ONTHE COVER: Luke Thomson on how Biesse (and partners) helped him bring a new fixing to market

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On the Cover

Luke Thomson on how Biesse (and partners) helped him bring a new fixing to market

Story: pages 36-39.

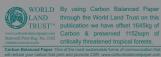
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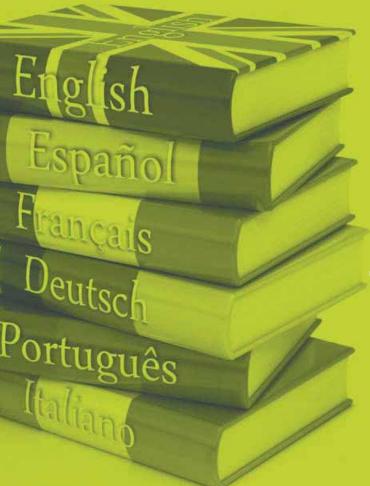
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panning over 20,500 square metres and playing host to more than 200 of the biggest and best names in the furniture manufacturing industry, the W Exhibition is a must-attend show for those in the furniture industry. This year, visitors can expect even more from their visit to the NEC this September. Partnering with the Elements show, the biennial event will feature new interactive zones specifically designed to aid industry professionals, showcase innovation and reward talent.

BRAND NEW Education Zone: Situated in Hall 6, the Education Zone will be making its debut at this year's show. Designed to support and advise visitors on the latest legislation, health & safety, productivity, careers, education and apprenticeships within the furniture industry, experts from leading associations and colleges will be on hand to help visitors navigate their way around key issues and take part in one-to-one drop-in sessions and daily workshops that are open to all.

The Elements of Innovation Zone: Now in its second year, the The Elements of Innovation Zone offers visitors an opportunity to see the most ground-breaking products and design concepts up close. Each product will have been shortlisted for the show's very own Elements of Innovation Awards and presented to an independent judging panel to be in with the chance of

winning a coveted title. Winners will be announced during the show.

The Elements show: Visitors will have access to the W Exhibition's sister show, Elements. The dedicated furniture components show will present the very latest furniture trends, design innovations and prototypes for the furniture production and interior design markets. Among its 50-strong line-up, exhibitors will include leading components manufacturer Blum, décor specialists Alpi SpA, edging professionals, Hranipex and many more.

Lisa Campagnola, Event Director adds, "This year, we have been exploring new avenues in a bid to represent the whole industry and emulate the success our exhibitors had in 2016. By working closely with leading companies, show partners and industry associations, we have been able to create two shows that offers real value and substance. We are excited to welcome new companies and introducing informative and supportive features within the show. We are confident The W Exhibition and Elements will continue to be unmissable events for the furniture design and manufacturing industry."

To register for your free ticket simply visit the show's website www.WExhibition.co.uk and join over 8,000 industry professionals at the UK's only woodworking machinery and materials show or tap here using the Furniture Journal app.

Have you registered for your free ticket to the W Exhibition yet? It's only weeks away and with more exhibitors than ever before and a whole host of new interactive features for visitors to experience, the stage is set for 2018's W Exhibition.













Meet the Judges

The Elements of Innovation Awards are back for 2018 and with under a month to go until we get to see the most pioneering products to be shortlisted from W Exhibition and Elements exhibitors, this year's judging panel has been announced...

Helen Hewitt, British Woodworking Federation:

A textile designer by trade, Helen Hewitt is a self-proclaimed creative design junky with a scrupulous eye for detail. Transferring her skills into the manufacturing sector more than 15 years ago, Hewitt is now acting CEO of the British Woodworking Federation. Hewitt has a clear passion for encouraging young talent and empowering originality and wants the awards to be a platform to inspire the industry and celebrate its achievements.

Hewitt adds, "Being a judge at the Elements of Innovation Awards is about honouring achievement and giving both the company and the individuals the recognition they deserve. I'm excited to see how each entry has gone though the production process - from the initial concept to the final product – and to see the final product first hand."

Gary Smith, Institute of Carpenters:

With almost 40 years of experience in the furniture production sector, Gary Smith is no

stranger to the world of design and manufacturing. A board member of the Institute of Carpenters and a true advocate for the industry, Smith brings a great understanding of the complete manufacturing cycle to the judging panel.

Smith adds, "I have a great interest in how things are made. To be asked to join the judging line-up is a great opportunity for me to immerse myself in an area I have great enthusiasm for and to put the latest innovations to the test."

Paul Lighterness, Buckinghamshire New University:

Paul Lighterness studied at the Royal College of Art and spent 15 years working in product design. From 3D model making to product visualisation, Lighterness' creative skills and passion to inspire talent led him to his current role as Kitchen Design Course Leader at Buckinghamshire New University.

Lighterness adds, "I'm a firm believer in pushing the boundaries of design and adapting traditional techniques to create new and exciting products. To be part of the judging process means that I can gauge a true understanding of the design process, whilst appreciating the work and craftsmanship that goes into each entry."

Hayden Davies, The Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers':

Former CEO of FIRA (the Furniture Industry Research Association) and current Master of the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers', Hayden Davies has had an active role in the furniture industry for over

20 years. With a degree in Civil Engineering, Hayden has become a successful entrepreneur and an advocate for education and excellence in the furniture industry.

Davies adds, "Supporting innovation and encouraging talent goes right to the heart of what our organisation does. I believe if our industry is to survive and prosper in the modern, global world, innovation must play a critical role and we need to shout about our achievements. We should encourage innovation and celebrate its success wherever possible."

Luke Parry, Production Manager at Edmont Joinery:

Starting his career as an apprentice in the joinery and construction industry, Luke Parry brings a sense of practical application to the judging panel. Not averse to testing unique products before they are put into production, he appreciates the knowledge and commitment it takes to develop a groundbreaking product.

Parry adds, "Innovation can sound like a buzz word but pioneering techniques and original product design can make a huge difference to our industry and the way we create and design furniture. It's not easy to develop a really good product, so we need to recognise and reward the people and companies behind the ideas."

Elements and the W Exhibition will be taking place from the 30 September – 3 October 2018 at the NEC, Birmingham. To register for your FREE ticket visit www.wexhibition.co.uk or tap here with the free Furniture Journal app.



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which takes place from 16th to 19th October 2018, will have a new structure, accommodation for more new companies, and even more design proposals and technological solutions for the furniture industry – not to mention new LED lighting to make products stand out better - so it will be well worth planning a trip. Sicam sold out several months ago, so users of the free Furniture Journal app will find a full exhibitor list by tapping the online edition here.

Registration to Sicam 2018 is already available. Fill out the form and your personal entrance badge to the exhibition will be sent directly by email. Print it out and take it with you. You'll then have direct access to all three entrances of the exhibition centre and no delays when you arrive. You will need a printed copy as smartphone badges are not accepted. If you are a Furniture Journal app user, you can register easily by tapping here.



The Austrian movement specialist, Grass, has just laid the foundation stone of the biggest investment it's ever made.

he 18th of June 2018 was a momentous occasion for the Austrian moving systems specialist, Grass. In the presence of the owners, representatives from all the Grass production sites, prominent politicians and the media, the foundation stone for a brand new central warehouse was laid in Hohenems. At a cost of 45 million Euros, the new warehouse represents the biggest single investment Grass has made in its 71-year history.

The central warehouse will provide 43,000 square metres of additional space and offers a total of 30,000 pallet positions on 22 levels – and Grass expects it to be fully operational by the end of 2019, initially with 150 employees. The factories in Hohenems will then deliver finished products which have gone through the customisation, packaging and order picking process based on the individual customers' requests.

"Optimising the supply chain management is a core challenge for being successful in the long term," is how Thomas Zenker,
Spokesman of the GRASS Management
Board, describes the motivation for the

biggest investment in the Company's history. "Our order books are full and the demand of the market is excellent. However, there were opportunities which weren't taken advantage of due to the strong growth in previous years. With the central warehouse, we're resolving one of the most important bottlenecks and creating the prerequisites for profitable and sustainable development."

Grass has been part of the Würth Group since 2004 and is in a very healthy position. "Investments in logistics, especially to this extent, are always a sign of growth and development. With the function of the central warehouse, we'll be able to significantly shorten our reaction times," Robert Friedmann, Spokesman of the Board of Directors of the Würth Group, says with satisfaction and adds: "I'm happy that the Company has developed in such a dynamic way."

For information on Grass products, call 0121 500 5824 or visit www.grass.eu. For an animation detailing how the new central warehouse will look, download the free Furniture Journal app and touch the picture marked with a link in the online app edition.





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Tavinea Sorto provides the systematic finishing touch to the new drawer generation Nova Pro Scala. No matter whether it's in the kitchen, bathroom or living room, Tavinea Sorto organises every drawer with graphic elegance. A small number of elements are all it takes for Tavinea Sorto to offer maximum variability. Easy to insert and hygienically ideal to clean. Aesthetic design becomes a functional eye-catcher.

Function, form and colour make the perfect match. Dimensional stability in steel: two frame units with slender 6 mm sections and one length divider create a structure that harmonises with Nova Pro Scala in material, form and colour.



















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hat makes a kitchen really stand out? Sure, you can change the handles, be daring with the worksurface, add design into your edges, or even experiment with doors in different colours and finishes. But in a market where following trends is more commonplace than setting them, manufacturers who want to present their customers with something eye catching and give their designs real product differentiation are beginning to turn to metallic finishes for inspiration.

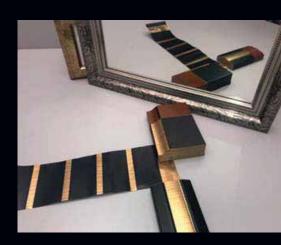
You only have to watch the reaction of consumers when they see the flecks in a granite worksurface like Black Galaxy sparkle under spotlights to see how a cleverly used metallic décor can draw the eye like no other material. Stainless steel has been around a long time. Brass is well understood. Copper is beginning to appear in retail showrooms. Even golds are making headway as the trend for metallics grows. And now, through Surteco UK, the very

latest interpretations of copper, brass, stainless steel and titanium – each with an attractive smoky patina - have just become available from Surteco Group member, Kröning.

Surteco UK is offering a collection of four wrapping grade metallic décors that have been reinterpreted by the German designer, Hans Bösel – the designer who masterminded the Aztec gold décors seen last year at Sicam and again in February at ZOW. The new collection is as well suited to profiles for cabinet bases as it is for cornices and handle strips. The décors can even be used for mouldings and picture frames.

All four of the new décors are available from Surteco UK in quantities from 500 square metres. For more information call 01282 686850, or visit www.uk.surteco.com Furniture Journal app users can touch the main picture in the online app edition for a direct link, or sales@uk.surteco.com to email Surteco UK for further details.

With the sparkle of metallics comes consumer appeal and Surteco UK has four new wrapping grade metallic décors to offer.



Paint it GIGY

Four new greys are introduced to the David Clouting UK and Irish stock range of vinyls for wrapped doors and laminated panels.

rey is growing. And painted finishes invariably command premium price points. With its latest introductions, David Clouting is helping customers stay ahead in a growing trend – and satisfy ongoing demand for high gloss and supermatt.

Complementing its range of B9 Painted Wood and Hard Coat matt and gloss décors in Light Grey, Dust Grey, Stone Grey and Graphite Grey, David Clouting has just announced the introduction of four new greys to its UK and Irish stock range of vinyls for wrapped doors and laminated panels. The result of close collaboration with key customers, the four new greys, White Grey, Pebble Grey, Onyx Grey and Cosmos Grey, are all matched to Egger MFC colours.

The unmistakable tactile qualities of a painted wood finish have been perfectly captured in LG Hausy's' B9 Painted Wood structure, featured here in the background and shown in the new Cosmos Grey colourway. The B9 finish shows LG Hausys at its technological best. B9 offers a consistent and cost-effective alternative to

painting timber. But what broadens the scope of B9 is that, complementing a vast range of top quality high gloss vinyls in all the main trend colours from David Clouting, the four new greys are also available in high gloss and supermatt, maximising the number of door finishes for each MFC colour. If you're looking for greys, or you're already using Light Grey, Dust Grey, Stone Grey and Graphite Grey and want to increase your offer to customers, these provide maximum flexibility and the facility to mix and match.

The four new colour introductions bring the total number of colours in the B9 collection to 16, and all are available in small quantities with immediate delivery. Complementary edging materials are also available.

For more information on the B9 collection, or for an update on all the very latest décor products in the David Clouting range, call 01376 518037, or download the free Furniture Journal app and tap www.davidclouting.co.uk for an immediate link to the company website.







Opulence and luxury with Faux Leather from the dp-limitless collection by Decorative Panels Lamination.

o you remember the amazingly opulent pull-out larder units Vauth-Sagel showed the Interzum before last - the ones with gold rails, stone and leather trays? They were introduced primarily for Middle Eastern markets and seven or eight-figure London homes, and very beautiful they were, too. What really set them apart was the choice of materials. Exhibited separately inside a blacked-out room with just a few carefully positioned spotlights, the focus was placed firmly on tactile sense. No one really expected to feel soft leather inside a drawer. Surprise soon turned to delight when visitors realised. It was unexpected, it was different, it was wow. Really wow.

Fast forward a couple of years and now, with Faux Leather from the dp-limitless collection by Decorative Panels Lamination, that same opulence and luxury – that same wow factor - can be achieved at a fraction of the cost. Any of the 25 different leather-look décors in the dp-limitless Faux Leather collection can now be bonded to the substrate of your choice and supplied in quantities of just

one 2440mm x 1220mm panel, opening up a world of design opportunity.

Imagine: easy care drawer boxes you can cut out on a panel saw that feel amazing; fascias and door panels with soft, textured surfaces; flowing reception desks clad in natural-looking materials that invite the touch; ceiling and wall panels that catch the light and captivate the onlooker. The applications, like the name, are limitless. In the dp-limitless Faux Leather swatch book, you'll find grain-corrected leather décors, deeply pressed abstract patterns and lightly textured fabric-like finishes alongside natural, uncorrected leathers that present the fingers and the eyes with the richness and unique flawing of a genuine hide. Now imagine the combination of Faux Leather with Real Stone Veneer - also in the dp-limitless collection - or an eye-catching metallic décor. Suddenly, even the simplest of furniture designs is uplifted and given the wow factor, opening new opportunities and new markets.

To give your designs the wow factor, call 01484 658341 or download the free Furniture Journal app and tap the picture with a link sign for a direct link to the dp-limitless collection.









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IDS brings Swiss Krono's unique CamuStyleTX collection to the UK.



or some time now there has been a clear design direction towards interesting surface textures, with matt being a key trend. Global decorative panel specialist Swiss Krono has unveiled the latest evolution of this trend with the ground-breaking CamuStyleTX collection.

Taking a global design perspective, Swiss Krono has pioneered this unique new texture to harness the aesthetics of natural limestone and open weave fabric, expertly combining them into CamuStyleTX. With this nature-inspired pairing and fashionable matt finish, the company aims to create greater design interest in products through their surface texture, with customers drawn to their touch and feel as well as their looks. Available exclusively in the UK from IDS, the initial launch includes a

carefully selected palette of 12 CamuStyleTX décors spanning soft whites, beiges, grey, bronze and stone-inspired designs selected for their organic and industrial trend appeal.

Says Dave Huggins, Business Development Director at IDS: "We're delighted to bring CamuStyleTX to the UK. Swiss Krono has researched the latest trends and responded by creating this new texture, which can best be described as a cross between natural stone and fabric. These may seem like an unusual combination, yet they actually go very well together to bring depth and interest to the surface, offering something completely different to the sector."

CamuStyleTX offers a flexible product choice for furniture manufacturing and interior fit-outs being available with an MFC,







MDF or CDF core in a variety of sizes and thicknesses, with matching edging tape. The company produces the core board from 100% virgin wood material which meets and exceeds the standard requirements for both FSC^{\otimes} and $PEFC^{TM}$. The range is suitable for a wide range of domestic and commercial applications, offering the creative scope for stylish furniture, wall panelling, table tops, counter cladding, shelving and doors.

"Just like perfectly matched inline embossed surface textures have transformed the appeal of woodgrains by making them appear more authentic, Swiss Krono has adopted the same approach with CamuStyleTX to develop a new texture that will empathetically enhance stone and pearlescent designs," continues Dave. "But of

course, the beauty is that it's harnessing a technical man-made material so combines high performance with easy maintenance."

CamuStyleTX, part of the Swiss Krono One World Collection of decorative panels, was first launched at the Salon de Mobile in Italy, globally regarded as the breeding ground of impeccable design, and was displayed by several prominent kitchen manufacturers on door frontals, worksurfaces and shelving. In addition to being a stand-alone range, it can also be pressed with any of the 250 One World décors as a bespoke order.

Concludes Dave, "We are confident this is a surface that will appeal to furniture manufacturers and designers for all manner of applications because it harnesses the key trends for matt surfaces, industrial styling and an organic palette. We are seeing more of these surfaces coming through, so differentiation is important, and CamuStyleTX achieves this with an empathetic sensory experience. By specifying it you can be confident that there's nothing like it in the market at the moment."

CamuStyleTX and the rest of the Swiss Krono collection is available from all 14 of IDS's branches nationwide. For more information, contact the IDS Specialist Panel Team on 0845 023 0376, visit www.idsurfaces.co.uk or, if you are reading this edition with the free Furniture Journal app, touch solutions@idsurfaces.co.uk to email IDS. Touch the picture marked with a link sign to view the CamuStyleTX brochure.



Product Description	Item Number
Alpine Supermatt	S40.40.23.0077.
Cashmere Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0012.
Denim Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0040.
Dust Grey Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0041.
Fjord Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0038.
Graphite Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0011.
Indigo Blue Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0066.
Light Grey Supermatt	S40.40.23.0016.
Onyx Grey Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0058.
Pearl Grey Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0064.
Premium White Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0010.
Stone Grey Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0013.
White Grey Supermatt	\$40.40.23.0065.

Décor specialist Renolit has added 13 new supermatt solid colours to its 3D-formable Renolit Alkoren range.

hirteen Supermatt solid colours are the latest new additions to the Renolit Alkoren range of 3D thermoformable films and they are all available exstock in the UK.

Matt surface finishes continue to increase in popularity and market trends are now broadening to include different variants of matt texture. Supermatt has been developed to complement Renolit's popular and successful Suedette Matt emboss. Supermatt is an elegant, low friction, smooth and durable matt surface finish that, in addition to providing an attractive and very tactile surface. Renolit says that Supermatt has been tested and performed best when compared with other similar

materials for key physical properties such as scratch, mar and stain resistance.

Supermatt is available in all the most widely sold colours in the UK, offering a commercially attractive colour palette combined with a desirable, high performing, superior matt surface. In addition, five more supermatt colours have been added to the 2018 Highlights collection, bringing the complete Renolit offer to 33 Supermatt colours.

For more information call 01670 718 222, visit www.renolit.com/design or, if you are reading this edition using the free Furniture Journal app, touch the image marked with a link sign, or the website, for a direct link on your smartphone or tablet.













If you're looking for décors, edgebandings and the products to apply them, this year's Elements exhibition has some surprises in store.

eeping up to date with the latest edging, surface materials and décors and accessories can be tricky. We all know that design trends move at a rate of knots and for many, staying informed is a time consuming exercise. But, there is another way to keep abreast of the latest developments: The Elements show.

With more than 10 months to the next edition of Interzum, Elements is your next – and nearest - opportunity to see the latest innovations to enter the furniture design and manufacturing market. We speak to Elements' Event Organiser, Lisa Campagnola to find out more.

"Elements is about bringing the very latest products to your doorstep. The industry is diverse and we know how quickly the market has to adapt to meet demand. That's why we're offering visitors a unique opportunity to see, touch and experience the very latest designs all under one roof.

"In 2016, we welcomed exhibitors from the UK, Europe and China. This year, we've seen an influx of Turkish décor companies exhibiting, as they look to gage interest and test the market. This has been reflected in the number of edgebanding companies we have exhibiting, and it's an area we're expecting to see grow further in 2020. Alongside well-known names like Ostermann (who will present edgebands and a collection of Sibu décors designed for the shopfitting market), Hranipex, Merenda and Proadec, we're welcoming established Turkish brands who are looking to enter the UK market. Design-led and forward-thinking companies like Tece, Portacal, Kalp and Karebant are offering a new dimension to the show and giving visitors an opportunity to meet new-to-the-UK brands that are genuinely different.

"We've also seen substantial growth in the number of veneer companies exhibiting this year, which we believe is due, in part, to our continual support of the shopfitting market. As well as Mundy Veneer and DF Richards (Veneers) Ltd, Alpi Spa is set to showcase its new Alpi wood collections, launch Alpi-ON its first collection of finished panels - and promote a collaboration with the exciting design duo, GamFratesi. This year, we're working closer than ever with the National Association of Shopfitters (NAS) and Shop and Display Equipment Association (SDEA) to engage with the shopfitting market and help them experience the very latest trends to enter the UK.

"In addition to décor exhibitors, Elements will also include adhesive and finishing products from companies like Decora Mouldings, Quin Global, Remmers UK and Rubio Monocoat and hardware, fixtures and fittings from the likes of Costal Group, Blum UK and Crofts & Assinder.

"For 2018, the look and feel of the show has been given its own design-led identity. We are excited to be featuring our Elements of Innovation Zone and Elements of Innovation Awards at the show and introducing our brand new Education Zone, in a bid to champion the industry's future and promote talent in the furniture manufacturing industry.

Elements will also continue to run alongside the UK's only woodworking machinery and materials show, the W Exhibition, at the NEC, Birmingham this year. Both exhibitions complement each other and by offering free entry to each shows, it allows visitors to experience the complete manufacturing cycle."

Elements will take place from the 30 September – 3 October 2018 at the NEC, Birmingham. To register for your free ticket simply visit the shows website and join over 8,000 industry professionals at the UK's only dedicated furniture components show:

www.wexhibition.co.uk

For more information please visit www.wexhibition.co.uk/Elements or follow @Elements_Expo on Twitter.

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Above: Finishing expert Rubio Monocoat will be highlighting the trend for nature with its range of all-natural oil timber finishes and seals, as well as reactive pre-colour stains such as Smoked and Fumed on Elements stand R400. For more information call +27 11 466 0273





Above: Quin Global will be demonstrating the benefits of its newly endorsed Tensorgrip L42 solid surface spray adhesive in partnership with CD (UK) Ltd and Howdens, alongside its fire rated IMO and zero flam adhesives on stand on stand K505. For more information call 0845 3812233 or visit www.quinglobal.com



Above: New to Elements, Alpi Spa is set to showcase its new 2018 Alpi wood collections and promote its exciting collaboration with design duo, GamFratesi on stand P305. This year, visitors will be able to see the Italian veneer specialist explore the beauty of wood alongside man-made materials such as concrete. For more information call +39 335 2303446 or visit www.alpi.it

Left: Surface and edgebanding expert Ostermann, will be showcasing a wealth of new product on stand K410. As well as presenting its latest ABS edging - which has been inspired by the look of concrete and surfaces that have the appearance of rust - Ostermann will also show its extended Sibu surface collection. Designed specially for the shopfitting market, designs include anything from leather to mirrors, offering a new dimension to design. For more information call 01905 793550 or visit www.ostermann.eu



Above: Decora Mouldings will be presenting its "On Product Branding" an effective way to give products a visible identity. The stand (S415) will also include new designs and exciting finishes including a range of leathers and fashion forward Rose Gold and Copper designs. For more information call 01452 307700 or visit www.decoramouldings.com



Is your furniture too difficult, too fiddly, or too time-consuming to be Consumer Assembly Friendly? If so, help is at hand from Titus.

hen you buy a machine, you don't just buy it and have it installed. You check its performance. You find out in detail what it can do for you, how much it will save you, how soon you'll get payback — and when it arrives, you sweat your new asset until it makes the numbers. But if it's making ready-to-assemble furniture, have you gone through the same exercise for your customers, and are you missing sales opportunities because your furniture is simply too difficult, too fiddly, or too time-consuming to warrant repeat orders and recommendations?

It's a topic that's close to the heart of fittings expert, Titus – and the company has gone to great lengths to make sure you get the best possible Consumer Assembly Friendliness score by developing a simple

formula based on the number of actions needed to construct each piece that enables you to check whether your furniture is CAF or NAF (Not Assembly Friendly) in the eyes of the consumer.

Take the total number of parts in the process, add them to the number of actions required to assemble them, then multiply that by the number of different parts – (T+A) x N – and you get your CAF score. The lower the number, the more assembly friendly your furniture is. Even opening the bag that contains the fixings and removing the cardboard protectors from panels count as actions, and for some flatpack manufacturers, that could push you well over a score of 100. So how could you reduce that?

One possibility would be to use the latest 'full metal jacket' type cam and dowel connectors. These don't need to be supplemented by wooden dowels and, instead of screwing into place, the connectors simply push into predrilled holes. That's faster and more convenient and it can halve a score that was over 100. Another option could be to use one-piece connectors that integrate the

cam and dowel in a single easy-to-install component, or you could adopt a system that allows cams and dowels to be pre-inserted in your factory.

Ease of assembly is an important requirement for every item of ready-to-assemble furniture and can make all the difference between a product that's successful and profitable in the marketplace and one that performs poorly. By combining CAF scoring with the benefits provided by the latest developments in cabinet hardware, you'll be better placed than ever to maximise the consumer appeal of your products. So, why not give Titus a call and check out the various options? It could be easier than you think to increase your sales in a competitive market.

Call Titus Tool Company on 01977 82582 or 01977 680481. Alternatively, if you're using the free Furniture Journal app, tap **here** to email Titus, **here** for a list of Titus distributors, or tap the picture marked with a link sign for a video comparing the assembly time when using the Titus Quickfit TL2, Quickfit bagged and a Combi dowel bagged.



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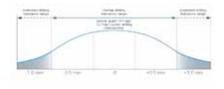
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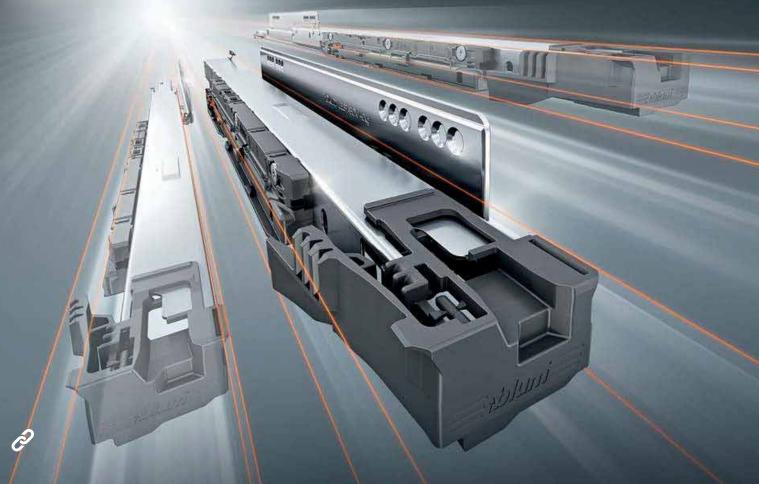
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Triple Success with S

aunched in the UK at KBB earlier this year, the new Blumotion S is an innovative runner with integrated product intelligence for Legrabox and Movento. It gives cabinet-makers and furniture manufacturers the flexibility to implement any one of three different motion technologies with a single runner and, equipped with adaptive soft close, it guarantees soft and effortless closing for that unmistakable quality feel.

You can now use a single runner to implement three different motion technologies: Blumotion, Servo-Drive or Tip-On Blumotion. What's more, the runner is designed for two different systems, the Legrabox box and Movento runner system. To achieve adaptive soft close, simply attach a Tip-On Blumotion unit.

For ease of assembly and simplicity during manufacturing, the components in the different

motion technologies (Blumotion, Servo-Drive or Tip-On Blumotion) remain the same, as do drilling and fixing positions. Basically, you can use Blumotion S like any other runner. Blumotion S allows you to streamline and simultaneously enlarge your range so you can meet various customer needs and create individualised designs.

No matter whether you opt for an electrical or a mechanical opening support system, Blum offers the right solution and level of convenience for base cabinets throughout the home.

For more information call Blum UK on 01908 285700, visit www.blum.com or, if you are reading this edition with the free Furniture Journal app, tap the main image marked with a link sign for a video showing the three motion technologies and how they fix together in detail.

Blum launches the ultimate runner for customised furniture applications.







Häfele announces the launch of its new 'H2O' cut-to-size service for wardrobe rails, profiled handles and internal drawer fronts from





äfele UK has added to its portfolio of services for customers by introducing 'Häfele to Order' – a cut-and-assemble service for sizing, finishing, assembling and packaging selected products to customer specifications.

Already a popular service offered by its American counterparts, Häfele has identified an opportunity to help customers save time and money through offering the service across a range of items that are supplied in pre-determined lengths and take longer to pack and post.

Lee Dicey, Head of Commercial at Häfele UK comments: "The introduction of a bespoke ordering service across a range of our products is a really exciting move forwards for us. We have recognised for some time that supplying some of our products cut to size, finished and packed offers huge benefits to our customers by saving them time and money, so we are delighted to begin



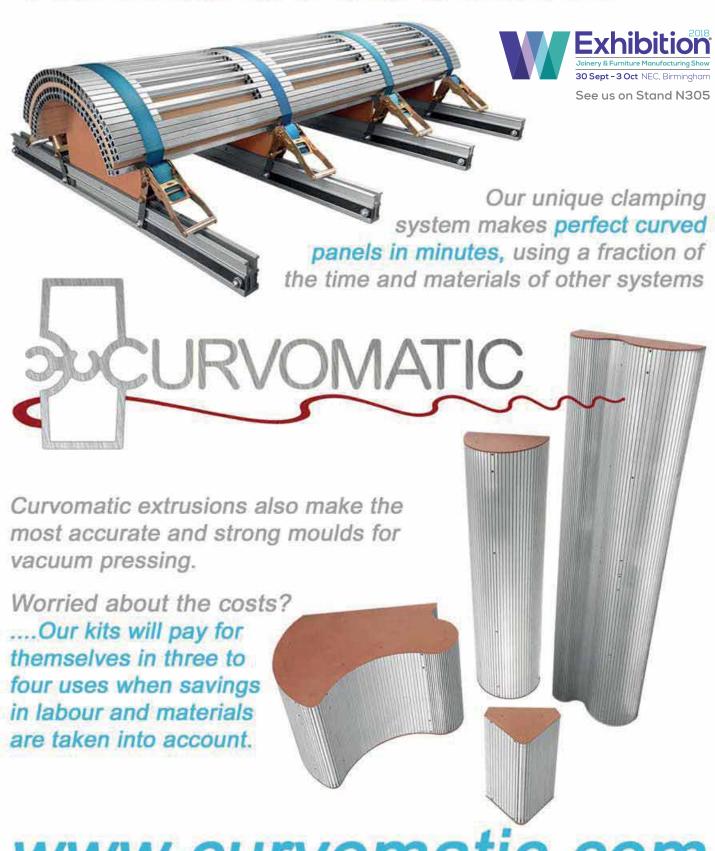
offering this service across wardrobe railing and Gola profiles for on-trend handle-less kitchens from September 2018.

"We are also looking to quickly expand this service after we launch and have already identified our Loox lighting as a range we want to offer as a bespoke product, along with internal drawer fronts, which, when added to our pre-assembled MX drawer units, means the time spent on assembly will be very minimal from a manufacturing and fitting perspective across this range."

Customers will be able to order items through the bespoke service by visiting the Häfele website. Completing a form online will generate a quote before the order is confirmed.

The service is due to launch in September 2018 but if you'd like to be among the first to hear when it goes live, sign up now using the free Furniture Journal app. Tap **here** for a link to the page.

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SCM is preparing to make W18 a real techno event There will be live demonstrations of its Maestro digital platform and machines ranging from entry level Minimax models to a revolutionary Morbidelli.



or readers who didn't make it over to Milan in May for Xylexpo, the W Exhibition in Birmingham this coming autumn will provide the perfect opportunity to connect with SCM and experience first-hand some of the latest cutting-edge machinery, as well as the very useful digital solutions in SCM Group's far-reaching Maestro Xplore, Maestro Connect and Maestro Smartech software. Regardless of whether you are from a larger manufacturing company that could be interested in a line, or you are operating a small business that needs to move up a gear, the various packages in the Maestro Suite have been designed to provide just what you need and they are well worth checking out while you're perusing the latest machines on show.

The virtual world of Maestro Xplore enables potential customers who are interested in big systems to explore a working model of the whole factory, and even count components going through to make sure SCM's solution fits their production

requirements before they buy it. It's designed to ensure both you and SCM's engineers are on the same wavelength before you place your order and allows you to explore, walk around and check for errors or production bottlenecks in the design of even the most complicated lines. You tell SCM what you want to achieve, SCM comes up with the solution and Maestro Xplore simulates your production requirement exactly, even when there are non-SCM machines involved. The demonstration is very impressive.

As machines become more sophisticated, it makes sense to ensure maintenance issues and potential breakdowns are covered before you invest. Regardless of the size of your operation, service should be high on the priority list of topics to discuss, and having a system that predicts when breakdowns are most likely - and the facility to get immediate assistance, either if you want to undertake maintenance yourself, or if the unexpected brings your machine to a standstill - are



inherent in the Maestro Suite. Maestro Connect is all about predictive maintenance. If your electrospindle starts vibrating, it shows in Connect that the tool needs checking. If the vacuum pump temperature increases, Maestro Connect advises you to check the oil. Connect connected machines self-learn from the data being collected and predict before an incident whether maintenance is required, or whether a problem will arise in the next few days, decreasing downtime and providing peace of mind.

But what happens if a minor problem arises that you're not sure how to deal with? It's here that Maestro Smartech comes into its own. Don a pair of special glasses and with Maestro Smartech you can relay video and speak directly with an expert in Italy who can help you locate and solve problems quickly and efficiently. A camera in the glasses shows a technician at SCM what you are seeing and provides a video and voice connection that enables you to receive step-by-step

instructions - even documentation or a plan that shows the assembly of a part. The technician can mark on the plan in real time using a pen to draw your attention to something and, at the same time, explain what you need to do.

One of the machines that SCM used to demonstrate the new app version of Maestro at Xylexpo was a Morbidelli M220, equipped with a revolutionary HMI Eye-M, 21.5" multitouch display. There will be a similarly equipped Morbidelli M220 at the W Exhibition, and for those of you who may be interested in new concept machines, this is one not to be missed. Introduced in Rimini in January 2018, the M220 offers faster drilling cycles of up to 70% compared with traditional machining centres by facilitating the machining of various panels simultaneously. Equipped with two parallel, independent drilling heads that are controlled with Maestro CNC software, it optimises the machining operation and determines the

fastest possible drilling strategy automatically and without any operator intervention. The software applies an algorithm that determines whether the drilling heads should be used independently with one head working each panel, or whether it would be more time efficient to use both heads simultaneously on one panel – and any shape of workpieces can be created in just a few clicks.

If it is drilling you're interested in and space doesn't permit a large footprint machine, take a look at the compact Morbidelli CX200 that will be on the SCM stand. Perfect for batch size one operations, the two drilling heads enable simultaneous machining, increasing productivity by up to 60%, and the CX200 will drill all five faces of a panel as well as grooving and routing without any manual setup between operations. Again, it's controlled by easily programmed Maestro CNC software.

Also on the stand will be SCM's Gabbiani S beam saw, the Superset NT moulder and a collection of machines from the Minimax range.





Configuration with two right vertical spindle on Superset NT



'Mobile PC' electronic control on Superset NT



features. Take the Minimax SI X sliding table

The Gabbiani S is a fully automatic, singleblade beam saw that's ideal for cutting solid wood panels, ply, chipboard, MDF and fibreboard. It may have been designed with smaller companies in mind but entry level in specification it isn't. Along with Maestro Cut software that will automatically restock offcuts inside a Flexstore EL, it comes with a spacesaving Flexcut unit that makes simultaneous cross and rip cuts, increasing productivity by up to 30%, and Sawset, one of the easiest-tooperate tool-changing systems currently on the market.

If you're looking for an economically priced machine for producing mouldings - either in long runs or small batches - it's worth having a look at the Superset NT moulder SCM will be demonstrating on the stand. It's packed with

productivity enhancing features, like the Setup system that enables tool-changing in just a few seconds. Try out the new 'Mobile PC' electronic control and see how intuitive it is. Two right spindles, two upper horizontal spindles and the option of a universal spindle mean the Superset is available in eight different configurations, so regardless of whether you are making furniture profiles or complex window components, there is sure to be a solution that works for you.

For the starter workshop, or the small cabinet-maker/joiner, SCM's Minimax range includes pretty much every machine you could wish for from spindle moulders and edgebanders to planer-thicknessers, band saws and sliding table saws. Entry level they may be, but with Minimax you get a lot of advanced

panel saw, for example: it comes with a plus or minus 46-degree double tilting blade and powered blade movement for both the 400mm main blade and the 160mm scoring blade. While you are on the stand, check out the support system and the smoothness of the sliding table and don't forget to ask for a demonstration of the automatic parallel fence positioning system.

For more information, visit SCM at the W Exhibition, held in Birmingham's NEC from 30th September until 3rd October, call 0115 977 0044, or download the free Furniture Journal app and touch any of the pictures in the online edition for an immediate link to video demonstrations and more. Alternatively, touch info@scmgroup.com to send an email.





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Weinig on Show

Weinig's W Exhibition stands will encompass machines for the craftsman right through to top performers from its industrial range.

his year's W Exhibition will see Weinig and Holz-Her showcasing the latest technology and innovations in solid wood and furniture production as part of the Weinig Group's presence across three stands, K710, M710 and M810. With something for everyone, from the hugely successful Cube Plus to the very affordable Powermat 700 Classic, as well as advanced technology as demonstrated by Digital OptiControl and Moulder Master software, a visit is highly recommended.

So, let's take a look at some of the machines that will be on show.

Weinig's reputation for moulders is legendary, so naturally there will be one of the Powermats on the stand - the entrylevel Powermat 700 Classic that comes with a with a starting price of just £40,000.

There will also be a Cube Plus, one of the easiest-to-use four-sided planers on the market. "Anyone can use a Cube," says Weinig UK's Managing Director, Malcolm Cuthbertson. "Simply enter the finish size on the screen and the lasers assist positioning. Then you simply push timber into the planer. Ease of use, health and safety features and flexibility all come together in Weinig's Cube."







One of the stars of the Weinig lineup will be a ProMaster CNC for solid timber processing. The ProMaster range of heavy duty CNC solutions offers almost unlimited possibilities in five-axis machining, and it's built for highly demanding work. Check out the construction and ask about key features like the application-friendly industrial design.

If a furniture production system is what interests you but you're not really into programming, the Holz-Her Nextec is a complete package comprising machine and specially designed, craftsman-friendly software that's sure to catch your interest. With just a few clicks and the push of a button, the Nextec will create and label each component, enabling you to hit the ground running without programming skills. It's so easy and intuitive to use that you'll be able to start manufacturing from the first day the machine arrives.

A key feature in making your panel processing more efficient is Holz-Her's DirectCut and a demonstration is highly recommended. This laser-supported system enables your Nextec to turn material remnants into valuable furniture components. The optional two-line laser enables you to cut one-off pieces to your chosen size easily, without any programming.

There are many edgebanders on the market but only one manufacturer who has the awardwinning GluJet system, and that's Holz-Her. From the smallest Holz-Her edgebander to the largest production solution, each Holz-Her comes with the Glu Jet system as standard. Be it high gloss or solid wood edging, the system is both flexible and versatile and comes with a three-year warranty. With the Glulet ready to use in under four minutes, you can now process PUR glue as standard and switch colours, or adhesive types without the hassle.

With the new Holz-Her Lumina series of edgebanders comes the optional LTronic system - a unit that enables the application of laser edging tapes. The NIR (Near Infrared Radiation) module in Holz-Her's LTronic unit transfers heat energy quickly and precisely, activating the adhesive layer to create a zero glueline bond. Designed to work with edge heights up to 45mm, the LTronic is ready to use as soon as you switch it on - no heat-up time and no heat-up phases during the machining process.

In addition to the Nextec and zero glue line solutions, Holz-Her will also show its Sector 1255 wall saw at W18 and there will be demonstrations from the Weinig Group of classical machines by its partner, Hofmann.

For full details contact 01235 557600, email sales@weinig.co.uk or visit the brand new Weinig Expo UK, Weinig's Innovation Centre for Manufacturing Excellence in Abingdon.



Long gone are the days when Biesse was just a machinery supplier. Nowadays, the company also sees itself as a partner with its customers.



would do the job, check out the various options available and make your choice. There was a good chance you'd find the machine that would handle the task, sew up a deal and come away with a smile on your face - and, of course, sometimes things are still that simple. However, with the advances in materials, the increasing expectations of consumers and the need to compete in a playing field that's often far from level, taking a global overview of what you want to achieve is often much more important than focussing on one specific machine or process - and you'd have to be pretty expert in all aspects of production and completely up to speed with the latest developments in materials and machinery to make your choice without consulting experts. Even machinery suppliers don't necessarily have all the answers.

Recognising that the role of the machinery supplier is now as much about providing a global overview of production techniques and bringing tangible advantages to the whole

add expertise from their own speciality areas into the mix. These partnerships, which range from close co-operations with manufacturers of tooling to technology leaders from the adhesives, edgebands and materials sectors, have often resulted in the development and introduction of new technologies with gamechanging ramifications for Biesse customers. While it's fair to say many an industry leader has taken advantage of the combined expertise of Biesse and its partners to leapfrog the competition – take another look at the article on Decorative Panels Components' revolutionary new edgebanding line in the last issue of Furniture Journal, for example - those who have benefited most haven't all been industry giants.

At Biesse's Inside UK event in July, Luke Thomson from the bespoke furniture manufacturing company Thomson Brothers (London) Limited, presented the results of a collaboration with Biesse and its partners that has not only solved a problem for his own business – and enabled him to set up a new



business - it's proved instrumental in the launch of a product that offers benefits for anyone producing flatpack furniture. Luke Thomson, now the proud owner of two month-old IF (Intelligent Fixings Ltd) takes up the story of his brand-new panel fixing, the Peanut:

"We manufacture bespoke furniture and we're in the process of buying a CNC nesting machine from Biesse. We were wowed by the machine and what it could do for us, but we weren't at all impressed with the fixings we could use with it. They were either wobbly, which is no good for high end furniture, or expensive, or both. We dwelt on it for a while and came up with the idea of a simple, solid solution.

"My goal was to design something that required one simple machining process, it could be flatpacked and it would be very strong and provide a rigid joint. The result was the Peanut. The original design was in the form of a dovetail but, when I started talking to Biesse about it and we trialled the machining in Daventry, it became clear that the routing process was too slow. Biesse helped reshape the design so the panels could be drilled rather than routed, making the process much faster.

The Peanut slips into a T-slot and makes an incredibly strong joint without the need for screws. You can glue it if you want to — we use a PU glue to lock the Peanut in place — but there's no need.

"Biesse was fantastic. We knew them through our dealings with machines in the past. They helped us a lot when it came to testing the cutter. Biesse UK developed the program. Developing the cutter was quite a challenge because it has to enter a blind pocket, then come back out. We solved the problem together with one of Biesse's tooling partners, EMST."

Nottingham-based EMST, also showing at the Biesse Inside UK event, confirmed there had been plenty of development work undertaken before the current tool design emerged in time for Biesse's open day deadline. "We had made a few variations of the tool as the project evolved before we came up the current design that gives a perfect finish on the top edge of the board and in the recess," EMST's Technical External Sales specialist, Fergus Sinclair, told Furniture Journal. "Although the tool doesn't appear to be complicated, it is a complex design in terms of











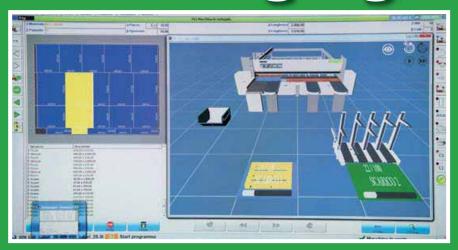


geometry that needed the right equipment to design, produce and inspect it. As a company, we have five five-axis CNC machines for the regrind and manufacture of solid carbide tooling and also PCD erosion machinery, so we can make pretty much any kind of tool that's required. Luke needed someone to test it for him and that's where Biesse helped a lot. Biesse gave him lots of machine and personnel time." EMST showed the tool with their ExtractMax toolholder."The design consists of an alloy turbine and a steel lock nut for tightening. It's ideal for use in conjunction with the Peanut tool because it acts like a vacuum cleaner, lifting the waste material from the slot."

Nigel Elmes, looks after the Biesse's tech centre in Daventry and runs the demonstrations for customers. "Luke came to us with the fitting and asked us to try it. He

was a Biesse customer already. We thought it was quite innovative, so we consulted Simon Draycott, our Software Trainer and investigated further. It was already good but the machining time was disappointing because we had to route both fixings - two sides. We suggested changing one side of the component to just drilling, which meant a change in the design of the fixing to two round holes - much faster than routing. A 5mm slot stops the fixing from swivelling and the keyhole slot is a simple one-piece cutter that drops into the panel, does a line shift one way and back to where it was - two or three seconds tops - then the fitting goes in and the panels fit perfectly. It took a couple of days of development on our Rover A 5-axis. We've now applied it to the flat table machine so it can be used on a three-axis CNC, or even our vertical Eco.

A W18 Highlight





mong the many machines that will be on the Biesse stand at W18, Biesse UK will demonstrate the benefits of its simple, but very clever vertical organisation system, first seen at Xylexpo 2018 on a Selco WN6 beam saw.

Designed for ease and simplicity, and perfect for manufacturers that don't have automatic labelling, the vertical system makes sorting of parts from multiple orders foolproof for operators. Parts from several orders can be nested and cut simultaneously on the beam saw without the need to process complete orders, making the most of each nested panel. On the screen, each part is colour-coded by the optimiser according to customer order so, even if several orders are being processed simultaneously and those orders contain parts with identical dimensions, the correct part is easy to identify and always stored in the right place when it comes off the saw.

The operator applies the appropriate label, as instructed by the software, and

places the panel not in a conventional flat stack (which usually means the stack has to be manually reorganised later because the first part needing processing is often at the bottom), but in a vertical storage station that keeps orders together while allowing easy access in the required order. The storage system is wheeled, so it can easily be moved without pallet handling equipment to the next process, saving time and reducing the risk of mix-ups and handling damage.

"It is a simple job. We don't have to program each individual fixing, we just use a macro wherever required. For any manufacturer who is already using a cam and dowel or another type of fitting, all they would need to do is substitute the fixing points or tooling and change it to run our macro. There's no redesign involved. It's just a matter of replacing the existing construction method."

"It's all about helping the customer," concludes Biesse UK's Robbie O'Neill. "Luke has come up with something that's a great product but needed the expertise of Biesse to get it to market. So we helped to confirm what he already knew and also hone the product by making a couple of design changes so it worked better with CNC machines. That's where the value of Biesse is. But even when customers are making a furniture product, we

can often introduce them to more efficient, or sometimes better ways of producing it through our wider industry experience and through the expertise of our partners. We're seeing so many customers who are doing things in a different way that we're getting many, many chances to solve problems. Biesse is not just a machinery supplier any more, we're a developer for our customers. Biesse UK's tech centre is full of machines that are worked hard. There's an open invitation for anyone who wants to try something new to come and do it here in Daventry."

To find out more, or to discuss how working with Biesse and its partners could benefit your company, visit Biesse at W18 in Birmingham, call Biesse UK on 01327 300366 or email info@biesse.co.uk. Touch any picture marked with a link sign in the free Furniture Journal app edition for videos and information.





Ider

Felder is planning to show several stars among its various ranges of machines at the W Exhibition.



t doesn't really matter whether you're shopping for a high-level CNC machining centre for continuous shift operation, or simply want to add a robust workhorse to your stable of joinery machines, the Felder's W Exhibition stand will embrace both ends of the company's growing portfolio of machines.

Alongside larger Format-4 CNC machines that will be demonstrated on request, and a selection of machines from the entry level Hammer range, three machines in particular are being given pride of place on the stand by Felder UK this year: the Kappa 590 sliding table saw from the Format-4 range, the Creator 950 processing centre first seen at Ligna 2017, and the Tempora 60.06L edgebander.

The Format-4 Kappa 590 is Felder's latest double pivoting circular saw and if you need a saw that will cope with mitre cuts, make complex compound cuts, groove a mitre and more, this saw - which offers 46-degree blade pivoting in both directions - should definitely

be on your list of must-sees. Ask for a demonstration and notice how the blade guard pivots effortlessly in both directions for improved safety with speed. Adjustment angle can be read to within 1/100 of a degree. You'll also find continuously variable adjustment of the parallelogram outrigger table from +45 degrees to -45 degrees. Other key features include tool-free saw blade change, a highly efficient synchronous motor with continuously adjustable speed from 2,000-5,000rpm and power transmission through Felder's Poly-Vbelt technology. You'll find three-axis control of the scoring unit that parks the scoring blade at the touch of a button and some very thoughtful details, like remote on and off switches on the sliding table itself and digital angle/length compensation. There are three versions – the e-motion, the e-motion plus and the x-motion - and all come with a 15"

W18 is your chance to get up close and personal with Felder's Creator 950, a



complete processing centre that made something of a stir at Ligna last year. Although it was conceived as a simple, safe entry into the world of CNC for workshops that only have limited space (it has a footprint of just five square metres), it was perhaps the Creator's ability to work without vacuum pods, without a console that had to be positioned and without any need for field selection that drew the amazement of onlookers even more than the intuitive controls and slightly unusual configuration. With just one operator, the horizontal workpiece transport system and overhead processing mean even heavy workpieces can be processed easily - and there are optional air table supports, or table extensions, if you need them. A second row of stops and a dual grip system along the x axis make working longer components a cinch. Because the Creator offers a throughfeed facility, it's also possible to gain benefit from it as part of a larger manufacturing company, and it has the

power and the performance to keep pace with much larger CNCs. The 12kW spindle will process more than just chipboard and MDF and both the DH17 and optional DH25 drilling heads can be specified. Four-sided formatting and cutouts are both possible. Automatic tool and workpiece measurement further enhance productivity. Felder even supplies a dowel unit for it.

Felder has made it very easy to select the edgebander that's right for you from its Tempora range by coming up with three models that cater for different workpiece heights and tape thicknesses, and seven packages that meet with the specifications required by most workshops. These apply to the smaller Tempora F400 45.03/L (for processing workpieces with a height of 10-45mm and a tape thickness of 0.4-3mm), the Tempora F600 60.06/L (for processing workpieces with a height of 8-60mm and a tape thickness on 0.4-6mm) that will be on show at the W Exhibition, right up to the

Tempora F800 60.12 that can process tapes of 12mm and offers feed speeds of up to 20m/ min compared with 18m/min for the F600 60.06/L and 9m/min for the Tempora F400 45.03/L. All the Tempora machines are designed to make edge processing as quick, easy and efficient as possible and three levels of control option are offered: m-motion, the manual option; x-motion plus, which is semiautomatic; and e-motion, the fully automatic option. If you're in the market for an edgebander, don't forget to measure the space you have available, think about the finish you want and consider the maximum edge and board thicknesses you'll be working before you get to the W Exhibition so Felder can steer you towards the right machine.

For more information, visit the W Exhibition (stands F810, F910, G810 and G910), call Felder UK on 01908 635000, or tap any of the images with a link sign if you are using the free Furniture Journal app to see video presentations of each machine.

Probably the world's FORMAT. best panel saw







The new kappa 590 sets a new standard for all panel saws! With its dual tilting saw blade that has a pivot range of 92°, a cutting height of 202mm as well as everything on the machine being controlled by the intuitive 15" touch screen. The kappa 590 makes perfection the norm!

Further models from the FORMAT-4 Range

tempora 60.06L Edgebander



profit HIO



creator 950







"Dual tilt"-Pivots in both directions +/- 46°



"Synchronous motor" -Quick and easy cutting speed selection



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n efficient nesting process starts with software, ends with ready parts and offers you faster and more efficient material handling within the production process. For more than 28 years, CAD+T has been offering complete software solutions that include nesting for CNC machines that allow you to cut and run all further successive operations on one machine.

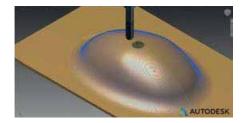
Digital part data that's been loaded to the machine's software often needs to be aligned manually by an operator in order to run the nesting. CAD+T offers a nesting tool that takes the CNC programs directly from your shop floor drawings, nests them and sends the correct machine data in the right format directly to your CNC. The software recognises material and grain directions and chooses the right tool as well as the production process. This data can be used directly on the machine and doesn't require any manual checking.

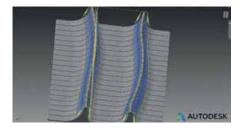
If you have a CNC with more than one processing head, 3D pocket cut outs can be made using different broaching strategies and

using nesting might well cause you to rethink your construction principals. What might have been done with drilling and dowels can now be done with groove and rabbet. CAD+T offers different options for your production process and post processors for any established three and five axis CNC machine. In addition, the software specialist offers a solution for nesting on beam saws that will enable you to achieve intelligent sequencing, automatic shredding of material offcuts (and shorter processing times for offcuts), as well as enabling the handling of several jobs at the same time - all with the highest cutting quality. Powerful, configurable post processors facilitate optimal performance of your machine for 3D nesting and the software even supports robot systems for feeding, allowing you to define 3D cut-off regions.

CAD+T will present its latest developments and products at the W Exhibition in Birmingham on stand N905. For more information, online app users can tap the main image for a direct link to the CAD+T website.

CAD+T will present its latest software developments at the W Exhibition and the focus will be on improving your nesting.







Kevin Crouch has discovered the solution to an end boring problem he's had for many years is an easy-to-use Stema.



evin Crouch owns and runs the Banbury-based kitchen specialist, Unitech. Kevin has been in the business 18 years, and until very recently he hasn't found a simple way around a problem that many smaller manufacturers often face: the knotty issue of accurate and consistent end boring.

"Most of what we do involves processing sheet material and MFC and turning it into cabinets," explains Kevin. "End boring has always been an issue. We've tried many machines in our search for consistent accuracy – throughfeeds, horizontal boring machines, you name it. We had a Rem and that did well for 10 years but eventually we reached the

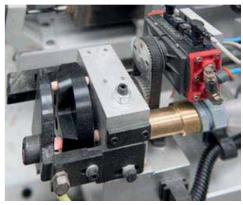
point in our production where end boring became a pinch point; it was slowing things down and the accuracy wasn't where it should have been. We invested in a Stema from David Thompson-Rowlands at RW Machines and it's turned the corner for us. Speed, accuracy, simplicity...everything about it is far better than anything we've used in the past. It's made the product so much better."

It wasn't just end boring that Kevin bought his Stema for; he also wanted to shift the production of five-part doors over to it. With that in mind, working closely with Eugenio Cicardi from Stema in Italy, he specified horizontal and face boring, together with a horizontal router, a saw and a barcode reading









system that sets the machine automatically. Since its arrival, the Stema has increased productivity so much on the carcasing side that he's kept it fully occupied and is now thinking he might need a second similar machine for the doors.

"It's a versatile little machine - Stemas are built to order, so you can equip them to do whatever you need," says Kevin. "It's also a very simple machine to use compared with the other CNC kit we have. We use third party software for programming, so now everything comes off the nesting machine barcoded. End boring has become a barcode operation: read the barcode, push the button and go. It's very quick to train operators on."

Kevin's relationship with David at RW Machines dates back almost 30 years. "We've bought most of our equipment from David," says Kevin, whose workshop also includes two Anderson CNC nesting machines that label components with barcodes ready for drilling on the Stema, along with an edgebander and various other pieces of kit."It took about three months from point of order to get the Stema built and delivered and it's one of the first CNC machines we've ever had installed in this factory that's been brought along, dropped in, wired up and it's run without any hitches or aggravation. We had to get a link for our software but that was only a few tweaks. Within six hours of

the machine arriving, we'd had our training and we were running product on it. The engineer who came across to do the training had worked on the machine in the factory and really knew it inside out. It's easy to use, reliable, very productive and we got personal service from order to installation. Can't ask for better than that, can you?"

For more information on what a Stema machine could do for you, contact RW Machines on 01869 244943, visit www.rw-machines.co.uk or, if you have downloaded the free Furniture Journal app, tap sales@rwmachines.co.uk to send an email. A YouTube video of a Tabit in action is available by tapping the picture marked with a link sign.







On the Climb

Stoke on Trent-based HMS has been growing with the help of Masterwood since 1990 and has just taken delivery of its third **CNC** from Masterwood UK.



grew to a workforce of 30. Although it became successful in winning contracts from national house builders, the staff, including owner, Harry Murray, were regularly working a seven-day week in order to get the work out."Using traditional methods to make staircases is so labour intensive, we had to come in every day to keep up with the orders, which was taking its toll on everyone," says Harry. "Due to all the overtime that was being paid out it was eating up the profits, the long-term future of the business looked uncertain," he added.

MS Joinery was set up in 1990 and

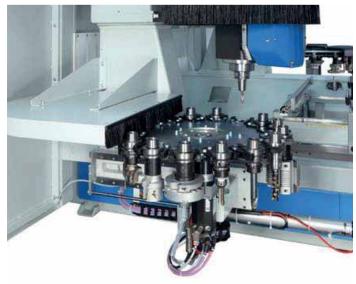
The turn-round in HMS's fortunes began when it bought a Masterwood Atlas XL CNC

machining centre in 2002. It took over the production of the staircases, replacing a semiautomatic trenching machine and the need for other tasks to be carried out by hand. It boosted profitability by more than 30%, and by cutting out the need for substantial amounts of overtime it still allowed a 40% increase in production. Where once it was taking a day to produce a standard staircase with kite winders, it could now be done in about three hours. By 2005 the company had increased production to between 50 and 60 staircases per week, based on five and a half working days, with minimal overtime.

The CNC was supplied with MasterStair, Masterwood's own CAD/CAM software for







with Masterwood

the quick and easy design of staircases, producing drawings, cutting sheets, and a CNC programme for each component. As well as being ideal for bespoke work, the MasterStair software really comes into its own with batch staircase production."The bottom line is that we are saving hugely on overtime payments, which has made the business far more profitable," says Harry."Our customers are impressed with both the fast service we now provide and the first-class quality of work. We can now take on large batch orders with confidence, knowing that we can meet the delivery dates. We are able to build up batches of stairs in advance, we are no longer constantly working under pressure,"

In mid-2009, just as the recession was biting, the company changed to HMS Staircases and added a second CNC, a Masterwood Project 400. The higher specification meant it could be used for other products like windows and doors, as well as stairs. Within a short time of the second machine arriving, the house market started to grow again and, with the company back to 24/7 working, it was decided to move to new premises in Stoke on Trent and purchase a third CNC, a new Masterwood Project 460, to keep pace with stair orders.

The new workshop has allowed the three Masterwood CNC machines - including the 16 year-old Atlas XL - to be positioned in a

line producing all the strings, newels, winder and special treads, plus newel caps from the string offcuts. "The new works has allowed us to increase production due to the better layout and more space. Everything has become more efficient," says Workshop Manager, Craig Avramovic. Separate rooms have been set up for assembly of balustrading and a new spray shop has also been added.

To find out what Masterwood could do for you, call 01293 402700, or visit www.masterwood.com Furniture Journal app users can see a video of the machine line at HMS in operation by touching the image marked with a link sign in the free online app edition.



Cool Decision

Browns 2000 has taken delivery of its third Striebig saw, a 4D, to work predominantly on its premium door collection, the Glacier range.



Full on-screen instructions with optimisation and labelling.

hen you manufacture 25,000 kitchen and bedroom doors and components every week for over 1,500 customers, you need the very best machines to maintain the high standards your customers have come to expect. For Cramlington-based Browns 2000, this meant investing in its third Striebig vertical panel saw – a top-of-the-range Striebig 4D - from woodworking machinery supplier, TM Machinery.

"Investing in the right machinery is important to us," begins Graeme Brown, Sales Executive at Browns 2000."Over the last 20 years, we've invested heavily in our machinery in a bid to improve efficiencies, increase production and maintain our reputation as a leading door manufacturer. For us, the Striebig 4D vertical panel saw ticked all the boxes to help us achieve this."

It was the 4D's integrated Panel
Optimisation Programme (POP) that first
caught the attention of Browns 2000 during a
demonstration at woodworking machinery
and materials show, the W Exhibition.
Designed to reduce material waste, the
software facilitates an automatic cutting
sequence that optimises the sawing procedure
and calculates the best possible material usage.
"We could see the cost saving benefits to this
immediately," says Graeme. "Now fully up and
running, the 4D makes around 3,000 cuts per
week. By optimising the cutting process, it has
reduced the amount of material we use, saving
us unnecessary material costs."

Whilst the company's other Striebig vertical panel saws – both the Control model – were introduced to cut a range of smaller accessories, including cornices, pelmets and plinths, the 4D was purchased to work predominantly on the manufacturer's premium door collection, the





Left: Cool Boston Concrete from Browns 2000. The doors are now made in a three-step process using a Striebig 4D.

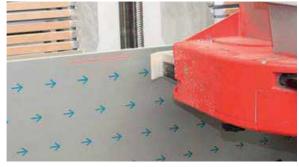
Above: Clamping on the Striebig 4D is fully automatic.

Above right: Fast changeover from horizontal to vertical cutting.

Right: Everything about Striebig's build quality is robust.

Far right: A laser light indicates the exact position of the cut.





Glacier range. With increased orders and short lead times, speed and accuracy were important factors to consider: "Producing our Glacier doors is a three-step process and the 4D is crucial to deliver consistent results. We laminate the front and back of raw board with high gloss acrylic and PVC. This then needs to be cut to size and labelled correctly before being transported to our edging department. The 4D automates the whole process, making it quicker and simpler for our operators, whilst reducing the risk of any errors occurring."

The 4D model does this thanks to its Panel Lowering Device and Programmable Panel Feeder - both of which are designed to transport panels vertically and horizontally though the saw automatically with a precision of 0.1 mm. And, for fuss-free handling, it also incorporates a printer that can label parts coming off the machine with product information or barcodes.

But for Browns 2000, the purchase of their second Striebig came down to much more than the 4D's innovation features and advanced software package. Graeme explains, "For us, when we're buying a new machine, the people we're buying it from are just as important as the machine itself. In this industry, people talk. We engage with our customers every day and you quickly get to hear about people's experiences when working with different companies. TM Machinery was one of those names that kept cropping up and, after working with them, we can see why they have a solid reputation in the industry. Their fantastic product knowledge and high level of customer service has given us real confidence in them as a machinery supplier and as such, we've continued to invest in their portfolio."

Graeme adds, "I strongly believe in the phrase, 'people buy from people' and in this instance, it couldn't be more true. Our

customers take a keen interest in our production facilities and we're often asked about the machinery we use. We're very transparent about what we do and how we do it and as a result, we are happy to share our thoughts and opinions with them. In fact, we've already invited one of our customers who is in the market for a wall saw to come and see the saw in action. Our business has benefited from the service TM Machinery has provided, so why shouldn't we share our experiences with others in the industry?"

For more information on the complete woodworking machinery range offered by TM Machinery Sales Ltd and its servicing division, TM Services & Spares Ltd., visit www.tmmachinery.co.uk/product_ category/striebig-vertical-panel-saws/ or call 0116 271 7155. For the latest news, find TM Machinery on LinkedIn or follow @TM_Machinery on Twitter.



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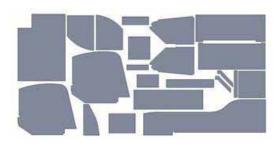




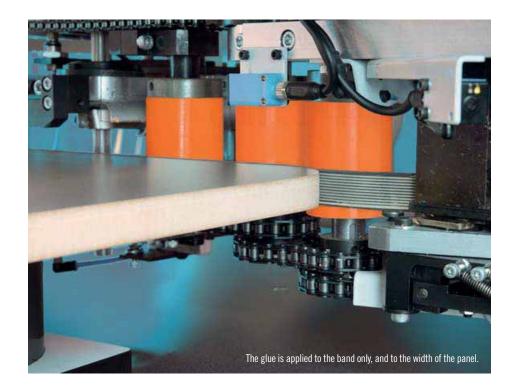
ompeting with imports from low labour cost countries and the progressive globalisation of the world market place has had dramatic effect on manufacturing. The relentless drive towards automation is reducing labour costs and increasing flexibility, enabling local manufacturers to be more responsive, offer high levels of customisation and reduced lead times, while at the same time reducing the cost of components and cutting inventory. At the same time, new material handling systems, designed to facilitate batch size one, have provided increased flexibility in component management, making it much

easier to have specialised machines performing each task. According to Duncan Such, MD of New Zealand-based Vector Systems, nowhere are the benefits of dedicated processes better demonstrated than in contour edgebanding.

Vector Systems manufactures the Vector Revolution, a contour edgebanding machine that's designed to perform only the edgebanding process with the cutting being performed on separate machines. "This has the dual benefit of separating the edgebanding process from the machining dust as well as being compatible with nested based manufacturing," says Duncan. "Because **Duncan Such from Vector** Systems makes a case for dedicated machines.



The Vector Revolution can handle a complex nest comprising small, shaped components.





the patented Vector Revolution process does not require exact positioning of the components it is possible to transfer preshaped components to the machine. It also uses a flat worksurface for placing the vacuum cups, meaning they can be placed in any position and on any angle giving much more flexibility and support for the workpieces than can be achieved on automated pod and rail systems."

The Vector Revolution can handle a complex nest comprising small, shaped components, like that in the illustration, that often require special clamping pods and angular placement "With a flat work surface equipped with pods that can be placed at any angle, this is a simple task compared with pod and rail machines where the pods can't be moved into a position that would satisfy this type of pattern," says Duncan. "Further, it can be seen that a significant number of components are rectangular without shaped edges. With CNC solutions, the banding operation is halted while the cutting operation is being performed. By separating the cutting to a separate nesting machine, the full efficiency of the nested cutting is achieved and the banding process is operating at the same time - and in a dust free environment.

"A further advantage of specialised machines, is that the machine designers and builders are more focused and consequently are able to put more development resource into the function and capabilities of the equipment. That brings operational advantages: for example, the Vector

Revolution machines use a patented pressure system, which means higher edge pressures than any other edgebander, straight or contoured. This results in a stronger glue bond and thinner glue line on all glue types including PUR.

"Glue application is with a cartridge and nozzle system. With this system, it is possible to change glue colour or glue type (eg PUR) easily. The glue is applied to the band, and only to the width of the panel, thus the overhang top and bottom, which is trimmed off, is glue free, making for clean boards without glue smear, and clean cutters as they are not cutting glue. The compact design allows the nozzle to be placed very close to the pressure roller, meaning the glue does not flash off, even when slowing for corners. These combination of perfect glue and high pressure mean the highest edge bond strength of any contour bander - an essential advantage when overcoming band memory on complex shapes.

"The patented Vector Revolution principle needs no programming, so has a much lower cost to run than CNC solutions as it does not require one operator to run the machine while a second runs the office software. The simultaneous processing (banding, trimming and surface scraping in one pass) also increases output dramatically over the sequential CNC solutions, making a higher return on investment.

"With the Vector Revolution, a large working field can be incorporated in a compact floor plan and with low energy

usage and built in extraction, it is a simple matter to place the machine in the factory as it does not require to be connected to the main extraction system.

"Where previously there was an argument that an all-in-one machine provided more flexibility, with the advent of robots and panel management software, this advantage is now mitigated, allowing the benefits of specialised machines to shine through.

"The software is the glue that holds all modern manufacturing together. Even in software now there is a movement away from the large enterprise solutions such as SAP, to powerful databases with specialised software products linked through programming interfaces. This enables the benefits of dedicated process software, better suited to each customer's requirements. There is now a clear path to specialised machines within a production system, without being locked to the large 'complete' solutions, as the software and robotic handling can manage the components, which previously was a significant obstacle for many businesses. And automation, now available to all manufacturers, brings advantages to local manufacturing and also for consumers."

For more information on the Vector Revolution, visit the RW Machines stand at the W Exhibition, call 01869 244943 or contact sales@rwmachines.co.uk. Readers using the free Furniture Journal app can touch the image marked with a link sign to watch a video of the Vector Revolution on their smartphone or tablet.







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ancy a meeting with the famous and influential this autumn? The W Exhibition will be your opportunity to meet those in the know about the new PM – PM Modular, that is – on the Maka stand.

Making its UK debut as a giant backdrop to the Maka stand, the heavy-duty PM Modular retains the high-performance functionality, speed, precision and construction of the Maka PM 270, but comes with the added benefit of being modular. It's ideal for both bespoke and high volume production involving routing, shaping, morticing, drilling, sawing and nesting (when equipped with the optional high power and heavy duty matrix vacuum table), and is especially suited to hardwood timber joinery.

lain Young, Managing Director of Maka UK, explains, "As the range of applications and wealth of options have grown, so had the cost. With the PM Modular, we have stripped back the essential Maka, and reconfigured this special model with standardised options to provide an all-round solution with a high level of flexibility and performance and, in the process, we have greatly improved the price. It's a natural progression to provide this alternative package, bundling the most sought-after equipment variants without compromising quality or performance."

The new model, available with either a 3-axis, or 5-axis head, or both, is available with standard lengths of 4, 6 and 8 metres,

and widths of I 300 and I 600mm. The standard 800 mm Z stroke provides a very useful 400mm usable height. There's also a choice of tool magazines with 20 or 33 places and high performance Power-Maka spindles come as standard. The automatic chip conveyor for removing swarf is also standard.

Options include 6-axis vector axes and a wide variety of clamping systems - pneumatic and vacuum - that are fully interchangeable and, most importantly, are all easy and quick to change and very robust. Maka's Click system pods provide secure, precise workpiece clamping every time. The PM can be supplied with either a matrix vacuum table, or the original pod and rail table – and with the new model comes added visibility and accessibility too. Newly designed hoods open up the whole front, greatly contributing to safety and facilitating maintenance and setting.

"The PM Modular is designed for speed, ease of use, and to withstand the rigours of working 24/7 in a high volume joinery environment," says lain. "By combining the advantages of its predecessors, the new PM delivers particularly convincing results and will trump all others."

If only life in politics was so certain.

For more information, call Maka Machinery
UK on 01952 607700, visit www.maka.com
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or, if you are reading this edition using the free Furniture Journal app, touch the picture with a link for instant access to Maka's website.

The PM is set to "trump all others", demonstrating robustness and power at the W summit, stand N810.







Schelling UK will show its own beam saws alongside Barbaric handling and Votecs shredding equipment at the W Exhibition

– but the emphasis will be firmly on service.

chelling's W Exhibition stand, C710, will provide visitors with the opportunity to see an impressive demonstration of the FH4 cut-to-size saw and watch as it is fed with a Barbaric feeding system. Also on the stand will be a Votecs shredder. But while you're enjoying a coffee in the hospitality area, don't forget to ask the Schelling team about the service and backup that's available through Schelling UK. It will surely impress you as much as the live demonstrations.

"For me, service support is one of the biggest concerns when customers purchase a machine, and with this in mind I want to give special focus to our service and spare parts operation," commented Richard Theakston, Schelling's recently appointed Service Manager in the UK. "Saws occasionally need maintenance and repair to keep them running at peak performance, so we have a dedicated team of eight service technicians who can identify and fix faults in the shortest possible time. Schelling UK operates an emergency call-out service with full spare parts support to minimise downtime when a problem occurs."

It's no real secret that at the heart of Schelling UK's success is machines that are

robustly built to Austrian standards, but Richard attributes at least part of that success to continued investment in employee training. "Many of Schelling's staff have in excess of 15 years of service, some more than 20," comments Richard. "I am immensely proud to be heading up a service team with over a hundred years of combined industry experience."

Service technicians are positioned in different locations across the UK to enable a faster reaction for customers. But it's not just emergencies that Richard wants his team to stay on top of: "A major focus of mine is updating Schelling UK's programmed maintenance customer service contracts, which ultimately help extend the life of machinery, reduce the likelihood of downtime and ensure machines consistently perform at their best," he says.

To find more out about the new and used sizing equipment available from Schelling UK, Barbaric handling equipment, or Votecs volume reduction and extraction technology, or to discuss a programmed maintenance contract ahead of the W Exhibition, call 01937 586340 or visit www.schelling.co.uk



The eight-man Schelling UK service team, headed by Service Manager, Richard Theakston (third from the left).



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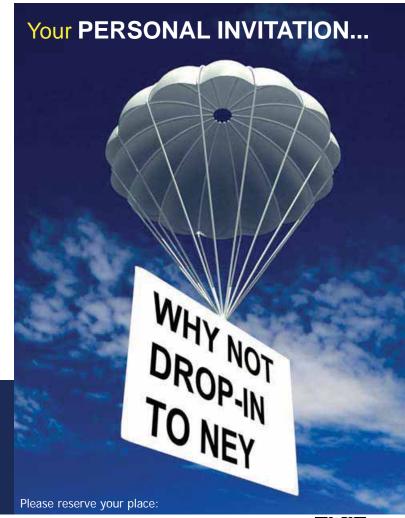
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resham is a company that's going places. Strong growth in the last four to five years has set the company on a course that could see it add a further 50% to its turnover in the short to medium term — but with growth in production comes the inevitable problem of what to do with the increase in offcuts. Craig Turley, Finance Director at Gresham, is confident the company has found a solution through Mawera UK that not only copes with Gresham's immediate needs, it offers a degree of future-proofing that will see the company right for many years to come.

"We've been on this site for almost 20 years now and the boiler was installed when we first moved here," Craig recalls. "Over the years, we've encountered quite a lot of problems with it. It needed replacing. What we needed was a boiler that would heat the factory and the offices, but would also provide us with hot water for the painting process. We went out to market and spoke to three other companies before deciding on a Viessmann."

Gresham settled on a 1,700kW Viessmann Vitoflex 300 FSR boiler supplied by John Clissett, Managing Director of Mawera UK. "John's experience in the furniture industry spoke volumes," says Craig. "The companies we visited who had Viessmann boilers were very happy with the service they'd received from Mawera UK so a Viessmann was a good fit for us."

The Vitoflex 300 FSR is a fully automatic boiler with a flat moving grate that can be adapted to burn anything from woodchips and bark to sawdust, chipboard and MDF. "The material Gresham needs to burn is very, very dry - chipboard and MDF, some with melamine facing," explains John Clissett. "The boiler has a level moving grate, so there's no clinker to be cleaned out. It only needs to be stopped once a year for maintenance. Material is fed in on demand from the storage silo, it lights itself, then it's moved along at intermittent speeds. The ash goes one way and the heat from the fire goes through a second chamber and then into a three-pass boiler. From there it is sent

A new 1,700kWViessmann FSR boiler from Mawera UK is commissioned at Gresham.



through a multi cyclone that takes out the larger pieces of ash in the airflow. Some of that air is then recirculated over and under the grate to lower the oxygen and Nitrous Oxide levels from the fire."

A slightly unusual feature of the Gresham installation is the provision of a 45,000DC volt electrostatic filter ahead of the chimney. Normally the preserve of coalfired power stations, the electrostatic filter is designed to remove very fine particles, eliminating them from the emissions before they have a chance to reach the atmosphere. Although not the case at Gresham, it's a feature that can also be invaluable in applications where the material being burned is damp, as electrostatic filtration is generally more efficient at trapping tiny particles than bag filters.

Because Gresham needed hot water for washing the steel frames of tables and chairs ahead of powder coating and baking – a task that was previously carried out by a separate gas boiler - the new boiler provides this as well as the heating for the factory and the offices.

As part of the installation, Mawera UK utilised the existing silo and heat dissipater, adding a laser measurement system inside the silo to keep track of the level and a new discharger underneath it with an automatic screw-feed system that controls material flow to the boiler. Keeping track of exactly how much material is being fed into the silo from the factory has been a problem for Gresham, as Craig recounts: "One of the problems we've had is we don't know how much we're burning. Because a lot of our work is for educational establishments. lecture theatres, seminar rooms and student accommodation, and they always want fitouts during the summer while students are on holiday, it's a very busy time for the company compared with the winter when things slow down. We have a silo that will store enough for two weeks of winter burning and a separate factory we can use for overspill in summer, but we really needed to find out how much we were burning on a consistent basis. This system measures what's being fed into the boiler, so now we can see the peaks and troughs and monitor the situation better."

With a fully automatic, self-monitoring and regulating boiler, being able to monitor the performance of the whole system remotely – and receive alerts if there are any problems - is another reassuring facility Gresham didn't have with the Viessmann's predecessor, and it's provided direct from

A new discharger underneath the silo with an automatic screw-feed system that controls material flow to the boiler (right).



the boiler control system to a smartphone or tablet through an app. The app stores a 24-hour history of its performance in an easy-to-understand graphic format – and it is connected directly to Viessmann in Austria, where a server constantly monitors its performance.

Craig confirms Gresham is delighted with the new Viessmann: "We placed the order last September and the first deliveries



A 45,000DC volt

A multi cyclone that takes out the larger pieces of ash in the airflow.

arrived in February. There have been no major issues, the installation went smoothly and we're pretty happy with where we are."

To find out what Mawera UK Ltd can offer you, call 01543 258844, or download the free Furniture Journal app and touch www.mawera.co.uk for an immediate link to the Mawera UK website. Alternatively, touch the Mawera advertisement opposite to email John Clissett.



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Tired of fixing systems that don't perform as they should? Take a look at Lamello's offer while you're at the W Exhibition.

ood and panel fixings specialist, Lamello, has announced it will be returning to the W Exhibition, held at the NEC between the 30th September to 3rd October 2018.

The interactive stand will focus on the Swiss manufacturer's innovative CNC joining solutions and the Lamello partner network, which includes well-known software specialists and machinery manufacturers like Homag, Biesse, SCM, Felder, IMA and Holz-Her, who all offer integrated CAD/CAM software packages specifically designed to integrate Lamello's CNC fixings on three, four and five-axis CNC machines.

Shaye Chatfield, Area Sales Manager for Lamello says, "Lamello is extremely well known in the furniture manufacturing market for producing handheld tools and connectors that work on both solid timber and panel products. At the W Exhibition, we're looking to showcase our very latest handheld joining

solutions and, in addition, show visitors how our time-saving P-System can be used with CNC machines in the mass production market. By working closely with our machinery partners at the show, machinery software and CNC fixing demonstrations will be available throughout the event and experts will be on hand to talk you though the complete product range."

The stand will also feature the Cabineo connector cabinet fitting, the invisible magnetic joining element, Invis, and throw a spotlight on a brand new Cabineo finish that caters for the growing industrial design trend in the furniture market.

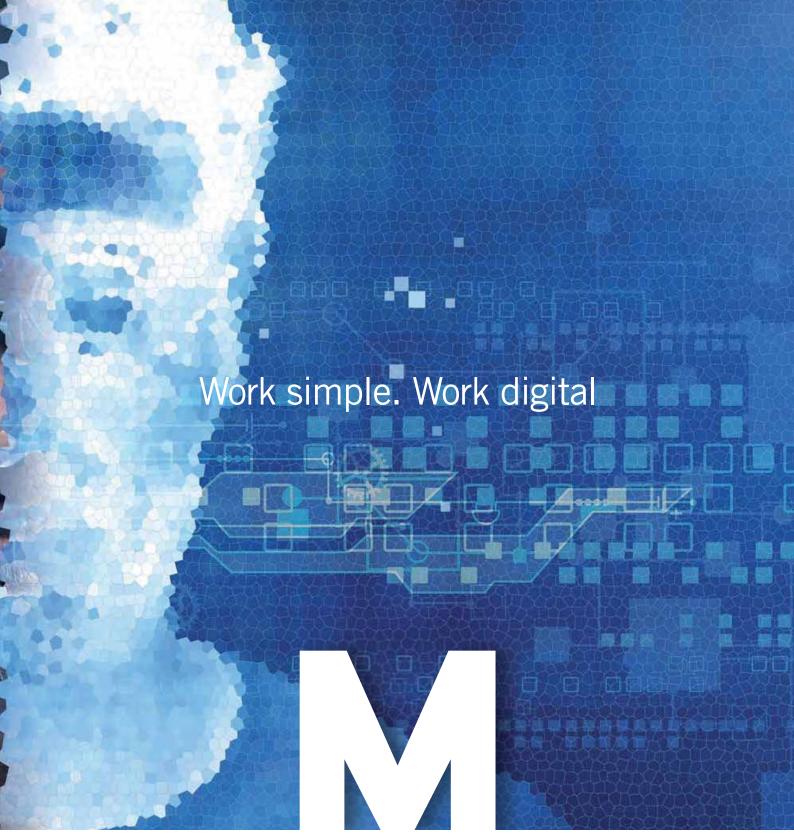
www.lamello.com or contact Lamello's UK representative, Shaye Chatfield, on 0789 1025 646. Readers using the free Furniture Journal app can email Shaye by touching the online page here:

For more information please visit s.chatfield@lamello.com









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