business anniversary

**ABODE, award-winning designer and distributor of market leading kitchen taps, sinks, bathroom taps and showering solutions, marked its 20-year business anniversary with a special 'Family Fun Day' for colleagues, friends and family of the brand.**

The celebration took place on Saturday 16th July, in its hometown of Barnsley, South Yorkshire. Guests were greeted with welcome drinks, where the grown-ups could enjoy a live saxophonist as well as seek shade in the private marquee with bar. Little ones could hang out in the ball-pit or watch some magic tricks, and everyone got to feast on the hot BBQ, retro sweets cart and celebratory birthday cake!

Founded in 2002, Abode first launched the brand with a range of premium kitchen taps followed by its pioneering Aquifer filtered water taps in 2004, and then patented Swich filter water device in 2007. Abode has since launched a special wood edition crafted entirely from Beechwood timber, which marks 15 years of Swich while supporting the rule of three to 'reduce, reuse and recycle'.

In 2008, the company expanded into bathroom brassware and showers, followed by kitchen sinks in 2010, before debuting its award-winning Proneau collection of 4 IN 1 steaming hot water taps in 2016. Since launch, Abode has always been ahead of the curve thanks to its commitment to design innovation, sustainability and wellness, all supported by a strong team of in-house product experts that bring high quality service levels to new and existing customers.

Matthew Pitt, managing director at Abode, says: "We have been on an incredible journey since the company began in 2002, and I am so grateful for the sterling work of our entire Abode Family. We are only as good as the people we work with and having an informal networking event to celebrate such a momentous occasion helps us to build stronger connections for an even greater future. Everyone plays a vital role in the company, and I want to acknowledge their hard work and keen ability to maintain our standing as a market leader in quality product design, together."



Leanne Adamson, marketing manager at Abode, says, "We are thrilled we could come together and celebrate our commitment, vision and hard work over the last two decades with each other. As a close-knit business, we wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to the team for their loyalty and outstanding efforts as we continue to grow and develop the brand. It was wonderful for us all to share in some fun outside of work, with family activities, food and entertainment scheduled throughout the day. We also hosted a fundraising raffle, where we raised an impressive £500 for the children's ward at Barnsley Hospital; a local healthcare facility very close to our hearts."

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# BSW sees award success after being named Jewson's Supplier of the Year

**BSW Timber has landed several industry awards as what is believed to be the largest sawmiller in the UK goes from strength to strength.**

After scooping two awards at the Jewson 2021 Supplier Conference & Dinner in Birmingham, BSW Timber followed up with another trophy at the Wood Protection Association (WPA) 2022 Awards and Conference.

At Jewson's belated awards — cancelled in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic — BSW Timber scooped gongs for 'Best Overall Supplier of the Year' and 'Best Sales Support of the Year'.

The awards were presented in front of 300 supplier partners and Jewson employees at the Hilton Metropole in Birmingham, and Neil Horton, sales director for national accounts, said the two wins encapsulated the hard work carried out by the BSW Timber team over the past two years.

He said: "We are honoured to receive these awards which we feel reflect the efforts of the entire BSW sales and operations teams as we've strived to support Jewson in their sales growth strategy.

"We worked collaboratively with the category team to react to the unprecedented demand throughout the pandemic to ensure branches received the support they needed."

Nadine Matthews, managing director at Jewson, heaped similar praise on supplier partners, who all supported the merchandising business and 'did so much to help our customers get the materials they needed to keep construction moving in 2021 — a truly unprecedented year'.

On BSW specifically, Nadine said: "We were delighted to have awarded BSW Timber our Supplier of the Year for 2021 in our recent Supplier Awards. They went above and beyond to help our colleagues and customers. They provided excellent communication, with regular updates on product availability, and developed great relationships across our branch network to help keep product moving, including for increasing deliveries on Saturdays to help meet demand. Above all, BSW offered a customer-first attitude to find the right solutions for our customers. Thank you and congratulations!"

Industry-leading customer interactions landed BSW Timber the 'Best Sales Support Award', with Jewson highlighting "regular clear communication on stock shortages" during the material crisis, which allowed Jewson to advise customers of any delays. BSW was also recognised for "training support to employees" and "excellent working relationships with housebuilder hubs and teams".

At the WPA Awards, held at the Windmill Hotel, Coventry, BSW Group Marketing Manager James Brennan collected the Trader of the Year Award on behalf of BSW Timber. The recognition was a just reward for BSW's "outstanding customer service, marketing initiatives and good trading practice".

"The WPA Trader award marks out companies who are specialists in wood preservation and the production of treated wood products," said WPA director, Gordon Ewbank. He added: "In this case, BSW's Big Book marketing programme, which includes essential and clear information on how to specify and use treated wood, pushes the customer service bar still higher in our sector. Well done to all concerned."

It is the third year running that BSW Timber has collected a WPA award, having claimed the Treated Wood Campaign Award last year, and the Innovation Award for IRO Timber in 2020.

**BSW Group ● [www.bsw.co.uk](http://www.bsw.co.uk)**



*From left, category director Lisa Young from Jewson, James Brennan, group marketing manager; Karl Grimble, area sales manager; Darren Pack, head of sales – national merchants, and comedian Kerri Godliman.*



*John Abbott from Arxada presents the Trader of the Year award to James Brennan, group marketing manager at BSW Group.*



# Daltons Wadkin confirms another year of growth

**DALTONS WADKIN, believed to be the UK's longest established distributor and manufacturer of industrial woodworking machinery, has achieved a second successive year of growth post the Covid-19 pandemic after revealing an additional 60% turnover.**

Recognised as one of Nottingham's oldest businesses, Daltons Wadkin's ongoing growth has been largely fuelled by the ongoing demand for home and garden-related products, like garden furniture, fencing and sheds.

As a result, the company continues to receive significant interest in its new and used machine lines, solid wood processing equipment, like Stenner Band Resaws and Salvador Crosscut Saws, as well as woodwork machinery.

The company has also reported that it is likely to grown once again come the end of 2022, although Alex Dalton is expecting to see the industry's 'bubble' burst at some point during the second half of the calendar year — something he says the company is fully prepared for.

He said: "Despite the fact that we were locked down for a long period of time, 2020 finished up as one of our highest turnover years. So far, it has remained the same. In the first two quarters of 2022, we have matched 2021's output and are on course for a similar turnover figure.

"Inevitably, though, with any bubble, it is going to burst. We're expecting that. However, over the past 12 months, there have been some significant additions to our product portfolio that I believe will see our turnover continue to grow as we gain market share and expand into new industries.

"We have secured a distributor partnership with the world's largest manufacturer of woodworking equipment, SCM, bolstering our classical machine offering. Furthermore, we are now offering Kimla Fiber Lasers featuring the most advanced sheet metal processing technology available."

As a result, the business will be continuing to grow its headcount and expand its showroom with the first Kimla Fiber Laser arriving in late June.

Alex Dalton continued: "Our big target is to continue our emphasis on customer satisfaction and machine support. We have invested in a software system that is built to handle our unique range of products and services and provides maximum transparency. There will be new staff acquisitions as well as we continue to grow the team as we continue to try and take a larger slice of the market that we're in at the moment and grow in the new market we're entering with fibre laser."

**Daltons Wadkin ● [www.daltonswadkin.com](http://www.daltonswadkin.com)**



*Alex Dalton, managing director of Daltons Wadkin, and Chris Jackson, SCM sales manager for the UK and Ireland.*

# UK good causes set for community boost

**COMMUNITY groups and charities across the UK are being given the chance to build a brighter future thanks to a nationwide initiative.**

Leading UK builders merchant Selco Builders Warehouse has launched its Selco Community Heroes competition for the third time.

More than £12,000 in cash and building materials will be up for grabs in the six-month campaign.

The scheme is open to any charity or group which is at the heart of its local community and entry can be made by explaining in no more than 100 words how they will use the building materials or money to benefit them.

Entries can be made at <https://www.selcobw.com/info/selco-community-heroes>

Carine Jessamine, Selco marketing director, said: "We have always been committed to supporting the local communities in which our branches are based and that is the case more than ever now.

"With firstly coronavirus and now the cost of living crisis, this has been an extremely difficult time for charities and community groups and yet they continue to make such a huge impact.

"So many organisations which do sterling work in their community struggle to make building projects or renovations happen due to a lack of funding, so the chance to win materials will offer a huge helping hand. On top of that, there is a £5,000 jackpot at the end of the scheme which is often

enough money to keep some charities or community groups going for a number of years. Whether you are associated with a hard-working local charity, a scout group, a grassroots sports team or a community centre, this is an initiative which offers a great opportunity."

The first two overall winners of the competition, previously called Selco Stars, have been Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice and Helping Homeless Veterans.

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**Selco ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)**



# SCM Group turns seventy: a story of courage, brilliance and passion

2022 marks the 70th anniversary of the SCM Group, a global leader in machining technologies for an extensive range of materials and industrial components. The Group stems from SCM's vision that in 1952, saw the first woodworking machine produced in Rimini, establishing from that moment onwards, a precise mission: to offer the widest range of woodworking solutions at international level.

Over time, the Group has developed technologies and taken over leading brands not only to complete all the processes involved in secondary woodworking but also in advanced materials, plastic, glass, metal and marble.

A long success story that has resulted in today's figures: €750 M turnover in 2021 (90% exported abroad), over 4,000 employees and a direct and capillary presence around the globe. It has been led from the outset by the Aureli and Gemmani families.

## SCM's origins

The Group's history dates back to 1935, when Nicola Gemmani and Lanfranco Aureli, experts in mechanics and foundry work, started



*Giuseppe Gemmani and Lanfranco Aureli.*

working together. In 1952, the first woodworking machine was created, *L'Invincibile*, designed by the engineer, Giuseppe Gemmani, Nicola's son. This machine, which in the eyes of the founders had to be special, much simpler and more practical than those already on the market, managed to meet the needs of a market in the throes of a building boom and capable of every kind of furniture.

SCM quickly created a complete range of woodworking machines that paved the way to conquering all the global markets.

In the 1960s, Adriano and Alfredo Aureli, Lanfranco's children, joined the founders. Together with Giuseppe Gemmani they led and expanded the company even further with the opening of directly controlled branches across the globe.

In 1976, SCM developed the first machining centres and systems for solid wood windows and doors. In the mid-80s, they started acquiring well-known brands in different woodworking environments, that would consolidate the company's global leadership: Mahros for automation systems (1984), Minimax for woodworking (1985) and at the end of the '80s, Gabbiani, DMC and Morbidelli, leaders respectively in sizing, sanding and CNC panel machining centres. In 1992, the Routech brand, that marked the entry of SCM into the timber construction industry, and Stefani, an international pillar in edgbanding, were absorbed into the Group. In the years that followed, thanks to the development of other leading technologies and other acquisitions (Superfici in 2004, CPC and Sergiani in 2006, Celaschi in 2007), the Group further expanded its range to cover all the production requirements in the industry.

## SCM's strategies: customer oriented

SCM proudly celebrates this prestigious 70-year goal of accompanying the customer through each of the processes linked to the world of panels, solid wood, timber construction and woodworking. Luigi De Vito, SCM division director and group general manager, has no doubts about the main objectives: "We aim to be even closer to our customers with highly person-



*SCM's Board of Directors. From left to right: Martino Gemmani, Enrico Aureli, Marco Mancini, Valentina Aureli, Giovanni Gemmani, Andrea Aureli and Luca Franceschini.*



alised solutions, tailored to suit their specific requirements."

SCM is taking a further step in that direction to guarantee even more direct contact, from consulting and sales to after sales. Mr De Vito continues: "To us, this means offering continuous and more valid support to our customers; fully understanding and anticipating what they really need, as well as providing even more pro-active recommendations."

In order to achieve this, SCM is investing in the skills of its global team, on the technical, sales and after sales side, and the Group's training Campus centre is playing a key role in this. Simultaneously, the Group is upping its digital transformation process on two levels: internally, renewing organisational and international models with the customer throughout the customer's journey, and at a level of the product and services offered "to be even closer to their business needs and jointly study the best strategy for smart manufacturing." For SCM, all this translates into digital and connected technologies designed for more efficient, sustainable factories; IoT systems that allow the customer to preserve and enhance their technologies throughout the entire life cycle; tools, such as the new My SCM portal, enabling a vast range of services to view, gather and analyse all the information on production performance in real time; a Service team that can deal more simply and effectively with cases, providing faster answers and "how to" solutions to guide customers in a knowledge sharing logic.



The research and development investments are another pillar: "Not only do we set aside 7% of the Group's annual turnover for R&D," continues Mr De Vito, "but we can also rely on an Innovation team with multi-disciplinary skills that allow us to have an open, forward thinking approach that goes beyond the specific applications of our sectors, once again to the full advantage of the customer."

The investment plan places sustainability in first place both for internal processes as well as products and services, "to offer the customer solutions that reduce the space occupied in the factory, machining times and margins of error, and keep down costs linked to energy consumption and waste of resources and material".

In seventy years, SCM has managed to establish an increasingly more direct and capillary presence internationally. How do you keep a global team united? Once again, Mr De Vito is in no doubt: "With a very strong team spirit: the same one that allows us to continue along our growth path with a convergence of objectives that is not automatic, even in the most difficult times as has been the case in recent years during the pandemic. The centrality of the customer and a human as well as smart approach, are the values that guide us in our daily work in the industrial plants in Italy and the branches abroad. As well as this, we would like to continue to be open to collaboration and partnerships in every field (research,

information, technology, training, sales support, technical support, etc) keeping customer value as our key goal."

Despite current uncertainties linked to the rising costs of raw materials and energy, SCM continues to invest even in its plants in Italy. "We are increasing the production capacity of our industrial sites that currently record an average production of 20,000 machines per year. As well as expanding surface areas, we are carrying out modernisation work — like the work currently ongoing in Rimini — to achieve more eco-sustainable spaces congenial with our human resources. Another important driver is the digitalisation of our production lines, that sees the spread of lean processes and FCS (Factory Control System) control systems in the various plants, in line with Industry 4.0 requirements. The aim is to improve industrial organisation by enhancing integration of the factory with the IT systems."

Last but not least, investments in foreign sales branches as was the case with the renovated SCM North America branch in British Columbia (West Coast), in Canada and the opening of new branches in India and Turkey, to guarantee a more direct and capillary presence on strategic markets. Stability, internationalisation, innovation and people: the values that have always been a part of SCM group, as much today as in the past.

**SCM Group**  
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# Digital Innovation Grant helps family-run joinery business nail growth ambitions

**A FAMILY-RUN joinery business, which carved out a niche restoring and conserving some of Sheffield's best known historical buildings, has boosted its production capacity by over 50% after securing grant funding from the South Yorkshire Digital Innovation Grant scheme.**

Father and son Robert and Lee Crookes founded their traditional joinery business Crookes and Son in 2010, and since that time the Hillsborough-based business has successfully breathed new life into a wide range of historical buildings ranging from pubs, libraries and even listed buildings and stately homes.

Built on the skills master carpenter Robert refined during his 50-year career, which began in the early 1970s, the business continues to use many of the traditional skills that can take more than a decade to learn.

Although much of their work has concentrated upon producing the handmade windows and doors used in historical buildings, in recent years, the company recognised that changes in the way wood is treated can mean that the wooden frames it manufactures can provide an eco-friendly alternative to uPVC double glazing.

Having spotted a niche in the market, and with rising demand for the company's wooden framed double-glazed windows, which can last for more than 60 years, Lee and Robert recognised that they needed to embrace new forms of technology in order to fulfil their growing order book.

Working with Business Sheffield, Lee and Robert successfully secured grant funding, enabling the company to invest in a programmable CNC tenon machine, to create the traditional mortice and tenon joints used in their work. With funds secured to purchase the machine, the company then successfully secured a Digital Innovation Grant, which was used to purchase the software needed to automate the production process.

The investment has successfully helped Lee and Robert to increase production by more than 40%, allowing them to fulfil their growing

order book. At the same time, the new machinery has also helped the company to reduce waste, as well as eliminating the need to hand finish the joints.

Such has been the success of the new machinery that the company is planning to make further investments in additional machines, as well as recruiting new apprentices to pass on the skills that have been handed down father to son.

Lee Crookes, director, Crookes & Son Traditional Joinery, said: "When we first launched the business, we largely relied upon many of the traditional carpentry skills, which can take many years to develop and refine. Like many businesses, we've adapted and evolved, but all the equipment we use has been funded by ourselves.

"Specialist equipment can be a significant business investment, and as a small family-run business, we knew that although purchasing the mortice and tenon machine would help us to increase our levels of production, to make the most of the machine we would also need to invest in the

CNC software, which would automate many of the processes we previously did by hand. We spoke to Business Sheffield, who told us about the Digital Innovation Grant scheme, and with funds in place it transformed our business almost overnight.

"The funding we've received from the Digital Innovation Grant has meant we've been able to help more homeowners to benefit from long-lasting timber-framed double glazed windows, which can last in excess of 60 years due to the way in which the wood is treated, and we're also planning to recruit new apprentices to teach them the traditional skills our business has been built on. They've also been quick to embrace the new technology we've invested in, and it's given us the confidence to invest in additional equipment in the future."

Andy Sorby, business advisor, Business Sheffield, said: "The Digital Innovation Grant is a unique grant scheme that helps small and medium sized businesses to secure match-funding to invest in technology.

"I've worked with Crookes & Son for some time now; they recognised that the software needed to drive their new mortice and tenon machine would be transformative for their business. The support they've received has not only helped the company to significantly increase productivity but also create opportunities for the next generation."

The Digital Innovation Grant scheme was launched in July 2021 and helps SME businesses across South Yorkshire to access match-funded grants to help them embrace new ways of working to improve productivity and growth and enter new markets.

The programme funds up to 50% of projects with costs totalling £2,000-£10,000. It is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund and is delivered across South Yorkshire by Enterprising Barnsley, part of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council.

**Digital Innovation Grant Scheme**

[www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding](http://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding)





## New appointments at flourishing timber company

**UK TIMBER importer Premier Forest Products is celebrating the end of a successful financial year with several key appointments and promotions.**

Premier's like-for-like turnover has grown by 35 per cent to £120 million in the last 12 months and the strategic new appointments will be integral for helping the company to keep pace with its continued success and rapid expansion.

Terry Edgell, co-founder and CEO, said: "We are in a good position and preparing for growth despite challenging market conditions. The new appointments will enable us to become more focused in some areas of our expertise, enabling us to better support our customers and tailor our services to their specific needs."

Bill Thomas has been appointed to the new role of Regional Commercial Development Manager. Bill joins Premier with a proven track record of transforming the timber businesses he has managed and will be central to Premier's ambitious growth plans.

Bill said, "My goal is to enable

Premier to explore new and exciting opportunities across South Wales and the South West. I've been really impressed with Premier's growth and reputation within the sector and I'm looking forward to playing a part in helping them achieve further expansion."

Industry hardwood expert, Steve Rogers (pictured), has been appointed UK product manager — hardwoods and speciality softwoods. Based at Premier's head of-

office in Newport, Steve's role will be to lead a new team focussing on the development and further growth of the company's hardwood market across all Premier's brands.

Steve said: "In this role I will harness and focus our expertise to enable Premier to work closely with customers to understand their needs and deliver tailored solutions.

"The new hardwood team will mirror the successful implementation of a home-grown and im-

ported softwood business in the UK by another Premier team, which has demonstrated significant growth over the last year."

In West Wales, Brett Gale has been promoted to the position of branch manager for premier's Merlwood Timber in Haverfordwest. Brett, who has been with the company for 22 years, brings a wealth of product knowledge to the role, with ambitious plans for the expansion and redevelopment of the Merlwood site and scope of service for customers.

Terry said, "Bill, Steve and Brett all bring something different and exciting to the Premier team. This is a crucial growth period for the business and their experience and dynamism will help us develop new and innovative timber solutions for our customers.

"Hopefully these are just the first over many new appointments over the coming months as we continue the company's existing trajectory of growth both organically and through acquisition."

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



## Cross hit bullseye with Selco in Rochester

**DARTS fans have had a unique chance to go head-to-head with former World Champion Rob Cross at a Rochester builders merchant.**

Mr Cross played members of the public in special nine-dart challenges at the Rochester branch of Selco Builders Warehouse on Tuesday July 5.

Spot prizes were up for grabs — including tickets to the 2022 PDC

World Darts Championship at Alexandra Palace — and entry was free.

Mr Cross's glittering CV includes success at the World Championship, the World Matchplay and the European Championship.

Speaking before the event, Carine Jessamine, marketing director of Selco Builders Warehouse, said: "Rob is a huge name in the world of darts

and we are delighted to be hosting him in our Rochester branch, which has proved extremely popular with tradespeople since it opened. Rob shot to fame by winning the World Championship on his debut in 2018 and has followed that up with regular titles and appearances in the latter stages of the biggest competitions. This will be a fantastic chance for people to take on one of the most recognisable names in the sport."

Selco's Rochester branch on Medway City Estate, Anthony's Way, opened at the end of 2021.

Selco has been a proud partner of the Professional Darts Corporation since 2019.

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 73 UK branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

**Selco** ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)



# Makita adds more 40VMax XGT woodworking tools to its range

**MAKITA has launched a new 40VMax XGT brushless pin nailer (PT001G) and added a new kit option for its recently introduced 40VMax XGT 82 mm planer (KP001GD201).**

The new 40VMax XGT brushless pin nailer (PT001G) has been specially designed for interior nailing operations where a high quality finish is required, such as the installation of decorative mouldings. The low recoil mechanism enables effective nailing without pushing the tip of the pin nailer so firmly onto the material. The PT001G is compatible with 23Ga pin nails in 15, 18, 25, 30 and 35 mm lengths, has a simple driving depth adjustment and a magazine capacity of 100.

The PT001G features an ergonomically designed grip and improved nose tip for better visibility. For enhanced safety, the pin nailer has a trigger lock and anti-dry-fire mechanism.

It is IP56 dust and shower proof rated and features an LED job light with pre- and after-glow functions. The energy efficient brushless motor and redesigned driving spring shortens the time required to compress and release the spring, providing significantly quicker firing for improved productivity.

Makita had also launched a new option for the 40VMax XGT 82 mm brushless planer (KP001G). The KP001GD201 features the same powerful XGT planer but is supplied as a kit in a MAKPAC case with two 2.5 Ah 40VMax XGT batteries and a DC40RA fast charger.

The KP001G is considered ideal for smooth, rough and thin planing and has a planing width of 82 mm and cutting depth of 4 mm. Its brushless motor delivers a no-load speed of 15,000 rpm for efficiency and rapid cutting.

To ensure user safety the KP001G has an electric break and an anti-restart function to prevent accidental start up. It also includes Makita's Auto-start Wireless System (AWS), which allows the KP001G to be wirelessly connected to a compatible dust extractor via Bluetooth, enabling the dust extractor to automatically start when the tool's trigger is engaged.

Makita has also launched new 5.0 Ah XGT power source kits, ideal for users of XGT tool who want to invest in additional batteries. There are four kits available with either two or four 5.0 Ah batteries and a 110 V or 240 V DC40RB twin port fast charger. The kit is also supplied in a Makita MAKPAC case for easy storage and transportation.

Kevin Brannigan, marketing manager at Makita, said: "The new XGT pin nailer is an excellent addition to any professional's kit for when a high quality finish is required. We have designed it around the needs of tradespeople to make their work as simple as possible.

"The new kit option for the KP001G is valuable for anyone who has not yet invested in the high performance XGT platform. The KP001GD201 kit provides them with everything they need in an easy to handle and store case."

**Makita**

[www.makita.com/products/xgt-machines](http://www.makita.com/products/xgt-machines)





# National timber group expanding

**ONE OF THE UK'S leading timber groups has made a key new appointment in Cornwall as it continues to develop its regional presence.**

Premier Forest Products has appointed Nick Massey, pictured right, as Duchy Timber's newest sales executive to support the expanding business and ensure that customer service remains at the core of its ongoing strategy.

Nick's wealth of experience will help the Cornwall business continue to develop its bespoke product offering as well as supporting new business opportunities. Nick has worked in the timber industry for 34 years, previously working for Sydenhams Ltd and Whitmore's Timber.

In his new role, Nick will focus on promoting Duchy's range of timber and panel products across Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset, ensuring a first-rate customer experience.

Nick said: "I've worked in the timber industry for a long time and have always kept an eye on Duchy and Premier Forest who have outstanding reputations. I've actually worked with Duchy in the past, so it feels great to join a company which is growing quickly while simultaneously focusing on their sustainability."

"I'm looking forward to building on the existing customer base, as well as helping attract new clients, providing them with a top-quality service."

Joe Walker, managing director at Premier Forest Products, said: "I am delighted to welcome Nick to the Duchy team. He brings with him a wealth of experience and local knowledge and will be a great addition."

"At a time when many businesses are struggling to maintain their teams, we are proud to be able to continue expanding at a solid rate, indicative of our strength and ambition."

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

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



# Grassroots club can secure world cup dream ticket

**GRASSROOTS rugby league clubs have been given the chance to win a money-can't-buy package to celebrate the Rugby League World Cup 2021 taking place this autumn, 15 October to 19 November 2022.**

Tournament partner Selco Builders Warehouse, one of the UK's leading builders merchants, has launched an exciting competition open to all amateur clubs in England and Wales.

Amongst the prizes are the chance for a team at the winning club to receive a training session from players from a competing nation and six tickets to a match at the tournament. The closing date was August 31.

Carine Jessamine, marketing director of Selco Builders Warehouse, said: "We are thrilled to be a partner of the Rugby League World Cup 2021, one of the most prestigious events of the sporting year. It's been a long wait due to the coronavirus-enforced delays but the anticipation for all rugby league fans, and followers of sport in general, will really start to build over the coming weeks."

"The tournament will be a celebration of rugby league and will have a major positive impact right throughout the sport."

"At Selco, we are committed to supporting the communities in which we operate so we are delighted to have put together a fantastic package for grassroots

rugby league clubs to apply for. The winning club will enjoy a real buzz and see benefits before, during and after the tournament."

Other elements of the prize include £2,000 worth of building materials from Selco for the winning club to use on a project to improve its facilities, a signed shirt from a member of the England World Cup squad and new playing strips for one team.

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 73 UK branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and efficiently as possible.

**Selco** ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)





# Birmingham community centre given materials boost

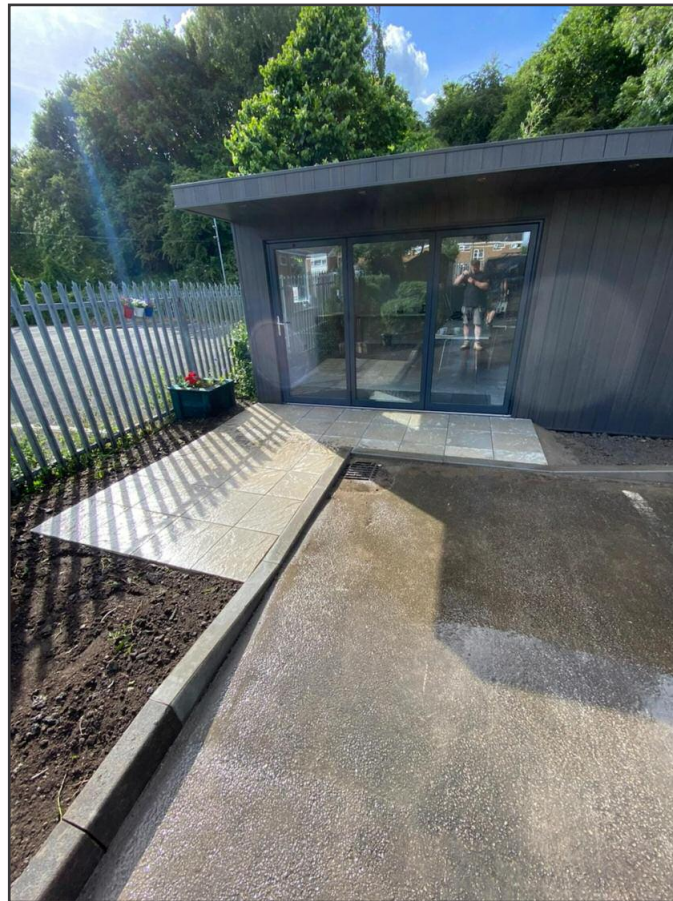
**A SMALL community centre in Birmingham has been able to expand the services it offers — thanks to the generosity of a local builders merchant.**

The Brandwood Community Centre received a donation of building materials from Selco Builders Warehouse's Solihull branch on Ashbourne Way to help develop its outdoor meeting room.

The award-winning centre on Allens Croft Road provides a wide range of activities and services for the people in the area. As part of its service, the centre delivers training to the long-term unemployed and single parents, as well as offering advice on benefits and debt management.

The charity's outdoor room can cater for up to 15 people and is ideal for small meetings — but the surroundings were not safe and inaccessible for those in wheelchairs. Selco stepped in by donating slabs, concrete and sand.

Pat Watson, the centre manager, said: "We've been blown away by



Selco's support. We had already spent a lot of money on the outdoor meeting room to expand our overall capacity, but the surroundings were just not safe. This donation from Selco has allowed us to transform the area.

"They were brilliant and even delivered the materials right to our door. It's really difficult for charities to get support and materials, especially at the moment, so we're really grateful to Selco for getting involved with a vital community facility."

The new outdoor space can also be used for private bookings, boosting the centre's funds.

Dan Henebury, deputy branch manager at Selco Solihull, said: "We were delighted to support The Brandwood Community Centre and the tremendous work it does in the local area. They've done a great job and the outside area now looks fantastic. I'm sure many people will enjoy making use of this new facility."

"Part of Selco's philosophy is to be embedded in the communities in which we serve and this is another example of that."

**Selco** ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)



# Selco backing *The Posh* for new season

**LEADING builders merchant, Selco Builders Warehouse, has partnered with Peterborough United for the 2022-2023 Sky Bet League One campaign.**

The deal includes sponsorship of a soon to be launched Goal of the Month competition, which will include goals from the first team, under 21s, under 18s and women's side, as well as featured messaging on goal announcements at the Weston Homes Stadium. Selco is preparing to open a new branch in Peterborough early in 2023.

Carine Jessamine, marketing director at Selco, said: "We're delighted to be an official club partner of Peterborough United for the new season. The Posh are a great club with a strong fanbase.

"We'll be right behind them as they look for an immediate return to the Championship.

"We're looking forward to opening our new Peterborough branch and it's great to already be playing a key role in the local community."

Alex Harris at Peterborough United said: "It is a pleasure to welcome Selco to the Peterborough United family.

"We are looking forward to working with them and I am sure the Peterborough public are excited about the new branch opening later this year."

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco's 73 UK 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 and a new app to make life as convenient as possible for tradespeople.

**Selco ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)**



# New camera recognition system takes the fastest laser engravers to the next level

**TROTEC Laser has upgraded its flagship laser engraver and cutting machines with a new lid camera designed to save even more time during laser engraving and cutting.**

The Speedy 360 laser engraving machine is the latest in Trotec's flagship Speedy series of engravers to get the new Vision Design & Position camera system. The 12 megapixel patent-pending camera speeds up workflow by delivering a full-colour live image of the laser work area to the Ruby® software on the operating PC.

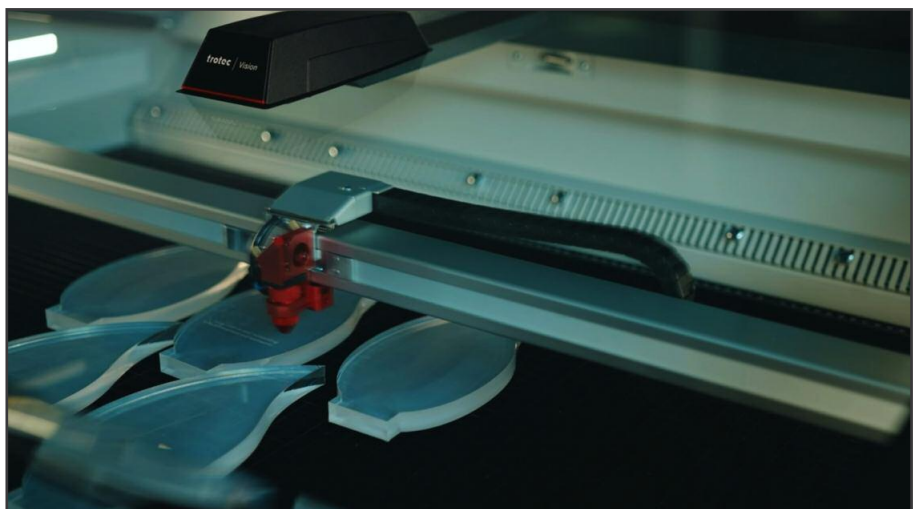
A full colour and detailed image of the laser bed and workpiece is displayed within Trotec's proprietary Ruby® software, allowing the laser operator to position the artwork file exactly where they'd like it to be cut or engraved, and to see a visual representation of how it will look before the job is started. This new feature negates the need for manual positioning of the laser pointer and saving graphic position data to the software, making laser job setup faster and easier than ever before.

The Vision Design & Position camera is the latest feature to be added to the Ruby® software which incorporates all design and preparation stages of the laser engraving and cutting process to drastically reduce the time and cost of the workflow. The software is under continuous development by Trotec with more time saving features being planned for future releases.

Trotec's Speedy 360 Run on Ruby® laser system boasts a touch screen operation, thanks to Ruby®, making it possible to operate the laser in the network via Ethernet or WiFi without an extra PC.

All Trotec Speedy laser engravers are available with a range of accessories in addition to CO<sub>2</sub>, fibre and flexx laser source options and are fully supported by a UK based technical service team.

**Trotec ● Tel 0191 580 1182 ● [www.troteclaser.com](http://www.troteclaser.com)**





# *TDUK moves to set skills agenda for timber design and construction*



**TIMBER DEVELOPMENT UK (TDUK) has signed a strategic partnership with Edinburgh Napier University and the New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering (NMITE) to improve knowledge and skills in timber design and construction.**

The partnership will see Edinburgh Napier University — a leading technical research institute for timber engineering and design — produce a written library of technical documents which will be made free to all TDUK members.

It is widely recognised that there is a 'knowledge gap' for specification of timber products among trainee architects, engineers and related studies. To close this gap, TDUK and Edinburgh Napier University are working together to create a knowledge library consisting, from launch, of 150 reports authored by leading wood science and timber specialists. The library will cover information about timber supply, design considerations and building techniques with the goal of providing architects, specifiers and engineers with all the information they need to put timber at the heart of projects.

This will be a rolling contract which will see the library expand and develop each year with the aim to create the largest, most comprehensive technical timber information resource in the UK — if not the world!

In addition, the Knowledge Database will be used to underpin and inform a set of short practical courses being developed by NMITE's Centre for Advanced Timber Technology (CATT), in partnership with TDUK.

The 'Timber TED' (Technical Engineering & Design) courses will create comprehensive and flexible upskilling and reskilling training for modern methods of timber construction. Learners will gain specialist timber construction knowledge and skills for the built environment, focusing on "better, faster and greener" delivery.

TDUK chief executive, Dave Hopkins, explained: "With ESG pressures mounting in boardrooms, it is clear that increasing the use of timber in architecture and construction can provide a very positive contribution towards achieving our Net Zero goals. It is also my belief that the specifiers of the future will need a better un-

derstanding of wood and timber if they have any chance of hitting the ever more demanding carbon targets for construction. Our partnerships with Napier and NMITE will help set the timber skills agenda going forward and will provide the underpinning specification knowledge needed to achieve this."

NMITE Chief Academic Officer, Professor Beverley Gibbs, commented: "NMITE champions student-centred learning and a curriculum fuelled by real-world challenges, and our approach is distinctive in higher education and attracts a wide range of learners. Consistent with NMITE's core principles, these courses have been conceived and will be delivered in partnership with external stakeholders. Partnering with TDUK and Edinburgh Napier will create the enabling conditions to stimulate collaboration across the industry vertically (seed to end product) and horizontally (architecture, construction, digitalisation) whilst showing an upcoming generation of professionals how rewarding a career in timber can be."

The first phase of the Knowl-

edge library is due to go live in the autumn of 2022. The TED short courses — aimed at engineers, architects and technical design and sales operatives within timber manufacturing firms, will start in September 2022.

Commenting on the Knowledge Library, Kirsty Connell-Skinner, sustainable construction partnerships manager at Edinburgh Napier University said: "This partnership demonstrates Edinburgh Napier's commitment to timber engineering education. With increasing momentum to tackle the climate crisis, ensuring our future workforce is skilled in the benefits of using timber solutions is vital. This knowledge library further enhances earlier investment by HCI Skills Gateway in a national timber competency framework and will give students access to information about supply, design and techniques to encourage more use of timber in construction projects."

TDUK will be sponsoring the Timber Expo and Sustainability stage at UK Construction Week at the Birmingham NEC in October.

**TDUK**  
[www.timberdevelopment.uk](http://www.timberdevelopment.uk)



# Leeds College launches construction course for football-lovers!

**LEEDS College of Building may have scored the perfect course after launching a unique programme aimed at students interested in building ... but who love football too.**

The College is now enrolling for a BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Construction & the Built Environment, which incorporates an additional Level 1 Award in Football Coaching. This unusual pairing of premier qualifications is already popular with practically-minded students who are passionate about the beautiful game.

Denis Metcalf, student liaison officer and football academy coach at Leeds College of Building, said:

“To my knowledge, no other specialist colleges like ours offer a football academy like this alongside non-sports courses. This is the perfect option for anyone interested in developing their football skills whilst studying a construction BTEC. By the end of the course, students will have a Level 2 qualification suitable for various careers in construction but also be qualified as a Level 1 Football Coach.

“This tailor-made course offers more vocational options. It aims to provide a broad understanding of the construction industry, while giving students the freedom to play football every Wednesday in the ESFA Col-



lege league. Students train every Monday with a qualified UEFA B football coach at Goals Soccer Centre and become a level 1 football coach — all in one year!”

The BTEC programme includes units on construction technology, scientific and mathematical applications, design, processes and operations, and drawing techniques. It also incorporate elements of carpentry and joinery, brickwork, painting and decorating, and plastering, ensuring students are even more employable and able to specialise as they enter the construction industry. Simultaneously, the football academy programme teaches a

range of transferable skills, player and coach development, passing, shooting, dribbling and attacking, FA Emergency Aid, and FA Safeguarding.

To apply, students must be over 16 and have five GCSEs including Maths & English at grade 3 plus three other subjects with an average grade 3. After completion, options include Apprenticeships, BTEC Level 3 qualifications, further football coaching development, or entry into the exciting and varied field of construction.

**Leeds College of Building**

**Tel 0113 222 6078 ● Email [dmetcalf@lcb.ac.uk](mailto:dmetcalf@lcb.ac.uk)**

# Builders merchant supports new community school

**A RECENTLY opened community school in Dudley has received the backing of a local builders merchant.**

Priory Park Community School in Wren’s Nest opened in January to offer alternative education provision to youngsters with social, emotional and mental health difficulties or at significant risk of expulsion from mainstream school.

Selco Builders Warehouse, which has its Dudley branch on Coneygree Road, has now donated £1,000 worth of building materials to assist the school’s development.

Stuart Playford, headteacher at the school which has close links with Priory Park Boxing Club and accommodates youngsters aged between 11 and 16, said: “It’s a unique school and our mission is to include, inspire and empower our pupils. At present, we have 35 students and we have built an environment which allows us to deliver a broad and balanced core curriculum combined with a mentoring programme through sport. It’s going well and we expect our numbers to increase in September when the next wave of year seven pupils begin.

“Support we receive from the local community is vital so we are thrilled that Selco has pledged building materials which will enable us to continue to develop the facilities at the school. Unfortunately, we have suffered some vandalism in recent weeks and, while some of the money Selco has donated will be used to repair that, we will be putting the rest towards developing our outdoor areas to assist the development of the students.”

Craig Dickinson, branch manager of Selco Dudley, said: “We are committed to supporting the communities in which we operate and the Priory Park Community School project is an important development for Dudley. It is providing fresh opportunities for children who have experienced difficulties and we are delighted to be playing a small part in supporting the development of the new school.”

With hundreds of trade brands always in stock, Selco’s 73 UK branches are firmly focused on helping tradespeople complete their jobs as quickly and effectively as possible.

**Selco ● [www.selcobw.com](http://www.selcobw.com)**



*Left to right: Councillor Keiran Casey, Tyler Brownhill (pupil), Anthony Powers (Selco) and Stuart Playford (Priory Park Community School).*

# Construction principal & CEO Derek Whitehead retires after 37 years in education

**DEREK WHITEHEAD, principal and CEO of Leeds College of Building, retired recently after 37 years working in further education and vocational skills training.**

From teenage Keighley carpentry and joinery apprentice to leader of what is believed to be the UK's only general further education college that specialises in construction, Derek has spent decades training and leading the next generation of builders, engineers and construction-craft professionals.

Derek began his education at Ingrow School, Bronte School, and Oakbank Grammar school in Keighley. From a young age, he excelled at craft skills and thrived in woodwork and metalwork. Derek cites a local teacher, who changed the course of his life after recognising Derek's potential.

Derek said: "I always preferred hands-on learning, and it was a teacher at Oakbank — David Carter — who told me I had a knack for passing on my knowledge and passion for the subject, even at age 16. I was always in the workshop after school and would help other students where I could, especially if the woodwork teacher wasn't available.

"David stretched me, pushing me to try more complex techniques. I made various furniture items, learnt to French polish, and even turned rosewood handles for a bedside oak cabinet that my parents still have to this day! He sowed the seed that I should teach others too, even though I tended towards being more practical than academic."

Derek left school at 16 and joined the construction industry as Apprentice Carpenter & Joiner at Norman Hollins Ltd and then JSD Hamilton (Construction) Ltd. He gained a fantastic grounding in bespoke joinery products, new build housing, renovations, and shopfitting projects. It was a great platform to learn broader construction skills too. Yet, despite becoming a qualified construction worker, Derek's experience at grammar school reinforced his desire to teach.

Derek's first teaching job was in 1985 at Keighley College's Carpentry & Joinery Department, where another lecturer, Peter Hakes, mentored him. It wasn't long before Derek enrolled at HollyBank to study professional teacher training qualifications, followed by Bradford College to attain a teaching degree. Derek was then promoted to Section Leader for Timber Trades before leaving Keighley for a role at Bolton College as a Senior Lecturer. After that, Derek became Head of Construction and led self-assessment quality assurance across Bolton College.

By the time Derek left Bolton, he was responsible for the Construction & Engineering faculty. He returned to Keighley College, this time as head of construction & engineering. Then in 2004, Derek interviewed for deputy principal — curriculum & quality at Leeds College of Building and was selected for the role.

Derek said: "Getting the post at LCB was such a fantastic accolade, especially with it being the only general further education college nationally that specialised in construction and the built environment education & training. I felt like I was back to my roots — where industry training moulds individuals into construction specialists. I am a massive advocate for vocational skills training and the vast opportunities this can unlock.

"I loved working at the College

so much that I continued in this role before becoming principal & CEO. I have fully enjoyed all 18 years that I have spent at Leeds College of Building. I'm delighted to be leaving the College in such good shape. Inspections now show quality at 'good or better', our HE meets all UK standards, we achieved 'good' in our most recent Ofsted inspection, the ESFA gave us a 'good' rating too for our healthy financial position."

Leeds College of Building now trains around 5,500 students from across the UK, covering 16-18 full-time study programmes, adult provision, HE courses, and bespoke programmes for employers. Over half of these students (around 2,800) are enrolled on apprenticeship training across all areas of the College's provision, from Level 2 up to degree apprentices.

Derek continued: "I'm extremely glad my teacher showed me how vocational training — such as apprenticeships — can lead to various careers and job roles. Schools play a critical role in showcasing vocational training as a viable, alternative route to reach the same endpoint as academic qualifications. These skills can lead to jobs at all levels and involve travel and an extensive variety of work, with lasting legacy projects.

"It's so gratifying to see former students running successful companies themselves, as well as attracting a more diverse cohort of students to the sector today. We have come such a long way. So, this seems the right time for me to step down.

"I have never lost a love of construction after all these years. Although further education is a challenging sector, to help students develop skills that can make a transformative difference to their future and society is an absolute privilege. It is the accomplishment of which I'm most proud.

"I would like to give a special thank you to all employers and stakeholders who have supported the College, students and me personally, over the 18 years I've been here. I trust the commitment and dedication will continue with my successor, Nikki Davis. Leeds College of Building is a fantastic organisation to lead, and I know it will continue to go from strength to strength. I wish the College, our stakeholders, my amazing colleagues and friends, and Nikki all the very best.

Nikki Davis took up the role of principal & CEO in August 2022 and became the first woman to hold the post in the institution's 60-year history. **Leeds College of Building** ● [www.lcb.ac.uk](http://www.lcb.ac.uk)



Left to right: Derek Whitehead, Nikki Davis and Peter Norris, chair of the College governing body.



# Carpentry skills help bring historic walled garden back to life

**CARPENTRY** students from Bradford College have kindly volunteered their services to help a community garden project at Yorkshire Water's Esholt Hall site.

The historic building is being restored as a flagship Centre of Excellence for Yorkshire Water's training academy. Bradford College students on the City & Guilds Technical Certificate in Carpentry are enhancing their skills by gaining work experience at the site and producing raised planters for a new walled garden.

James Haigh, technical qualification co-ordinator & lecturer in carpentry & joinery at Bradford College, said: "There is no better experience for our students than working on a real project like this, fabricating on-site and working to real specifications. You often don't see the real character of a student until you get them out of the workshop and expose them to real-life scenarios, where they just flourish."

The beautiful garden once supplied the hall with all its food. Now, work is underway to bring the space back to life. Students have worked alongside community arts organisation, Sponge Tree, following drawing designs and even making some planters wheelchair accessible.

Paula Taylor from Sponge Tree said: "The Sponge Tree team has been employed to restore the Kitchen Garden at Esholt Hall Es-



tate for Yorkshire Water. We are working towards the site and gardens to become a community wellbeing hub. Sponge Tree will deliver outdoor learning and rural courses from the gardens, from permaculture to basket weaving.

"We were aware of the links with Bradford College and the carpentry students and asked if they would be interested in coming on-site to help build our raised vegetable beds. This was a great way to start a community partnership



within the restoration of the Esholt Hall Estate.

"James [carpentry lecturer] and the students were fantastic to have on-site and the students were very enthused about being able to use their skills and knowledge in a real-life setting. We now have a brilliant relationship, and we are keen for students to be involved in carpentry and joinery projects, at Esholt Hall, in the future."

Peter Coddington, partnership

and portfolio manager at Yorkshire Water, added: "This is the second project the students from Bradford College have worked on at Esholt Hall, and we are always delighted to have the students working on the site. They do a fantastic job for Yorkshire Water, and we in turn gain a great deal of satisfaction from working at such a beautiful location as the 300 year old Grade 2 listed Esholt Hall."

**Bradford College**  
[www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk](http://www.bradfordcollege.ac.uk)





# AAG router and waterjet expo 21-22 September 2022



**IT HAS been an exciting time for the AAG UK division! Not only has the company become an associate member of the UK Gasket and Sealing Association (UKGSA), it also has newly expanded premises to showcase!**

To celebrate, the company will be opening its doors in Telford and hosting a two-day event on 21st-22nd September, and cannot wait to welcome visitors. All industries using or wanting to find out more about the company's WARDJet waterjets or XYZ routers are invited to join AAG for live demonstrations, training and to learn about the latest CNC innovations.

This will be an open-door event, so feel free to pop along at any time between 10 am and 3 pm on either day. There will, of course, be lunch

and refreshments available. You will also get the opportunity to see AAG's waterjet and router technology all working under the same roof cutting a wide variety of different materials. AAG is also excited to have valued partners present: Cadline, a reseller for Autodesk Fusion 360 software; Becker UK, who provide the vacuum pumps on AAG machines; and Universal Robots, who specialise in Cobot systems.

As well as live demonstrations of software and machinery, AAG's applications and product experts will be on hand for training and to answer any questions on application, configuration and best practices.

Register for the event at <https://www.eventcreate.com/e/telforduk>

**XYZ Routers** ● <https://www.axyz.co.uk>

**WARDJet Waterjets** ● <https://wardjet.co.uk>

## Altendorf Group presented exciting innovations at Holz-Handwerk 2022

**TRADITIONAL craftsmanship continues to represent an important pillar of our society as well as a major economic factor. Accordingly, the Altendorf Group's Research and Development team has been working on bringing new products to market as well as adding new features to the already established series.**

The Altendorf Group knows what counts and thus acts, among others, as a digital pulse generator for the trade.

At the Holz-Handwerk, the Altendorf Group presented HAND GUARD, believed to be the world's first AI- and camera-based safety assistance system for sliding table saws. This outstanding innovation will help to prevent the up to 120 reportable sliding table saw accidents per month in Germany in the future. For this reason, HAND GUARD has received the German Occupational Safety Award. But that is not all: the system has been certified by the German Employers' Liability Insurance Association for Wood and Metal and, with the GS seal, is believed to redefine the safety standard for sliding table saws on the world market. The Altendorf Group knows what counts — and that is, among other things, "Maximum safety in the trade". With HAND GUARD, injuries to fingers and hands are a thing of the past, according to Altendorf.

The Altendorf Group is committed to always getting the most out of its products and has added many new features to its popular Hebrock K-Series and F-Series edgebanders. Read more on page 24 of this issue.

The success story of the Altendorf company began with the F 45 sliding table saw. The F series was then successively expanded. Now the F 35 complements the product range and offers more operating comfort and performance with a larger display and additional functions. Robust and solidly manufactured, it naturally with stands all the demands of everyday life in a joinery.

The desire to make processes at the machines even more efficient is also present in small joineries. This is where the myALTENDORFGROUP app comes in, in which all Altendorf Group machines can be managed. In addition to other functions, a support request can be started at any time via chat or video function.

Visitors were also able to discuss the topics of machine connectivity and voice control concepts for edge banding machines with the Altendorf Group team at the trade show booth.

**Altendorf Group**

<https://www.altendorfgroup.com/en/>

**YOU NEVER WORK ALONE.**

**Safety • Efficiency  
Digitisation • Service**



# Build Better with Wood Conference

**WITH TIMBER** now becoming the material of choice for the built environment, the **Build Better with Wood Conference** offers the chance for the industry to discuss how we can build better, quicker and higher quality.

Taking place in Bristol on 14 September 2022, this conference is an opportunity to connect with the 'doers and thinkers' in the world of timber and is open to all interested in this pragmatic solution to the climate challenge.

During the day, attendees will hear from a range of policymakers, developers, architects and insurers as they discuss the environmental and economic benefits building with timber offers to UK companies.

With thanks to Swedish Wood, this event is free to attend, but with limited places available, it is recommended that people book tickets now via EventBrite.

Confederation of Timber Industries (CTI) director, David Hopkins, said: "As the UK hits record temperatures, it is now more important than ever that we tackle carbon emissions from our built environment.

"Wood is a natural, cost effective and sustainable carbon capture solution that can enable substantial decarbonisation of the built environment based on existing business models and proven technology.

"This is beginning to be recognised by the Government, who launched Timber in Construction Working Group post-COP 26 to see how the UK can safely scale up the use of timber in our built environment.



"Real change will come from the private, public and NGO sectors working together, and this conference will highlight how we can build more, and build better, with timber."

STA CEO, Andrew Carpenter, said: "Timber offers an effective, high quality, low carbon solution to both residential and commercial construction in the UK, supported by a £10 bn supply chain, and a low-carbon manufacturing base. With timber frame man-

ufacturing, there already exists a mainstream and intelligent way to build in a climate crisis — and one which we should employ more widely.

"This technology presents cost-effectiveness, speed and energy efficiency advantages from design to build, while also using precision engineering to reduce the chance of any errors in construction. This conference is a great chance for all to discuss the future of this important industry, as well as how to overcome the current barriers to timber construction."

The event is sponsored by Swedish Wood and hosted in partnership with the Confederation of Timber Industries, Royal Institute of British Architecture, Construction Industry Training Board, National House Building Council and Constructing Excellence Bristol.

**Confederation of Timber Industries**

<https://cti-timber.org/>

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/build-better-with-wood-conference-tickets-388080046867](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/build-better-with-wood-conference-tickets-388080046867)

## Surface Design Awards 2023 now open for entries

**THE MUCH anticipated and highly popular Surface Design Awards are now open for entries. Now in their 11th year, the Awards recognise excellence in material innovation from around the world.**

Organised by, and a key part of Surface Design Show, the Awards attracted 180 projects from 24 different countries in 2022, reflecting the desire for international recognition for projects and architects and designers responsible for them.

The Awards are judged by an expert panel, co-chaired by Jonathan Hagos, director of Freehaus and Nasim Koerting, head of design, The Office Group. The judges are made up of architects and interior designers

who have made a name for themselves amongst their peers. They include Charlotte McCarthy, head of interiors at Heatherwick Studio, Fiona MacDonald, head of learning at the Design Museum and Nimi Attanayake, director & co-founder, NimTim Architects.

Together they will determine the winners of the Awards. There are six categories for projects: Commercial Building, Housing, Landscape + Public Realm, Light + Surface, Public Building and Temporary Structure plus an Architectural Photography Award. From the individual category winners, the judges will then decide on a Supreme Award.

There is no charge for entering the Awards as the organisers want to welcome entries from practices both large and small and for both bigger and smaller projects.

Every shortlisted and winning entry will benefit from vast company recognition, exposure to the judging panel, presence on the Surface Design Show website, via social media, in the press, and to the Show's huge community of architects and designers.

The closing date for Surface Design Award entries is Friday 23 September 2022. Judging will take place at the start of November 2022 and finalists will be notified by mid-November.

The eventual winners will be announced on the final day of the Surface Design Show at London's Business Design Centre on 9th February 2023.

**Surface Design Awards 2023**  
[www surfacedesignshow.com](http://www surfacedesignshow.com)





# Trotec brings laser expertise to a town near you

**LEADING manufacturer of laser technology, Trotec Laser, is once again hitting the road and bringing its laser roadshows to a town near you.**

An appointment at a Trotec roadshow is often the first step to seeing what businesses could achieve with high-end production tools.

Trotec experts will be in Aberdeen and Hemel Hempstead in September, followed by Belfast in October and Chelmsford in November, ready to offer businesses a complete overview of everything needed to be successful with laser processing.

If your business is serious about scaling up production, improving product quality or time utilisation, Trotec laser experts are ready to show you what is possible.

As investing in the right technology is often a make-or-break decision for businesses in crucial areas like productivity, Trotec laser experts tailor the 90-minute roadshow appointment to the specific needs of visitors.

Like Trotec showrooms, the roadshow features a range of different laser machines suitable for different applications, from entry-level cutters to dual-source CO<sub>2</sub> and fibre machines for



laser engraving mixed materials as well as the flagship Speedy 400 laser engraver for larger material sizes.

Visitors are encouraged to not only bring their own materials, but also their own files, as this allows real-time and quality examples to be provided, offering accurate information for the decision-making process.

Appointments are available on a first come first served basis. To reserve your place at the roadshow at Aberdeen, Hemel Hempstead, Belfast or Chelmsford, contact Trotec Laser using the details below.

**Trotec**

**Tel 0191 580 1182**

**[enquiries@troteclaser.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@troteclaser.co.uk)**

**[www.troteclaser.com/en-gb/](http://www.troteclaser.com/en-gb/)**





# Altendorf Group America at IWF 2022

**YOU NEVER WORK ALONE.**

Safety • Efficiency • Digitalization • Service

**IWF** INTERNATIONAL WOODWORKING FAIR ATLANTA  
August 23 - 26, Booth: B4835

**UNDER** the motto “You never work alone”, the Altendorf Group America with its Altendorf sliding table saws and Hebrock edgebanders presented many exciting innovations at this year’s International Woodworking Fair (IWF) in Atlanta, Georgia, from 23rd to 26th August 2022, stand B4835. The main focus was on products and innovations in the areas of safety, efficiency, digitalisation and service for the woodworking trade of tomorrow.

At the IWF Show, the Altendorf Group America presented HAND GUARD, believed to be the world’s first certified AI- and camera-based safety assistance system for sliding table saws. This outstanding innovation will help to prevent a large number of reportable sliding table saw accidents in the future. For this reason, HAND GUARD has received the German Occupational Safety Award. But that is not all: the system has been certified by the German Employers’ Liability Insurance Association for Wood and Metal and, with the GS seal, is claimed to redefine the safety

standard for sliding table saws on the world market. The Altendorf Group America knows what counts — and that is, among other things, “Maximum safety in the trade.”

Also, HAND GUARD has been announced as a finalist for the renowned IWF Challengers Distinguished Achievement Award. The award recognises “... outstanding companies who have distinguished themselves by developing innovative technology in products, services, or manufacturing techniques that will advance the industry” (source: IWFatlanta.com).

Visitors were able to discuss the topics of machine connectivity and digital service concepts for edge banding machines with the Altendorf Group team at the trade show booth. Also, Altendorf customers are always just a click away from their personal contact. A comprehensive service and dialogue offering includes individual application advice and a service line for support questions of all kinds.

**Altendorf Group** ● <https://www.altendorfgroup.com/en/>

## Arclin on show at Batimat, Paris

**FOLLOWING** the success of Arclin’s exhibition at Carrefour International du Bois in June 2022, Arclin LLC’s surface solutions range, Arctek®, will be showcased at Batimat, Paris, from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Arctek overlays are engineered using Arclin technology. They enable wood panels to meet the demands of modern construction. Batimat marks the beginning of Arclin’s investment into increased production and an expanding global presence.

With the establishment of a European warehouse based in Rotterdam, and the expansion of production through a new manufacturing site in Dillon, South Carolina, Arclin’s commitment to increase supply and product offerings is advancing with pace. Its European warehouse will service both the mainland, UK and Ireland. Batimat will be one of the

platforms through which the expansion news will be shared with panel producers, laminators, designers and homebuilders.

The Arctek product range is grouped into three categories: Arctek® Drysell™, Arctek® Guard™ and Arctek® Beton™, with each offering a variety of solutions and end-uses. Each product provides a surface solution believed to be unique built upon Arclin’s advanced technology. Furthermore, each solution is suitable for secondary lamination and primary pressing, thereby opening up the opportunities for the larger corporations all the way through to smaller, bespoke manufacturers.

The advanced surface solutions are designed for a variety of substrates, including OSB, plywood, MDF and particleboard, with applications for recreational vehicles, doors, modular construction, DIY, concrete formwork and site protection to name but a few.

In addition, from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August, Arclin also launched its decorative surface range Arclync® at the International Woodworking Fair (IWF) in Atlanta. The new surface technology overlays are designed to transform interior and exterior wood substrates into high performance panels. The range offers a variety of finishes, including high gloss, super-matte and wood texture. Each overlay is customisable to meet pressing and end use requirements. Qualities include resistance to UV, moisture, scratch and impacts.

Arclin looks forward to sharing further details on how the Arctek and Arclync product range will be advancing the performance of wood panels across international markets at both Batimat (Hall 1, KO44) and IWF (#C1008).

**Arclin** ● <https://arctek.arclin.com>  
[www.arclyncsurfaces.com](https://www.arclyncsurfaces.com)

OVERLAY PERFORMANCE TECHNOLOGY BY **Arclin**



# Hebrock's F- and K-series edgebanders enter the next generation

**IN GERMANY'S East Westphalia region, both established traditional companies and hopeful newcomers from the trade are successful — an environment that motivates Hebrock to continuously adapt its edgebanders even better to the needs of users.**

The F-series and also the K-series provide impressive proof of this. These Hebrock machines have made a tidy performance leap forward in many respects. Due to the performance increases and the comfortable handling within the machine series, edgebanding is much faster and easier with the F-series. The K-series impresses with even more performance for even more output.

Joineries have long relied on the K 36 or the K 37 edgebanding machines from Hebrock. Now the popular K series has undergone an update. The former 10" display has been replaced by a 15" touch display with high-resolution 3D graphics. Here, in addition to the glue pot, all of the machine's other units can be viewed in compressed form on one page, and various settings can be made, such as regulating the temperature of the glue pot. If a workpiece is not fed into the machine for a longer period of time, it automatically switches to standby mode, including the heating of the glue pot system. Energy consumption is virtually zero.

In addition, the feed rate has improved from 10 m/min to 15 m/min. This enables a significant increase in production efficiency. Furthermore, by re-aligning the cross-cut knife (guillotine) to the first pressure roller, workpieces with a minimum length of 140 mm can be approached and machined. The milling stations have also been updated. The space-saving new design simplifies adjustment work on the unit.

To meet the various needs of edgebander users, Hebrock has also launched the K 34, an extension to its renowned K series. This machine is just under half a metre shorter than its big brother, the K 36. In the interests of compression, the focus on this model has been placed on the four most important processing units.

The popular F series of Hebrock edgebanders has also entered the next generation. Whether F 2, F 4 or F 5 — users can look forward to many new features. The F series now also features a 15" touch display. Since economical energy consumption is essential, especially in this day and age, the new F series also has an automatic standby mode. Furthermore, the feed rate has also been improved for this series.

The LED workpiece tracking lamp at the machine infeed provides visual assistance during workpiece loading.



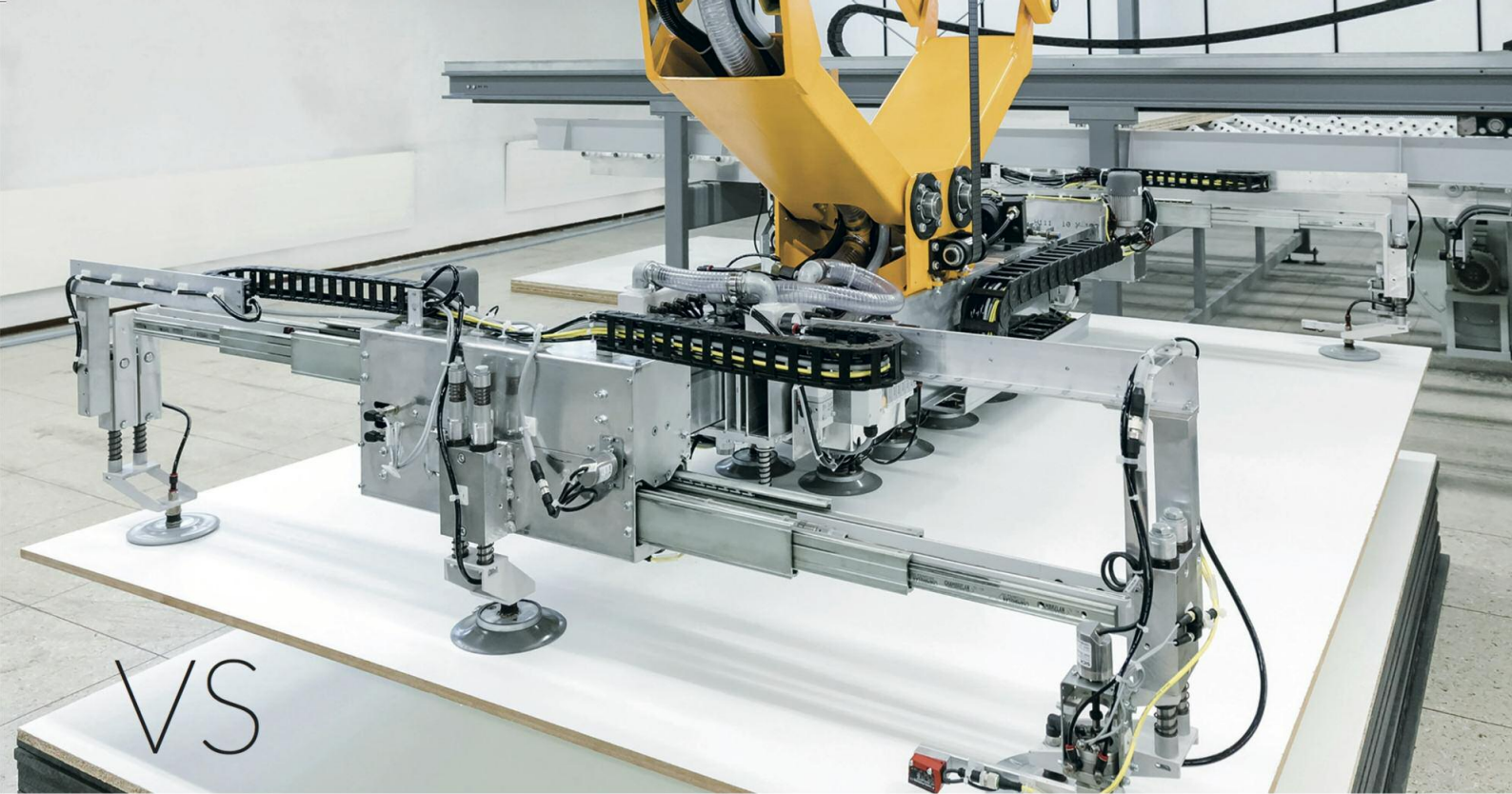
On the F-Series, the hood has been raised by 100 mm. This allows the machine operator simpler and therefore more ergonomic handling when changing the gluepot system.

"While the F-series of Hebrock edgebanders already met the requirements of every woodworking store in the past, the new features now leave nothing to be desired," a company spokesman said.

**Altendorf Group**  
<https://www.altendorfgroup.com/en/>







# IMA SCHELLING – The Elite New Offerings

The new VS Area Storage System and LS1 range from Schelling are just showing how well they are adapting to the climate in the market.

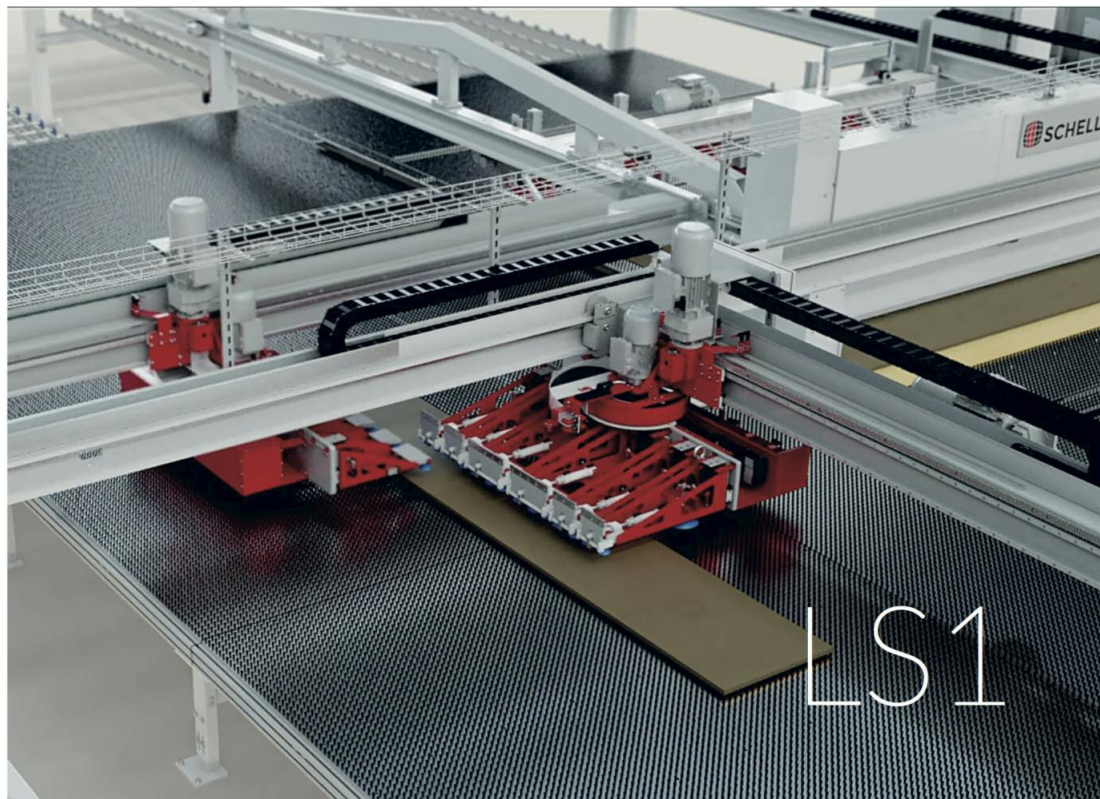
The LS1 is making batch size one production even more efficient and the VS can be adapted to suit any requirements. It can even be over multiple levels for those short of space!

**Get in touch for more information on the VS or LS1.  
at [sales.uk@imaschelling.com](mailto:sales.uk@imaschelling.com)**



**IMA SCHELLING**  
**GROUP**

[www.imaschelling.com](http://www.imaschelling.com) | 01937 586 340





# West Fraser's CaberMDF — a brand new look for an old favourite

**WEST FRASER, a leading UK panel manufacturer, has given its well-loved MDF range a makeover. Still the same products but with a bold new look!**

One of the most comprehensive ranges on offer to the UK construction industry, five grades are available from the basic lightweight general purpose grade, CaberMDF Trade, to the top-of-the-range, CaberMDF Industrial, a hard-working, deep routing, moisture-resistant product with uniform density all the way through the board.

Also available is CaberMDF Pro, CaberMDF Pro MR and CaberMDF Trade MR. With each product designed for a specific range of projects, the five products in the CaberMDF range offer unbeatable quality, according to the company..

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

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

A new name



**CaberMDF®**

**The professional's range**

Same great product

## CaberFloor P5 for creak-free flooring

**CABERFLOOR P5, from timber panel specialist West Fraser, trading as Norbord, is believed to be the UK's most popular moisture resistant flooring panel of its type. It is a high-performance particleboard being widely specified due to its stability, durability and ease of installation for the user.**

The sturdy, high-density panels come in thicknesses of 18 or 22 mm, in both square-edged or tongue and grooved profiles, the latter featuring profiles on all four sides to offer maximum flexibility. The precision engineered edges ensure smooth and speedy installation while the tight fitting joints eliminate the annoyance of creaking.

Significantly for the installer, choosing T&G CaberFloor P5 removes the need for intermediate noggins, while 'secret' or hidden nailing or screws can be employed within the joints. Alternatively, CaberFix Joint&Joist adhesive can be applied to the edges, further countering the risk of squeaks and creaks that blight traditional floorboards and many ply or particleboard decks. CaberFix D4 is also considered ideal for bonding flooring boards to both joists and tongue and groove joints and for sealing the board edges.

Available in lengths of 2,400 mm and 600 mm wide, the floor panels are both FSC and CE certified and are ideal for humid environments, in residential as well as new build or retrofit applications.

Another eco friendly attribute is that the timber used to make the board is grown in the UK which means less transportation as well as offering a more secure supply in an increasingly disrupted global market.

Addressing increasing concerns regarding sustainability, CaberFloor P5 is net carbon negative and locks in the CO<sub>2</sub> during its lifetime, while assisting architects and developers to minimise waste and health risks through responsible specification.

West Fraser's CaberFloor P5, presenting a RIBA approved BIM object, can be specified with absolute confidence in the most demanding situations.

**West Fraser**  
**Tel 01786 812921**  
**[Daniel.Clarke@westfraser.com](mailto:Daniel.Clarke@westfraser.com)**  
**<https://uk.westfraser.com/housebuilders/>**





YOUR PERFECT PARTNER



# Stunning style with everyday performance

## Now part of the dp-limitless range

RAUVISIO Noir HPL - 12 matt finishes with a robust HPL surface perfect for horizontal application.

RAUVISIO Brilliant Matt - A matching collection of matt acrylic finishes suitable for vertical application.

For cut and edged panels, contact us for your regional conversion perfect partner.

Available laminated on single sheets up to full load quantities. Standard sheet size 2800mm x 1300mm x 15mm or 18mm MDF. Double sided or with matching balancers on all designs.



High impact resistance



Easy clean and antibacterial



High water and heat resistance



Matching RehaU edging



Soft touch finish



Anti-fingerprint technology



High scratch and micro-scratch resistance



Shown in Smoke Stack 2457L



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# How is CaberMDF manufactured?

**PANEL SPECIALIST, West Fraser, has produced a 90-second video demonstrating the CaberMDF manufacturing process at the company's Cowie plant in Scotland. The video can be watched on West Fraser's YouTube channel.**

The clip outlines the full production process, starting with the sawmill chips arriving and being piled high in the wood yard, where acres of the raw material stretch out. The viewer is then taken inside to see the extensive and highly automated production lines which help ensure a dimensionally accurate, top-quality panel.

The woodchips are screened and transported to the vast washing station, and the array of pipework and filtration equipment which cleanses the greywater before being discharged offsite is also featured.

The next part of the process involves refining the chips into fibre, which goes through the drying and forming process to be pressed by automated machinery to make the final MDF panels — these are then sanded and cut to create stock sizes, or to meet customers' bespoke dimensions.

With only a handful of people seen onsite, the huge computer controlled machines are operated from a high-tech control room, with closed circuit TV and failsafe detection systems helping the staff monitor multiple data feeds.

Finally, the packs of panels are shown moving from the production line to the warehouse before being dispatched to West Fraser's distributors and other customers.

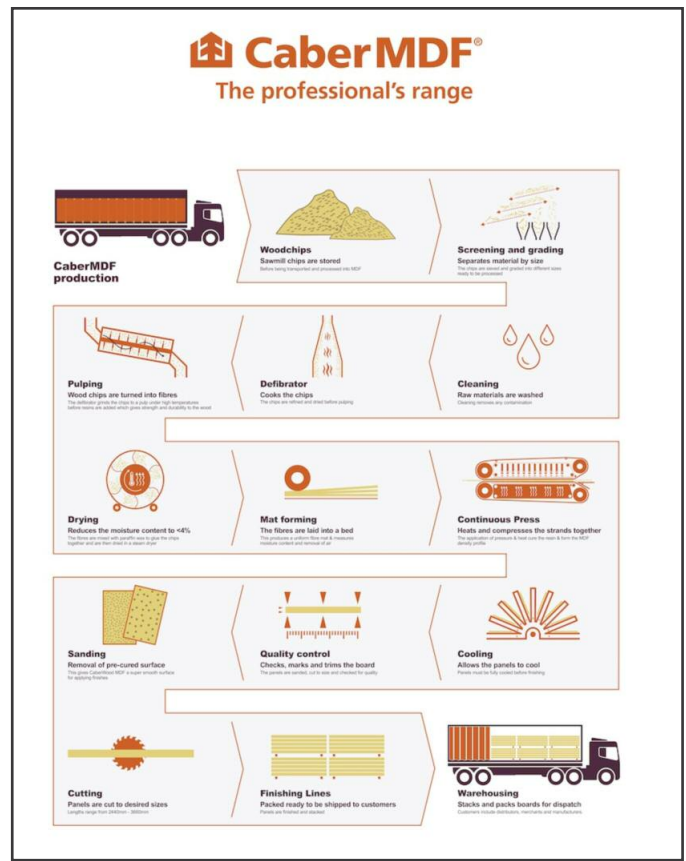
Overall, the video clip of the Cowie site captures the speed and efficiency with which woodchips are processed into the CaberWood MDF used for everything from furniture making to shop fitting.

**West Fraser**

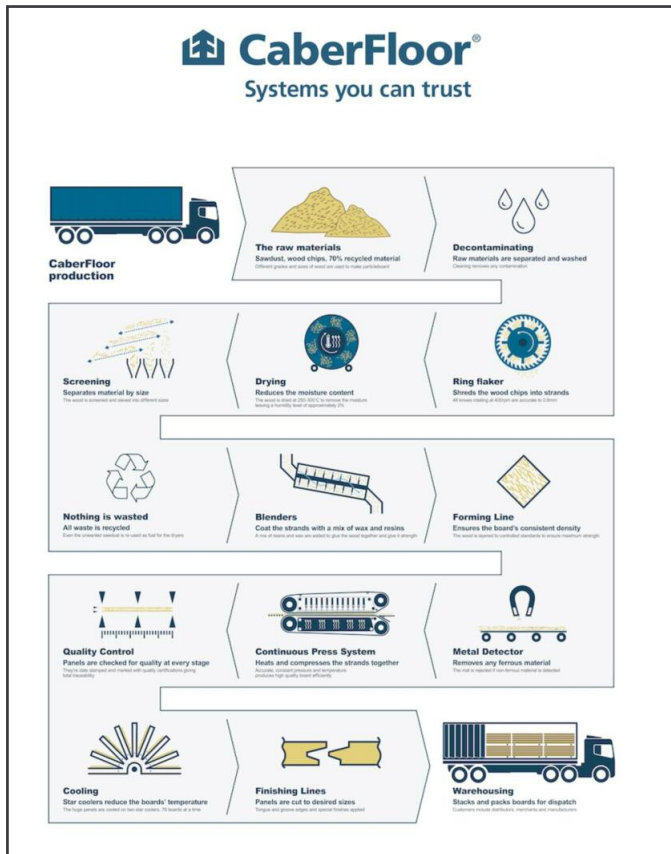
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<https://uk.westfraser.com/housebuilder/>



# How is CaberFloor made?



**IN A SHORT video launched by West Fraser, the panel product specialist demonstrates how its sturdy CaberFloor is made at the huge Cowie facility near Stirling, Scotland. The video is available on West Fraser's YouTube channel.**

The 95-second, virtual 'factory tour' enables the viewer to appreciate the exacting processes required to produce the versatile and well-proven particleboard flooring panels. The cameras offer a panoramic view of the space-age interiors through to the highly automated plant: where dust and other pollutants are fully suppressed to create a healthy working environment for the handful of engineers and other staff who operate it.

At Cowie, CaberFloor begins life as a series of raw wood streams, carefully sieved and graded to the loadbearing panels' precise specifications, while the fibres are dried to regulate their residual moisture content. Minutely regulated chemical treatments are used to facilitate the panels' formation in

layers on the production line and pressure applied to achieve the exact thickness.

Next, the panel blanks are cooled and cured on a slowly rotating carrier system, enhancing their long-term performance and durability, prior to them being mechanically sanded and precision cut to size. CaberFloor also features a machined tongue and groove interlock around all four sides to provide stability and minimise the need to support joints.

While the finished CaberFloor panels are carefully checked and labelled by experienced operators for distribution to merchant stockists and other customers, housebuilders and specifiers across the construction industry can be confident in the consistency of a precision made, fit-for-purpose product.

To find out more about West Fraser's products for housebuilders, get in touch with Dan Clarke using the details below.

**West Fraser**

Tel 01786 812921

[Daniel.Clarke@westfraser.com](mailto:Daniel.Clarke@westfraser.com)

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GROUP



# INNOVATIONS TO KEEP YOU AHEAD OF THE CROWD

This is the mantra of IMA Schelling UK, where we are expanding our portfolio of equipment beyond saws, lifters and shredders.

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# A new perfect partner

**EARLIER** this year REHAU and Decorative Panels Lamination announced a new industry partnership. One which will see many benefits for both companies: increasing REHAU's opportunity to sell laminated materials into the UK market on short, reactive lead times whilst allowing dp-lamination to add value to the product in terms of supplying the surface laminated onto board.

At Decorative Panels, the company is constantly adding to and evolving its collections to enable it to keep the product offering up to date and relevant for customers. The latest RAUVISIO Noble Matt collection encompassing Noir HPLs and Brilliant Matt designs do just that and are a perfect addition to the dp-limitless range.

"Having been a customer of REHAU edging for over 20 years, we have already established a great relationship," a spokesman for Decorative Panels told PW&SS. "In recent years we have introduced their surface materials to our customer base starting with the RAUVISIO Crystal collection and have now expanded the offering to include the RAUVISIO Noble Matt collection."

RAUVISIO Crystal Decor uses a 2 mm transparent PMMA (polymethyl methacrylate) surface over a high quality impregnated digital print stone decor giving it a depth that looks like the real thing — be it wood or stone.

Then there is RAUVISIO Crystal Mirror, which has unrivalled light and flat reflection values that compare with a real glass mirror, but with half the weight and 10 times more break resistance.

RAUVISIO Noir Laminate is a collection of 12 matt finishes with a robust HPL (High Pressure Laminate) surface, perfect for horizontal and vertical application with a matching balancer.

RAUVISIO Brilliant Matt is available in eight colours and matching balancer. Perfect for vertical applications and harmonises excellently with the RAUVISIO Noir HPL collection.

All of these are part of the dp-limitless range of specialised, decorative and high-performance products available in a limitless number of possibilities. There is no commitment to purchasing in bulk and the offer is deliverable in quantities from as little as just one board.



"Detail is everything in this industry, and because REHAU scientifically test in lab conditions to meet or exceed the highest standards from the German kitchen industry — as set by AMK and TUV — this sets their products apart from others on the market," the Decorative Panels spokesman added. "For example, we know there are other brands that offer vertical and horizontal surfaces in a soft touch with a scratch resistant surface. However, when you measure the light reflection at acute angles, some products on the market no longer look matt and you can see a reflection, as well as scratches not rubbing out with a sponge, or marks being left on impact. None of these issues arise with the RAUVISIO Noble Matt collection.

"Trends have moved from high-gloss to soft-touch matt surfaces and are now extremely popular and in demand from furniture and joinery manufacturers. The colour palette of the new RAUVISIO matt collection is perfect for the current market from the deep shades of After Dark, Olive Detour and Midnight Dash through to the contemporary take on greys and whites. Application includes doors throughout the home and all worktops including kitchens. You can easily achieve the 'all over' trend

within a kitchen using the matching horizontal and vertical finishes. Manufacturers want quality materials that can be sourced and processed easily, with a consistency that compliments their workmanship and allows them to offer a perfect finish on every product — our partnership with REHAU enables this."

Available now! The RAUVISIO Noble Matt collection is available from stock at Decorative Panels Lamination for nationwide delivery. Surfaces are supplied laminated onto board direct to the customer ready for processing. For cut and edged panels, Decorative Panels can put you in touch with one of the regional conversion partners. All surfaces can be laminated as sheet size 2,800 mm x 1,300 mm x 18 mm MDF with lead times of four to six weeks.

**Decorative Panels**  
**Tel 01484 658341**  
**www.decorativepanels.co.uk**





# Kebony wood completes sustainable Springfield Meadows development

**SITUATED** in rural Oxfordshire on the outskirts of Southmoor, Greencore Construction's latest development provides an innovative solution to the ongoing climate crisis — sustainable housing which comes at no expense to the environment.

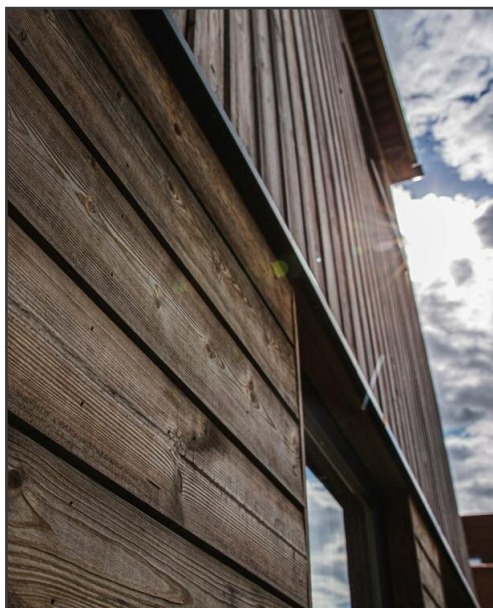
Spread generously across an eight acre plot, Springfield Meadows consists of 25 custom build homes, all of which are eco-friendly in nature, with several making use of sustainably sourced Kebony wood.

Created to benefit both the environment and the community, nine of the homes are affordable in nature, making green living both an accessible and a sustainable option for residents. The high-performance homes provide comfortable, low carbon living as a result of the Biond system selected by Greencore Construction. The homes are climate positive: locking up more carbon than emitted and generating more energy than is used. PV panels are also installed on the roofs of the houses, all of which are built to international Passivhaus thermal performance standards, resulting in energy efficient builds which come complete with a sleek and stylish appearance.

By selecting Kebony Character for the exterior cladding of several of the homes, Greencore Construction recognises the benefit of using sustainably certified materials. A global leader in the production of environmentally friendly wood, Kebony's pioneering wood processing technology sees sustainably sourced softwoods heated with furfuryl alcohol, an agricultural by-product, modifying it to maintain the same durable properties of industrial hardwoods minus the same contribution to the carbon footprint. Kebony wood is both cost effective and visually attractive, retaining a natural aesthetic which is in keeping with the rural location and surrounding wildlife.

Residents at Springfield Meadows are encouraged to adopt a green style of living, with excellent transport links and bus vouchers on offer to nearby Abingdon and Oxford.

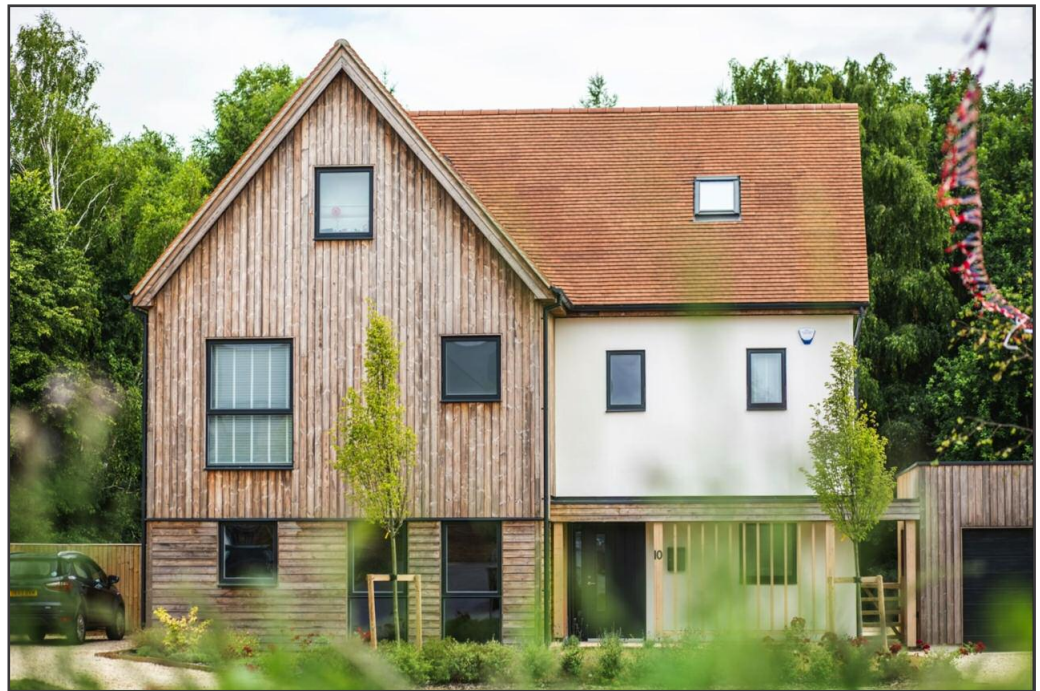
James Pitchett, communications manager at Greencore Construction, commented: "At



Greencore Construction, we use as many bio-based materials as possible to build climate positive houses. It was a real pleasure to work with Kebony which played an important role in contributing to the success of Springfield Meadows. The project is thought to be the most sustainable development in the UK. The experience has been rewarding, through which we have learned a lot. As sustainability is beginning to revolutionise the construction industry, it is important that we look to identify the ways in which we can reduce our impact on the environment. This is something we have achieved at Springfield Meadows, where every home is climate positive in nature."

Nina Landbø, international sales manager at Kebony, added: "The Springfield Meadows development is a shining example of quality construction which prioritises sustainable alternatives to traditional building methods and materials. It is great to see Kebony used for this innovative project, responding to the drive for more environmentally conscious ways of living. The result is a collection of beautiful modern homes which encourage residents to enjoy a deeper connection to nature."

Images: [Stefanie Calleja-Gera](#)  
Kebony ● [www.kebony.com](http://www.kebony.com)





# Used pallet demand soars as supply chains cut costs

**THE USED wooden pallet industry is reporting a large uplift in enquiries from supply chain users, as the prices of inputs including raw materials and transport have increased.**

According to members of the National Association of Pallet Distributors (NAPD), demand has risen to “unparalleled levels” — up to 70 per

cent higher and from further afield than usual — as businesses seek to reduce costs of manufacturing, packaging and delivery of goods.

Saleh Hijazi, press officer for NAPD, said: “The used wooden pallet business is experiencing heavy growth in demand from existing and new customers. This is being driven by a shortage of pallets and pallet timber in Western Europe, particularly in the Benelux region, diverting reused pallets and pushing prices up here in the UK. This has been further compounded by severe inflation in energy, transport and other input costs.

“Reuse is helping to ease these issues — and is a central part of the circular economy, too. Wooden pallets are one of the most sustainable parts of a supply chain already, and repair and reuse of these has an increasingly important part to play in helping businesses fulfil their environmental obligations.

“While this challenging period continues, we are advising our customers that forward planning is more important than ever and we are working closely with them to fulfil the increase in orders.”

**National Association of Pallet Distributors**  
[www.napd.co.uk](http://www.napd.co.uk)

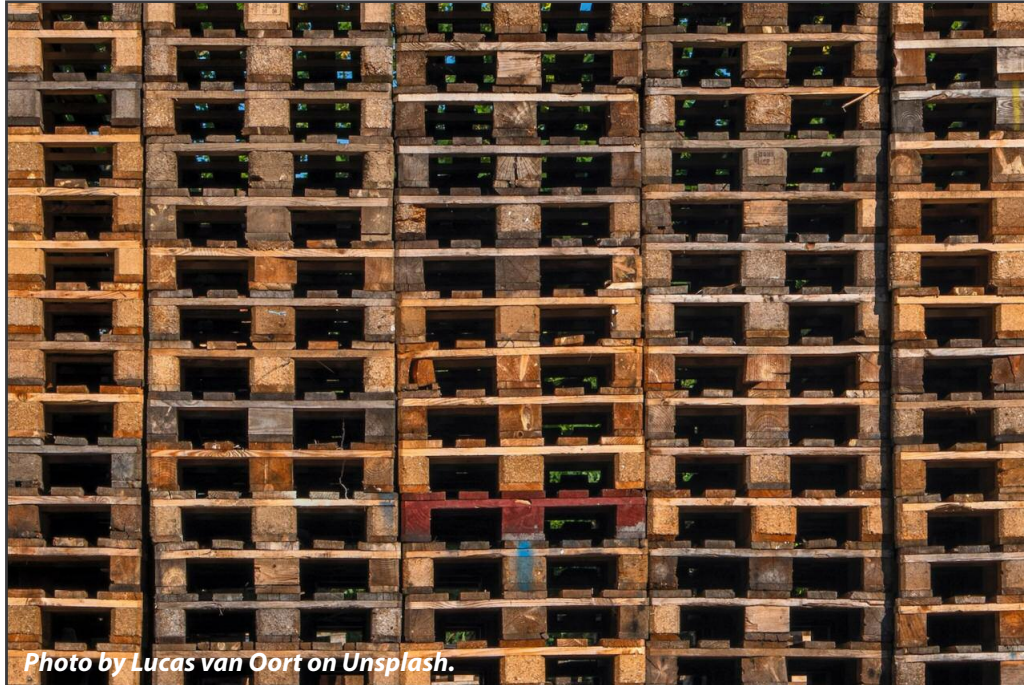


Photo by Lucas van Oort on Unsplash.

# West Fraser: net carbon negative

**STEVE ROEBUCK, European Health & Safety Director at West Fraser, explains why achieving net carbon negative status for the products is not the end of the company’s environmental journey.**

“West Fraser, and formerly Norbord, has always been committed to reducing the impact of our operation on the environment,” says Mr Roebuck. “All of our products are produced in the UK using Woodland Assurance Scheme wood from sustainably managed forests.

“Aside from the raw material supply side of our operation, we have been focused on the energy we use. Our industry is in the energy-intensive category, so West Fraser is one of a number of big energy users. Wood is 50% water when we buy it and this requires a good deal of heat to dry it out. We’ve taken steps to counter the impact of this high energy consumption by focusing on fossil fuel energy. We now derive 1,455 GWhr (2021) of heat from renewable sources, principally process residues, with anything left over from the manufacturing process being used to generate heat, making West Fraser the largest industrial generator of renewable heat in the UK. All three of our UK sites participate in the government renewable heat incentive scheme. To be able to participate in that the material that’s used to generate heat must be from renewable sources. This has been verified through annual independent audit and certification.

“The other high energy demand of our industry is on electricity, and we have just entered into contracts with our electricity providers to ensure all our electricity comes from renewable sources. This means we only buy renewable electricity, covered by REGO guarantees (renewable energy of guaranteed origins). There is a premium to pay for that, but we think it’s the right thing to do. We’ve also installed low energy LED lighting with motion sensors across our sites! Indeed, our company has globally committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. This means our targets are aligned with the less than 1.5° C temperature rise. The company has committed publicly to these targets and is committing \$50 million a year to achieving them. Our impact on the environment matters to us. As well as a global commitment by the company, we are always looking for ways we can reduce our carbon footprint closer to home, and this often means financial investment.

“Our OSB is manufactured in Inverness and all our wood comes from within an approximate 70-mile radius of the factory. At the moment, virtually all of the OSB manufactured in the Inverness plant goes out by road, but right now we are in a capital process with Network Rail. We’ve run trials and are in the process of building the capital infrastructure to be able to switch to rail and that will have a massive impact on transport emissions. By switching from road to rail we estimate that we will make a saving of around 9,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year.

So, although we are proud of the net carbon negative status of our products, there is always more to do, and we are committed to doing what we can to ensure we don’t detrimentally impact the planet we all live on.

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





# Expansion plans at Bluestone National Park Resort coincide with rise in visitor numbers to Wales

**THE FIRST sustainable timber frame for 80 new lodges arrived at Bluestone National Park Resort during July as the latest figures show three quarters (75%) of Welsh tourism businesses saw an increase or maintained visitor levels over the May half term.**

The delivery of the first timber frame is part of a £23 million expansion development.

Like many tourism businesses in Wales, Bluestone is witnessing a significant increase in booking from pre-pandemic levels with the new development plans catering for a growing demand for luxury lodge accommodation for short breaks in areas of natural beauty.

The Wales Tourism Business Barometer also shows visitor numbers were up 25% compared to pre-pandemic levels, with restaurants, pubs and cafés enjoying a busy Jubilee bank holiday weekend as 38% of hospitality businesses experienced more customers than usual.

In further research from the Visit Britain Domestic Sentiment Tracker, 39% of respondents said they are more likely to choose a UK trip than an overseas trip compared to pre-pandemic. The top reasons for this preference being that UK holidays are easier to plan, and long queues at airports or cancelled flights.

"We know there's growing demand for a sustainable luxury



tourism product in Wales and we're confident we can meet the need for an ecologically sound product in natural surroundings," said Marten Lewis, head of sustainability at Bluestone National Park Resort.

"Sustainability is a key aspect across all the decisions on the design and build. Along with the promotion of health and wellbeing, sustainability has always formed an integral part of Bluestone's

business operations and will continue to do so as we move forward," added Marten.

Bluestone reported a 'surge' in bookings for holidays in August in late June as uncertainty continued over flight cancellations and delays.

The holiday resort near Narberth in Pembrokeshire said Thursday 23rd June was the busiest day for August bookings since mid-March. Sales were even ahead of bookings for August

2019, showing that despite international travel having opened up with restrictions lifted, the demand for staycations is still strong.

The new lodges will have their own private entrance with virtual check-in and will offer the most luxurious facilities to date at Bluestone. Visitors were among the first to book the new lodges later in July in readiness of their official opening in the summer of 2023.

The new lodges are the fourth phase of expansion plans for the resort near Narberth in Pembrokeshire, which currently has 344 existing lodges, cottages and studio apartments across 500 acres of rolling Pembrokeshire countryside.

Timber and other sustainable materials have been used in the design and construction of the 'Platinum' lodges which will be heated by air-source heat pumps.

Welshpool-based SJ Roberts Construction is the main contractors during the project, while the timber frames are manufactured by sister company Lowfield Timber Frames with the remainder of the supply chain being carefully selected to ensure a quality build is guaranteed, while aiming to use as many local suppliers as possible. All of the timber used is certified by the PEFC.

**Bluestone National Park Resort  
Wales  
[www.bluestonewales.com](http://www.bluestonewales.com)**





# Time-honoured traditions meet new green technology in rural Washington

**SUSTAINABILITY** meets technology in the recently completed Woodinville Whiskey facility, where the age-old process of distilling whiskey is married together with green technology in the form of Kebony, a global leader in the production of sustainable wood. Situated in rural Quincy, Washington, the site is home to Woodinville Whiskey's small-batch bottling, barrelling and ageing facilities.

Designed by Seattle-based Graham Baba Architects, the completed warehouses are part of what will eventually be six, 25,000 ft<sup>2</sup> structures, spread across a generous 10-acre complex, with the third build to completed in July.

Maintaining the simple, rectilinear gabled form and dark brown hue of the Woodinville distillery, the new complex's structures are clad in Kebony and dark metal siding. Kebony wood was selected for its eco-friendly credentials and



durable nature, which will stand strong against the extremes of the Washington climate.

A Norwegian company, Kebony uses a patented technique to transform sustainably sourced softwoods with hardwood-like properties such as dimensional stability, without compromising on appearance.

The transition between office and process areas is demarcated with a long vertical window that folds from wall to ceiling, transforming into a skylight. Horizontal windows on the north wall of the processing area frame the adjacent agricultural landscape and farmstead. A row of skylights provides natural daylight into the processing space, while south-facing photovoltaic rooftop panels provide a renewable source of electricity.

Selective elements demolished at the Woodinville distillery (steel and old growth Douglas fir stairs and steel railings) were salvaged and repurposed for the new complex, keeping them out of landfill while creating a spiritual and physical link between the two sites.

Founded by friends Orlin Sorensen and Brett Carlile, Woodinville Whiskey reflects their passion for a product that blends craft methods with the historic tradition of bourbon whiskey produc-

tion. The Quincy campus is a study in cutting edge design, utilising high-quality materials to reflect the innovative creation of the whiskey.

Susan Tillack, Associate Principal at Graham Baba Architects, commented: "Kebony was a natural choice for the front façades as the clients wanted the warmth of wood, but the material had to be durable enough to withstand the extreme heat and cold of eastern Washington's weather, without requiring continuous maintenance. For us, it was a perfect fit due to the beauty of the product, its sustainability and the ease of installation with the use of Kebony's rainscreen system."

Nina Landbø, international sales manager at Kebony, added: "It is pleasing to see that Woodinville Whiskey's newest addition recognises the importance of using sustainable materials in construction. By pairing recycled materials with Kebony, the warehouses work to minimise their environmental impact, maintaining this with the generation of green energy. The visually impressive structures pay homage to rural America, displaying the Woodinville brand for all to see."

**Images: Kristian Alveo**  
**Kebony**  
[www.kebony.com](http://www.kebony.com)



# Cowie's recycling programme reduces waste and delivers savings for West Fraser

**AS A LEADING UK producer of net carbon negative engineered wood-based products, West Fraser understands the importance of having sustainable operations.**

With a strong commitment to the environment and the communities in which the company operates, there is a dedication to recovering as much value as possible from the resources used to produce its products while working to minimise waste and greenhouse gas emissions. At the Cowie site in Scotland, West Fraser is working in partnership with a leading third-party provider of recycling and resource recovery to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill while also achieving substantial cost savings.

West Fraser operates state-of-the-art MDF and particleboard production lines at its Cowie site. In 2021, more than 3,200 tonnes of waste were removed from the site as part of its recycling programme. Compared to the previous year, the recycling rate at the Cowie site has improved 10%, with 62% of waste now recycled on-site. This is expected to increase to 66% by the end of 2022.

A high proportion of the waste generated at Cowie comes from West Fraser's use of recycled wood during its manufacturing process for its MDF and particleboard products. To remove any scrap materials that would interfere with the manufacturing process, the wood is screened



before use, which generates a variety of dry mixed recycling waste. To make the collection of this waste more efficient, larger recycling bins are now being utilised and have been strategically placed across the site. As a result, vehicle movements on site have been reduced by 11% and often take place at night, resulting in fewer potentially hazardous interactions with site personnel and reducing impact on site activities. Together,

these strategies have enabled a 37% reduction in waste and savings of more than £24,000 in transport and disposal costs, while also reducing vehicle emissions.

Compliance management and safety are also important considerations of the program. Audits are regularly undertaken to maintain compliance to waste regulations and help ensure safety of employees and contractors visiting the Cowie site remains a top priority for all those involved.

Looking to the future, West Fraser and its recycling partner are exploring other ways to continue diverting wastes from landfill, including specialised equipment that recovers light plastics and films to further enhance the opportunities to recover recyclable materials from West Fraser's waste stream.

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

# Business owners seek alternative solutions to save money on energy bills as prices rise

**AS ENERGY prices continue to rise, some business owners are starting to look into alternative options to help them save money on their gas and electricity bills, such as by investing in a wood waste heater.**

Managing director of Wood Waste Technology, Kurt Cockroft, has seen an increase in the number of enquiries about wood waste heaters, from businesses who are looking to save money by reducing their reliance on traditional energy sources.

Wood Waste Technology manufactures wood waste heaters that help businesses save money by recycling waste wood into free factory heating. As well as saving money on heating bills, investing in a wood waste heater also helps businesses save money on skips and other waste disposal charges, as the waste wood gets converted into fuel so no longer needs to be disposed of via other methods.

Kurt says: "We're getting an unusually high number of enquiries at the moment, from worried business owners who are becoming fearful about how much their energy bills might be once the colder weather arrives. It seems they are starting to make enquiries about alternatives now, as they want to have a solution in place before the autumn and winter months as there's just so much uncertainty, especially as business energy tariffs don't have a price cap like the domestic market, leaving businesses open to potentially huge increases in their bills.

"Even before the energy price hikes, one of the most popular quotes we hear from our customers after buying a wood waste heater is, 'I wish I'd bought one sooner', because it makes disposing of waste wood so easy whilst conveniently heating a factory for free. If your business generates or has access to waste wood or sawdust, there's never been a better time to find out more about wood waste heaters and get a quote."

Wood Waste Technology offers a full range of wood waste heaters, from small hand fired units to larger fully automatic systems, and all the heaters are manufactured in-house at the company's head office in Stafford. The company offers site survey and design, as well as manufacture, installation and on-going maintenance — plus services all types of wood waste heaters and supplies genuine spares.

**Wood Waste Technology** ● Tel 01785 250400 ● [www.woodwastetechnology.co.uk](http://www.woodwastetechnology.co.uk)





# Luxury five-bedroom home with ocean and city view prioritises sustainable Kebony wood

**A STUNNING model home, nestled into an arching hillside in Bel Air, which offers expansive views of Century City, Downtown LA, the Hollywood Reservoir and the Pacific Ocean, has now been completed by design-build firm HM DG INC.**

The home prioritises modern, sustainable living through its extensive use of Kebony wood, a global leader in the production of sustainably modified wood, which provides the bespoke luxury home with a striking aesthetic, benefitting of its unique location.

The 7,500 ft<sup>2</sup>, five bedroom home sits on a 2.5 acre lot in a tucked-away neighbourhood of exclusive homes. It was designed by HM DG principal Hassan Majd, whose firm also built the residence, which recently sold for nearly \$12 million.

The striking exterior of the two-storey home is covered on the first level with sand-coloured stucco and on the second, with Kebony wood. The specialist timber requires zero maintenance, and ages from an initial golden colour to a silver-grey over time.

Kebony wood was selected for its eco-friendly credentials and durable nature, which will stand strong against the extremes of the LA climate. A Norwegian company, Kebony uses a patented technique to transform sustainably sourced softwoods with hardwood-like properties such as dimensional stability, without compromising on appearance.

Inside, the home's entrance rises to a double-high volume topped by an inverted pyramid ceiling and reveals an expansive



glass wall that opens to the pool and patio and a spectacular Los Angeles vista. Automated pocket doors completely disappear into the walls, perfect for the Southern California indoor-outdoor lifestyle.

The formal living area includes a fireplace, and just beyond that, two bedrooms are situated. The colour palette throughout the home emphasises warm, organic earth tones, with honed limestone floors on the first level and white oak on the second.

A staircase leads from the main entry to the second level. There in the centre, under the inverted pyramid ceiling, the area is open to the main level below, giving the space a particularly intimate feeling. This upper level — which has



its own access to patios for indoor-outdoor living — includes an informal living room/family room/game room, the master suite, and two additional bedrooms.

The master bedroom, which juts out above the patio, is breath taking. The master bath is appointed with dark charcoal grey marble with a leather finish, and the glass enclosure is suspended in the mid-air with the view of the Hollywood Hills and Century City and beyond.

Hassan Majd, principal at HM DG INC, commented: "The flair is in the finishing details. In the kitchen and informal living space, the casework and panelling are all the same woodwork. That ties the house together and provides a

[Finnish architect] Alvar Aalto sensibility. I love the way it [the master bedroom] enjoys the best views on the property, with an unobstructed view of Los Angeles and the Hollywood Hills."

Nina Landbø, international sales manager at Kebony, added: "It is brilliant to see Kebony in action within this impressive Bel Air home, which uses Kebony to create the sleek look of modernity. The warm, earthy tones of the home are complemented by Kebony and the surrounding hillside views, making for a serene escape from the hustle and bustle of the city."

**Images: Kristian Alveo  
Kebony  
www.kebony.com**





# Brandt Design Wild Oak and Satin Brass kitchen with custom wine rack

**LEADING UK interior design specialists, Brandt Design, brings form and function to this deluxe London home, by creating an inviting open-plan kitchen living space designed for cooking, dining and entertaining.**

In fact, home entertaining was the order of the day for this new build property in Chislehurst, South East London as the property owners created their forever home. Within easy commuting distance to Charing Cross, this leafy suburb within the M25 is well-placed for the beautiful Kent countryside, as well as the bright lights of the capital.

Brandt Design was delighted to assist the homeowners in their desire to create an elegant contemporary kitchen, commissioned to design a space for family cooking, as well as wine tasting and enjoying cocktails with family and friends. With this in mind, Brandt Design specified a bespoke kitchen and bar arrangement in Urban Grey Wild Oak Furniture with custom satin brass design elements and white veined Neolith Estuario marble surfaces. The combination of light wood met with quality raw materials completely sets the tone in this sophisticated kitchen extension, as well as reflect the unique nature of this modern family home.

The grand kitchen island seats four in comfort with ample storage space on the working side so



that the hosts can rustle up a feast using the latest integrated appliances such as twin ovens and a discreet warming drawer, which is more efficient at keeping cooked food warm and create a dedicated place to keep plates warm while entertaining.

Fresh produce is easily stored in the built-in fridge drawers, and these sit within easy-reach of the chef, just beneath the supersized flush-mounted glass induction hob complete with integrated extractor to prevent cooking vapours from spreading through-

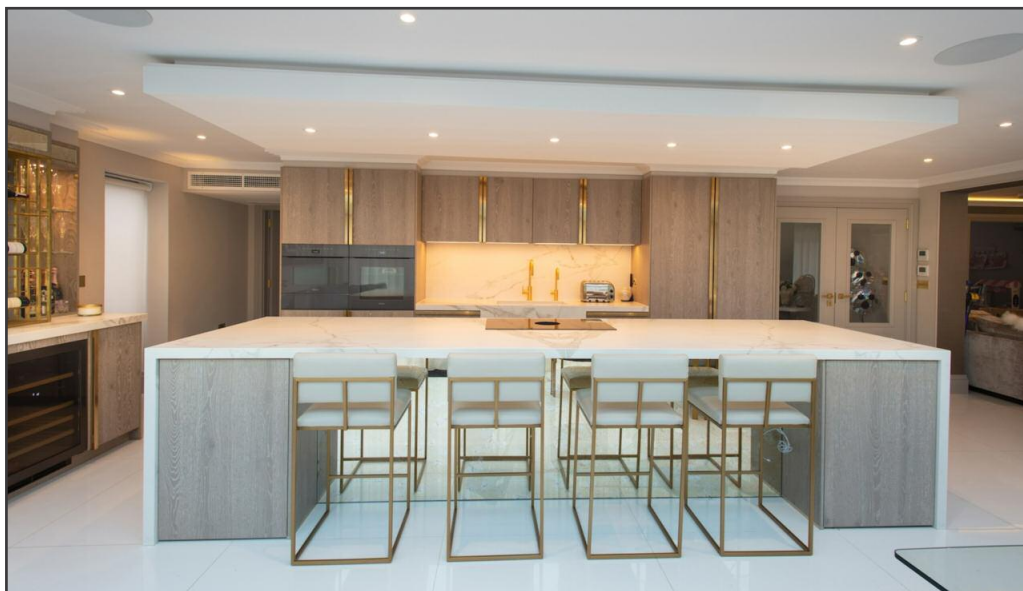
out the room and bothering guests. Designed with a large 53 litre capacity one bowl sink, the wet zone makes it a breeze for the homeowners to wash multiple dishes at the same time. And a pair of brushed gold kitchen taps add to its practical luxury, offering a standard mixer tap alongside an all-in-one model with an amazing five water options: filtered boiling, chilled and sparkling water, alongside unfiltered hot and cold.

To further support the owner's love of home entertaining, Brandt Design introduced a bespoke bar

area just outside of the main kitchen, featuring a custom gold wine rack and integrated wine cabinet. Able to store either red, white or sparkling wine at the optimum temperature, this model of wine cabinet can also convert into a can chiller so as required, they can offer guests a cold beer, cider or soft drink too. The sideboard is designed in the same grey oak furniture with satin brass decorative trims and chunky marble worktop, and the custom wine rack epitomises high glamour finished in rich gold with mirrored glass display shelving.

The elegant combination of stone and wood when mixed with warm-toned metallic accents ensure this designer kitchen and living space is both visually appealing and inviting. Light floods in from the patio highlighting the beauty of the gold light fixtures and fittings, which co-ordinate with the gold legs of the bar stools, and sheer voile curtains ensure privacy while defusing the natural light. To complete the look, Brandt Design enhances the space with refined elements such as white veined marble effect surfaces, warm white upholstery and hardwearing, neutral porcelain flooring.

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# Rotpunkt new Fenix Green answers top colour trend for 2022



**ROTPUNKT, award winning designer and leading manufacturer of climate-friendly German kitchen furniture, answers the top colour trend in interior design for 2022 with the launch of Fenix Green: a super-matt rich green colour boasting an easy-clean, hygienic, anti-fingerprint surface.**

Fenix Green is one of three new colourways to expand the Fenix collection in 2022, with the latest new additions of Green, Red and Blue adding to Black and Grey, which first launched the range in 2020. Available for use upon the company's bestselling Zerox kitchen furniture, the Fenix door range offers a rich colour palette, which is soft to touch and extremely resilient, providing enhanced antibacterial properties so your kitchen surfaces are always protected. Advantages include:

- Enhanced antibacterial properties.
- Extremely matt surface, resulting in low light reflectivity.
- Anti-fingerprint, so soft to touch.
- Resistant against scratches and minor abrasions.
- Resistance to dry heat, acid solvents and household cleaning agents.

Indistinguishable from real wood, Sherwood Black frames the new Fenix Green door to create a modern colour combination that evokes elements of nature with the latest nanotechnology. Built with sustainability in mind, Matt Phillips, head of UK operations at Rotpunkt, says: "A new favourite in 2022, the colour green has previously been associated with more classic kitchen schemes, so we are delighted to bring it to the forefront of contemporary kitchen design with our new range of Fenix colours." The Fenix Green kitchen features the following new products:

**Fenix surfaces:** State-of-the-art manufacturing processes are delivering extra durable surfaces which are rich in colour and easy to clean just

like the Fenix Green inset-style kitchen, which is designed to minimise its footprint in a blended kitchen living space. The graphic white veining on the Fenix Black marble-effect worktops and splashback adds a signature feel to the working zone, while enhancing the value of traditional raw materials like wood, glass and stone. Robust undercounter cabinets in green offer a series of deep, low-profile drawers and high-profile base units to maximise storage space discreetly and efficiently. The Fenix Green fronts are available in two heights to accommodate a comfortable working environment: 780 mm and 910 mm.

**XTend dimensions:** Customers can broaden their horizons with the new 2,340 mm height doors, which are part of the XTend range by Rotpunkt that offers a series of standard and extra-tall furniture solutions. Now customers can maximise storage by enabling an extra run of top units above extra tall cabinets to make the best use of available space for a custom fit. The Sherwood Black full height doors mimic the look and feel of real wood, without the weight or porous qualities of timber to provide an ideal solution for a multiuse living space. This faux wood décor features a colour-matched 1.3 mm circumferential, jointless edge, which means when placed side by side, a series of tall units will look like one complete run of cabinetry.

Matt adds, "Combining high-fashion green, which both Houzz.com and House Beautiful champion as the colour of choice in 2022, alongside realistic faux finishes and industrial-style accents is a great way to satisfy today's discerning homeowner, who demands the very best in sustainable style."

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# Abode partners with Material Lab Design Resource & Materials Studio



**ABODE, award-winning designer and distributor of market leading kitchen taps, sinks, bathroom taps and showering solutions, is pleased to announce the company's latest partnership with one of the UK's finest innovation hubs, Material Lab.**

Founded in 2006 by Johnson Tiles, this renowned Design Resource & Materials Studio is located in the heart of London, just minutes from Regent Street and Oxford Circus. Visitors can see some of the biggest global interior brands and now, explore the newly installed lifestyle display of working Abode sinks and taps. The L-shaped kitchen is designed by CKL Commodore Design and features Halifax Oak furniture by Egger with Graphite Grey worktops from Omega Interiors Hull.

Taranpreet Kaur, studio manager at Material Lab, says, "We are delighted to welcome Abode as our latest Design Partner, bringing a beautiful balance of function and design to architects and designers who want to stand out and be 100% original."

"Material Lab is proud to serve the design community as a hub for innovation, sharing ideas and design inspiration with the latest samples and pioneering products to promote new levels of creativity."

"Abode joined our studio in June and so far, it has been extremely well received, particularly the company's range of statement WRAS Approved kitchen taps in both contemporary and traditional styles, and their collection of Abode kitchen sinks, all designed with intelligent design cues to improve the form and function of the wet zone."

The product innovations by Abode were carefully selected to reflect the latest trends, which cater to housebuilders, developers, specifiers and the interiors community, which are design-sensitive and demand quality. The company displays a range of functional products including working Pronteau hot water taps and their award winning Swich water filter device, plus a range of fashion-forward finishes including Matt Black, Antique Brass, Black & Brass, as well as Stainless Steel and Chrome, all supported with finish samples and product literature.

Graeme Blythe (pictured) is thrilled to be overseeing the company's latest trade partnership with Material Lab as national contracts manager for Abode. Speaking about his new position, Graeme says, "After nearly six years working

for Abode building extensive knowledge of our luxury, high quality sinks and taps I am looking forward to delivering a great customer experience to both new and existing customers. This London based resource will provide an opportunity for customers to view key products from our extensive range in one place."

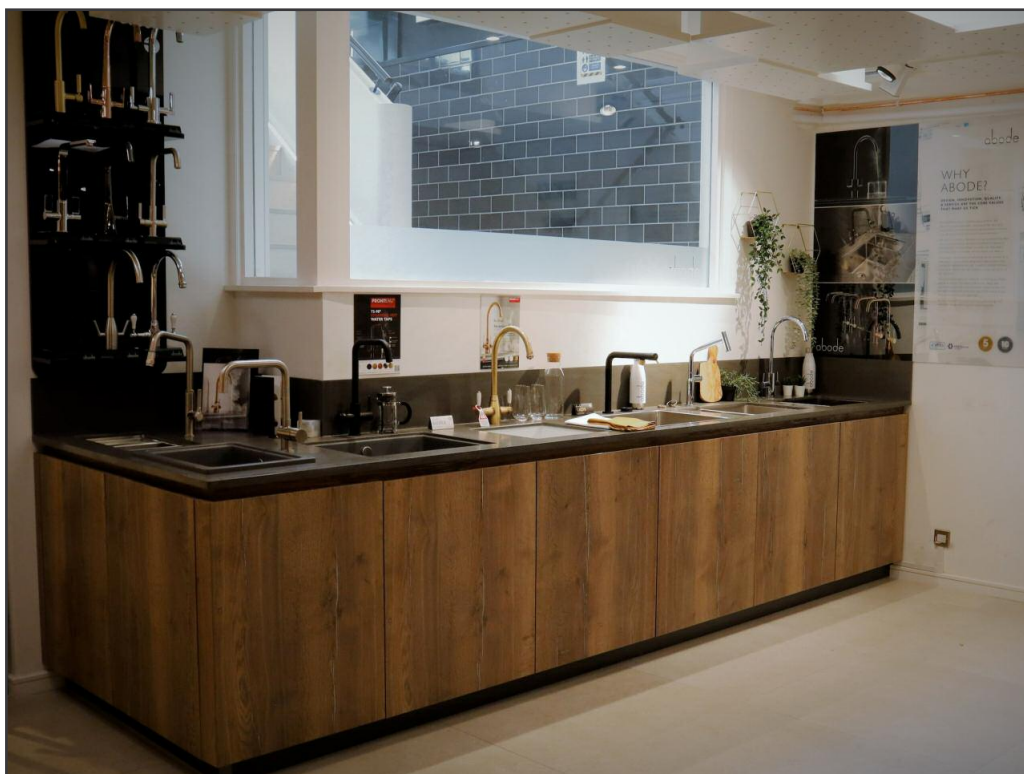
Previously the area sales manager for London & Southeast of England at Abode, Graeme is delighted to accept his new role as national contracts manager which will enable a greater focus on all aspects of contracts and specification. Reaching out to both new and existing customers, Graeme looks forward to further enhancing Abode's excellent customer service and quality reputation, while ensuring that the company's contract division continues to grow and innovation.

**Abode**

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# Deluxe kitchen with hidden bootroom by Brandt Design

**LEADING British interior design specialists, Brandt Design, ensures the ultimate in contemporary family living with this deluxe open-plan kitchen with hidden bootroom for a beautiful family home in Hertfordshire.**

Julia Steadman, commercial director at Brandt Design, says, "Creating a signature style that plays to a very specific family dynamic, is increasingly important in kitchen design as we adjust to changing lifestyles and new spatial layouts on the ground floor.

"We are firm believers in 'design longevity' and take pride in planning and installing bespoke kitchens, which transcend the latest interior trends and enhance life at home.

"This fantastic project recently designed and installed by us, is the result of a complete redesign of the ground floor, where a brand-new kitchen and hidden bootroom now becomes the foundation of the entire downstairs living space. The combination of our Urban Furniture in Velvet Blue and Polar White helps to define as well as unify each room for the ultimate in fresh, easy living."

Home to a busy household with school-age children and a large family dog, the Brandt design team needed to make the kitchen living space dual purpose, creating a show-style kitchen in the main areas for the height of indoor-outdoor entertaining, alongside a more understated design in the bootroom where the focus is function over form. This said, both spaces offer an element of 'hidden design' as the run of furniture makes way for an expanse of storage that is only seen if needed.

In the contemporary kitchen, entertaining at home is made easy with a bank of built-in ovens, integrated hob and a super-size fridge freezer complete with luxury wine cooler. An impressive central island unit just steps away from the palatial garden outside is topped with premium Caesarstone worktops, which are made by Brandt Design at its Bespoke Stone Fabrication Centre. Adding a modern feel, the stone worktops provide a direct contrast between the more classic herringbone parquet flooring and monolithic kitchen island with white Kartell bar stools.

Custom storage is built around the appliances to capitalise on every inch of available space, and the well-defined wet zone with matt black hardware, stone surfaces and ambient lighting help to localise the cook and prep areas. A pop-up power station, believed to be unique, is integrated into the island worktop adding value, creating another access point to plug in small appliances when baking or preparing a large meal. Plus, it perfectly coordinates with essential components for a truly minimalist vibe. The luxury side-by-side fridge freezer with integrated wine cooler heightens the level of sophistication and is cleverly designed on the periphery of the kitchen to ensure easy access from the dining area, and safe distance from the cook zone.



Behind a wall of white to the left, lies a hidden bootroom with wall-to-wall storage, which is designed in a galley-style arrangement to provide a more practical option in such a high traffic, all-purpose area. The run of dark blue furniture creates extra capacity for food storage, and space for noisy laundry appliances that are less practical in an open-plan kitchen layout. Brandt Design also factored in how the family would use the extra utility zone going from inside to out, and therefore decided to integrate some bench seating on the opposite side including overhead compartments and space to hang coats, leisurewear, sports kits, school bags and keep shoes and trainers tidied away.

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# Rotpunkt creates new possibilities for the Utility Room

**ROTPUNKT**, award winning designer and leading manufacturer of climate-friendly German kitchen furniture, creates new possibilities for the modern home and lifestyle with the launch of its new Utility Furniture specially designed for compact and complete laundry rooms.

Designed using its leading Zerox furniture and available in all 26 colour options, Rotpunkt is able to meet the needs of today's multi-purpose ground floor space with a new range of utility furniture complete with custom laundry cabinets, ergonomic housing for appliances, tall units, integrated waste systems and accessories such as integrated laundry baskets, adjustable shelves and angled storage options.

Matt Phillips, head of UK operations at Rotpunkt, says: "Sophisticated designed-in storage solutions allow for minimal disruption to the ground floor, and the need for practical storage that is separate from the main kitchen is now welcoming dedicated furniture specifically for the utility room and laundry space. Presenting a new approach to household management, our new Utility Furniture is modular by design, which is helping to inspire new levels of creativity when considering the relocation of laundry appliances to previously redundant spaces like a hallway, box room and even first floor landing."

The new Utility Furniture by Rotpunkt offers three tall unit designs in five available heights at 565-625 mm depth, fully equipped with a range of interior elements and storage components.

Options include: tall unit 450 mm wide with laundry basket including four, five or six adjustable shelves, a fixed shelf and one deep drawer with a



hanging laundry basket; tall unit 600 mm wide with shoe rack including none, one or two adjustable shelves, a fixed shelf and five angled baskets; tall unit 600 mm wide with two or three fixed shelves, which creates space for up to three laundry baskets (not included). The available heights are: 1,820 mm, 1,950 mm, 2,080 mm, 2,210 mm and 2,340 mm. There is also a built-under drawer unit measuring 260 mm high x 600 mm wide x 625 mm deep, which is designed with one drawer and one extendable shelf and a 260 mm high fascia.

**Ergonomic laundry appliances:** Pair tall laundry units with a combi furniture solution for a washing machine and dryer, specially designed at an ergonomic working height for ease of use. This empowers a clear separation of tasks enhancing home hygiene and cleanliness and even better, the streamlined units bring you extra peace and quiet.

**Climate friendly furniture:** In line with the Rotpunkt 'Together to zero' climate strategy to reduce carbon emissions, the furniture is made with sustainability in mind. It is crafted from Greenline BioBoard Gen2, the sustainable, green and environmentally friendly alternative to traditional chipboards consisting of up to 90% recycled wood without sacrificing on quality.

**Durable laminate surfaces:** Bringing colour and tactility to the utility room in an innovative way, this furniture boasts high-performance laminate finishes which are robust and low maintenance. Finishes are fade-resistant and anti-fingerprint for easy cleaning, along with being highly scratch and chemical resistant which is ideal in a heavy-use work area exposed to different cleaning agents.

**Hidden doors:** It just got easier to introduce utility room furniture into an open-plan kitchen space with the new access door, which opens in reverse. Embracing the possibilities of reconfiguring the ground floor, the access door provides discreet entry through a continuous run of tall units that when used, reveals a hidden room which is self-contained from the rest of the kitchen living space. Sizes are 900 mm wide with five available heights ranging from 1,820 to 2,340 mm.

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# BA launches two new kitchen brochures

**BA, one of the UK's leading manufacturers of factory-built, bespoke and made-to-measure kitchens and bedrooms and specialist components, has released two new kitchen brochures in 2022, which are designed to serve both retail and trade sectors, customer-dependent.**

BA Kitchen Brochure 2022: Complete kitchens and components from an experienced partner who offers the independent retailer quality and support. Practical and stylish, this brochure will guide retail customers through the latest must-have designs for the UK home and lifestyle. Presenting an extensive product offer, choose from a range of rigid, flat-pack and true handleless kitchen designs in a variety of different styled doors, cabinets, drawers, with matching handles and accessories available. Designed to support the retailer with new design opportunities and a quick, easy install option, all customers need to do is select, plan and design, and BA will then manufacture, build and deliver.

Blossom Avenue Kitchen Brochure 2022: Blossom Avenue is where beauty is achieved in the kitchen and made-to-measure furniture that takes perfect ideas from dream to reality. Designed for the UK homeowner, customers have 11 collections to choose from to ensure there is something for every space and size of budget. Each range is the perfect mix of quality, sustainable materials and cutting-edge design, categorised in four distinct styles: contemporary, handleless, classic and traditional. Blossom Avenue kitchens are sold through a network of trusted dealers who will be able to guide homeowners through the design process, inspiring and advising along the way.

Both brochures feature the very best of BA — UK craftsmanship, which brings Italian-style to life with a comprehensive range of designs, materials and finishes with sustainability at its core. Each furniture collection is made with pride by the company's skilled artisans across three UK factories, who take their lead from extensive research and in-house product development to ensure that every piece of furniture fulfils the company's strict quality standards and ability to cater to rising trends.

Offering the best-in quality furniture, each brochure features a host of new solutions, which are all supported by a wide range of essential kitchen components and finishing touches. New kitchen styles include Oakham, Buxton, Helmsley, Austin, Chester and Stratford doors in the Bella range, and the latest new finishes in 2022 are Colonial Blue and Sage Green in Matt finish, along with White, Light Grey, Dust Grey and Indigo Blue in Supermatt finish in the Bella range.

Nuala Brady, group marketing manager at BA, says: "It is very important that as a business,

we are able to tailor our products to suit each of our customer bases, to ensure our specialists get the right products they need for their customers.

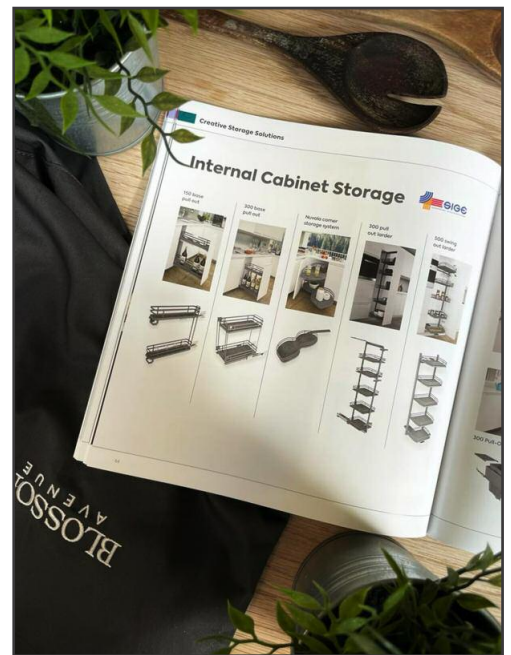
"Our new lifestyle brochures are specifically designed to simplify the decision process dependent on your brief, we've colour coded styles and product support icons, which provide a quick and simple guide to our extensive product and service benefits."

The new BA and Blossom Avenue brochures can be accessed via the dedicated website for each brand, and customers just need to choose the collection they want to download, enter an email and the download will begin. End users and retailers alike can also get inspired by each website and make full use of the online kitchen planner to help bring dream kitchens to life.

"Blossom Avenue is part of BA, where we manufacture all of the furniture ranges to give us complete quality control. Our 30 years of experience means that consistently, high quality design has become the foundation of our business. Our commitment to 'Better' has been acknowledged by many for design, service, supply and product quality, and as far as we're concerned, this is only the start," Nuala adds.

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# Brandt Design deep purple character kitchen in Heritage Furniture

**LEADING UK interior design specialists, Brandt Design, add the intensity of colour to one of its Heritage kitchens for a period property in the seaside town of Broadstairs, East Kent.**

Designed to exude confidence and high character, this deliciously deep purple kitchen truly reflects the homeowner's lifestyle and love for being creative. Julia Steadman, commercial director at Brandt Design, says, "We pride ourselves on being original by design and we were instantly inspired by this artistic brief for a hardworking kitchen dining space that has dual access and entry to the garden. In fact, the project in Broadstairs presented us with a unique challenge, as we needed to work within the parameters of the period property that has existing architectural features, an inflexible blueprint and limited natural light."

Brandt Design therefore chose a parallel layout to allow the kitchen furniture to work in tandem with a series of freestanding appliances. Built-in models would evoke a more contemporary look not in keeping with the classic ebb and flow of the kitchen space, and so a 50s retro-style Smeg fridge, Bertazzoni range cooker and AGA cast-iron cooker in stylish British Racing Green are chosen for authenticity.



To accentuate the homeowner's love of cooking, bespoke Heritage Furniture by Brandt Design was the natural choice thanks to its in-frame cabinetry, ability to be hand painted and traditional-style toe-kicks that feature a recessed plinth at the base of the cabinets to look like independent pieces of furniture. Saturated in colour, this rich and luxurious deep purple is Pelt by Farrow & Ball, a bold finish that

in daylight reveals more blue undertones and in darker lit areas, it can look almost black.

The need for ample storage is critical in any kitchen and in this case, Brandt Design ensured precise space planning of the furniture in terms of layout, proportions and sight lines. Julia adds, "Discovering what our clients love to cook and how regularly they entertain at home is a key part of our design

process, as we often take this time to suggest added extras like a dedicated coffee station, walk-in pantry or breakfast cupboard to help streamline daily life. Needing to be sensitive to existing architectural features, we recommended using a portion of redundant space between the kitchen wall and turn it into a practical I-shaped food store complete with three custom shelves and enough space for a toaster."

Managing director at Brandt Design, Scott Davis, says, "The painted kitchen is a superb vehicle for personal expression, so you need to be sure that you really love the colour and see how it reacts when exposed to natural daylight or under artificial lighting. Selecting a Shaker-style door is an unbeatable way to unite old and new in an older property, especially when finished with brass cup handles and cabinet latches on the base units, and brass knobs on the top units. As interior design specialists we like to consider how we can layer each element in a kitchen including brassware, over-mantles, bookshelves and utensil hanging rails to add greater utility, charm and visual depth to custom design schemes."

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# Rotpunkt new Pavilo door with Shaker-style modern cassette front

**ROTPUNKT**, award winning designer and leading manufacturer of climate-friendly German kitchen furniture, has introduced a new and timeless version of the classic Shaker-style door with the launch of Pavilo: a modern interpretation of the popular Shaker furniture design movement.

Designed with a modern cassette front that is rounded on the inside and out, Pavilo is available in all matt lacquer finishes including the new Just Grey colour option and bestselling Black, Carbon, Lava, Umbra and Daylight Grey. Beautiful and practical, this subtle door is designed to not only create a soft and harmonious look, but also reduce the number of surfaces to help minimise the accumulation of unwanted dirt, dust, grease and debris synonymous with kitchen living.

Matt Phillips, head of UK operations at Rotpunkt, says: "Shaker-style interiors are ultra-versatile, as they effortlessly ride the line between traditional and contemporary ideas. Designed to evolve the traditional look of a timber in frame kitchen and recreate 18th century design elements so they can sit in the modern home, Pavilo gives a new dimension to the constantly evolving industrial-style kitchen, which is in keeping with today's modern home and lifestyle."

When combined with natural timber elements like the new Memory RI vertical door in New Forest Oak, Pavilo brings a fresh new energy to the hybrid kitchen space, which seemingly now is both classic and contemporary. Added to that, "Big ticket items like the kitchen are helping UK homeowners to reduce their environmental impact and live greener lifestyles. Pavilo answers the call for climate-friendly kitchen design, constructed from our Greenline BioBoard Gen2, which is a sustainable chipboard that consists of up to 90% recycled wood," adds Matt.



The Pavilo kitchen concept features the following new innovations: **Pavilo:** Blending classic style with contemporary comfort, this new Shaker-style door is designed with a modern cassette front with rounded edges inside and out. Available in all 52 matt lacquer colours, Pavilo is a perfect foundation to get creative with the hardware too, just like the new 499 Black T-bar style knob handle shown.

**Just Grey:** This new colour is one of 14 shades of grey by Rotpunkt, and it works harmoniously with timber finishes like the pictured wood panelling, which is set within the island unit. Behind, the wet area is framed by two designed-in tall units with a mix of open and closed storage and built-in appliances to create the ultimate compact cook zone.

**Memory RI:** Bringing the tactile warmth of timber into the kitchen, this new door is designed with a contemporary reeded structure with high-definition vertical grooves. Available in three oak finishes, matt black and a ready to paint option, the textured effect of Memory helps emphasise the generous overhead wall units to make the back wall feel spacious, despite its small footprint.

**Smart-ready LED lighting:** A modern and minimalist pendant light over the island brings illumination to this calming working space as it can be hung up to 1,450 mm from the ceiling. Available in 1,200 mm and 1,500 mm lengths to suit a customer's style, now home chefs can enjoy the latest in smart enabled kitchen lighting and control it using a digital assistant on a tablet or smartphone for the ultimate in hands-free living.

**Climate friendly:** All Rotpunkt furniture is designed and created using the company's new 'Together to zero' climate strategy to reduce carbon emissions at every stage of manufacture.

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