

journal **furniture**

march 2015



PRO-tect

**On the cover: Felder
Group's Kappa 550
with e-motion**

**Sourcing and
packaging by SPL**

**The latest in decorative
surfaces**

Saws with more

**Made in Britain: inside
Dustraction**



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march 2015



cover photo

Felder Group's Format 4 Kappa 550 E Motion Panel Saw, their 30,000 machine!

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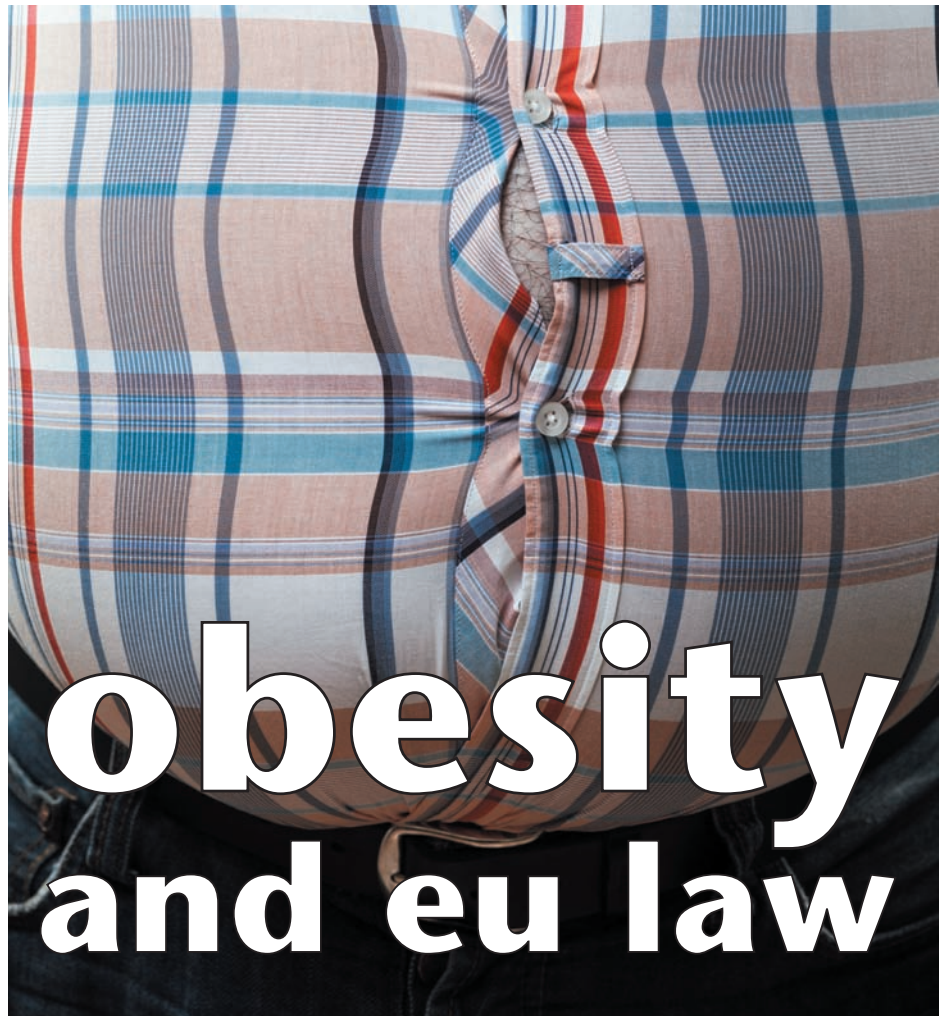
42 A SPARK OF GENIUS

Traditional engineering, chemistry, acoustics, ornithology - they've all played a part in the inventions which have given Dustraction a place in a uniquely British engineering heritage.

Abigail Halcarz is an employment solicitor in the Commercial Group at UK top 100 law firm SGH Martineau LLP.



Abigail Halcarz explains the consequences of the EU's recent ruling on obesity and why all employers need to take care when dismissing those who can no longer perform their jobs because of it.



When 25-stone child-minder, Karsten Kaltoft was dismissed by his employers, the Municipality of Billund in Denmark, for being unable to tie the laces of the children he cared for without a colleague's help, few could have predicted the likely consequences for UK employers. Solicitor Abigail Halcarz of commercial law firm SGH Martineau explains: "When his employment was terminated after 15 years of service, Mr Kaltoft was considered severely obese, with a BMI of 54 (according to the World Health Organisation, any individual with a BMI in excess of 40 is severely or morbidly obese). Mr Kaltoft claimed his dismissal was because he was obese, which meant the Court of Justice of the European Union (ECJ) ultimately had to consider whether a general prohibition exists in EU law on all forms of discrimination, including obesity, or whether obesity should be classified as a disability within the scope of the *Equal Treatment Framework Directive*.

"The ECJ held that while there is generally no law prohibiting discrimination on the grounds of obesity, there are certain circumstances when it could amount to a disability. National courts will now decide

whether an individual's obesity constitutes a disability.

"Obesity in itself is insufficient to be a disability, but could potentially satisfy the definition of disability under the Equality Act 2010, if the condition is severe enough. If severely obese employees suffer problems with mobility, endurance and mood, it could amount to disability and affect how employers manage their workforce.

"Circumstances under which an obese employee may be considered as disabled, include; someone with type 2 diabetes who is regularly absent as a result of the condition; someone who suffers from depression as a result of their weight; or someone whose obesity causes severe mobility issues (e.g. uses a wheelchair and finds it difficult to use public transport).

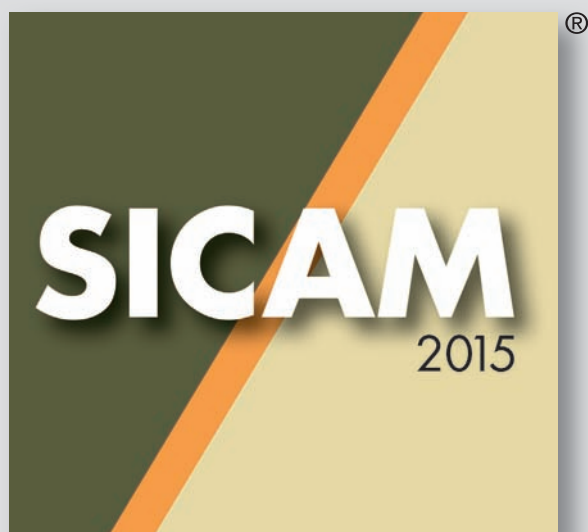
"The duties under the Equality Act 2010 in respect of people who are classed as 'disabled' will apply not only to disabled employees, but job applicants too. As such it is unlawful for an employer to discriminate against an individual; treat an individual unfavourably because of something arising from disability, without objective justification; discriminate indirectly by applying a provision, criterion or practice

that disadvantages any individual with a disability, without objective justification; fail to comply with its duty to make reasonable adjustments where a disabled individual is placed at a substantial disadvantage; subject an individual to harassment related to disability; victimise an individual because they have made or intend to make a disability discrimination complaint; or ask job applicants pre-employment health questions other than for a prescribed reason. The prescribed reasons are set out in the legislation.

"If nothing else, this case demonstrates the need for employers to regularly review their equal opportunities and sickness absence policies, ensuring they cover all disability discrimination issues, including obesity. I would recommend employers also review training for managers dealing with sickness absence and issues that might arise from obesity, to ensure they understand the current legal position and how it now applies in the workplace.

"If an employer dismisses an employee because of any physical attribute, then the chances are it is unfair and potentially discriminatory, unless it affects the individual's ability to do their job and no reasonable adjustments can be made to improve the situation."

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compo

A woman wearing a high-visibility yellow vest and glasses is standing next to a large industrial machine. She is holding a clipboard and a pen, looking at the machine. The machine is blue and silver, with a large hopper on top and a transparent safety enclosure. It is located in a warehouse with high ceilings and yellow shelving units in the background. The word "compo" is overlaid in large white letters with a black outline.

Leeds-based SPL Components Ltd has grown out of its single height 9,000 square foot warehouse into new 22,500 square foot highline premises by giving larger manufacturers exactly what they need when they need it.

nts -
on

demand

Save time, save money, reduce stock-holding and make life easier by outsourcing your component requirements and having the exact quantities you need packaged and delivered just when you need them.

Everyone wants to save money, cut costs, ease the burden on cashflow and use time wisely but not everyone knows the secret. Not that it's really a secret any more - at least not to many of the UK's biggest and best-known furniture manufacturing companies. Shrewd and established manufacturers from the kitchen, office and upholstery sectors have known for a good many years that by entrusting Leeds-based SPL Components Ltd (formerly known as Sycamore Products) with the time-consuming business of sourcing everything from brackets and hinges to screws and drawer boxes - like the job of ensuring just the right number of components is packaged for the end user - they can save time, save money and make life a good deal easier for themselves. And

because SPL also maintains stocks for them and supplies on an "as required" basis, their cashflow benefits, too.

"Nowadays, people don't want to be buying 20 items from half a dozen suppliers," explains SPL's Managing Director, Gary Baxter, whose experience of sourcing and packaging components for manufacturers dates back to the early nineties. "It takes time to source everything you need from a bracket to a piece of glass. That's what we do - and we can supply and package anything that goes into a cabinet except the chipboard."

Fifteen years ago, customer demand drove the company into sourcing screws and providing a packaging service. "We had 30 out-workers," recalls Gary. But with rising demand it wasn't long before the company acquired its first packaging



Above. First impressions count.

Right. A new £300,000 machine means SPL can package up to 20 individual components in a sealed plastic bag.

Below. All manner of components can be stored, bagged and dispatched to order.



machine. "To begin with, we were supplying the kitchen manufacturing sector. When the recession hit, we began to approach the office sector and more recently we've started sourcing bespoke products for larger upholstery manufacturers."

With rising demand, Gary and his team decided to invest. First came a move from the company's original low-build premises of 9,000 square feet to a high line warehouse of 12,500 square feet. Just six months later, SPL had outgrown its new premises and the adjoining 10,000 square foot warehouse was acquired. Most recently, a new and highly advanced packaging machine (capable of collating and packing up to 20 individual, automatically counted components into a sealed plastic bag) has added a further £300,000 of investment to the business - and the new machine is already busy.

"Business has grown by 45% in the last year," says Gary. "We've grown through diversification and have a new catalogue coming out shortly which includes handles, drawers, aluminium extrusions - anything that goes into a kitchen. It contains about 80% of what we do. We also source a lot of bespoke product from curved glass to bracketry, casters, specialised feet - basically anything our customers need. If one of our customers needs a special bracket, we'll have it made by one of our suppliers, stock it for them and supply it in the boxed quantities they want. It

makes life easier for them - and they benefit from the economies of scale we are able to offer through our bulk buying programme."

Gary admits candidly that SPL is not a strictly a developer of products, though it has sourced many exclusive products made for customers who have very specific requirements. The company occupies a very clearly defined position: it's an importer and a distributor. "Tell us what you want and we'll provide it," he says. "We'll find the products for you, we'll package them with your company name or the name of your customer, a barcode, or whatever is required and we'll deliver them to your schedule. We're sourcing continually," he adds, "Which means what may not have been competitive last year could be this."

Eighty-five per cent of the products sourced by SPL are imported, most in vast quantities, so worthwhile cost-savings can be passed to you. SPL has already proved to big name kitchen manufacturers that it offers tangible advantages. Now, with warehouse space to spare and the right contacts in place to expand its horizons even further, the SPL team has set its sights on proving to the larger office and upholstery manufacturers that it can deliver on its promise to them as well.

If you'd like to find out how SPL can help you save time, save money, reduce your stock-holding and make your life easier, call 0113 271 3200 or visit the website www.splcomponentsltd.co.uk

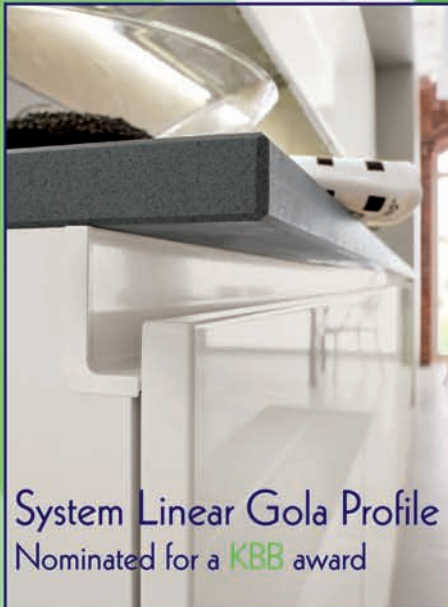
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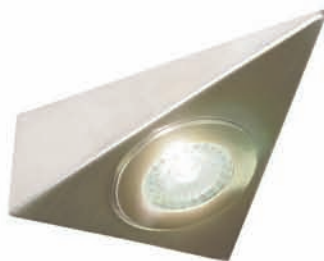


complete **furniture** components



SPL Components offers a Gola profile system, that due to its versatility makes it possible to satisfy every aesthetic and construction need of the contemporary kitchen. A fully bespoke cutting service is available, please contact our experienced sales team to discuss your requirements.

COMPONENTS - **on** demand



Technology

SPL Components are committed to sourcing products that are at the forefront of modern technology. Our new COB LED cabinet light features the very latest in COB LED technology, and is currently the brightest LED cabinet light in the U.K. market. Recessed/surface design also available.



Lighting Control

Taking control of LED furniture lighting is easily achieved with our new multi zone wireless remote control. Up to 4 different areas can be wirelessly controlled via the remote control. It also offers the ability to dim the brightness of any our 12Vdc LED lights connected to it.



Design

The new Cuisine LED cabinet light from SPL Components has been designed to offer an economical furniture lighting option, but still maintain an output equivalent to a 20W halogen cabinet light, and also provide all the benefit of LED.

six sup

Bonlex has an enviable reputation for its high gloss décors and its range has expanded in recent times to include new prints and new unicolours - but now there's also a new range of tactile satins which is available from stock in the UK.

With tactile qualities so high on the consumer agenda - and in particular, natural-feeling, soft-touch surfaces - it will come as no surprise to learn that the style and technical gurus at Bonlex (the décor specialist from the giant C I Kasei Group) are right up there at the cutting edge of the trend with a range that includes six beautiful new satins. The softly-embossed range of satin unicolours includes White, Cream, Light Grey, Cashmere, Mussel and a sophisticated Black Satin - all shown in the main background image. All six décors are either 0.3mm or 0.35mm PVC and all are now available through Plasfilms from stock.

When producing satin materials, Bonlex uses the same gloss base as with its gloss foils but then adds a satin top coat. This enhances the colour depth in the product whilst providing high levels of scratch and chemical resistance.

Catering for the burgeoning high gloss market, Bonlex recently launched four new high gloss neutrals. Like Bonlex satins, the gloss décors start as high gloss products. The addition of a top coat increases the depth as well as providing scratch and chemical resistancy to very high levels. Colour consistency is also exceptionally good. Shown top right are Cashmere, Mussel, Dakar and Congo - just part of a much more expansive range that now includes no fewer than seven Greys, some of which incorporate subtle hints of blue. Shown bottom right are Stone Grey High Gloss, Light Grey High Gloss and Otranto Grey High Gloss. Flint Grey, Dark Grey, Jupiter Grey and Lucido Grey are also available. These are supplemented by two co-ordinating Larch print designs, Snow Larch and Berlino Larch, also shown right.

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Supreme gloss levels in soft, on-trend neutral tones.

er satins

Snow Larch and Berlino Larch.

The Greys: soft, neutral and some with just a hint of blue.

Right. This beech is simply different. skai® Iconic is enchanting with its lively design, its detail and its delicacy. The exciting mixture of wood pore and rustic elements like knots and simulated flowers are characteristic of this design. Embossing completes the impression with a velvety feel.

Above and Right. Nordic by nature, skai® Ida (right) and skai® Ida Magnolia (above) are elms with a very different character. This wood is a typical representative of the Nordic style: cool, clear and quiet as a fjord. Its subdued rustic look makes the design very elegant.

With its pioneer spirit and powerful expression, the furniture film skai® Nelson

is an expressive interpretation of elm. As decisively as Nelson once circled the globe, the planked design demonstrates its unique structure: With a white-grey negative pore, its colours range from gold-bronze with hints of brown to white-grey.

on the ball

Hornschuch is right on the ball with its latest metallic and Nordic influence décor finishes.

The skai® colore magic structure with Quadro embossing has many characteristics of coniferous wood and can therefore be perfectly combined with skai® Nelson and skai® Ida. The new metallic tones are right on the ball. Due to their particularly deep structure, which is similar to a sandblasted surface with sharp edges and grooves, and unique colour, these plain colours look particularly impressive.

Plain colour furniture films give an impression of finesse and high-quality, especially with the amazingly natural oak embossing Legno. The pores modulate and move, sometimes appearing deep, sometimes shallow. This new embossing looks like a solid oak front with multiple layers of varnish and is available in seven colours in the skai® colore structure collection.

Shown above is Steel Grey. Left is Copper brown and in the background is Nightblue.

For more information visit Interzum from May 5-8, 2015 (Hall 6.1, Stand E040), call 01327 877646, email: mark@m-f-s.co.uk, or visit the website www.m-f-s.co.uk

NOT TO BE MISSED!



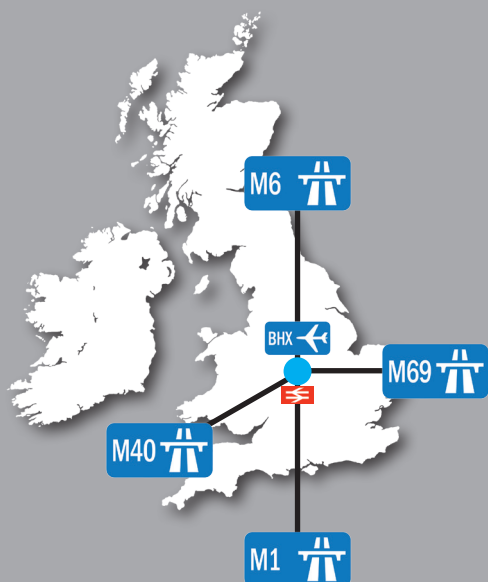
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Main background image. Light gold brushed effect.

This image. The leather look - a grain corrected hide in an Interior Film.

Right. Sapwood décor.

Below. Skillfully combined Interior Films create stunning interior designs.



all that

David Clouting's self adhesive Interior Film range includes metal, stone, leather and fantasy décors - and for shopfitting, refurbishment projects and interiors it's worth its weight in gold.

Metallic effects certainly form part of the David Clouting Interior Film range but with more than 70 colours/décors in stock and 300+ available, all that glitters is definitely not limited to gold. But for those looking to refurbish interiors or furniture, it's certainly worth its weight in gold.

Including stones, woods, leathers, metals and decorative designs, David Clouting's self-adhesive decorative Interior Film range allows designers to metaphorically *chuck out the chintz* whilst being able to recycle existing furniture and fittings. Versatile and simple to use, it can be applied to virtually any substrate to bring fresh appeal to tired walls, doors, furniture, skirting or architraves. The self adhesive

backing offers a strong bond to wood, melamine and polyester coated laminates, plastic, steel, aluminium, mortar, limestone, gypsum and other kinds of board.

Aside from being self-extinguishing when tested for flammability, Interior Film is durable and offers high resistance to impact, abrasion and scratching. Its inherent stability and "zero shrinkage ratio" make it ideal for applications where it will be exposed to heat, humidity or low temperature. And it's a dream to apply, wrapping around complex shapes and curved areas with ease - and no air bubbles.

For more information, or to discuss the suitability of Interior Film for one of your projects, call 01376 518037 or visit www.davidclouting.co.uk

Below. Small scale planks, concrete and pure fantasy designs are all included in the 300+ décors available in the Interior Film range from David Clouting.

glitters...



A man in a grey suit, light blue shirt, and blue tie is holding a large, dark wood sample. The background is a textured, greyish-blue surface.

Foil Sales Manager Klaus Müller with Columbia Walnut in the Smartfoil EVO finish.

smart

“Not a single tree has to be felled to obtain furniture with an authentic wood appearance,” says Klaus Müller, Schattdecor’s Foil Sales Manager, referring to the décor specialist’s new Smartfoil EVO. The EBC-lacquered décor set new standards for look and feel in the foil sector when it made its debut at Sicam last October. “The look is very attractive and hard to distinguish from veneer,” continues Klaus. “We have significantly improved physico-chemical surface resistances. Smartfoil EVO offers a marked improvement in mechanical properties as well as optimised fluid resistance.”

Produced on a 2750mm wide line code-named PMD 42 in Schattdecor’s Polish plant in Tarnowo Podgórne, Smartfoil EVO’s unique properties are the result of printing and applying two coats of lacquer in an inline process which creates a texture that synchronises perfectly with the printed pattern. Pore structures are further enhanced with gloss levels that vary from matt to high gloss.

After a phase that favoured rustic textures, trends are moving in the direction of subtlety, finesse and authenticity. Sonoma Oak embraces robust visual effects, whereas the new Livorno Beech décor that saw its debut at Sicam stands for a new generation of subtle woodgrain décors characterised by understated and natural details. Columbia Walnut, a dark woodgrain (pictured with Klaus Müller), is the décor Schattdecor has chosen to usher in its Smartfoil EVO product.

Schattdecor is able to produce Smartfoil EVO in gloss levels ranging from super matt to high gloss and is now concentrating its efforts on ultra-matt and electron beam-cured gloss/matt combinations with “anti-fingerprint” characteristics. To find out more about Smartfoil EVO visit Schattdecor’s website at www.schattdecor.de

The story of Smartfoil EVO's development dates back to 2009, when Schattdecor started aligning its development efforts to market demands for foil solutions offering high quality surface finishes. Schattdecor's technologists wanted to create a texture which synchronised with the print pattern and gloss/matt effects. This led to a break with the past approach and consideration of a combination unit, with electron beam technology ultimately proving to be the route. In June 2010 an investment decision was made, resulting in the installation of the PMD 42 inline printing and topcoating line in Poland. The unit entered operation in stages, starting with the printing element in 2012. The electron beam (EB) component was installed in mid-2013 and work was stepped up on determining specific lacquer parameters. From the very start the technology was designed with the conception of a foil with the characteristics of the later Smartfoil EVO in mind. The end result may be seen in Columbia Walnut, the first décor to be produced in this new surface effect foil. The PMD 42 has an annual capacity of over 50 million square metres, ensuring plentiful supply for Schattdecor clients.

The new foil can be processed like any other Schattdecor foil and lends itself to *Compleline* technology where surfaces and edges are processed in a single operation.

moves

Schattdecor's new innovation, Smartfoil EVO, first seen at Sicam in October 2014, will be launched officially in early March with a collection of new décor designs unveiled in Bünde.

H3225 ST28 Tobacco Gladstone Oak

Background: H3326 ST28 Grey-beige
Gladstone Oak

egger -

*Rising demand from
furniture manufacturers
for highly realistic and
deeply textured MFC
panels has led Egger to
invest in additional
production facilities at its
Northumberland site.*

Following the successful introduction of Egger's ST27, the line at the Hexham factory has started production of the latest generation ST28 synchronised pore décor. Advanced surface technology which aligns the print with the texture to create a registered finish accentuates the knots and planking in designs like Gladstone Oak to impart a natural feel reminiscent of solid wood.

Three finishes are available: H3309 ST28 Sand Gladstone Oak, H3326 Grey-Beige Gladstone Oak and H3325 ST28 Tobacco Gladstone Oak. As well as being available from stock in 18mm double-sided board, all are now available with the ST15 décor on the reverse. ST28 supplements the earlier introduction of Egger's ST27 décor, which is available in two woodgrains, H1796 ST27 Natural Tortona and H1793 ST27 Lava Tortona. These synchronised décors are in addition to

ST29, which is currently produced at Egger's sister plants and stocked in the UK as 18mm double-sided board.

"The trend towards ultra-realistic rustic wood-grains that has been so evident in recent years - particularly in premium German and Italian kitchens - shows no sign of going away any time soon," commented Egger UK's head of décor development, Elliott Fairlie. "This authentic design, with its double paper layer and highly realistic gloss levels, creates a depth and realism previously only available with a veneer or solid timber.

"The decision to invest in additional production capability for this range in the UK, means our customers can expect shorter lead times, more flexibility on sizes and smaller minimum order quantities."

For more information on ST28 contact Egger on 01434 602191 or visit www.egger.com

in depth



H3309 ST28 Sand Gladstone Oak

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Action!



Ostermann the Movie



interzum

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ancient and modern

Copper tones from the 70s have made a comeback alongside nanotechnology for a soft feel. Ostermann has matching edges.

Copper colours - and the comforting and appealing way in which they reflect light - bring a very special glow to modern living spaces and copper works perfectly with practically every other material and colour. Contrast with cool, high-gloss white or black, or blend with warm beige or grey, combine with glass or leather surfaces, copper is extremely versatile as a design element. Ostermann currently has a smooth-brushed copper 3D acrylic edging (23 x 2mm) and four different copper-coloured ABS edgings in stock. *Bronze*, *Copper Metallic* and *Quartz Copper* ABS edgings with embossed minipearl are

available in different widths and sizes. There's even a *Copper Metallic* high-gloss ABS edging and coming soon will be an ABS edging with a copper-coloured solid aluminium finish.

Ostermann is also offering the very latest edgebands to match surfaces from the Arpa Fenix NTM® range. By refining the use of nanotechnology, Arpa's surfaces have a special soft touch with anti-bacterial and anti-fingerprint properties. Ostermann doesn't employ nanotechnology - but it does supply matches in 23, 33, 43 and 100 or 104 x 1mm.

For more information call Ostermann UK on 01905 793550.





surface

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www.surface-designshow.com



Left. Radiant, a new veneer with fine lines of light-transmitting acrylic from Anglo Eden French.

Above right. A new décor from Arnold Laver.

Right. Silver Birch from veneer specialists, Mundy Veneer.



design show

Now in its 11th year, the Surface Design Show took place in the London Business Design Centre from 10th to 12th February. Over 130 exhibitors showcased products. Although essentially a show targeted at architects, designers and specifiers, the Surface Design Show provides a spotlight for new and novel surfaces from bold, architectural statements to the latest sustainable designs. Whilst it is no Interzum - neither in size nor in the spread of product on show - there are usually a few surprises to be found which deserve attention from the furniture manufacturing sector.

The advent of chunky furniture designs has seen increased demand for lightweight panels. 3A Composites

showed its latest, an aluminium-faced, polyurethane board that weighs just 1.9kg per square metre.

On the decorative side, products ranged from the immensely practical Hi-Macs solid surfacing material on the Latham stand and a range of décors from the Portuguese company Finsa, to solid Spruce that had been printed to look like oak and panels with printed woodworm from Sun-Wood. Among the more unusual décors were French-made Pure Paper and Pure Metal HPLs from Blackheath, a range of veneers from Mundy which included a very tactile Silver Birch (above) and a light-transmitting man-made veneer from Anglo Eden French called Radiant. More details follow...

Small, compact and easily covered in half a day, the Surface Design Show is no competitor for the décor halls of Interzum but there are usually a few gems to be found.



printed rustic

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Printing on triple-layered veneered panels or solid Spruce from Sun-Wood provides the distressed look and feel - without the worms.

Distributed in the UK by Decolan, Sun-Wood products are being offered in two formats: as panel products, which are produced in three veneer layers which are subsequently printed to give the appearance of an old, distressed timber; and as solid wood panels, manufactured by over-printing solid Spruce with a distressed and patinated oak design.

Sun-Wood, which has been working in this field for some five years, offers a full range of veneers but used the Surface Design Show to highlight its triple-layered printed décors, one of which was presented as a distressed pine and the other, as a worm-holed and well-worn timber with a very tactile surface (see background image).

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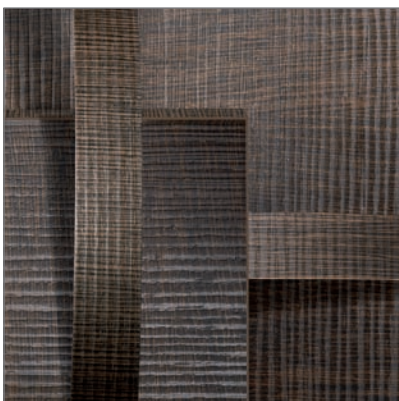
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 **LG Hausys**



Above. Finsa's Passport to the World stand at the Surface Design Show 2015.

Left. Ebano Luxury, one of the Fibraplast Lucent high gloss décors at the Surface Design Show.

Main picture. Jazz, Finsa's embossed-in-register melamine.

finsa on show

Finsa has had a busy year, first showing at the Architect@Work show in January, then taking stand space at the Surface Design Show with stands on a theme of Finsa's Passport to the latest trends in décors.

"We are showing five main product groups," commented Eduardo Capel from the Surface Design Show stand. "Fibraplast Lucent is our melamine-faced MDF. We call it Lucent because of the high gloss coating. Lucent is available as a range of 15 décors, including woodgrains, and the quality of the gloss means it is ideal for top end kitchens and bedrooms." The breakthrough technology claims to have incorporated into its manufacture provides a high gloss surface which is

scratch and UV resistant, while the quality of the MDF makes for easy machining.

The second product Finsa showed was SuperPan, an "industrial strength" décor with an in-register embossed melamine oak surface called Jazz - the third product. "We are showing four shades of oak in Jazz," commented Eduardo. "Jazz is available only on SuperPan board, not chipboard or MDF, because the properties of Jazz work best with a really high grade substrate." SuperPan combines the cost benefits of chipboard with the smoothness of MDF by facing a chipboard panel with MDF on both sides before the decorative film is applied.

Five product groups on the Finsa stand at the Surface Design Show.



Eduardo Capel

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This picture. Fibraplast Lucent high gloss.

Right. SuperPan Décor options.



Fibracolour, black-dyed MDF.



The fourth, and perhaps most unusual product, was Finsa's black-dyed MDF, Fibracolour. Perhaps more squarely aimed at the shopfitting market, Fibracolour, shown left, requires no finishing, though it can be lacquered and processed like any other MDF.

With a density of around 1,000kg per cubic metre, the fifth product to be shown as part of the Finsa Forest display was Compacmel, a high density wooden fibreboard which offers high bending strength, high impact resistance and elasticity. "It is perfect for high humidity environments," added Eduardo.

For more information on Finsa products, or to discuss any of the product lines shown here, call Finsa UK on 0151 651 2400.



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new lightweight

A new lightweight board makes its UK debut at the Surface Design Show.

The trend towards chunky design, heavy-looking, solid-looking furniture designs has spawned a whole new generation of lightweight panels and associated fixings to deal with internal honeycomb structures and low-hold foamed panel interiors. With the latest contender from 3A Composites, it's now possible to buy a 15mm panel that can be cut like any other with a centre of polyurethane that, according to 3A Composites' sales team leader in the UK, Simon Philpott, doesn't demand the use of special fixings.

Based in Germany, 3A Composites GmbH injects polyurethane between two aluminium skins on a throughfeed line to create a product which is called

Kappatec. Once the polyurethane has hardened, the roll is cut into panels. "Kappatec weighs just 1.9 kilos per square metre compared with the typical weight of 7-8 kilos for MDF," says Simon. "No formaldehyde is used in the manufacturing process and no preparation of the product is necessary before laminating with a décor product because the aluminium exterior is finished with a stove enamel, making it ultra smooth.

"We have UK stocks of 1250 x 2500mm as well as 1250 x 3050mm and a 1400mm width will be available from March. We can supply either bulk packed or boxed, as required."

For a brochure or further information call 01942 876764.



in great form

HI-MACS® made a big impact at this year's Surface Design Show. The exclusive UK distributor, James Latham, featured the popular acrylic solid surface material on their stand.

HI-MACS® featured extensively on the stand with a series of panels highlighting the versatility of the product. The material can be thermoformed as well as routed and machined to almost any 3D shape, offering virtually unlimited possibilities for personalised designs.

Examples included a panel in 6mm thick Alpine White HI-MACS® which had been thermoformed over pebbles and two vibrantly coloured panels which had been milled on the reverse of the sheet, pre-heated in a thermoforming oven to 170 degrees Celsius and then vacuum-formed to produce a seamless pattern on the face of the panels.

Certain HI-MACS® colours and

thicknesses exhibit translucency when exposed to light and various textures and patterns can be built into the material to intensify the translucent appearance. Cut-out effects can add visual interest with a new sense of space. There is a wide choice of colours on offer, with almost 100 in the portfolio, supplied in thicknesses of 6, 9 and 12mm.

LG Hausys, the manufacturers of HI-MACS®, have developed BIM Objects, which carry much more information and are replacing CAD symbols, for its full range of HI-MACS® shapes and colours for the following software: Sketchup, ArchiCAD and Revit.

Find out more by clicking on www.himacs.co.uk



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profit H08

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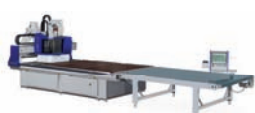
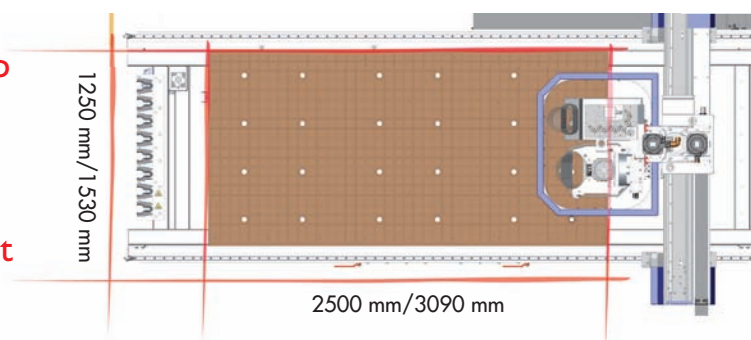
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When Tony Morris established TM Services, service was the only thing he offered. Machine sales came later - but the priority has never changed.

first

We all understand the need for it, we all offer it, we all rely on it, some hype it beyond belief and have no clue how to deliver it but to Oadby-based TM Services, service was where everything started.

Back in 1984 when Tony Morris founded his fledgling company, his sole aim was to provide repair, maintenance and installation facilities to users of classical woodworking machinery, edgebanders, rip saws, panel saws and sanders. As the reputation of TM Services grew, Tony's workload increased and so did his workforce of skilled service engineers. Matt Pearce, Tony's right-hand man, takes up the story: "I started when there was just Tony and three others," he says. "That

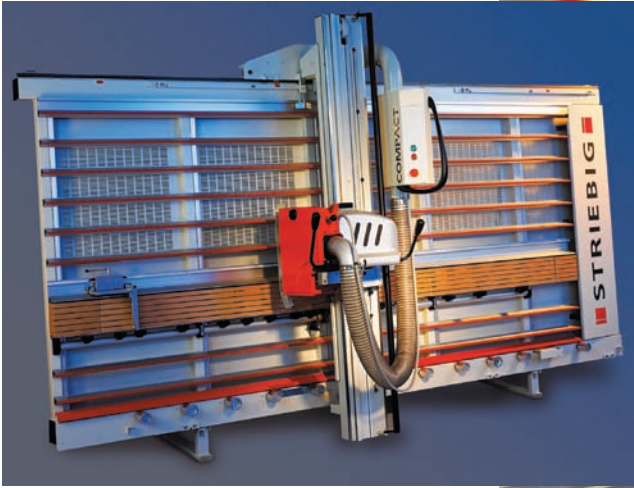
was 17 years ago. Last year we took on our eleventh engineer and we've started training our own apprentices. Our focus is and always has been on servicing and installing machines. Machinery sales are secondary for us. They grew out of service.

"We were doing all the servicing and installation for Striebig, the Swiss vertical panel saw manufacturer. When we were offered the agency in 1997, it seemed a logical development for the business and we decided to take it on.

"We started supplying AL-KO dust extraction with the Striebig saws we installed - they are very good quality, quiet, compact and reliable. We have been working with AL-KO for 15 years now as their UK agent.



There is no substitute for highly-trained engineers who know machines inside out. TM Services has 11 engineers on the road, five back office support staff and apprentices working from its premises in Oadby.



Above. Matt Pearce shows a Striebig Compact in TM's demonstration area.

Below. TM Services took on the agency for Viet only after amassing years of experience servicing wide belt sanders.



An enhanced stock of spares and a new IT system support TM's growing staff of engineers.

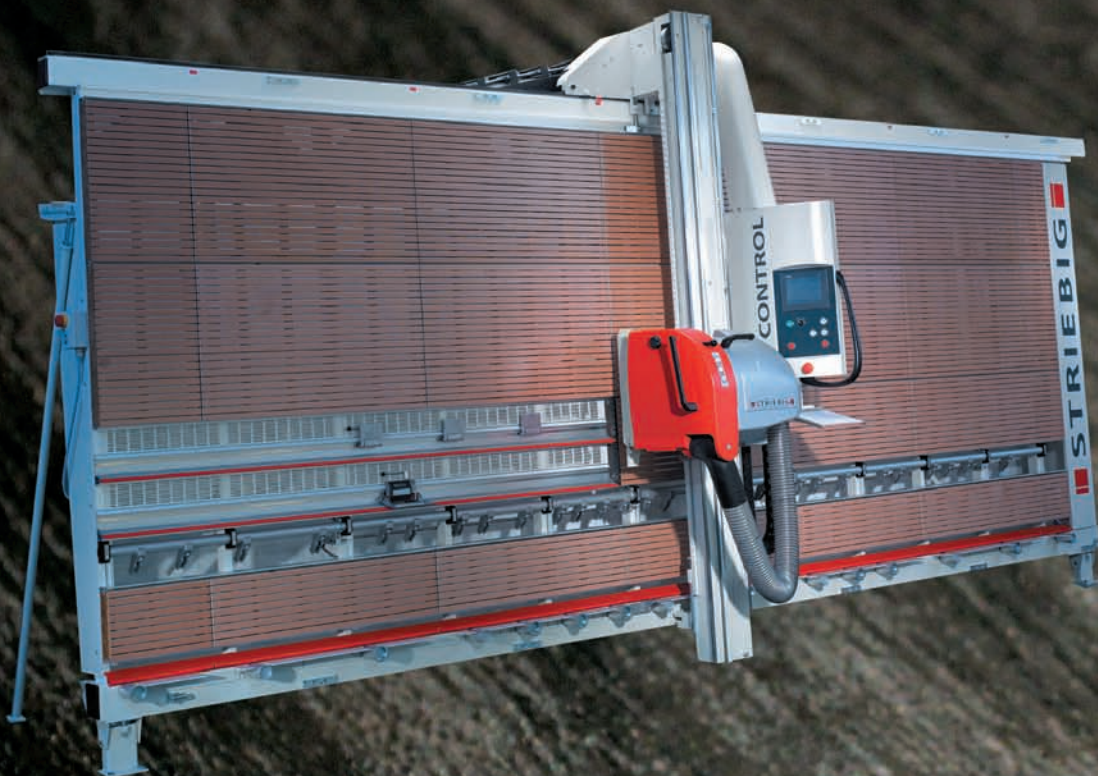
"Our other area of expertise was wide belt sanders. We started with Johanssen and eventually took on Sandingmaster. We were the agents for Sandingmaster until they started to focus primarily on development for the metal grinding and polishing industry and for the far Eastern market, but we still service and maintain Sandingmasters for UK customers. Then we were presented with an opportunity to work with Biesse when they bought Viet two years ago. Viet is very focussed, like Striebig, and the quality of the machines is very high. Striebig, Alko and Viet are our offer. That's not to say we wouldn't take other agencies if the machine was of the right quality and we had good access to parts but we still see ourselves predominantly as a service company. It's what we do best. The service side of our business has grown consistently and organically."

As the service side continues to grow, TM has been busily upscaling

the support available through its back office. Five back office staff (plus apprentices) now support TM's 11 engineers - and with the increase in business has come investment in comprehensive spares back up as well as IT systems that enable instant access to customers' service records. "The IT system provides instant access to all the machines our customers have and an instant overview of the status of their service programmes, enabling us to provide appropriate preventative, scheduled maintenance as well as a complete history of each machine."

Service first may sound like just another cliché in an industry where some see after-sales service more as a selling tool than essential support but at TM it's not. TM started out with service, has consistently prioritised the development of its support function over machinery sales and has grown its customer base because of that. Put TM to the test yourself: call 0116 271 7155.

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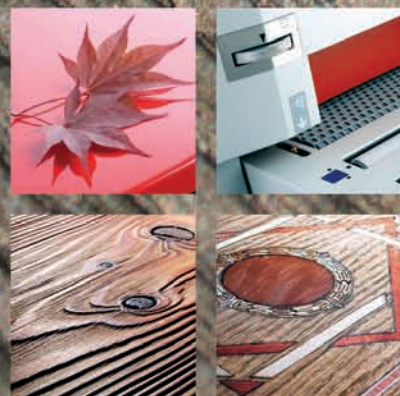
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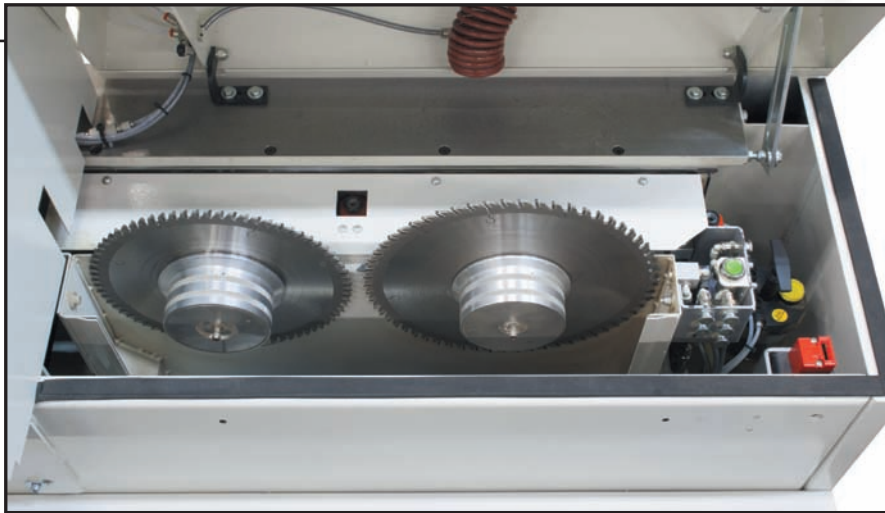
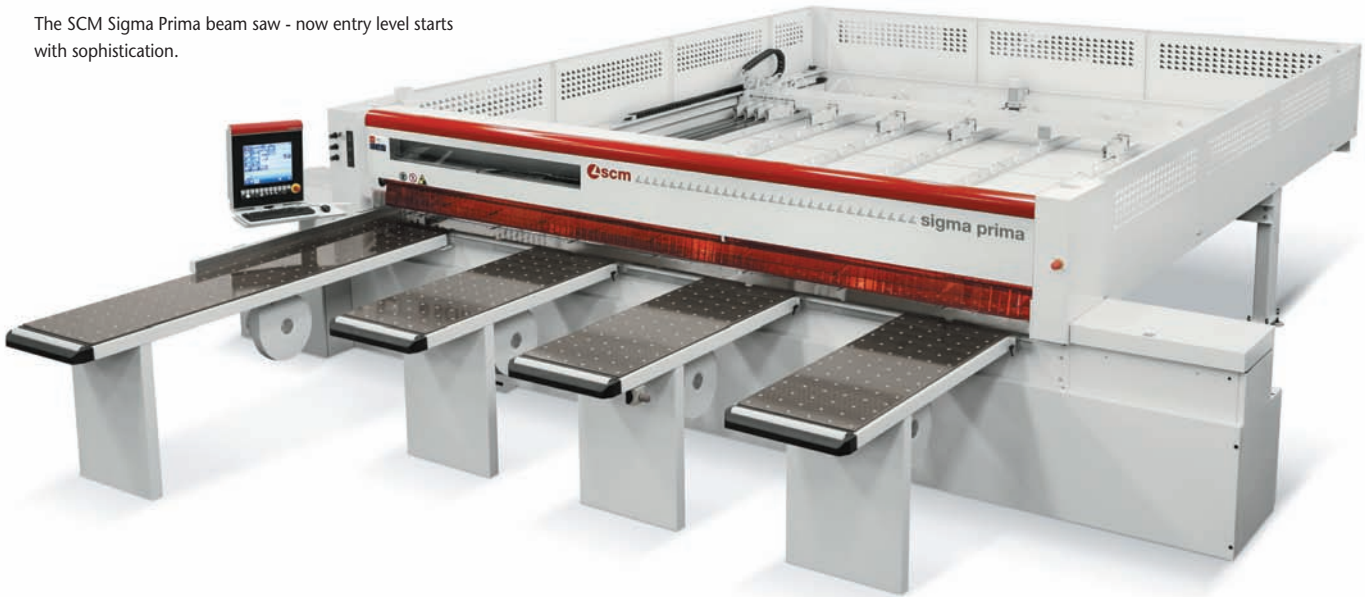
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The SCM Sigma Prima beam saw - now entry level starts with sophistication.



Left. The new saw carriage.

Below. SCM's lifting device ensures easy panel handling.



more from your saw

SCM's entry level beam saw now opens up new prospects for all potential customers entering the beam saw market for panel breakdown and sizing of panels.

The independent raising of both the main saw blade and the scoring saw blade is now available on the SCM Sigma Prima beam saw range, thus increasing the potential of using the saw and making possible more machining facilities.

The main saw blade and scoring saw blade carriage, with independent raising on linear guides and recirculating ball screws, is essential for the execution of post-formed panel sizing (40mm max. height), slots and grooves with 35mm max. height.

The optimised height adjustment of the main blade projection on two levels, permits the setting of the lower

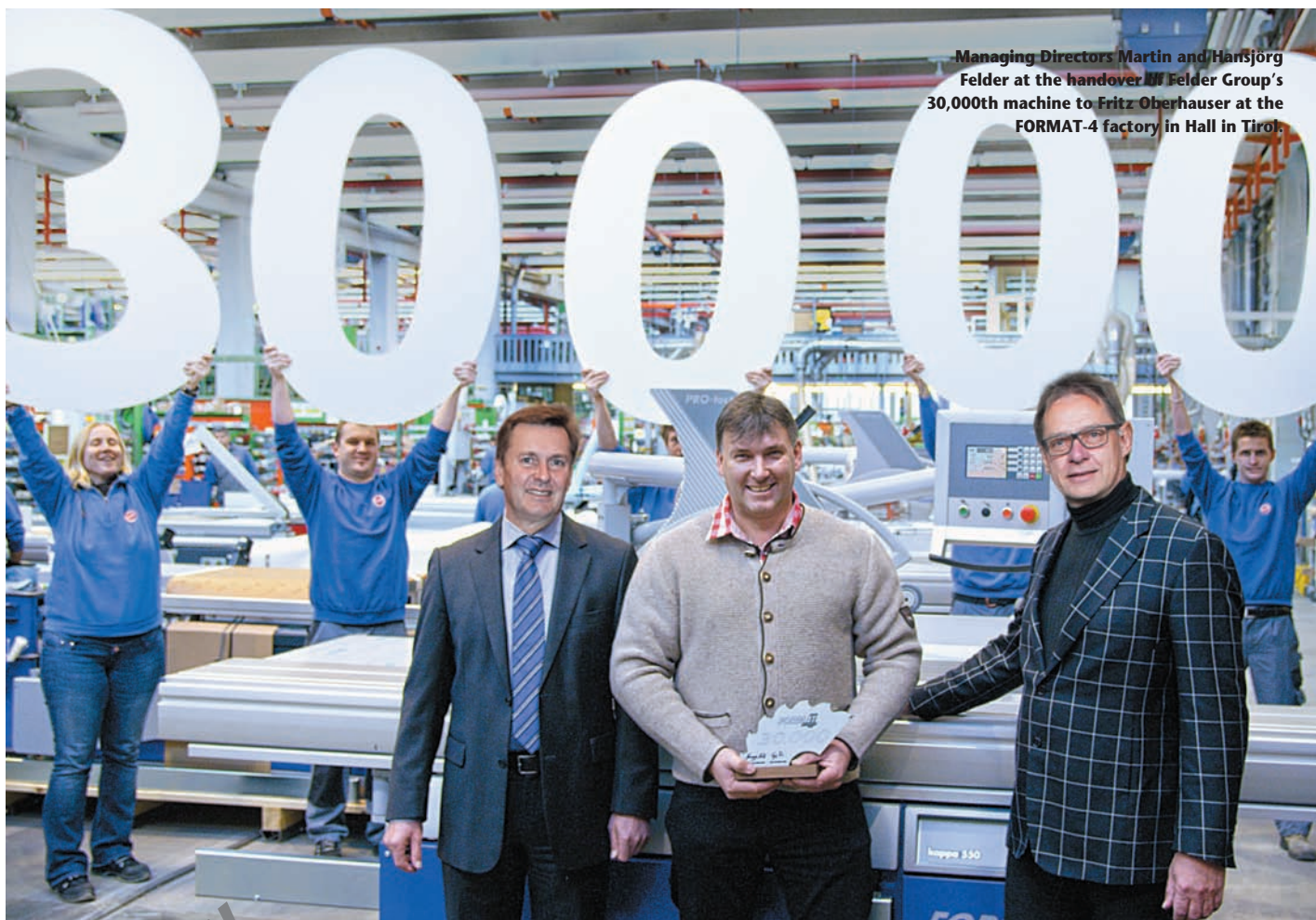
blade height in order to limit the blade wear and assure a better finishing quality. Time optimisation and reduction of costs for tool maintenance are additional benefits.

Finishing accuracy is also assured when machining materials other than wood. Moreover, a device for blade lubrication is now available which allows the use of the machine for sizing of materials other than wood, by reducing friction during machining and thus improving cutting and finishing quality.

SCM's most advanced saw carriage technology is now available with this new application, to meet every working requirement with a reduced investment in an SCM Sigma Prima Beam Saw.

For more information contact SCM GB on 0115 977 0044 or visit the website at www.scmgroup-uk.com

A saw carriage with independent raising of the main and scoring saw blades is now available on the SCM Sigma Prima Beam Saw.



Managing Directors Martin and Hansjörg Felder at the handover of Felder Group's 30,000th machine to Fritz Oberhauser at the FORMAT-4 factory in Hall in Tirol.

a new milestone

Felder celebrates the handover of the 30,000th wood-working machine.



The Kappa 550 e-motion.

The Austrian machine manufacturing specialist Felder Group, started 2015 with a celebration: the handing over of its 30,000th wood working machine. The proud owner, Fritz Oberhauser, has equipped his workshop in Bavaria with a Kappa 550 panel saw that ticks all the boxes. Alongside the sliding table panel saw, Fritz has also invested in an Exact 63 thicknesser and a complete extraction system.

Martin Felder is delighted with Fritz Oberhauser's acquisition of the Kappa 550: "Our close relationship with our customers enables us to take on board their practical requirements, which directly influences the development our new machine concepts," he says. "We are all very proud of the sale of our 30,000th machine and I am happy to know this panel saw will be in very good hands".

Format-4 has been an extraordinary success story ever since its launch at the

turn of the millennium, with numerous innovations and patents, maximum operating comfort and perfect precision contributing significantly towards the rise of the brand. Constant innovation is a feature of the Format-4 range and the latest developments in technology enable Felder to simulate a customer's production. A Format-4 can be configured exactly to suit customers' individual requirements.

In recognition of its developments and innovations, Felder Group has been given numerous international awards: the Bayerische Staatspreis, the IF-Design-Award and the Adolf-Loos Preis, are testimony of the passion that underpins the demands of the Felder Group.

For further information about Format-4, or to see how a Format-4 Kappa 550 panel saw can benefit your workshop, visit www.Format-4.com or call the Felder Group UK on 01908 635000.



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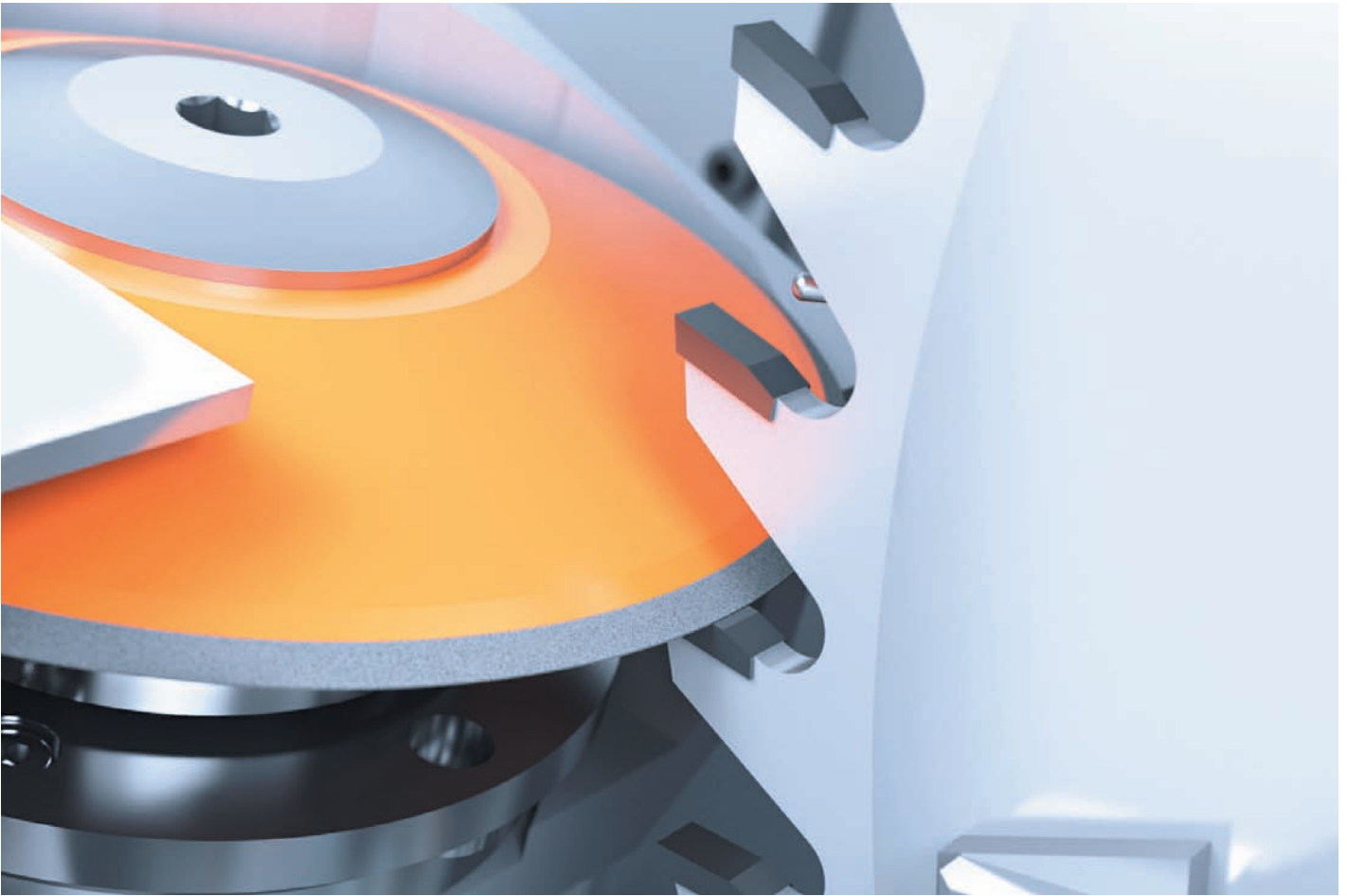
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super sharpener

For the universal sharpening of carbide tipped circular saw blades up to 840 and with the option of 1300mm diameter, Vollmer has launched its new line of CHP840 and CHP1300 grinding centres. The next generation grinding centre has four CNC-controlled axes for the accurate grinding and polishing of virtually all tooth geometries in a single cycle.

This groundbreaking new grinding concept delivers ease of use with an ingenious new multi-function hand wheel and programs for use in the aluminium, plastic, wood and the metal cutting sectors. The result is a new range of machines that provide the perfect combination of precision, productivity and flexibility for the universal machining of TCT saw blades from 80 up to 1300mm diameter.

The latest addition has a compact footprint to save floor-space, a 10-inch LCD colour display with a multi-function hand wheel for fast and safe operation and an operator friendly large viewing window. In addition, the

new CHP machines are fully enclosed for maximum safety, noise and emission protection and sit on a robust, vibration free platform for optimal sharpening performance.

With oscillation grinding as standard and motor driven hook and clearance angle adjustment, the CHP provides high material removal rates with the flexibility to rapidly switch from face to top grinding. For the solid wood and furniture producing sectors, the CHP has diagonally integrated feed pawl with pneumatic lift that ensures even chipper segments pose no problem for the new machine. The new CHP also has a wide-opening blade clamping mechanism for processing saws with a collar or reinforcement ring. As an option, it can be supplied with an optional second feed pawl for tooth pitches up to 180mm and a hollow face grinding device for processing hollow face saws.

For more information contact Vollmer on 0115 949 1040 or visit www.vollmer-group.com

Vollmer has launched a new line of grinding centres for grinding and polishing most tooth geometries in a single pass.



The new CHP840.

inside story

VECTOR

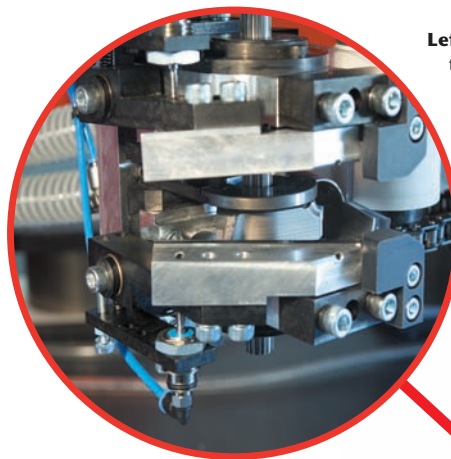
Revolution 180

The Vector Revolution 180 turns contour edgebanding on its head. Employing a new concept based on the patented Vector principle, the Vector Revolution 180 operates in much the same way as a typical throughfeed edgebander - at peak efficiency but around almost any contour.

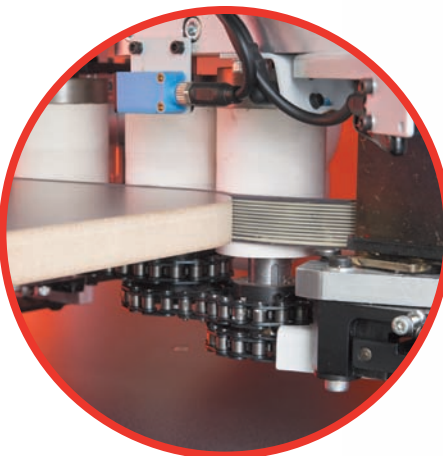
The structure of the machine is extremely stable, providing a full field width of 1830mm (72") in the Y direction. It fits easily with existing technologies such as nested-based manufacturing, where shaped components can be efficiently machined from large sheets at high speed and subsequently processed on the Vector. The unique combination of the patented Vector operating system, flat bed and pendulum loading capability means that short runs and fast changeover of product shapes and sizes is simple and quick.

Further simplifying changeover, a new Panel Projection system is now available which projects the outline of the workpiece onto the bed of the machine. This is a huge help in short run production environments with constantly changing panel shapes because the shape of the panel is projected onto the bed, making pod alignment simple. It also facilitates positioning the panel on the pods, guaranteeing correct overhang of the pods without the need for the operator to check.

The Vector incorporates several unique features (detailed right) which further enhance its performance. Most notable is the SideWinder trimmer unit. This clever device, which is mounted on the work unit, allows gluing, edging, trimming and glue joint scraping all to be finish processed in one pass around the panel. Top and bottom tracer shoes and a horizontal shoe control the radius cutter heads, dramatically reducing processing times. The Vector Revolution 180 is fast, efficient - and fully supported with parts and service in the UK by RW Machines.

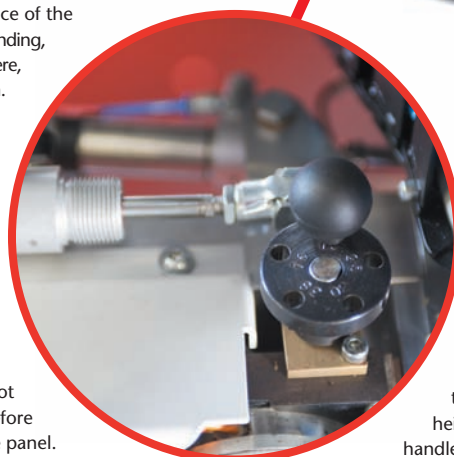


Left. A surface scraper is incorporated into the trimmer unit. This unit operates using the patented SideWinder system and is performed simultaneously with all other units. The unique design of the surface scraper means it easily handles panels which are not sitting perfectly flat due to bowing or swelling, without damaging the panel edge. It nevertheless maintains a perfectly smooth transition between the panel surface and the edge material.

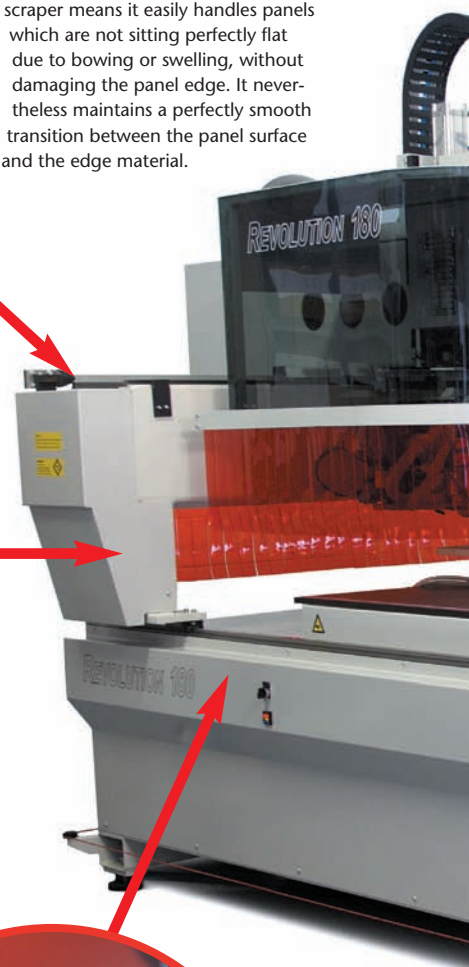


Above. The Vector Revolution 180 uses a cartridge and nozzle glue extrusion system which is ideally suited to the contour banding application. The cartridge glue nozzle is a closed system which only heats the glue as it is used. From the heated face of the cartridge until it is extruded onto the banding, the glue is not exposed to the atmosphere, so there is no burning or discolouration.

The original colour and properties of the glue are maintained. A further benefit of the glue nozzle system is its close proximity to the first pressure roller, which means even when slowing for corners, the glue remains molten until pressed onto the panel by the first pressure roller. This is particularly important when banding tight radiuses because at reduced feed speed the glue does not have an opportunity to chill before being pressed onto the panel.



Left. Changing from one tape size to another is extremely simple: make a positive adjustment to the glue height, feed the new width of tape, and adjust the tape guide height. The rest is handled by the machine.

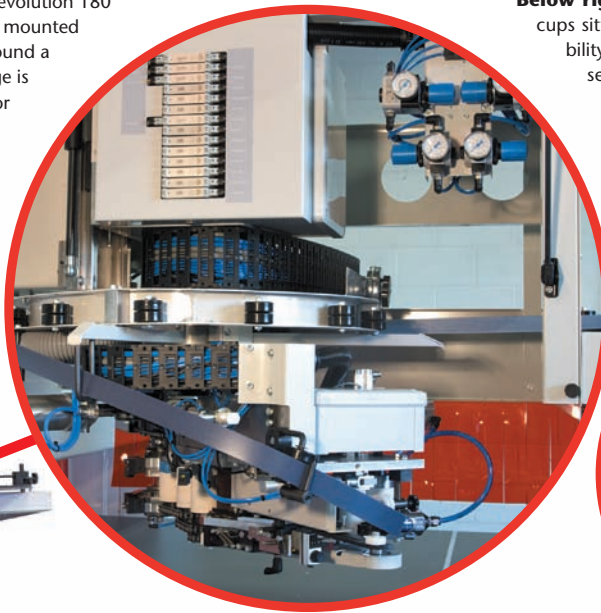


With more than 25 years experience in the UK market, RW Machines of Bicester has flourished as an independent supplier of woodworking machinery. Working with many of the prominent names in the industry, RW offers CNC routers, edgebanders, panel sizing equipment and printing and packaging machinery. Other fields of activity for the company are

presses for carcass assembly and membrane pressing of vinyls to fascias.

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Right. Another innovation of the Revolution 180 is the edge feed mechanism which is mounted above the aggregate and coils around a simple winder mechanism. The edge is continuously fed and remains ready for the next workpiece as soon as the end cutter has cut the end of the previous piece. There is no need for expensive and complex edge feeding units to pre-cut lengths for each workpiece.



Below right. Workpieces are supported by means of vacuum cups sitting on a large flat bed which enable absolute flexibility in positioning pods to ensure the workpiece is held securely. Because there is no routing function on the Vector Revolution 180 the vacuum pods do not get damaged, and hence full vacuum is achieved with a 100m³/hr oil vane quiet operating vacuum pump. Power usage is minimal. Exact workpiece positioning is not critical, as the patented operating system is unaffected by panel position. A combination of standard and lifting pods are supplied. Extras pods can be ordered with the machine.



Left. The joint of the edge where a complete 360 degree edging is required is controlled by a sensor arm. The speed of approach is automatically reduced at a precise distance from the joint and a sensor accurately detects the beginning of the edge which remained untrimmed at the cycle start. The trim cutter then cuts the edge with a bevel, the edge is applied and the top/bottom trimmed leaving a joint of the highest quality.



The load carrying frame structure of the Vector Revolution 180 is fabricated from heavy plate steel and box section. It is extremely rigid and provides a wide, stable support for the Y axis. All motion is carried on linear prismatic bearing rails.



Once Dustraction has developed a specification which meets the needs of the factory and the client is happy, everything is entered into a CAD system in preparation for manufacturing on site in Oadby, Leicestershire. Manufacturing drawings are downloaded first to a CNC plasma cutter (below left) which cuts every component, making holes where necessary for bolts or flanges. The components are then folded or rolled (below right) and assembled (top left). Dustraction manufactures all the support steelwork to ensure high quality welds and reliable construction it can guarantee with confidence. Most is sent out for galvanising. Filter units are painted in the company's spraybooth (top right).

Dustraction's fan sets use the reliable construction of paddle blades with a typically British engineering twist to make them run quieter: borrowing technology from the trailing edge of an owl's wing, the impellers (left) are modified to omit troublesome vortices and cut peak frequencies. Ruggedness is retained while the painful effect of dominant frequencies is reduced - typically from 95dB to around 83dB. These are ideal for applications where woodwaste is blown directly into the filter.

a spark





of genius

Made in Britain, designed in Britain - and with that uniquely British spark of genius that sets its engineering apart - each one of Dustraction's extraction systems is as individual as the demands of the factory it is designed to serve.

You might think that sounds a bit clichéd but Dustraction really is a company with its roots in the foundry industry - and everyone that works there is an engineer to the core. Quite literally, everything that leaves the factory in Leicestershire has been designed, cut from sheet metal, shaped, rolled, welded and assembled by the Dustraction team under one roof. Having absolute control over

quality and production at all times means Dustraction can guarantee both the bag life and the emissions of all the extraction systems it installs - and when the time comes for you to upgrade or move a system, the rugged engineering that's built into every component means disassembling and reassembling can be carried out with confidence.

But perhaps even more British than the traditional engineering skills it employs is Dustraction's approach to problem solving: "We like *interesting* projects," says MD, Steve Matuska. "We solve problems. We never admit defeat." You can almost hear Churchill's bulldog spirit in his voice as he reels off

Traditional engineering, chemistry, acoustics, ornithology - they've all played a part in the inventions which have given Dustraction a place in a uniquely British engineering heritage.



What begins with consultation and design (above) ends with manufacture (right), construction (below) and installation.



Simple, an understated design element perhaps - but effective - the rings around Dustraction's ducting prevent sagging when long runs are necessary.

a string of inventions the team has come up with to solve knotty issue after knotty issue: the introduction of specially formulated sacrificial dust to prevent filters from clogging at a plastics plant; the incorporation of acoustic damping materials and baffles to cut noise levels at a factory in a residential area; even the development of specially designed fan blades which prevent the overtones associated with a particular material as it strikes the blades. Chemistry, acoustics, aerodynamics, even ornithology, have all played a part in the way Dustraction has solved specific issues for clients.

Yes, you read correctly: *ornithology*.

The study of birds - or, more correctly (in the case of Dustraction's quiet-running paddle blades), the study of owl wings - led to one of Dustraction's most

significant and beneficial developments: "The feathers at the trailing edge of an owl's wing are different to those of most birds," says Steve Matuska. "They enable the owl to fly silently without the vortices disturbing the air as it swoops close to the ground." By using the same principles in the design of its new fan blades, Dustraction was able to take advantage of the ruggedness of paddle blade construction, yet provide lower noise levels from higher pressure fans. The multitude of specially-built cyclo filters that Dustraction has shoe-horned into crevices, sited on postage stamps and made its stock in trade seems almost mundane in comparison.

To put Dustraction's 60-plus years of manufacturing experience to the test, call 0116 271 3212.

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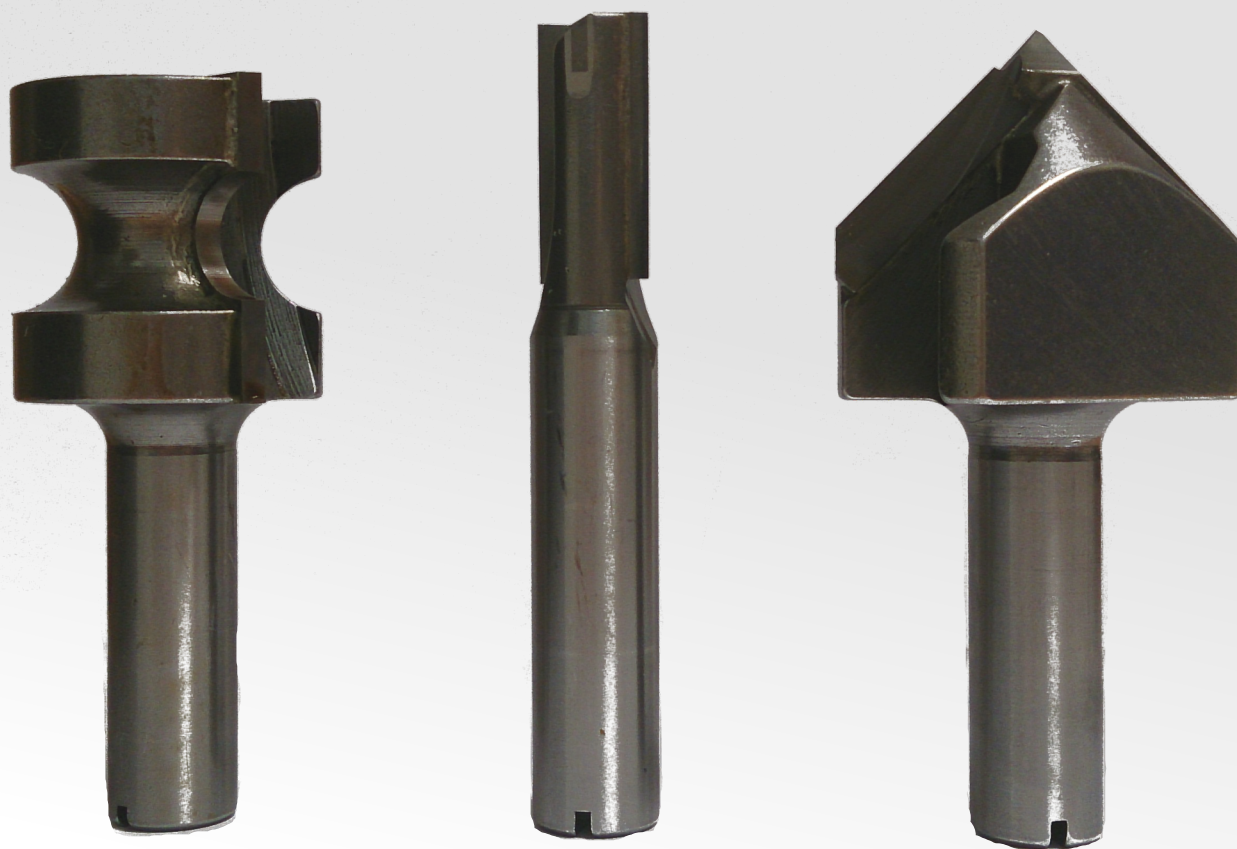
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