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JOURNAL

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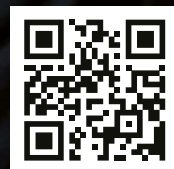
An exclusive interview with Harald Klüh reveals the thinking behind the launch of the Vionaro V8 8mm drawer system from Grass.

Recruitment: a new free service from Furniture Journal.

Scotland's best-kept secret buys SCM five-axis Hypsos

Hranipex launches edgebander servicing contracts

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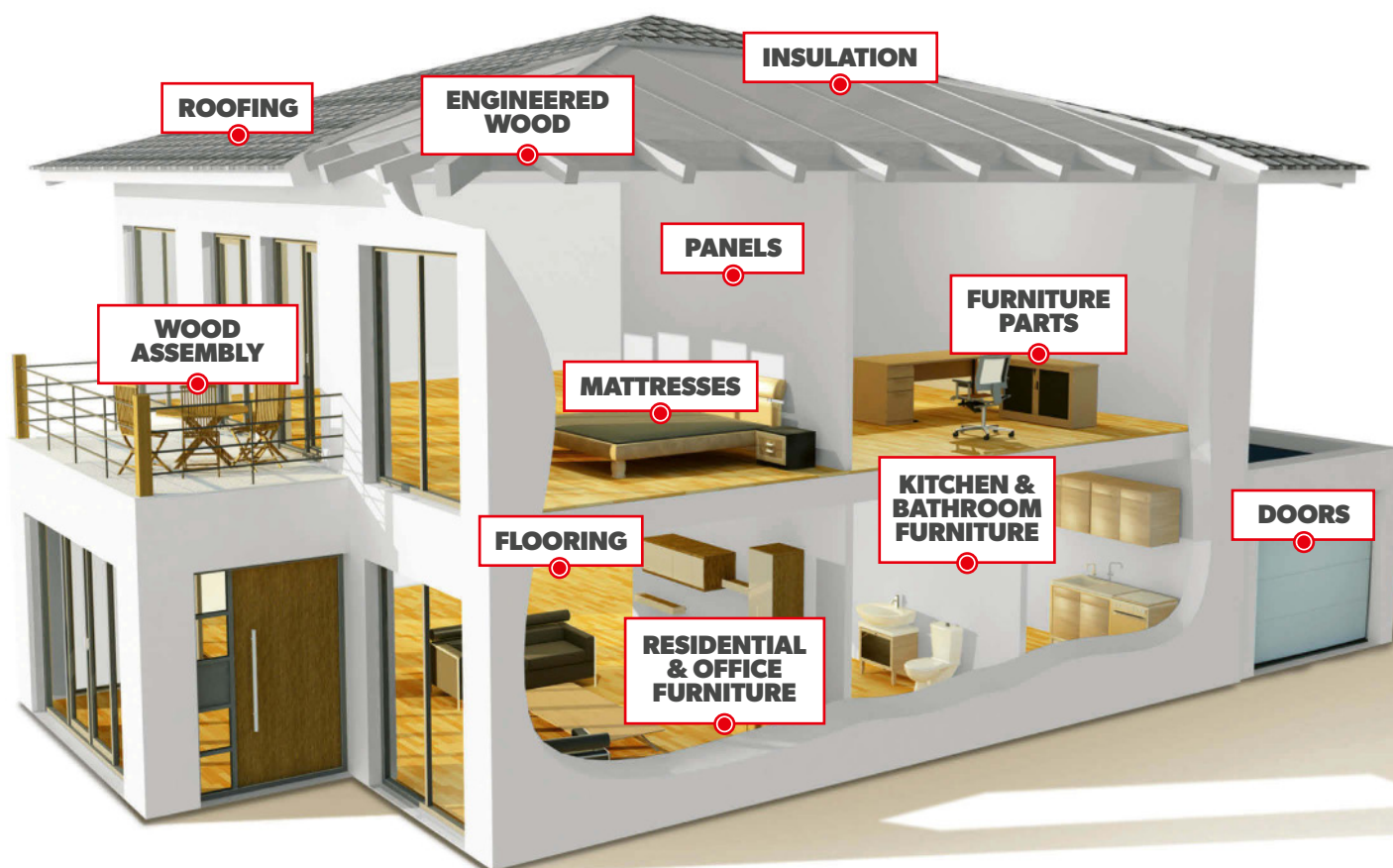


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On the Cover

An exclusive interview with Harald Klüh reveals the thinking behind the launch of the Vionaro V8 8mm drawer system from Grass.

Story: pages 12-15

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Help with recruitment

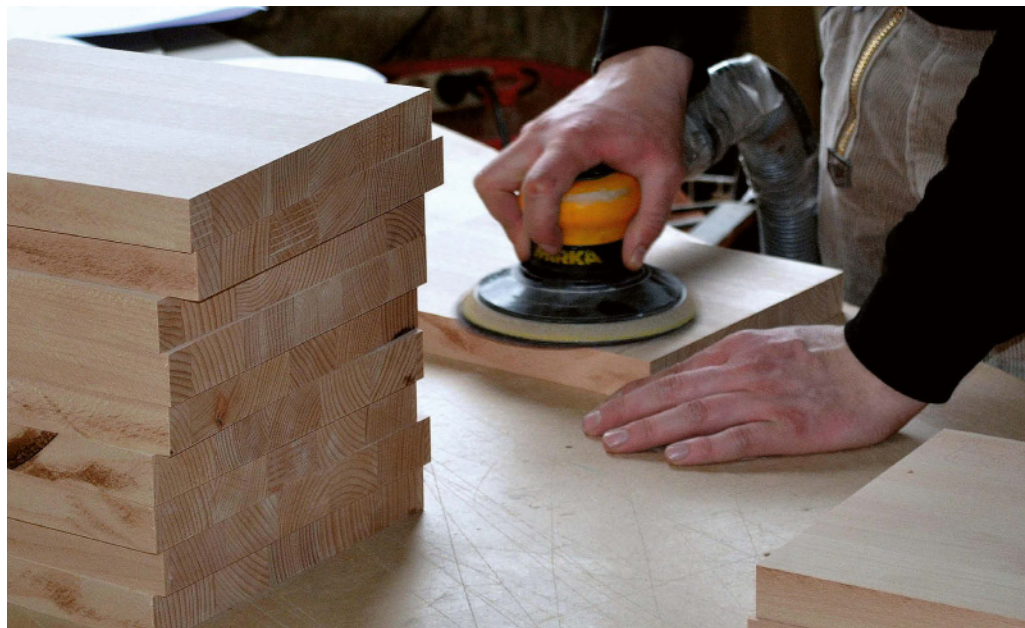
Furniture Journal launches a new, free service to help you recruit the key specialist staff you need.

It's more than a tad frustrating when, just as you think you have a stable team that's working well and you've started to enjoy the surge of progress, a key member of staff hands a resignation letter across your desk and announces he or she leaving at the end of the month. If there is nothing you can do to persuade them to stay, you're back on the recruitment roller-coaster.

Anyone who holds the privilege of management, or owns their own business has been there at some time or other. And if yours is a small company, I'm sure you've experienced that deflating moment, that feeling of reluctant acceptance more than once as you abandon what you intended to do that day to refocus your attention on where and how you find a replacement. If

there's no obvious successor from within and UK-wide shortages of skilled labour make finding the right staff challenging, the task ahead of you is likely to be both time-consuming and expensive, especially if you turn to a recruitment agency to run the search for you.

If you decide to go it alone and advertise, on the face of it the cost might not be as great as the percentage you would pay an agency – if you got lucky – but it's still going to cost and if you need specialists, there's little or no guarantee you'll attract the right people for the premium price you'll probably have to pay for recruitment advertising. Local papers might be ideal for attracting applications from local people with office, warehouse or admin skills but unless you're in



an area rich in furniture manufacturing, there's a much slimmer chance readers will have a skill set that matches the requirements of that specialist craftsman, CNC operator, furniture designer, engineer or technical sales person you need. Such experienced staff are more likely to come from within the industry and if they are good at what they do, they are probably employed already. So where do you turn if you want to attract someone from within the industry?

There is one option. It's brand new. It's industry specific and it's available to manufacturers of every kind of furniture and furniture component as well as suppliers of everything from hinges and slides to panel products, glues, décor products, machinery and more. Does it work? Are you guaranteed

of success? We have no statistics or page hit data to offer you yet because it's just been launched – *but it won't cost you anything to find out* so you've nothing to lose by adding it to your other recruitment activities.

What is it?

It's www.furniturejournal.co.uk/IndustryJobs – a brand new page on Furniture Journal's website where you can advertise industry-specific job vacancies and it has one purpose: to help you spread the word about your vacancy. And just like the Furniture Journal app, it's totally free.

To keep things really simple, you don't need to supply a professionally-designed advertisement, or comply with the sizes and copy dates of printed editions. To advertise your vacancy all you need to do is send your

company logo (.jpg) and a Word document (.docx only, please – no .pdf files) with the information you want potential applicants to know about your vacancy to recruitment@furniturejournal.co.uk. Remember to include your contact details and the closing date for applications on the Word document and make sure it says Free Recruitment Advertisement in the subject of your email. The only limitation we apply is the job *must be a position requiring specialist skills in the furniture manufacturing or supply sector*. We will post it for you as soon as we can.

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**Tony Attard OBE DL**

Tony is the founder and chairman of Panaz Group Limited. During his time at the helm of the company he has spearheaded the design and technical advancement of flame retardant fabrics for the worldwide hospitality, leisure, cruise ship, healthcare and corporate sectors. Formed in 1986, the company today exports to over 60 countries, operating worldwide through subsidiary companies in Europe and the USA and a global network of distributors.

The 60th Master

On the ninth of May, Tony Attard OBE DL, founder and chairman of Panaz Group, was installed as the 60th Master of The Furniture Makers' Company, the City of London livery company and charity for the furnishing industry. Tony succeeds David Woodward as Master, who has just finished an extraordinary two-year term as Master.

The annual installation ceremony took place at St Mary-le-Bow Church in the City of London, followed by the customary dinner in the stunning Egyptian Room at Mansion House, the official residence of the Lord Mayor of London. Around 170 guests were in attendance to celebrate the new Master's installation and were joined by City dignitaries including Alderman and Sheriff Alison

Gowman, who was representing the Rt Hon The Lord Mayor, Alderman Vincent Keaveny.

Tony Attard, Master of The Furniture Makers' Company, said: "I would like to thank the livery membership for putting faith in me as the new Master. Together with my trusted senior and junior wardens, Amanda Waring and Brian Ahern, and the solid support from our court and clerk, I can promise to do my utmost to promote our industry, champion The Furniture Makers' Company and burnish its reputation as a leading City livery company. Within my year, we will celebrate 70 years since the formation of the then Furniture Makers' Guild and, in 2023, our charity marks its 120th anniversary. I therefore welcome our entire industry to join me throughout the year in these celebrations."

Tony Attard succeeds David Woodward as Master of The Furniture Makers' Company.



Form with function

With its play on shapes and curves, this organic HiMac kitchen island verges on an art project.

Curves and flowing lines are never easy to create but when your client wants a curved island and curved drawers it calls for some pretty amazing materials as well as imagination and manufacturing flair. The architect Trix van der Mark from Interieurwerken Bone Solid in the Netherlands chose HiMac to provide this unique kitchen with an unexpected spin on sleek, elegant design.

The customer wanted an original kitchen with organic and fluid shapes that resemble a work of art as much as a functional kitchen. The specifications required a versatile, robust, hygienic material and a flawless design to

produce an open-plan layout and most importantly, the brief was to let the imagination flow towards bold, organic shapes with perfect curves. The architect adds, "In the quest for an innovative material, the customer came to us following a recommendation from Baars and Bloemhoff, a HiMac distributor in the Netherlands. She was looking for a company that could tell her more about HiMac in terms of its possibilities, treatment and design. She was immediately thrilled by the way the material could blend into a space and become its centrepiece."

To preserve the modern look of the space, the façades and worktop of the island were

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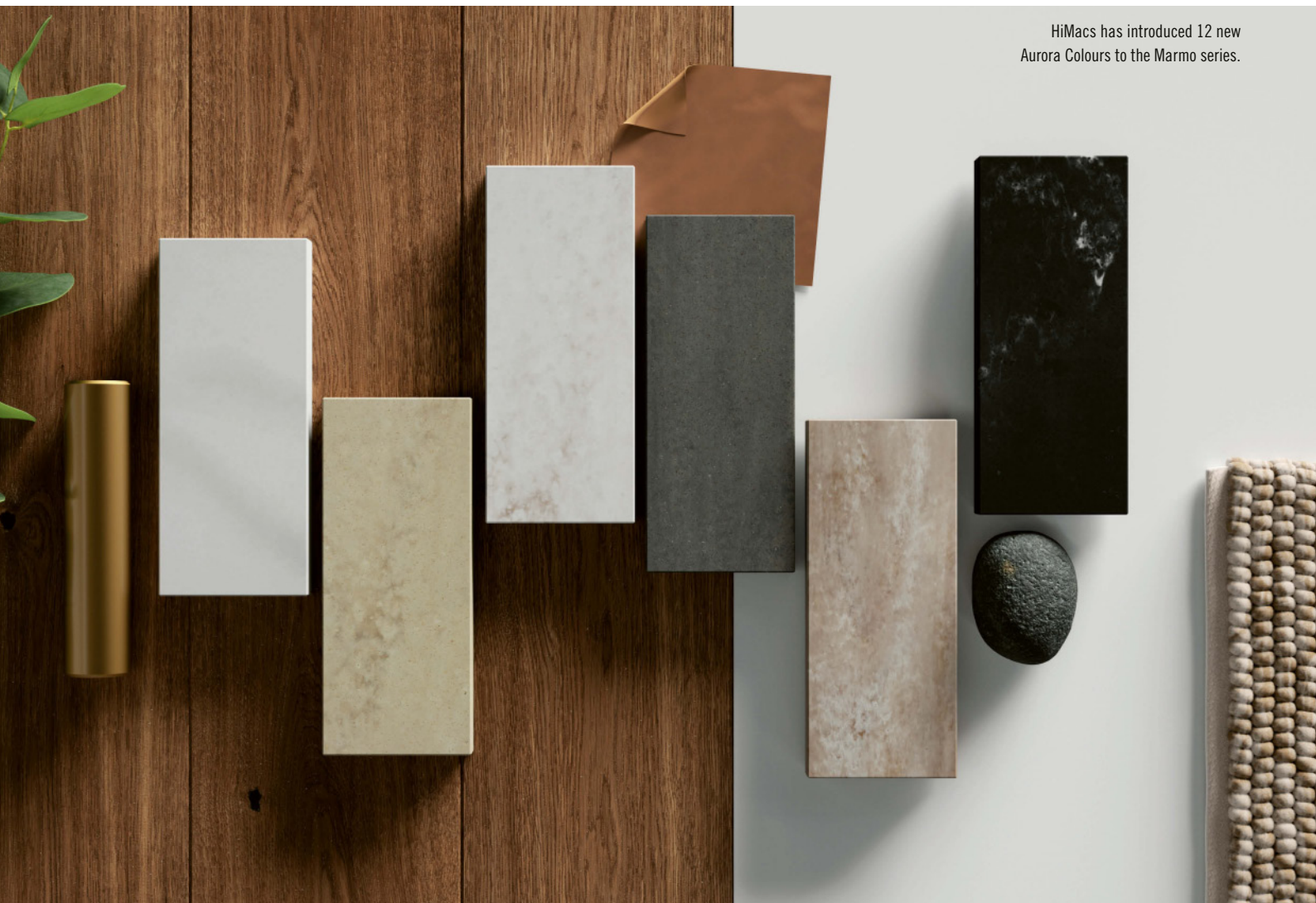
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HiMacs has introduced 12 new Aurora Colours to the Marmo series.



created in HiMacs, producing harmonious, perfect curves. The result is a seamless design with a HiMacs sink, a hob, three drawer units, a cupboard, an open space for towels and a dishwasher. With its curved lines and seamless finishes, the theme of the island is reflected in the finish of cladding on the side walls and it works seamlessly with units on the back wall that house the two ovens and refrigerator.

This innovative island shows how versatile the HiMacs material is. Infinitely thermoformable, it is non-porous and there are no visible seams. It is a material that provides imaginative designers who have a clear vision and understanding of its potential with infinite possibilities. In this particular case, the challenge of designing an organic shape to fit an existing space was to make sure there was enough room to move around it while offering the functionality a kitchen requires. Everything had to be considered carefully, even the integrated hob and sink, the location of the dishwasher, the door opening and the surrounding frame. Add in rounded drawers and it all adds up to a real challenge for any designer.

Expanding the versatility of HiMacs even further, the Aurora colour palette from the HiMacs Marmo Collection has been increased in recent months. Inspired by the breathtaking natural beauty of the Aurora Borealis, the Aurora Collection combines marble-like aesthetics with both subtle and strong shades alongside delicate and detailed veining. The tones echo the fluidity of the sky and its natural wonders with semi-translucent effects that allow designers to experiment with a play on light, bringing extraordinary effects from nature into their interior projects.

HiMacs has introduced 12 new Aurora Colours to the Marmo series. The collection is suitable for both residential and commercial projects, including hotels, office spaces, retail environments and more. Highlights of the new Aurora Colours include Calacatta Luna with its distinct veining and Aurora Frost with ethereal semi-translucent properties, resulting in an updated collection with something for every scheme and every design aesthetic.

For more information on HiMacs visit www.himacs.eu or call your nearest branch of James Latham.



Xylocleaf

Décors on demand



With its new Digital Showroom, James Latham has made finding the right décor quick and easy.

With a mind-boggling array of decorative panel choices available, it can sometimes be hard to know where to look but with its summer 2022 Décors Campaign, James Latham has made it a mission to help you locate the right products quickly and easily.

Using James Latham's digital showroom, there are three easy ways you can journey through the 1,400-strong collection of decorative materials and locate the right one for your job. The collection includes industry-leading brands like Egger, HiMacs, Kronospan and Abet Laminati alongside boutique brands such as Transformad, Xylocleaf, Studio Collection, Dekodor and Decospan.

Diving further into the portfolio, you will discover a huge variety of textures, colours, shades and tones in addition to anti-bacterial, anti-microbial, flame retardant, impact resistant, even thermo-healing products. If you also need structural materials, James Latham stocks a wide variety of MDF, plywood, exclusive hybrid

solutions, beautiful hardwoods and modified, engineered and profiled timbers.

Backed up by an unrivalled distribution service via its 14-depot logistics network and offering just-in-time delivery, James Latham ensures you have the products you need, when you need them. Working with James Latham means you can rely on speedy delivery of any product in the range, as well as a substantial reserve of stock even if you need large-volume, multiple-material orders at short notice.

The new Digital Showroom – the latest innovation from James Latham – features a powerful selection tool enabling you to see the entire décors collection, all rendered in high-resolution 3D. You can order samples straight to your door and even book a video consultancy with one of the showroom staff. The Digital Showroom takes your product selection experience to the next level.

For more information on James Latham's Summer Décors campaign and the unique catalogue of products available, visit www.lathamdigitalshowroom.co.uk



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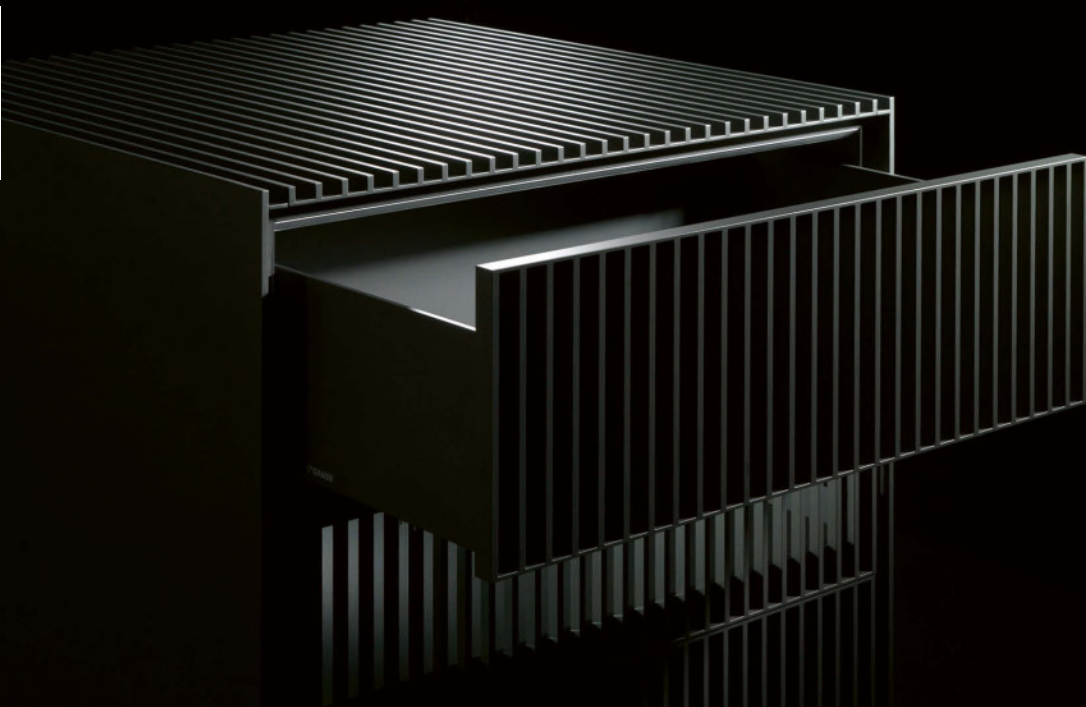
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Vionaro V8: emotionalising technology

Grass launches Vionaro V8, a new super-slim 8mm drawer system that works as beautifully in the kitchen as it does in the bathroom, the lounge or the bedroom.

Vionaro V8: Evocative. Smooth. Powerful. Futuristic. Just the name sounds sleek, aerodynamic, athletic. It could be the perfect tag for a next generation supercar from Lamborghini, Ferrari, Aston Martin, Bentley... but it's not.

Vionaro V8 is the name chosen by the forward-thinking Austrian movement systems specialist Grass to define a new direction in drawer design; a brand-new, ground-breaking, class-leading, ultra-slim 8mm drawer system that is as breathtakingly beautiful as any supercar. It is a designer's dream come true. There's nothing like it on the market. And it's a perfect fit with the ethos of a company whose passion for design is only equalled by its desire to lead the industry towards a greener and more ecologically-friendly future.

"During the pandemic, I took the opportunity to kick off two projects," Harald Klüh, the effervescent Global Brand Manager at Grass told Furniture Journal during an exclusive interview ahead of the product launch. "I started thinking about the Grass DNA and our purpose. Vionaro V8, like Kinvaro T-Slim, is the result of a big transformation at Grass that has taken place over the last five or six years. It's much more than a product. It's a philosophy, a strategy concept, which is why we searched so long for a powerful, athletic name.

"We wanted a sustainable product, the first sustainable drawer side that's light-weight in design and efficient as a concept. We put all our passion into this new product and for me it's the peak of what we have done in the last



Harald Klüh



20 years. It represents the transformation of the company into a brand-driven, design-driven *emotionalisation of technology*.

"It is a very simple, next generation of drawers; a sustainable idea which makes the next decade of furniture something special and different. It is so easy to explain to the end consumer because they will see immediately that it's different to anything they have encountered before."

Creating a drawer side that's just 8mm thick isn't new in itself. There are 8mm systems on the market – not many but they are out there. The problem is they lack two key features and these were major obstacles that took Grass almost five years of intensive design work and an incredible 50 million Euros of investment to overcome.

Because the other systems on the market include plastic components, they are not 100% recyclable. Made of steel throughout, Vionaro V8 is – and that's a huge plus for any furniture

manufacturer who wants to improve his green credentials and court the new generation of environmentally-concerned consumers. Even the back-panel clip and the front connection are steel.

"There are other 8mm products on the market," confirms Harald, "But they are extremely expensive and there is no technology inside. They are a mixture of elements, 95% plastic covered with an aluminium skin and completely different. We want to encourage furniture designers around the world to provide sustainable products and our aim with Vionaro V8 was to offer them the first truly sustainable movement system."

Consumers love the idea of products that are more compact, slimmer and less wasteful of resources but the compromise with any super-slim drawer box is always going to be stability. Slim is often a euphemism for fragile and in drawer speak that can mean wobbly drawers with little torsional stiffness. The

question of how to produce a highly effective, sustainable system that used less space and less material wasn't an easy one to overcome but add in the need for stability – crucially important in a system that includes extremes like 1200mm drawer widths and 780mm drawer heights – and the problem multiplies logarithmically. Yet with Vionaro V8, Grass has achieved a product that is slim, durable, extremely resilient and stable. V8 ticks every box: it's sustainable, functional, light in weight and offers design flair across a broad product offer.

How?

How can a minimalist drawer system with a super-slim 8mm side provide stability and strength to match its slender good looks?

The answer is both ridiculously simple and incredibly complicated: *Vionaro V8 is made from one single piece of steel*. Even the 250mm (and deeper) drawer sides are one-piece construction.



To achieve this, Grass had to completely rethink its manufacturing processes. Harald takes up the story: "Think about making a 250mm drawer height out of one piece of steel. You need new and unique machinery to automate this. Everything is done in one production line. It is the most modern production line for drawers in the world. You put the steel in at one end, a drawer comes out of the other. Everything is done by robots, even the laser welding.

"The back panel-holder forms part of the drawer side and it is laser-welded. The new drawer side clip system ensures high stability throughout the complete arrangement of components. For me, this was the biggest requirement: to ensure this extremely slim product could handle the immense forces of a 780mm high front. It works perfectly. If you touch the drawer sides you are not able to move them. That's very different to all our competitor products.

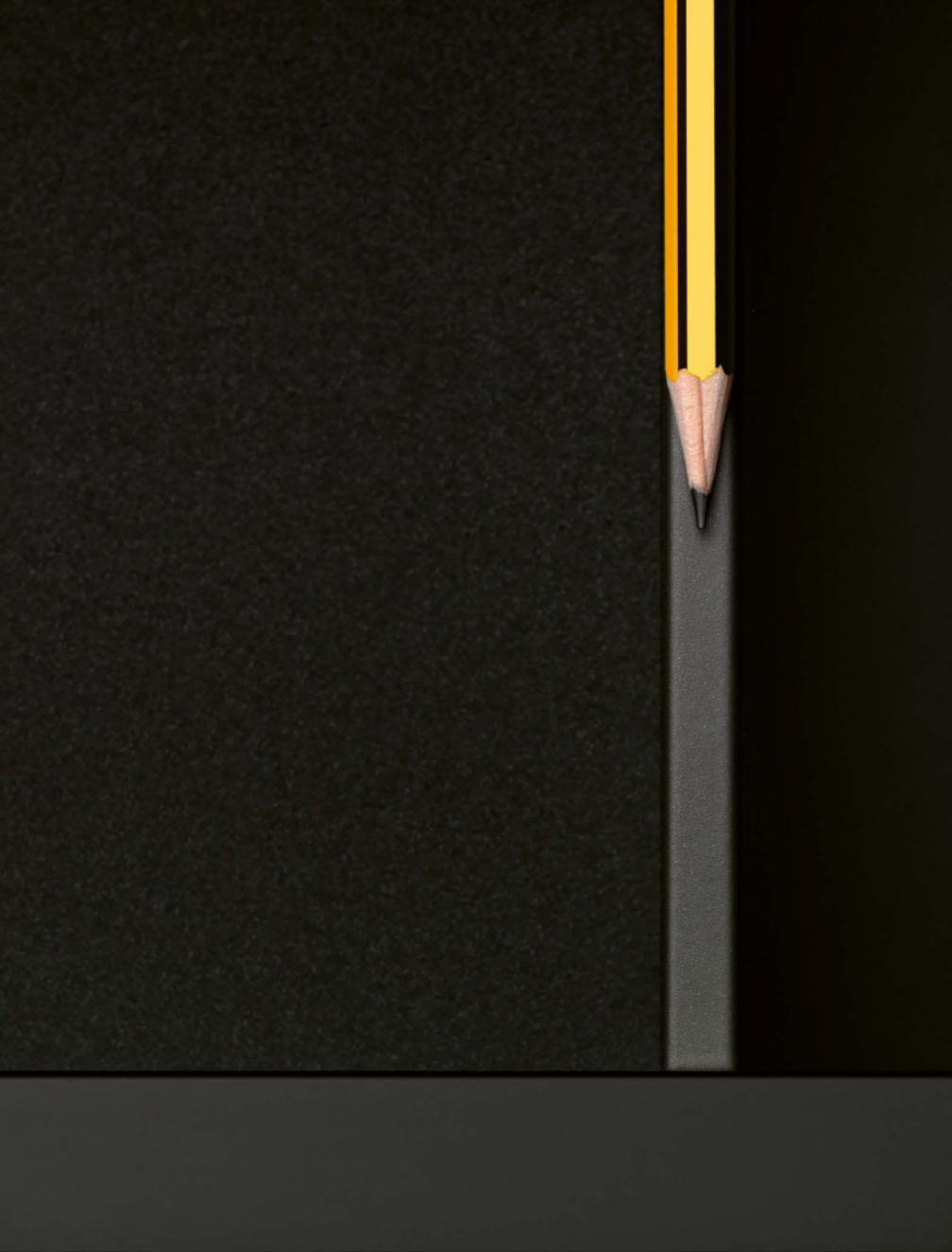
"Because it's made out of steel throughout,

it opens up new possibilities during the production process. If you have plastic parts inside the drawers, you are not able to apply the powder coating after production because you cannot coat the plastic. We are able to decide on the best time to apply the powder coating. We don't need to cover the screws, for example, because we can coat the screws as well. It is a new way of producing this kind of product that provides the opportunity to make it fully recyclable."

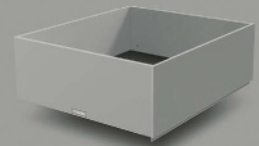
Harald's keen eye for design and in-depth knowledge of the preferences of different markets around the world have provided insight into design direction that few of us ever gain access to and with Vionaro V8 he's been behind some quite radical ideas that take the new drawer system above and beyond accepted norms. The relationship between drawer widths and drawer heights has become one of his pet hates: "The proportion between the front height and the height of the drawer always looked wrong to me," he says.

"In our showroom, we have used 1200mm drawers with the 250mm high Vionaro V8 drawer sides. They seem to be perfect, especially for the Italian market where they love high drawers. I'm mostly of the same idea. You couldn't have a drawer that is high enough. It is a big aesthetic plus with a functional purpose that enables you to take taller goods in your drawer. It was the biggest challenge to automate production of this."

Combining an 8mm drawer side with a continuous angular shape means Vionaro V8 provides up to 16 percent more space in the base cabinet – up to 9mm in width, 7mm in depth and 20mm in height. The 40-70 kilo capacity of the Grass Dynapro slide system means heavyweight storage can be catered for as well as tall and light loads but there will soon be a new version of Dynapro, which has been designed to cater for bathroom, bedroom and living room furniture. It will be aggressively priced to suit the needs of the contract sector so Vionaro



Platinum



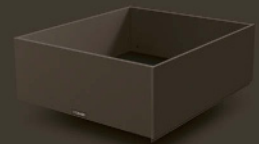
Nero



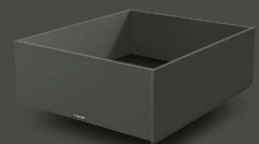
Zircon



Cocoa



Stone



Ice



V8 can be used for project work right up to luxury level installations.

Vionaro V8 is very much a platform. You can combine it and make it yours by choosing any of the new, environmentally-friendly powder-coated colours (Stone, Ice, Zircon, Platinum, Cocoa or Nero), any width from 300mm to 1200mm, any depth from 270mm to 650mm, plinth drawers for extra storage, a range of inlays and covers – and the most appropriate slide for each application. There's even a V8 Crystal, claimed to be the world's first and only glass drawer with design lines running consistently from the furniture front to the back panel. Vionaro V8 can be combined with Tavinea Sorto, Tavinea Optima or any other interior accessories option from the Grass collection and the beauty of Vionaro V8 is if you run four metres of drawers in a line, you can't tell where one drawer ends and another starts. The border between drawer and interior becomes seamless. Soft-Close, Tipmatic and Tipmatic Soft-Close are all

available – or opt for Sensomatic and the wow factor becomes irresistible!

But now I've whetted your appetite and given you a glimpse of the future, I must add a footnote: Vionaro V8 is not for everyone.

In the words of Wayne Nabal, Managing Director of Grass UK, "We see it as a product to support industrial partners who are looking for something exclusive. It's not for our distribution partners. It is an aspirational product for our partners who want to produce exceptional furniture, who want advancement, something different, something special and exclusive. With V8 we can give them a product that matches their aspiration in design terms and sustainability. That's where we see the product in the UK."

If that sounds like you and you'd like to give your customers innovation, uniqueness and an enhanced emotional experience from their furniture visit www.vionaro-v8.com, call Grass UK on 0121 500 5824 or make contact by email using info-uk@grass.eu



Wayne Nabal

Is it possible to develop a drawer that's as slim as a pencil? **Yes, it is!**



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Vionaro V8
Slim Drawer System.

Everything. Except ordinary. Until recently, the very idea of reducing a drawer side to 8 millimetres and, above all, making industrial production commercially viable would have been unthinkable. With Vionaro V8, this vision has now been turned into reality. The new slim drawer system not only offers the only 8-millimetre one-piece steel drawer side in the world – Vionaro V8 is also the first pure-metal drawer side with no plastic elements. That produces maximum stability plus longevity and ensures an almost 100 per cent recycling rate.



**GERMAN
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Hawa Forte technology will hold up to 340kg for specialist applications.



Matrix Box

Heavyweight drawer solutions

Whether it's clever under-stairs storage, hidden-away kitchen larders or industrial settings and high-end retail environments, drawers play a key role in solving modern-day storage challenges. But when that challenge demands a heavyweight solution, where do you start to look?

Häfele UK offers a range of drawer boxes and runners that can be combined to create a plethora of heavy duty applications across both the domestic and commercial markets. Its suite of drawer boxes, Matrix, is a universal drawer system available in three

product lines – Matrix Box S, Matrix Box A and Matrix Box P – each of which is suitable for use in industrial environments as well as kbb and home office applications.

Able to hold over 40 food tins at any given time and with load capacities ranging from 30kg to 50kg, Matrix Box is brilliantly designed for heavy duty drawer applications with either rectangular or round rails. The drawer boxes are available in a variety of widths, depths and heights ranging from shallower, shorter depth bathroom vanity units to maximum storage space for retail or hospitality settings. Offering full extension,

In need of heavyweight drawer slides and custom-made drawers? Häfele has solutions that will carry up to 340kg.



Häfele's bespoke timber drawer service allows you to tailor your requirements, creating drawers that are entirely made to order.



Häfele also distributes Dynapro runners from Grass with carrying capacities of up to 70kg.

push to open options and smooth, synchronised running, Matrix Box is suited to any application, even those where silent running is important, such as a bedroom, child's nursery or a library.

Of particular note, Matrix P – more of a furniture drawer – lends itself to situations where quick and easy access to tools and equipment is key, such as an office space or in a medical setting and offers a locking system, too.

The entire Matrix Box range has been crafted to aid ease of installation. The Matrix P drilling jig, for example, significantly speeds up drawer runner fitting. Once lined up against the carcass fascia at the correct height for the chosen runner, you can pre-drill holes using a countersink drill bit. Likewise, a fascia alignment jig helps locate the fascia fitting into the back of the drawer front. The jig has a ratchet function, allowing users to tap the top of the drawer front for easy and quick adjustment. When you are happy with the alignment, tap the drawer again front-on to make drill hole impressions. Matrix P can also be ordered as an assembled piece, available with 35kg capacity in standard and pan drawer widths. Matrix P

is guaranteed for 20 years, and Matrix A and Matrix S, for 25 years.

In 2021, Häfele also launched its bespoke timber drawer manufacturing service to save joiners and furniture makers valuable time. Through the service, you can order hand-made, solid timber drawers personalised to your needs and complete with full dovetail joints, usually in just a two-week turnaround. These drawers can then be combined with heavy duty runners to create systems that meet all levels of demand.

The bespoke timber drawer service allows you to tailor your requirements, creating drawers that are entirely made to order. These include a choice of timber, finish and size, along with shaped sides; flat or stepped top; and notching and drilling for runners. In commercial applications, branding can be etched into the side panels of the drawers for a truly personalised touch, or engraving can be used to 'label' the drawers. They can be teamed with side-mounted runners featuring innovative ball-bearing technology (originally designed for cabinetry in retail stores) to create unique applications like the under-stairs storage some of you may have seen on Häfele's kbb stand earlier this year.

The under-stairs unit featured soft close Hawa Forte (a pull out and bottom-rolling runner used in the main for customised larder units), a bespoke two-way drawer created using side-mounted ball-bearing drawer runners and a peg board manufactured to create a unique under-stairs storage solution. Capable of holding up to 340kg, the intelligent technology of Hawa Forte elevates the capabilities of even the most basic of drawer systems into something remarkable.

Häfele also distributes Dynapro runners from Grass, which support any drawer design with weights up to 70kg and come with the 25-year Grass warranty. The unique system offers a liquid soft-close damper for an extremely smooth, continuous movement, along with an optional Tipmatic push-to-open mechanism, which is very easy to install or retro-fit. 40kg runners are used to create the Grass Nova Pro Scala Stack Tower, creating a mass of storage within a single cabinet.

With demand for bespoke installations at an all-time high, you'll find an unbeatable range of options in Häfele's comprehensive offer. For more details call Häfele on 01788 542020, or visit www.hafele.co.uk/en/



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A vertical product image for Hraniclean 106. It features a light purple background on the left and a dark grey background on the right. The text 'HRANICLEAN 106' is written vertically in white on the purple background.

HRANICLEAN 106

A vertical product image for Hraniclean 101. It features a white background on the left and a dark grey background on the right. The text 'HRANICLEAN 101' is written vertically in black on the white background.

HRANICLEAN 101

A vertical product image for Hraniclean 104. It features a light green background on the left and a dark grey background on the right. The text 'HRANICLEAN 104' is written vertically in black on the green background. In the background, a white edgebanding machine is shown cleaning a piece of wood.

HRANICLEAN 104

A vertical product image for Hraniclean 103. It features a light blue background on the left and a dark grey background on the right. The text 'HRANICLEAN 103' is written vertically in black on the blue background. In the background, a white edgebanding machine is shown cleaning a piece of wood.

HRANICLEAN 103



Blum in tandem

What do HM Queen Elizabeth II and Julius Blum GmbH have in common? Yes, you've guessed it! The year Her Majesty came to the throne is the same year Julius Blum GmbH was founded and both are celebrating 70 successful years of service in 2022.

With 70 years' experience in taking kitchens to the next level, Blum is all about moving ideas. Its precision engineered fittings enable kitchen users of all ages and abilities to be creative with their design and plan the perfect space to suit their needs and lifestyle. Two of its most recent innovations, Space Step and Pull-out shelf lock, have been designed to take kitchen and other home storage to the next level.

Space Step is a handy hidden helper that creates instant storage space behind plinths and toe kicks with the added benefit of providing quick and easy access to tall floor-to-ceiling wall cabinets. As well as allowing users to access those otherwise out-of-reach areas higher up, it also provides easy-access storage while giving children a helping hand to reach work surfaces and sinks.

Space Step can be fitted with the Blum Servo-Drive electrical opening support system for even greater ease. The step closes effortlessly with soft-close Blumotion and when open, locks in place securely with an anti-slip system.

Another innovation from Blum designed for safe and easy access to everyday items is the Pull-out shelf lock. A discreet, space-saving mechanism that securely holds an open pull-out shelf in place, Blum has developed a practical lock-open stop for its Movento and Tandem pull-out shelves. Now there's no need to worry about wobblers or shelves sliding back in, even if small appliances and gadgets are placed on top. Useful in all rooms in the home, this extra shelf is invaluable for temporary use. It opens and closes with top quality motion and uses a simple lock mechanism, which can be operated with one hand.

For more information call Blum on 01908 285700. You'll find an informative video about Space Step at www.youtube.com/watch?v=ODN0Y76IVjo and a demonstration of Pull-out shelf lock at www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JVgCfyyGoc

Space Step and Pull-out Shelf Lock are two more clever ideas for fitted furniture applications from Blum.





Broken edgebander? Call Andy!

Hranipex UK launches a brand-new maintenance and repair service for edgebander users who need help.



Rob Denton

If you are lucky enough to know Andy Lewis, Area Manager for Hranipex in the west of the UK, you'll already know he can help you with edgebandings, glues and more recently, cleaning fluids. And a very helpful chap he is.

What you may not know is Andy, who likes to keep his ear to the ground, has listened carefully to what his customers have been saying in recent months and taken a leading role in encouraging Hranipex UK to launch a brand-new service that will benefit his edgebander-using clients enormously when they most need it – at the time their machine stops working.

Finding engineers has never been more difficult, especially for manufacturers who have older machines that are out of warranty, not covered by a service contract, or not supported by a UK agent. Encouraged by Andy, Hranipex UK has heeded the concerns of his clients and gone out of its way to help establish a brand-new edgebander maintenance and repair service. The new service, available by calling Hranipex UK, provides either a service contract for those who like the reassurance that comes with having cost-effective, twice-a-year preventative maintenance, or the option of one-off emergency call-outs and it supplements the more low-key valet-style service already provided by Hranipex UK's adhesives technical product department.

Through an exclusive deal, Hranipex UK has teamed up with Rob Denton of Micromax Machinery to provide any Hranipex UK customer who has a problem edgebander with access to the service they need on any machine that's out of warranty. Rob, who has more than 30 years' experience maintaining, servicing and repairing woodworking machines and has even designed and built his own CNC, has worked for a string of high profile companies from Biesse Australia to Kone Cranes and will service or repair any make or model of edgebander from the largest down to the smallest three-station machine. Working alongside Rob are several self-employed engineers he can call upon at busy times, ensuring Hranipex customers get the service they need when they need it.

"I have a simple policy," he says. "If there is someone there to turn the lights on and make me a cup of tea, I'll go. If it's a genuine emergency situation and a customer is in trouble, we will go above and beyond to help, even if it means working on a Saturday. A lot of companies will work on a Saturday but charge you more. If it's an emergency, we will work on a Saturday but we will charge you the same."

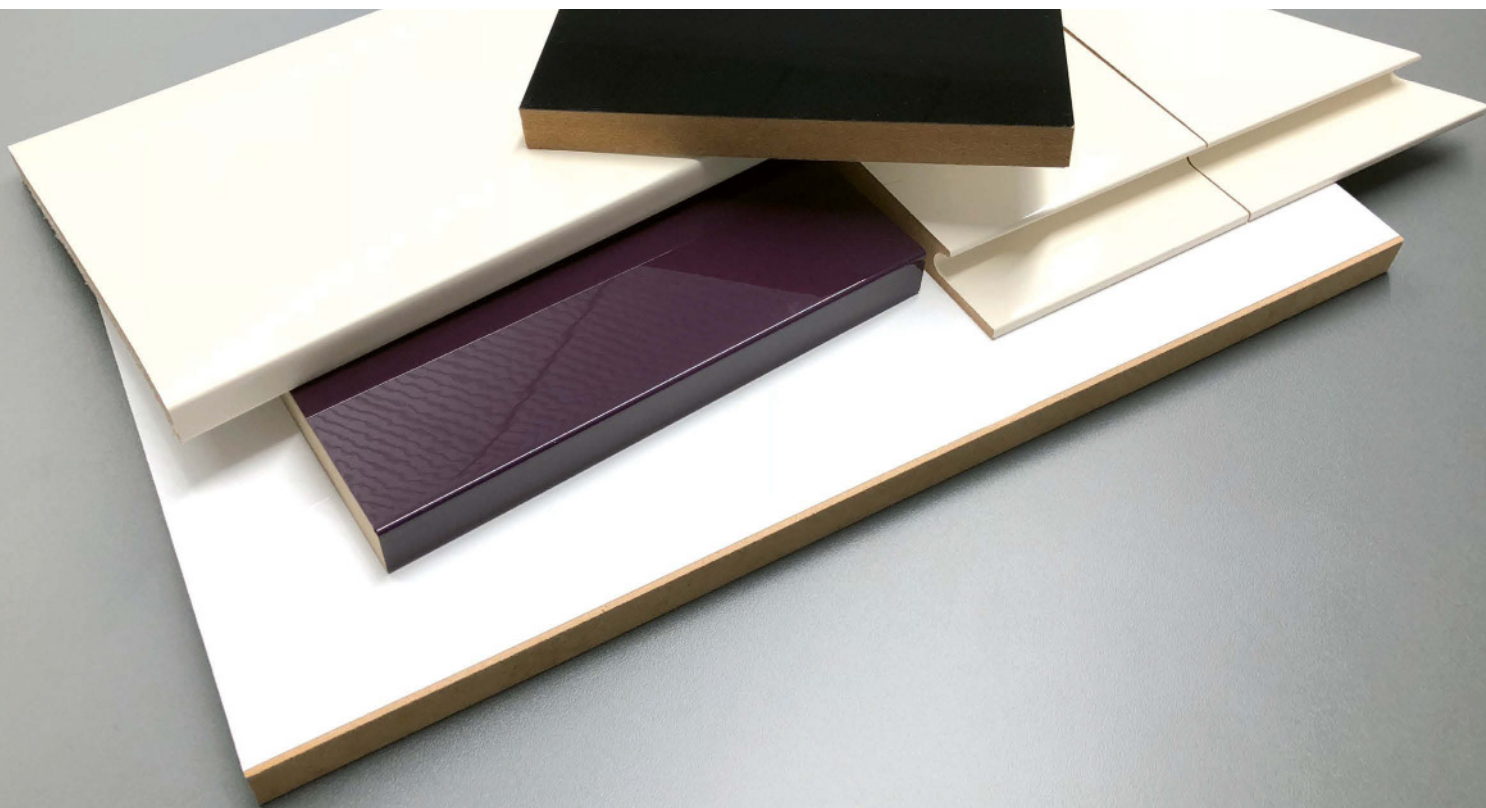
For the moment, contracts and repairs are only available to Hranipex customers in Andy's area – an area broadly covering the

Midlands between the M4 and the M62 and as far across as the M1 – "But we would like to roll that out over the whole of the UK," he says. "It's not that we wouldn't help a customer in Kent who needs it. If Rob can fit them in, we'll help. But we are aware that we are starting small and we don't want to overstretch ourselves, or offer what we can't deliver in a reasonable timeframe."

Although the service provided through Hranipex UK is specifically for edgebanders, Hranipex customers who have CNCs or other machines they need help with can still call for assistance. Hranipex will co-ordinate with Rob and maintenance will be provided through Micromax.

"If a customer has his edgebander in a service contract with us but has a problem with another machine, he can call us and we will give Rob the contact details," says Simon Mitchell, Managing Director of Hranipex UK. "What we gain is the experience of knowing our customer has security. Rob's ethos is a hand-in-glove service with our own. We believe what we offer is the best service to our customer base. That means if you have a machine down, whatever the make or model, we can provide you with a solution."

To find out more, or if you need immediate help, have a chat with Andy or call Rachael at Hranipex UK on 0121 767 9180.



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The glue for you

Regardless of the substrates you are bonding, Taka offers a range of adhesives for both flat lamination, edge banding or soft forming.

Laminating decorative foils such as paper, PET, Polypropylene or PVC with both Gloss and Matt finishes has never been easier than with Taka's specially formulated reactive PUR, TK 2308.38P. It can be applied by means of slot coater on the foil or by a roller coater on the panels. In both cases you are assured of a perfectly even glue line, able to create a mirror surface finish with high gloss plastic foils. Thanks to its hardness after cooling, TK 2308.38P allows handling without risk of dents on the flat surface of the panel.

Once the laminated panel has been cut to size, for a perfect, watertight close Taka recommends its Hotmelt Polyurethane Reactive adhesives (HMPUR). Compared with traditional non-reactive hotmelt glues based on EVA and PO, Hotmelt Polyurethane Reactive adhesives give the finished product a superior performance and outperform other types of hotmelt adhesive in terms of heat resistance (over 150°C) and water resistance.

The traditional and most versatile adhesive is Taka's TK 3308.20 for the edgebanding of all types of panels such as MDF, multi-layer chipboard, solid wood and many more. It helps to reduce glue consumption to 100-130 g/m², depending on the type of spreader roller installed on the machine. However, Taka also offers different edgebanding adhesives with specific characteristics. TK 3308.5 adhesive, which provides a transparent glue line, is suitable for processes where many different edge colours are used. Combined with low application weight (100-120g/m²), the colour of the edgeband reflects and reduces the visibility of the glue line. If your preference is a monomer reduced version, Taka's TK 3308.20ME PUR hot melt adhesive has a content of free isocyanate lower than 0.1%.

For advice and consultancy on the use and application of Hotmelt Polyurethane adhesives the WPR-Taka Academy is always available at academy@wprtaka.it or, for detailed information on Taka's product range, contact Anthony Rook from Brit-Ad Ltd on 07484 341294. Email: arook.ba@gmail.com or visit www.britishadhesives.co.uk

For flat lamination or edgebanding applications, take a look at Taka's extensive range of adhesives.



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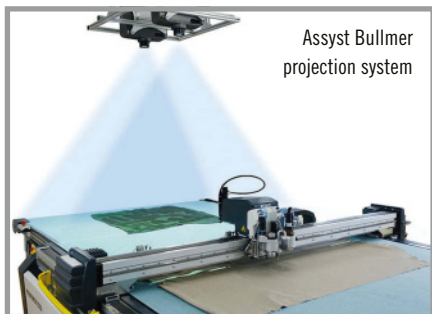
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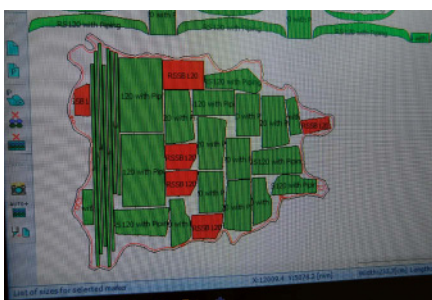


Love leather

Assyst Bullmer has solutions to help you work efficiently and make the most of precious hides.



Assyst Bullmer projection system



Leather is an expensive material to work with and it's quite unique in that no two hides are ever the same. That brings unique problems and they demand specialised solutions.

One company has founded its business on helping upholstery manufacturers to maximise yield by developing leather scanning and management systems that can offer you significant savings in time and money manufacturing from leather – and from leather stock room management to final piece identification it has a solution for every step of the process.

That company is Assyst Bullmer.

As with all upholstery production, one of the biggest headaches for businesses is waste and this is no different with leather production. Coupling powerful automatic nesting with leather scanning and leather fault detection, Assyst Bullmer will make sure you never waste leather again. Operators also have the ability to identify quality zones and grade individual sections of the hide. Once this has been done, the nesting will adjust the parts accordingly.

The Assyst Bullmer order management system also allows you to pre-scan hides and put them back into storage. Then once a job comes along the system will suggest the hide with the best match for that particular job to ensure you are receiving the maximum possible efficiency out of your leather usage.

During the cutting process Assyst Bullmer customers are able to take advantage of one of the fastest and most accurate cutters on the market with a large range of tools available to cope with any job. Finally, there are a variety of piece identification methods available to help operators and ensure that cut pieces get sorted correctly – including a projection system where images of the cut pieces and their associated part numbers are projected onto the hide to aid operators as they sort through the cut work.

Assyst Bullmer has been providing cutting solutions to the UK market for over 30 years and has various solutions to work within any cutting room environment. Call Assyst Bullmer on 01924 373900 or email sales@assystbullmer.co.uk to find out more.



Fine Tune your Leather Production with Bullmer

At **Assyst Bullmer** we use state of the art leather scanning solutions to allow you to scan and cut your leather hides with ease whilst automatically avoiding defects and lower quality zones.



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A cut above

You know the name Lectra Systèmes. If you are in upholstery manufacturing, you'll already know that Lectra combines more than 40 years' experience in the upholstered furniture sector and has advanced solutions covering every aspect from design to production, including software, automated cutting solutions and services to optimise the way you make your sofas and chairs.

Working with Lectra, you'll be able to automate tasks, avoid errors, reduce cycle times and save materials – challenges that are significantly amplified by on-demand production of customised products, which is becoming an industry standard.

One of the first steps in the workflow is to design and develop products, which is a very time-consuming and costly step in the overall process. With DesignConcept, Lectra accelerates the entire product development and pre-production process, significantly reducing prototyping costs through 3D visualisation and cost estimation in the early development phases. Once the product is developed and industrialised, patternmaking software such as Formaris prepares the upholstered product for production in small batches, or "on-demand".

Furniture On Demand by Lectra, the latest generation Cutting Room 4.0 solution

for fabrics, has been designed to manage order peaks seamlessly and facilitate greater customisation and small-series production. It is a unique combination of a high-performing single-ply fabric cutting solution, Virga, and a cloud-based platform that connects your IT system and the cutting room in real-time. The process from order reception, through preparation to cut pieces is fully automated and optimised, taking into account defined business rules as well as motif and plain fabric constraints. With no human intervention required, Furniture On Demand is able to cut up to 10 standard or customised sofas per hour, whatever the type of sofa and regardless of the type of fabric, or whether it's plain or patterned.

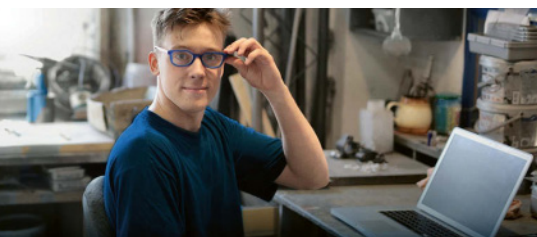
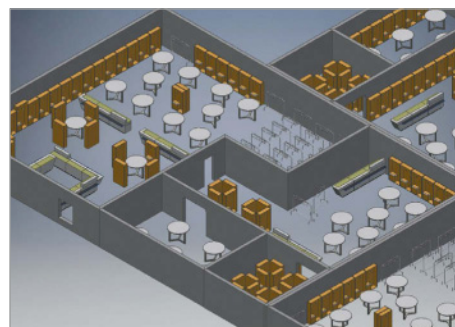
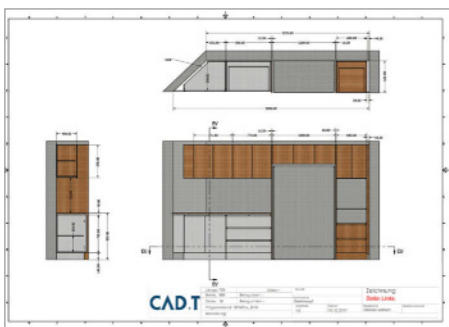
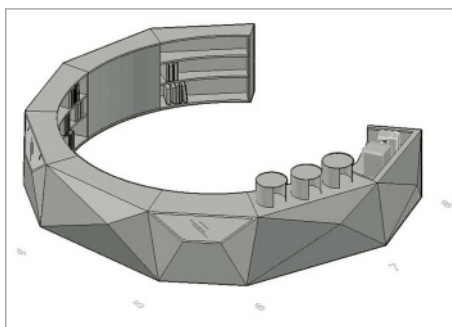
Leather cutting represents around 30% of the market in terms of sales and for this Lectra presents Versalis, a class-leading automated cutting solution mirroring the skills of the operator and maximising performance and efficiency with ground-breaking technology. Versalis can process up to 20 hides per hour for some programs, equating to around five sofas per hour.

For more information call 01274 623080, visit www.lectra.com/en or to watch Virga in action visit vimeo.com/323072916

Lectra Systèmes: solutions for the automatisation of upholstery design and manufacture.



Talent Camp returns



'How to' workshops in planning, photorealistic visualisation and construction alongside software training from CAD+T.

CAD+T's Talent Camp is back for 2022. The annual competition, which will be held from the 11th-15th July 2022 at CAD+T's Austrian HQ, has been designed to encourage school leavers and apprentices aged 16-28 to follow a career in the furniture design and manufacturing industry.

The five-day event, which is sponsored by Evoline, Grass and Blum will see participants put their AutoCAD knowledge to the test in a bid to win the prestigious CAD+T Challenge and take home over £2,000-worth of prizes.

'How to' workshops, which will be led by the industry's very best project managers in planning, photorealistic visualisation and construction, will also take place alongside software training. Students will be able to get to grips with CAD+T's Design Classic planning module, which helps create walls, windows and doors and equip the room with planning elements, Engineer Classic

AutoCAD® software and CAD+T's Visualise Classic Renderer, which offers the ideal introduction to the world of photorealistic visualisation.

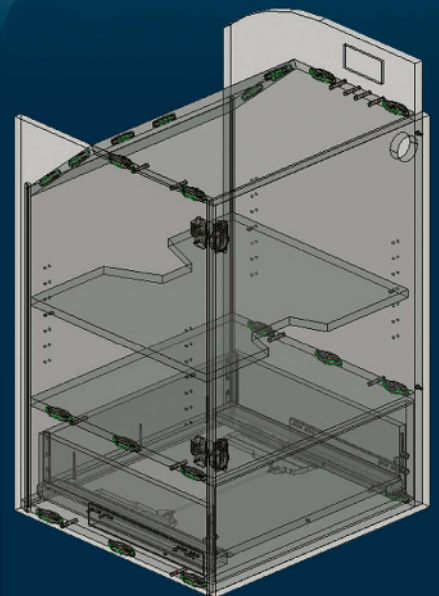
Martina Schwarz, CEO of CAD+T says, "If you want to gain experience in this sector and you are looking for your next opportunity, we really want to hear from you. Our Talent Camp has been designed to support and encourage young talent, offering young adults a valuable insight into our company and the industry as a whole. As well as learning new skills and being introduced to the very latest software solutions, participants will be able to meet like-minded individuals, make connections with some of the industry's finest and take part in some really fun activities. We hope this event will not only improve each and everyone's software knowledge but also open doors for them in the future."

To register your interest and for full T&C's visit www.cadt-solutions.com

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Ven Spray One



Ven Spray One on show

At this year's Holz-Handwerk in Nuremberg, Venjakob Maschinenbau will focus on its Ven Spray One spray coating machine.

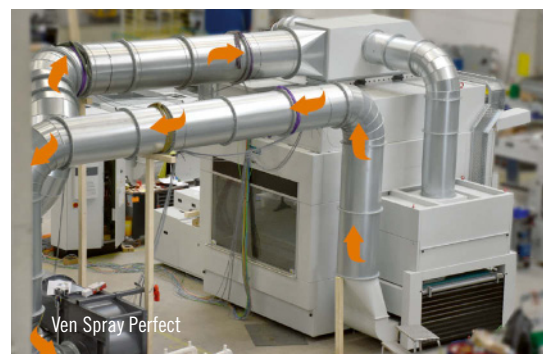
Although the compact spray coating machine has been specially designed for the needs of entry-level users, it is in no way inferior to the professional range in terms of design and energy efficiency. A stand-alone solution, the Ven Spray One has an integrated control cabinet, facilitating rapid commissioning and reducing installation costs and time. Features include a large volume spray booth, long-lasting, energy-efficient LEDs, an extra-large touch screen with self-explanatory user interface and four spray guns. In order to achieve repeatable quality, recipes can be stored in the system control and called up quickly and

easily. Designed with easy cleaning in mind, this compact unit is equipped with a paper belt transport.

Venjakob will also be sharing information on what the company has done to optimise production processes with its technology. Among many examples is an innovative, resource-saving recirculation system in the large-capacity booth of the Ven Spray Perfect – a spray coating machine designed for the application of water-based coating materials – which has been proven to save heating energy and reduce environmental emissions. An integrated air humidification system for highest coating quality with low energy consumption is also included.

Planning a visit? Visit Venjakob in Hall 11.0, stand 201 or at www.venjakob.com

If you are interested in automising your spray facilities, visit Venjakob Maschinenbau at Holz-Handwerk 2022.



Ven Spray Perfect



HSD at HH

See the latest electrospindle technology from HSD up close and personal and check out MyHSD at Holz-Handwerk.



Discover the advantages of the MyHSD platform and take part in HSD's preview presentation of its brand-new servomotor SMI 37 Ethercat and Profinet at Holz-Handwerk, hall 11.0 Stand 215.

"MyHSD – the HSD platform – allows us to provide our customers with a huge range of services," explains Fabrizio Pierini, HSD Division General Manager. "Reducing maintenance costs, analysing data in real time to convert them into handy information, enhancing the customer's knowledge about the use of the electrospindles..."

The collected data can be used to analyse how the electrospindles are working, improve the processes and optimise maintenance through timely notifications and guided trouble-shooting procedures. With the Premium package, users can also monitor device wear throughout the lifetime of the product, maximising uptime and avoid or reduce machine downtime.

The MyHSD platform uses AWS to provide global level infrastructure and security.

"The HSD technological solutions are at

the service of the 4.0 revolution, to make our customers increasingly competitive," states Alessandro Parrucci, Commercial and Markets Director. "For a long time now, HSD has already been producing electrospindles with automatic and manual tool-change, C-axes, bi-rotary heads, boring heads, multi-function units and aggregates dedicated to wood machining.

This wide selection of products, our 30 years of know-how and our technological skills combine with the continuous studies of our engineering departments to meet every need down to the last detail."

"For HSD, Holz-Handwerk is a reference event for the international wood sector market and we invest heavily in it," says Laura Alesi, Marketing Manager at HSD. "For us, this trade fair represents a global showcase of enormous value. It gives us the chance to demonstrate the practical application of our technologies and it's an unmissable opportunity for our customers to get a hands-on feel for our corporate culture and our 4.0-ready innovations."

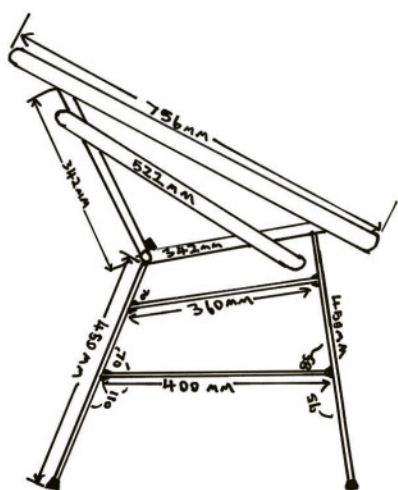
HSD can be found in hall 11.0 on stand 215.

3D Visualisation



Interior design by Katarina Kondelova

3D Product Rendering



Technical Sketch



3D Wireframe Preview



3D Final Render

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Scotland's best-kept secret

We discover a company whose five-axis woodwork adorns palaces and castles but whose name is known only by cognoscenti who seldom share it.

You could be forgiven for thinking Scotland's best-kept secret might be a rare single malt whisky, the view across a beautiful glen bordered with fir forests and snow-capped peaks, or a little-known beach where the sun never dips below the horizon during the summer solstice. I'm sure there are many such secrets in Scotland. It is a land without parallel. But the one I'm thinking of is a secret so rare that those who know of it will not reveal its name or its whereabouts.

This secret is behind some of the most prestigious restoration projects in Britain. It's

been instrumental in creating exquisite ceilings for castles, decorative woodwork for palaces, complex furniture components for the world's finest hotels, copy antique hand rails and staircase components for listed buildings, panelling for prestigious shopping centres, intricate friezes adorned with complex inscriptions for university libraries, carvings and columns... The list is endless. If it's complicated, it's three-dimensional, it's curved and it will take skilled craftsmen days or weeks to make it from wood, this secret has the expertise and the equipment to produce it in hours, sometimes just minutes





— and once you know who it is, it could be as beneficial to your business as it is invaluable to the countless cognoscenti on its client list who will never share its name.

I'm about to break the secret.

I will share it with you.

Scotland's best-kept secret is a specialist in five-axis machining called Haldane; Haldane UK of Glenrothes; the secret sub-contractor whose identity top-flight architects, designers and furniture manufacturers will not reveal because what Haldane can't make with its fleet of five-axis machines has yet to be discovered. And to a man, every Haldane client likes to keep that to themselves.

Haldane's story began shortly after the Second World War. A small wood-turning company, much of its work was co-operation for the whisky distilleries and bobbins for weavers. Spinning Jennys followed. "We held the global market for spinning wheels," Managing Director, Forrester Adam told me. "When I joined the company in the early '90s, the most technical thing we had was a fax machine in the office but we could carve, we could turn wood and we were very good at it."

The advent of five-axis CNCs was a real turning point for Haldane: "Our first five-axis machine was £250,000 and it cost us another £50,000 for the software to run

it. We had to employ a student from Edinburgh to program it for us. Most companies that bought into five-axis machines were using them for metal. We must have been the first in the UK to use a five-axis machine for wood.

"With our first 5-axis machine, we wanted to become the UK's leading specialist sub-contract timber machining company enabling woodworkers, metalworkers and furniture companies to benefit from the accuracy and efficiency we could deliver. One of the most notable projects we did was for Windsor Castle when it burned down. The ceiling was made up of components about the size of a brick — eight designs, all twisted. It was taking one guy a day and a half to carve each one and there were 950 to make. They gave the job to us and we made each one in 40 minutes."

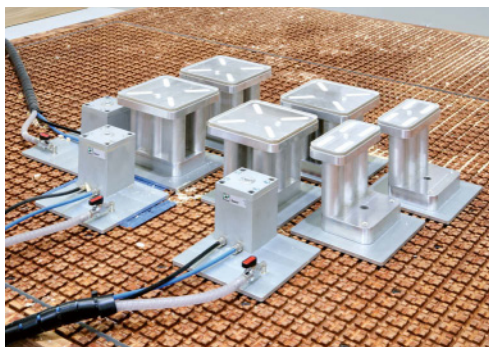
As the workload increased and the complexity of the work they could take on grew, Haldane bought more five-axis machines and broadened its product offer into glazing beads, circular and shaped cassettes for doors, complex handrails and commercial work for theme parks, shopping centres and cruise ships. "We've always had a toe-dip in furniture with people who wanted components making. We can machine their materials, or we can procure, machine and polish.

"We're very responsive to the market. We always want to know how can we do things better, faster, or more competitively and when we spot a gap we'll invest. We've recently invested in 3d scanning and we have two scanners that we can use on site or here in the factory. We get in an old piece of timber — part of a listed building, for example — and we can scan it to within 30 microns, redevelop it and give it to the client as a 3d-rendered product that we can produce thousands of. We were always seen as bespoke manufacturers, specialists in one-off complex pieces, but now, with our latest machine, we can offer large volume work. That's really what prompted us to invest in a new and much larger five-axis machine: we knew it would help us open up new markets and it has. It's given us new





Haldane's CNC Manager, Derek Jorgensen (left) with CNC Programming Manager Calum Fairgrieve.



The colossal 28mm thick 4840mm x 1800mm worktable.

Left: Haldane opted for six 145 x 145mm suction cups, two 145 x 65mm cups and two 145 x 30mm cups along with six horizontal clamps.

opportunities, enabled us to produce volume and made us very competitive."

Haldane's most recent investment, an SCM Hypsos, is much bigger than any of the company's other five-axis machines. Equipped with a 4.8 x 1.8m bed, it's ideal for taking on volume contracts involving products much larger than the complex components and handrails the other CNCs are producing. In fact, the bed is so large that production can even be zoned so up to four different projects can be machined without opening the cabin. The Hypsos simply jumps from one to the next.

"As soon as you join two pieces of wood together, the cost goes up so even with our most recent five-axis machines, we knew we could be more efficient and competitive. With the new SCM machine, we can be much more competitive. We're now producing components in seven minutes that would have taken us 27 and the largest piece we can machine is 4.8 metres in length.

"On the furniture side, it's helped us transform from a bespoke specialist to a contract machining specialist. Whatever you want manufacturing, we can do it now. Forget

six-week lead times and four weeks in shipping, plus the cost of a container. Since we took delivery of our SCM, our lead time for standard components can be as little as a few days."

Just to look at, the SCM Hypsos is an impressive machine. It looks purposeful, solid, and the heavyweight tools in both its tool-changers send a strong message that this is a rugged machine capable of handling really heavyweight tasks without baulking. Haldane's CNC Manager, Derek Jorgensen, has more than 30 years working with five-axis machines and even he is impressed with the Hypsos.

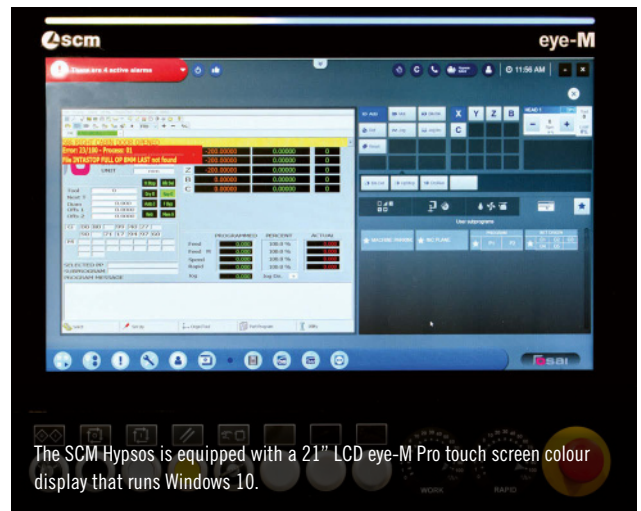
"This is a big workhorse," he says. "It copes with anything people want without compromising on accuracy. The only limit to this machine is the limit of your imagination.

"We bought everything we could get on it as extras. The tool-changer has 16 tools in the back unit and eight on the gantry. We could have had another tool-changer on the gantry but we have the capacity we need for now and both will take big diameter tools. We have clamps, raised pods we can work underneath – the head can go level with the table – bigger pumps to enhance the

suction... Everything. And no matter what we put on it, we never get vibration lines."

The 28mm thick 4840mm x 1800mm worktable is fixed to the main base and the surface allows distribution of the vacuum as well as the housing of gaskets for delimitation of the suction area. Threaded holes in the 30 x 30mm grid pattern that runs across the entire surface allow the passage of vacuum while also providing mechanical fixing points. Haldane opted for six 145 x 145mm suction cups, two 145 x 65mm cups and two 145 x 30mm cups along with six horizontal clamps.

The five-axis head unit is SCM's 15kW PX5, which has two NC-controlled rotating axes allowing rotation in any direction. The electrospindle, which is equipped with an HSK 63F quick release tool-holder, is liquid cooled and has ceramic bearings, ideal for jobs that demand the 24,000rpm maximum rotation speed the PX5 can deliver. Enhanced rigidity during some machining operations is provided by pneumatic brakes that fix the B and C axis positions while Adaptive Cut dynamic tool effort control keeps the machining performance within the optimal range by adjusting feed



speed rates according to the tool in use. The maximum tool size is a colossal 3kg, 200mm on the gantry, or 6kg and 250mm in the 16-position rear tool store. Both tool-changers are pressurised to keep the shanks clean.

The SCM Hypsos is connected via a mobile console with integrated PC – a 21" LCD eye-M Pro touch screen colour display – that runs Windows 10 IoT but it also has two points for remote machine control from where the full protection enclosure can be operated. Maestro Active is installed on the control unit, along with performance-enhancing Smart Pro software.

"The software is top-of-the-range HMI," says Derek. "It's very intuitive. I've been working machines like these for a long time and it only took me two weeks to get my head around it. It took six months with the other machines before we reached full commercial operation."

"Compared with the other machines we have, the SCM is more of a workhorse. It gives us something unique. Now we've got into it properly, it never stops and already we are thinking about having another."

Coming from a company that knows five-axis machines inside out, I can't resist asking why Forrester chose SCM. "We've seen SCM at a lot of exhibitions and they seem to be getting a lot of traction in the industry," he told me. "We have experience of most of the others but SCM's approach was exemplary. The way they came in and developed the project, we couldn't have asked for more. The way the tender was laid out was very comprehensible. When they said they would deliver it, they delivered it. The team they brought, their attitude, it was amazing. That engages people. The engineers that came up to commission the machine were incredible. When they started to install it, I noticed the head had a small amount of surface rust on it. I mentioned it. The engineer phoned up immediately and the next day a new one arrived, no question. Since December last year when it was installed, they have dialled into the machine and done tweaks but other than that it's been pretty faultless. We always try and buy the best in the marketplace and the SCM was no exception. This is a really high spec machine but it is good value considering what it will do."

So, with a fleet of five-axis machines and decades of experience few companies can come close to, what's the next challenge for Scotland's best-kept secret?

"We need to get the message across that we are keen to start looking at more standard projects as well as the bespoke projects we excel at," says Forrester. "Sometimes we get recommended but when people find us, they've usually never heard of us before. The problem is, they rarely tell anybody else about us either. We need to change that and spread the word that whatever the five-axis project, we have the expertise and the equipment to make it happen and we're a lot more competitive than buying in from abroad."

To find out what Scotland's best-kept secret can do for you, call 01592 775656 or visit haldaneuk.com or for more information on SCM's incredible five-axis Hypsos, call 0115 977 0044 or visit www.scmgroup.com/en_GB/scmwood Readers with the free Furniture Journal app can access YouTube videos of both the SCM Hypsos and Haldane UK's work by touching images marked with a link sign.

INSIDESTORY

“Is a beam saw more capable and easier to use than a sliding table panel saw? Does it need a less skilled operator? Can it up productivity? Can it deliver on precision?”

Yes, the Linea 6015 can. The Linea 6015 is available from Holz-Her UK 01235 557600, www.holzher.co.uk

“Holz-Her has been designing beam saws for many years and now we've condensed the very best cutting technology into a compact package that truly benefits the smaller manufacturer. No longer restricted by size, operator skill or price tag, our new Linea 6015 beam saw offers a viable alternative to a traditional table saw.”

Paul Nightingale
National Sales Manager
for Holz-Her UK

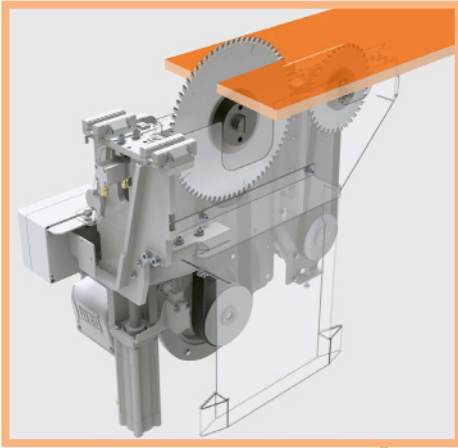


Paul Nightingale

Holz-Her's New Linea 6015 Beam Saw offers high-precision cutting for the smaller manufacturer.



Optimised material and off-cut management programmes are available with 3D real-time simulation offering greater insight into the cutting process and stacking sequence of finished workpieces. Holz-Her's Easy Label module also opens up new possibilities for designing labels tailored to your production.



Holz-Her's energy-saving saw concept offers a saving of up to 46% with each cut and with its time-controlled shutdown, the overall running costs of the machine remain low. The blade has a maximum projection of 68mm and can be adjusted by 20-40mm, whilst its newly developed 2.2 kW optimised pre-scoring system has been designed to offer infinite adjustments with the motor running, saving on set-up time.



With an operational footprint of just 6m x 4.7m, the Linea 6015 requires the same amount of space as a sliding table panel saw. Plus, it's been designed with a 1,800mm sliding door to the side of the machine, giving you access to over 6m² of usable storage space.

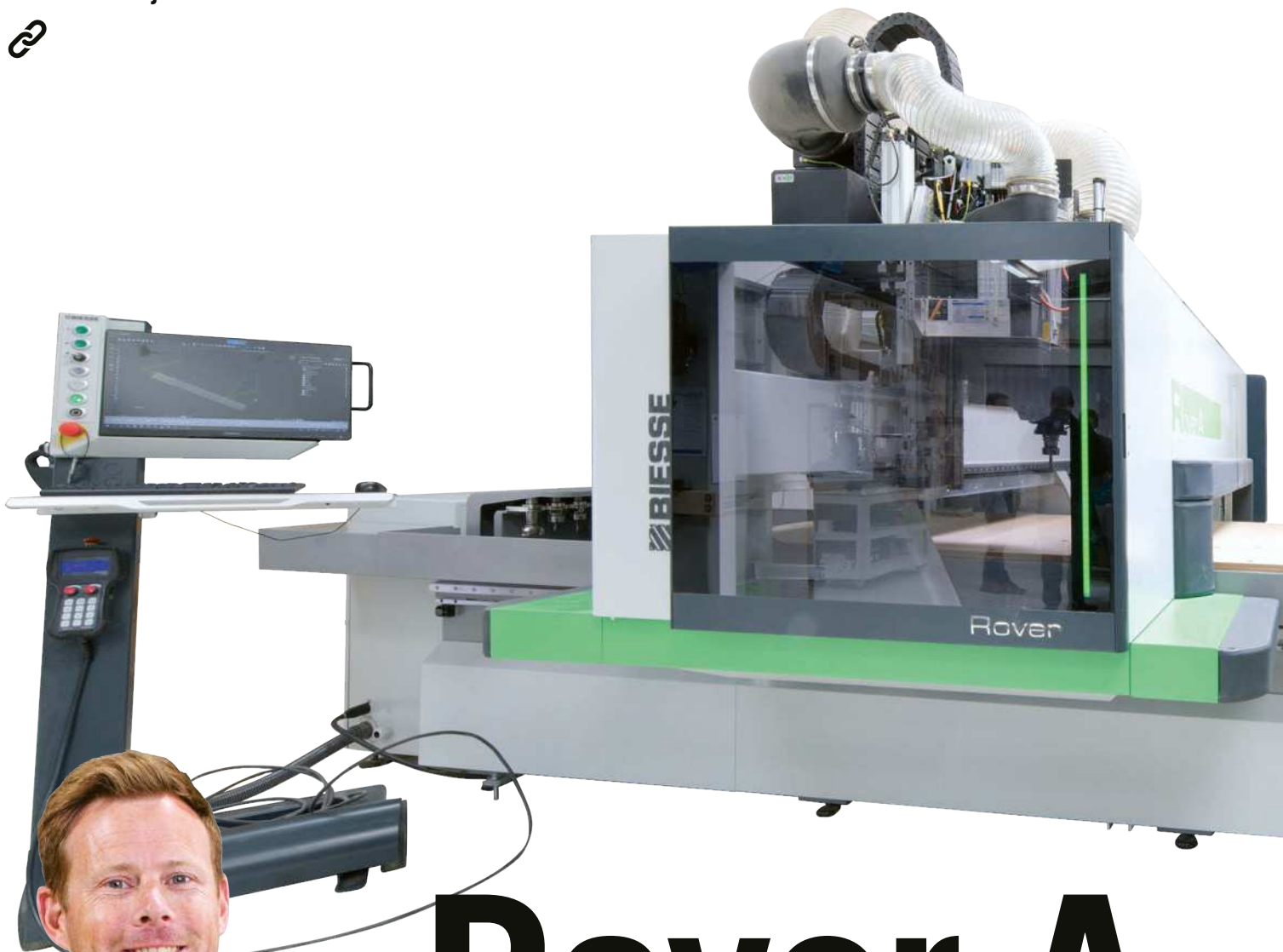


The new beam saw features an electronically controlled saw carriage with a feed speed of 0-60m/min, return speed of 70m/min and cutting length of 3100mm. This offers extremely short cycle times and maximum productivity, whilst its software-controlled bi-directional cutting feature, FCM (Fast Cut Mode) can cut grooves in the cutting direction as well as the return.

The Linea 6015 also comes with three air cushioned 1800 x 600mm support tables and optional end-of-table rollers to ensure panels can be manoeuvred around the bed easily.



The Linea 6015's pivoting 21.5" multi-touch monitor offers quick and simple operation of its software and intelligent cutting packages.



Duncan Doig

Rover A:

Duncan Doig of Doig Furniture explains why his recent purchase of a Biesse Rover A five-axis machine is something he should have done long ago.

There is something rather wholesome about the image of a furniture craftsman whittling away in a small workshop, the smell of oak heavy in the air, an array of hand tools laid out neatly on a workbench, newly-honed chisels glinting in the sunlight. That's the traditional image, the romantic image. It's the image many craftsmen still like to portray.

Duncan Doig is just such a craftsman: traditionally trained, he has an eye for perfection and takes real pride in delivering it. But like many craftsmen, Duncan has discovered the benefits CNC machinery can bring to the workshop of the traditional designer-maker: the increased accuracy; the repeatability; the ability to joint more

accurately and more consistently; and the facility to delegate jobs that require standardised procedures to a machine that can do them better and faster while freeing up real craftsmen for tasks where only cabinet-making skills will suffice.

After 17 years working with spindle moulders, panel saws, planers, thicknessers and boring machines, he admits the move to a five-axis CNC machining centre was a big leap of faith. Compared with traditional machines, a CNC represented quite an investment. In addition, there was a space issue to consider. "We didn't really need a CNC," he admits. "It was more of a want-to-have item; a bit of a precaution against labour shortages. But now we've bought into CNC,



Biesse provided a bespoke build with bumpers on the upright of the cabinet so it could be positioned close to the wall.

the craftsman's choice

we're finding more and more uses for it and it's changing the way we work.

"One of the issues we were coming across was communication in the workshop about process and this is where I felt the machine could really help. We have standard procedures for some things – putting a carcass together, for example – but when you have a skilled team of craftsmen they all like to do things in their own way. Having a CNC takes that individuality out of the process. We program it to do what we want and it does it the same way every time. We know what we're getting at the end. With the CNC, dimensions are much more accurate and if you are working at the top end of the market, it's a key consideration."

Heavily influenced by the experience of his peers, Thame-based Doig Furniture invested in its first five-axis machine, a Biesse Rover A FT 153I five-axis CNC, in June 2021. Duncan admits he didn't really need a

five-axis machine for the carcass work he envisaged it would take over. "A three-axis machine would have done all our nesting and drilling and when we went to Biesse's showroom, the demonstration proved that. But there was a five-axis pod and rail machine at the side of the three-axis and towards the end of the day we did a quick demo using Shaker doors as an example. I was impressed, so I asked for a price. There was an uplift in the cost and it was already a big investment for us but I felt a five-axis machine would give us a bit more longevity and open up other doors.

"Back at the workshop, I started speaking to other companies who had Biesse machines and the feedback I got was that the customer service side of Biesse is where they would stand out for a first-time entry into CNCs. We knew we would need a bit of hand-holding and the consensus was that we would get that with Biesse.

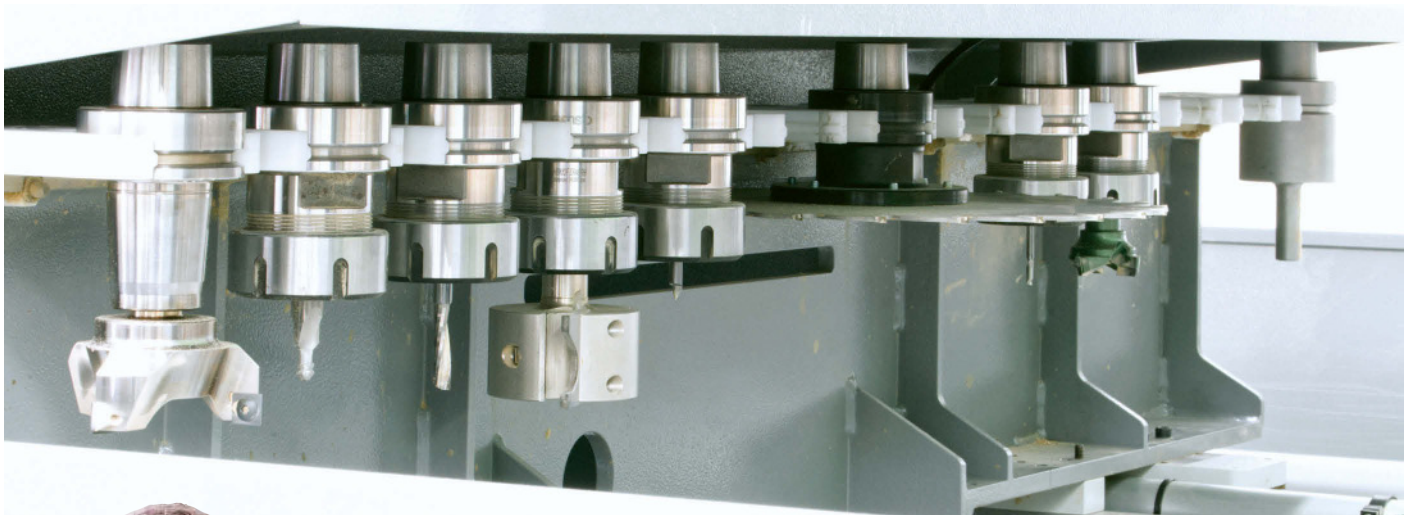
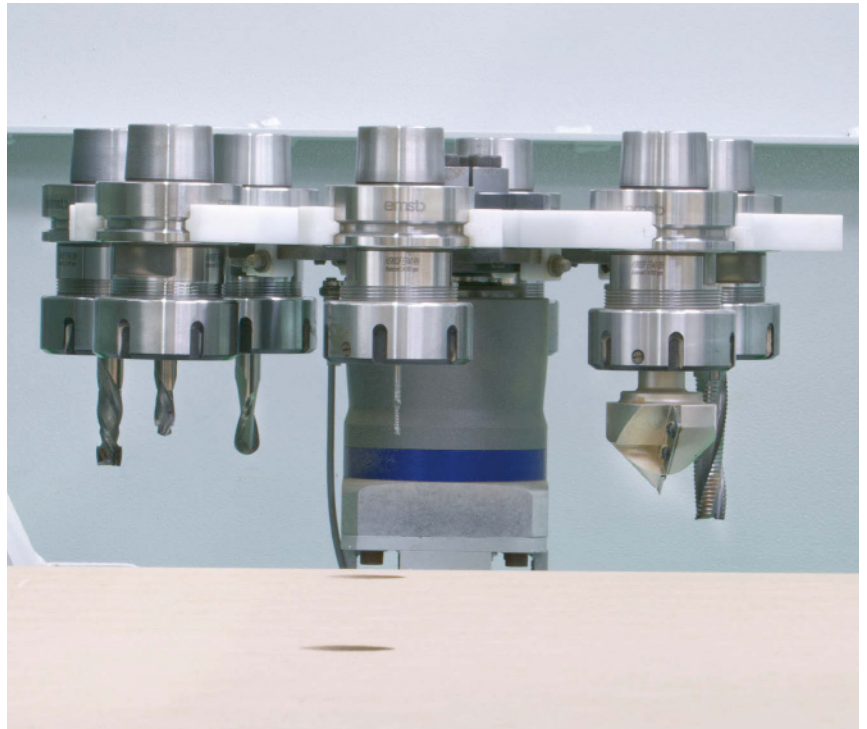
"The one thing everyone raved about was the five-year warranty. They all said it was a no-brainer. If you go with Biesse, you have to get that. One of the companies we spoke to said when they needed it there were no questions asked, it was honoured and the issues were dealt with. I felt we needed that level of support and after sales service, so we placed the order.

"The machine arrived in June 2021 and everything went as planned. The installation and everything was great, as we hoped it would be. It was installed on the day it was supposed to arrive.

"Because of the shortage of space, we needed the machine tight against the wall and the standard machine has to be positioned 500mm from the wall. Biesse provided a bespoke build with bumpers on the upright of the cabinet so it could be positioned close to the wall. It was exactly what we wanted."



The five-axis head can be equipped with an HSD spindle of up to 16.5 kW that offers 360° continuous rotation on the vertical and horizontal axes.



Mark Trapnell

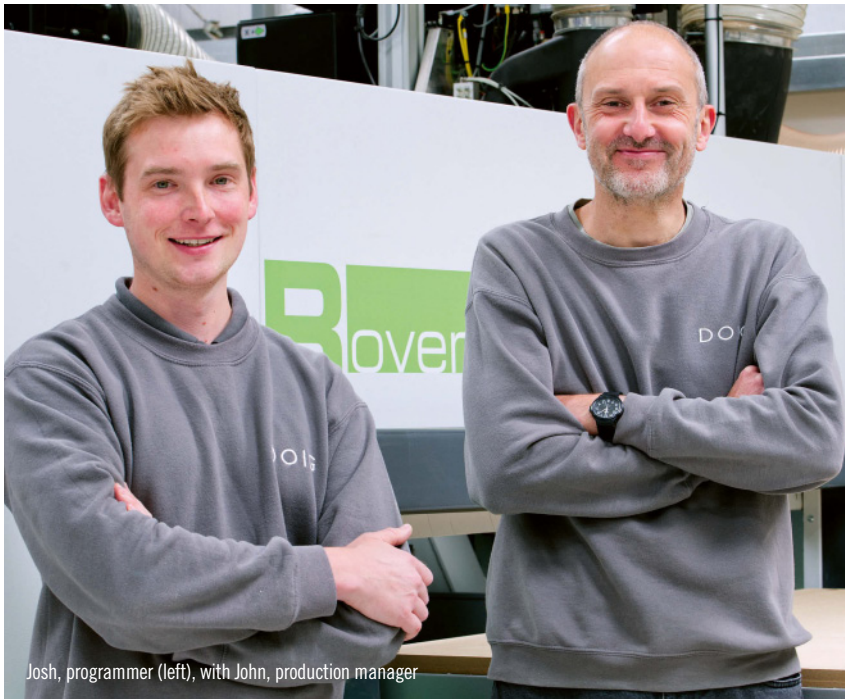
Biesse's Rover A 1531 five-axis CNC is one of three flexible high-performance gantry-structure NC machining centres in the Rover A range. The five-axis head can be equipped with an HSD spindle of up to 16.5 kW that offers 360° continuous rotation on the vertical and horizontal axes, which makes the machining of complex shapes easy. Even though space is limited in Duncan's workshop, the vertical bumpers mean the flat worktable can be accessed from every side and there are no cages to restrict operators.

"Designed for nesting, the Rover A FT 1531 Duncan opted for is capable of much more than he needs currently," says Biesse's Mark Trapnell, "But it's great for chamfering edges, angled cutting, machining for Lamello fixings, etc. It has a new vacuum pod system that goes directly onto the spoil board and lifts the workpiece up so you can put panels

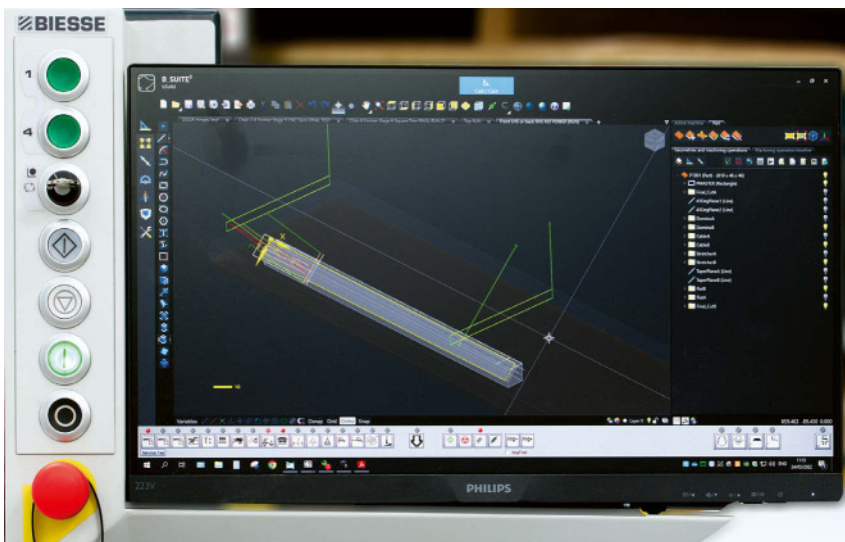
on top. The table is a high-flow design with increased vacuum. It's 1500mm wide and in the vertical position the head can machine across the whole area of the table. The table can also be pendulum loaded at either end.

"Duncan opted for the sweeper arm so he could add an outfeed table at a later date. The sweeper arm has vacuum in it so it cleans the spoil board and the workpiece.

"The machine at Doig Furniture is equipped with a standard rack tool-changer at the end of the bed and a revolving tool-changer on the side. The sweeping arm comes with linear guides so when panels are being swept off, the guides raise. The sweeping arm comes with linear guides so when panels are being swept off, the guides raise to prevent jamming. There are also high position linear guide stops on the front for increased accuracy when carrying out secondary operations. The datum in



Josh, programmer (left), with John, production manager



the middle is an extra that Duncan wanted because when the head is in the horizontal position you can't machine to the edge of the bed, so having a row of stops in the middle of the bed means you can work off your pods, lift it up and still have a datum to work to. You just drop down and machine in sideways. These features were requested because Duncan envisaged doing five-axis CNC work as well as nesting carcass panels."

Although the Rover A is a very intuitive machine to program, that's an aspect Duncan is happy to leave to Josh Evans, his programmer. "I thought I'd be struggling," says Josh, "But it was easy to get to grips with. The three-axis side is really easy. Five-axis is a whole lot more to learn. It was good to have six months to get to grips with three-axis side first because we also had to figure out the machine itself. When a job

came in that needed the five-axis, it was a relatively easy transition. We were soon making tapered turned legs, domino slots, inserting holes at angles – things we would not have done without the CNC."

"I'd always thought CNCs were for big, volume-driven companies," concludes Duncan. "I can now understand why companies with half a dozen people are investing in CNC. It's not about volume but about consistency and accuracy, even if it's just three-axis nesting of a carcass. My advice to any small company is don't hesitate. It won't replace everything but if you are going to have one machine, make it a CNC and gear your product and offer around that."

Already Duncan has started to look at a secondary business that's pretty much based around the CNC's capabilities and uses standardised furniture designs that are parametrically customisable. "The idea has

come through having the CNC and the designs are based on what the CNC can do for us," he says. "It's completely changed our mindset. A finger-pull detail that we've been producing on a spindle moulder we can make easily on the CNC and we're starting to re-evaluate the design process and push more work onto it. We needed to have the machine to find out what we are capable of. It is a big investment but now we've made it we realise we should have done it a long time ago. It really opens doors."

To discuss how a Biesse machine could open doors for your company, call 01327 300366 or visit www.biesse.com/uk/. If you are reading this article with the free Furniture Journal app, check out Biesse's five-axis video demonstration by touching the image marked with a link sign, or download the Rover A brochure at www.biesse.com/uk/wood/cnc-work-centres/rover-a-ft



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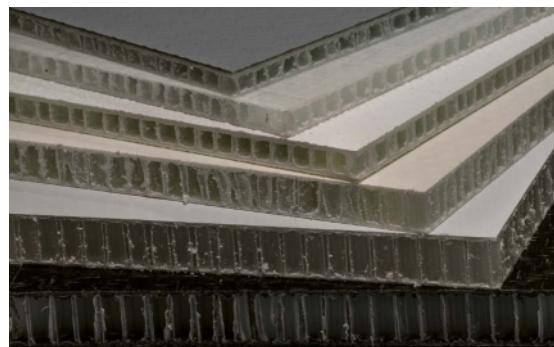
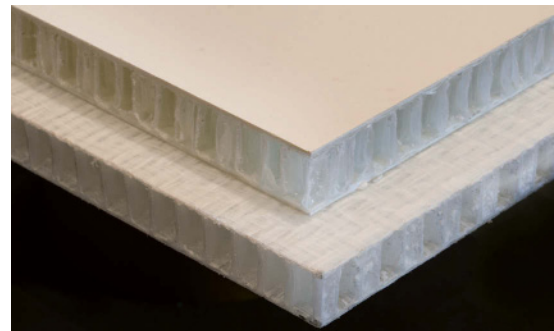
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Putting the 'big' in Striebig

Omnia CS Ltd (Omnia) is the proud owner of the UK's tallest Striebig vertical panel saw. Standing at over three metres high and capable of cutting panels up to 2700mm x 6100mm, this purpose-built Striebig Evolution has been designed to make light work of cutting composite materials and thermoplastic sandwich panels to size.

"For over 15 years, we've been manufacturing and distributing lightweight, sustainable composite materials and thermoplastic sandwich panels in the UK," says Les Meader, Managing Director of Omnia CS Ltd (Omnia). "An essential part of our production process is cutting large sheets to size but it's always been a slow and laborious process for us. The sheet sizes we were working with and the available space in our workshop meant we were having to lay each panel on a flat surface or the floor, manually measure each panel and using a

chop saw and guiderail to cut each one to the correct size. We knew this wasn't an efficient way of working and with orders increasing, we knew a vertical panel saw could improve productivity, reduce errors and de-skill the cutting process."

Omnia's requirements were clear: "We needed a saw with a relatively small footprint that could still cut composite panels up to 2700mm x 6100mm as well as standard 8x4 MDF sheets and 1.5mm thick aluminium sheets. We needed it to guarantee accuracy with every cut and offer a high level of operator safety. It also needed to offer simple operation."

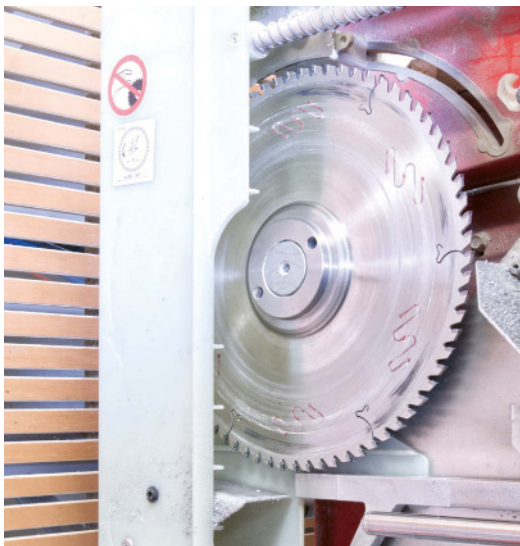
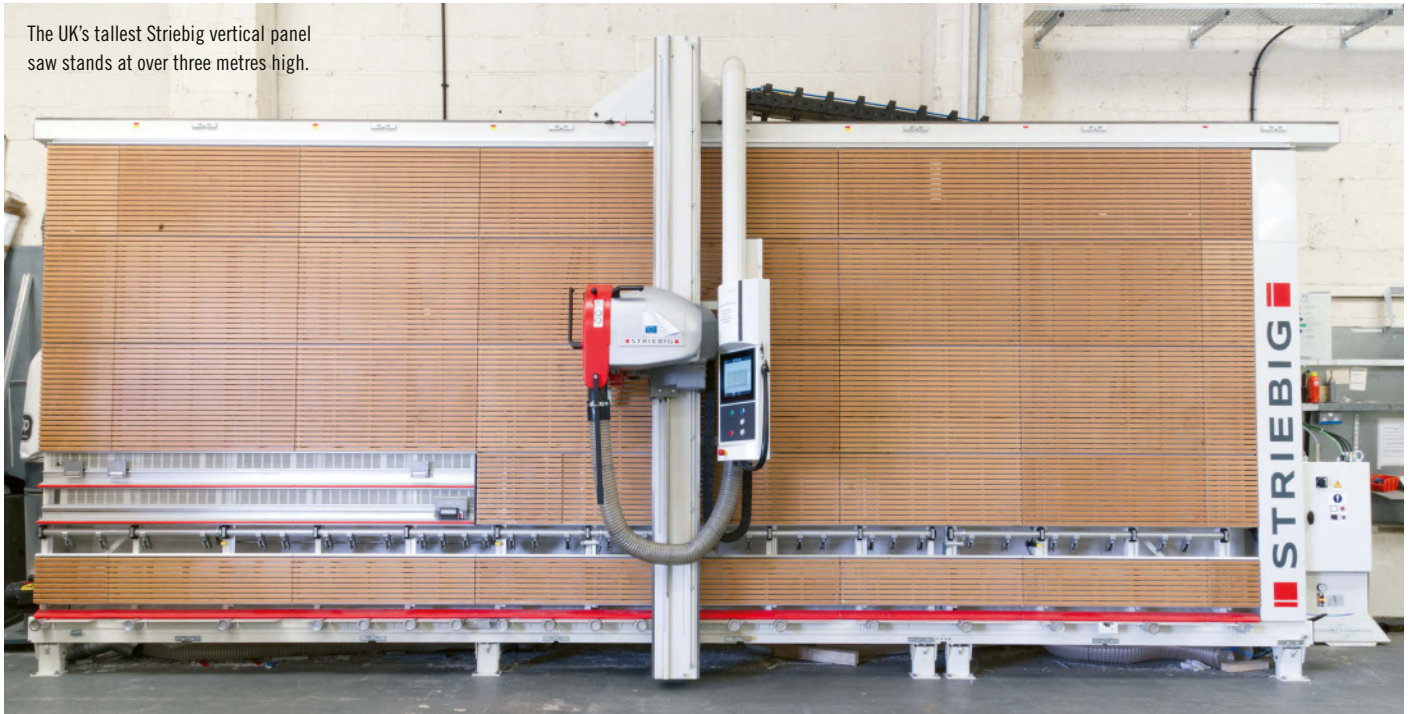
"We spoke to three companies but it was only TM Machinery that was able to fulfil our requirements. They knew their product range inside out and back to front and were able to work with us to find the right machine for our business. They told us the tallest Evolution saw was able to cut

When CS Ltd needed to cut 2740mm x 80mm panels, Striebig custom-built a saw for them.



Les Meader

The UK's tallest Striebig vertical panel saw stands at over three metres high.



2240mm but Striebig was able to build a saw specially for us that was capable of cutting sheets up to 2700mm and 80mm deep. And they could deliver it to our new 8,000 square metre premises in Nottingham within seven weeks. It was this level of flexibility that was simply not available through any other manufacturer."

Designed to simplify the cutting of panels and reduce handling, the Evolution came equipped with a wide range of standard features including an easy-to-use 12" touch screen operating system, 5.5 kW motor, automatic locking, swivelling, plunging and withdrawal of the saw unit and support rollers for a one-man cutting operation – a necessity for Omnia, who's panels can weigh upwards of 230kg. It was also built to order with manual and digital measuring stops to provide a cutting accuracy of 0.1mm.

Following the smooth installation of the Evolution and completion of staff training, the vertical panel saw was quick to prove its worth. Les says, "The results were immediate. A job that would have taken two people a week to complete can now be completed in a single afternoon. We still need two people to lift larger sheets onto the saw but cutting a sheet to size is a one-person job, allowing us to save on labour costs and significantly reduce material handling. We've also been able to utilise the machine's 80mm cutting depth and cut multiple sheets at one time, reducing production time and increasing efficiencies. In turn, this has allowed us to fulfil larger orders and offer a more competitive lead time."

It's also opened new doors for the Nottingham-based company: "We're looking at offering a cutting service to local

businesses to maximise our yield. This wouldn't have been possible without our Striebig."

Les adds, "We are on target to double our turnover this year. While this isn't all down to the introduction of the vertical panel saw, it's certainly played its part. Thanks to the speed and accuracy of the Striebig, we are able to maintain a continual workflow and not have a build-up of sheets needing to be cut at one given time. This has reduced our risk of error, reduced material waste and has resulted in greater efficiencies across the workshop. Best of all, no one is required to work on their hands and knees to complete what is essentially a simple task made complex by not having the right tools. We couldn't recommend TM Machinery and Striebig more highly."

For more information please visit www.tmmachinery.co.uk

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Boxmaster

Boxing clever

RW announces the introduction of a range of Edda machines to meet the wrapping and boxing needs of smaller companies in the UK.



Wrapor 1500
TP 2200

RW Machines Ltd is one of the UK's largest independent suppliers of panel processing equipment and for many years the company has supplied both box-making and spiral-wrapping equipment to many UK panel producers as part of its machinery portfolio. RW has just extended its packing and boxing equipment range to address the needs of smaller and medium-sized producers, who might previously have had difficulty justifying the cost of a dedicated system.

RW has just announced the introduction of the very wide and varied range of packaging equipment manufactured by Edda, a very well respected and established company supplying worldwide markets.

The stocking of pre-made boxes is a problem for many manufacturers, both in terms of the cost of keeping stock and the factory space taken up by bulk quantities of packing materials. That's where having an Edda Boxmaster can really help. The Boxmaster eliminates both issues, while

providing you with the correct size and number of boxes on demand to suit your daily or weekly requirements.

RW Machines was originally instrumental in promoting cost-effective spiral wrapping machines from Sotemapack and will continue to supply larger companies with these industrial wrappers. Many of the UK's largest already use Sotemapack machines that have been supplied by RW. However, with the introduction of Edda spiral-wrapping machines – machines like the Spinner and the Wraptor – the scope and the associated advantages will be attractive to smaller and medium-sized companies who need the very competitive price structure offered by Edda through RW.

Both box-making and spiral-wrapping machines are available for you to view on a working demonstration at RW's northern factory in Leeds. To book your individual demonstration, contact RW Machines head office, either by phone on 01869 244943 or via email on sales@rwmachines.co.uk

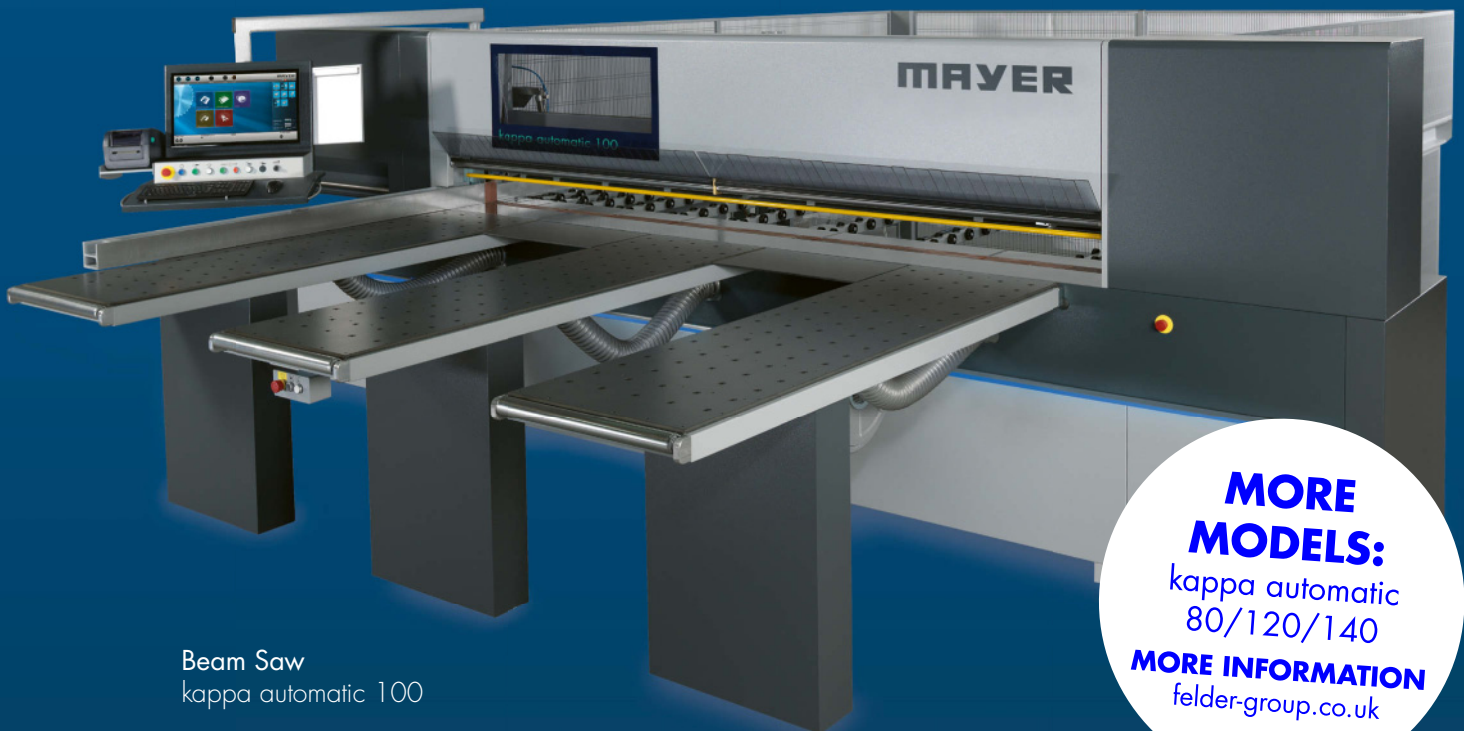
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Super sawblades

If you have a sliding table panel saw, a vertical panel saw or a beam saw, you know the benefits of buying top-of-the-range blades and you've probably experienced the flip side with lesser brands. Freud's LSB X circular saw blades represent the state of the art for industrial panel sizing application and are designed and made by an Italian cutting tool manufacturer with 60-year experience in the industrial sector.

If you want to produce more, cut cleanly and save on downtime from frequent replacement, the superior quality of the TiCo Carbide teeth used in Freud's LSB X will provide you with the correct HWV grade for your specific application and provide superb results consistently. TiCo Carbide means sharper edges and longer cutting life.

In addition to TiCo Carbide, improved performance and extended lifetime also come from the super square tooth design of the LSB X blade, which can be sharpened up to 25 times. Combined with Tri-Metal brazing technology – a copper alloy, sandwiched between layers of silver alloy that provides the tooth with extra stability – the part of the blade most exposed to impacts becomes much more shock resistant.

Freud's innovations are not limited to the cutting elements of the blades; they can also be found in the body. All LSB X blades feature a Silver Industrial Cooling Element (I.C.E) coating, an industry-first premium coating that provides superior protection from heat, pitch build-up and corrosion. This technology reduces the friction and further extends the lifetime of the tool by maintaining a low blade temperature during the working process.

To increase body stability, there's also a tensioning ring on the surface of all LSB X saw blades that keeps the blade flat during the application. The result is a flawless cut.

Thanks to the Anti-Vibration Slots – special body slots laser cut on the top of all LSB X saw blades – Freud has also managed to decrease the levels of vibration significantly and minimise noise levels, making the Freud LSB X a safer, as well as longer-lasting, premium saw blade. The blades are available in 250mm to 720mm diameter and are suitable for different application materials, including wood, chipboard, MDF, HPL and Plexiglas. The range is compatible with all popular panel sizing machines. For more information, visit www.freudtools.com/gb/en/

60 years of expertise and industry-leading technology are just two of the reasons why Freud's LSB X should be your sawblade of choice.





Mighty mitre saw

High-precision cross cuts and battery power that lasts the entire day from Festool's new **KSC 60 cordless sliding compound mitre saw.**



With its new Kapex KSC 60 cordless sliding compound mitre saw, Festool has done away with the cable, making this handy all-rounder with Li-ion battery power and the latest generation brushless motors a real front runner for anyone working on site. The latest generation of brushless EC-TEC motor, combined with a dual battery system, ensures maximum power that lasts the whole day.

The KSC 60 is capable of producing mitre angles of up to 60 degrees on both sides and a bevel angle of up to 46 degrees (on the right-hand side) or 47 degrees (on the left-hand side). The twin-column guide with two bearings ensures the saw blade is guided smoothly and with precision while the LED spotlight transfers the shadow of the saw blade onto the material to act as a precise cutting line with a highlighted scribe mark.

The additional feet allow the workbench on the KSC 60 to be raised to the exact

height of the SYS 3 M I I 2 or SYS I Systainer in just a few steps. It can then be used as a workbench to support long workpieces safely and securely. The underframe for the KSC 60 is a working-height stand and a transport frame in one.

The whole package is neatly rounded off with system accessories perfectly matched to the KSC 60, including saw blades for every application, which – when combined with the speed pre-selection – guarantee a perfect cutting result and sawing that adapts to suit the material.

Supplied ex-works with a dust collection bag, the KSC 60 includes two 5.2 Ah battery packs and a dual charger in the new Systainer³, plus a handy bevel, which makes the rapid measurement of interior and exterior angles and simple, precise transfer to the saw possible. It will be available at authorised dealers from September 2022. More information from www.festool.co.uk

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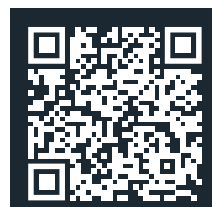


Warranty all-inclusive

Dust free cordless systems available from autumn 2022. Festool is expanding its 18-volt range with two cordless compact dust extractors: The CTC MINI, the CTC MIDI and the CTC SYS cordless extractors in the Systainer format for dust classes L and M. The compact extractors bring even more portability and freedom to the 18-volt system – and less dust.

Discover our new products:

www.festool.co.uk/products/new-products



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101402S Zeta P2 with P-System groove cutter HW (carbide), in Systainer

101402DS Zeta P2 with P-System groove cutter DP (diamond), in Systainer



Zeta P2 cordless

Classic X cordless

Cut the Cord

Join the cordless revolution with Lamello. This coming September, Swiss fixings specialist Lamello will be launching its first battery-powered Classic X and Zeta P2 biscuit joiners in the UK.

To date, the Zeta P2 biscuit joiner and Classic X biscuit joiner have remained firm favourites among furniture manufacturers and a chosen hand tool for those looking for a fast and effective way of joining panels and solid wood. Now, with the launch of the Zeta P2 cordless and Classic X cordless, users can benefit from the same level of precision and flexibility without being restricted by the need for a separate power outlet.

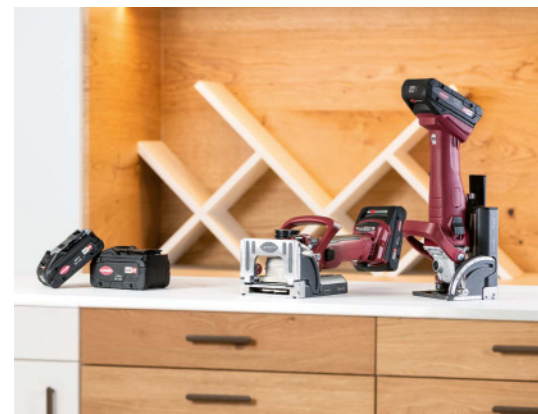
Putting speed and ease of use at the forefront of every application, both models offer full mobility thanks to a powerful 18V LiHd 4.0 Ah battery pack. Cooled by a patented air-cooled system, they have been designed to offer long service life and quick charging time. Both ready-to-use cordless models also offer a quick and easy solution for undertaking overhead work as they are light in weight, cordless and eliminate any potential trip hazards.

To coincide with the launch of the new cordless joiners, Lamello has partnered with the Cordless Alliance Systems (CAS), a cross-brand battery pack alliance initiated by Metabo that includes more than 300 machines from 30 reputable manufacturers. This means you only need one battery type for multiple tools, saving time and money.

Shaye Chatfield, Lamello Area Sales Manager for the UK and Ireland says: "The Zeta P2 cordless and Classic X cordless offer users even more flexibility thanks to their battery drive and compact design. Performance hasn't been impacted by the design change either. In fact, the Zeta P2 cordless can easily cut 60 grooves into a Beech panel when using a 4.0 Ah battery – or 115 if you upgrade to a 5.5 Ah battery pack – and it takes as little as 80 minutes to fully charge. Plus, when purchasing a cordless product from Lamello, you get access to an open battery pack system that can be used with multiple tools in one workshop."

The new cordless machines will be available from 5th September 2022. For more information, visit www.lamello.co.uk

Lamello launches two powerful battery-powered versions of its biscuit joiner, the familiar Zeta P2 and the Classic X.





Take the plunge

Superior performance from two new plunge routers by Makita.

Power tool manufacturer Makita UK has added two new plunge routers to its range. Engineered for finish woodworking, the RPI111C ¼" Plunge Router and the RPI803 ½" Plunge Router deliver superior performance with smooth plunge action and powerful precision.

Driven by a powerful 1,100W motor, the RPI111C Plunge Router with ¼" collet, delivers 8,000-27,500rpm for the most demanding applications. Housed in a compact design for precise routing work, this solution has a plunge depth capacity of up to 57mm for easy penetration into the

work piece and a soft-start feature for smooth start-ups and increased user safety.

The RPI803 ½" Plunge Router provides a deep 0-70mm plunge depth capacity, a quick release plunge depth adjustment feature and three pre-set depth stops for added precision. Driven by a powerful 1,650W motor offering 22,000rpm for clean, consistent results, this new product with ½" collet also features an electric brake and soft start.

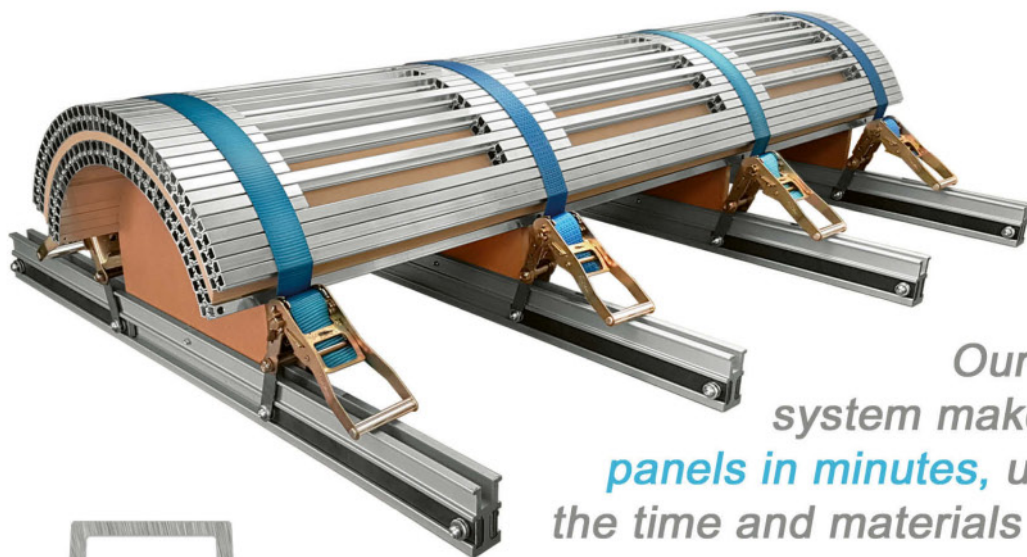
Notably, the RPI111C and RPI803 features an anti-restart function to minimise accidental start-up even if the tool is plugged into the power source with the switch on. Furthermore, both offer variable speed control to adjust the output to the application, as well as constant speed control to maintain speed under load.

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

Kevin Brannigan, Marketing Manager at Makita said: "We are delighted to add these new routers to our line-up, which offers users even more choice for all applications and needs from fixed base, or plunge models, with either ½" or ¼" collets: All are designed and underpinned with Makita's exceptional power tool technology and engineering."

To find out more about Makita and complete range of corded and cordless power tools visit: www.makitauk.com

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Protecting the edge

It doesn't seem to matter how carefully you work, when sanding right into corners or tight up against edges there's always a risk that your sanding pad will leave scuff marks or black rubber on the edge adjacent to the one you're taking such care to perfect. That means another job – and potentially the risk of damage to the surface you've just finished beautifully. Over time, it could even start to throw your sander out of balance if the backing pad wears unevenly.

To address the problem, Mirka UK, a company with years of practical experience in the problems facing sander users, has expanded its accessories range with the introduction of the Edge Protector for its Mirka DEROS 150mm. This new product has been designed to fit easily and will prolong the

lifetime of the backing pad as it helps prevent damage to the periphery of the pad.

In addition, the Edge Protector safeguards adjacent surfaces as it avoids scuffing or damaging when the user is sanding into corners and edges.

Peter Sartain, national sales manager Industrial for Mirka UK, says, "We are constantly listening to the feedback from our customers and have designed the DEROS 150mm Edge Protector to provide an effective guard against scuffing or damage when users need to sand right into corners and up to edges. We are confident that it will ensure the Mirka backing pad works better for longer."

For more information, or to order your Edge Protector, call Mirka on 01908 866100 or visit www.mirka.com/uk/uk/

Put an end to scuff marks when sanding into corners or tight up against edges with a neat little invention from Mirka.





Combi-FSE débuts

Hard on the heels of its new Dynamic 360, Combilift has launched the four wheeled, two directional Combi-FSE sideloader.

Irish forklift manufacturer Combilift has added yet another addition to its now extensive electric range with the launch of the Combi-FSE – a four wheeled, two directional sideloader in both 5,000kg or 6,000kg lift capacity.

As part Combilift's drive to help customers achieve their aims of more sustainable operations, over 60% of the company's output is now electric. Recent models such as the Combi-XLE and now the Combi-FSE focus on heavier duty application for industry sectors and the Combi-FSE delivers on all aspects of reliability, durability, performance and ease of maintenance, as well as quiet and emission free electric operation.

The patented traction system in this new truck (see youtu.be/yq2AS4kGNc) plays a major part in ensuring the optimum performance of the Combi-FSE in all weather conditions. Sensors in the front steering axle linked to the innovative Electronic Traction Control system enable the two independent 15kW drive motors on the rear axle to be controlled individually, with the speed of each wheel governed by the steer angle of the front wheels to provide improved steering control for the operator; better truck turning

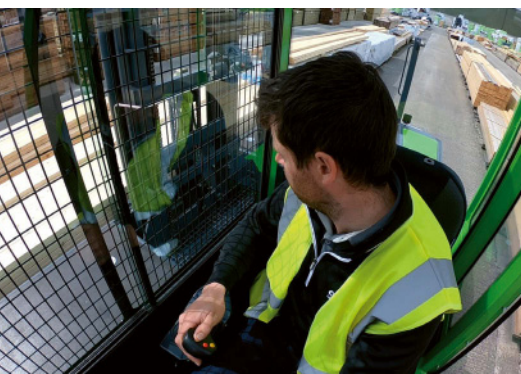
radius and reduced tyre wear. This new technology, when combined with regenerative braking (which recaptures the truck's kinetic energy during deceleration and can be used to recharge the batteries to extend battery life), makes for Combilift's most advanced steering system on its four wheeled trucks to date.

The generous glazing of the cab, particularly the roof to floor windscreen, provides excellent field of vision. This has been made possible by employing an under-deck battery system with the power pack strategically placed at the rear of the truck between the drive motors to provide a clear line of sight to the rear and when reversing. This position also enables safe and easy battery removal from the low-level rear of the truck.

Key service features also include an interchangeable battery for shift work (see how easy it is at youtu.be/aenSF2NjgCc), centralised grease points on the front and rear of the load platform and removable panels for easy access to the motor.

For more information call 00353 47 80500 or visit combilift.com/combi-fse-electric-sideloader/

The generous glazing of the cab provides excellent field of vision.





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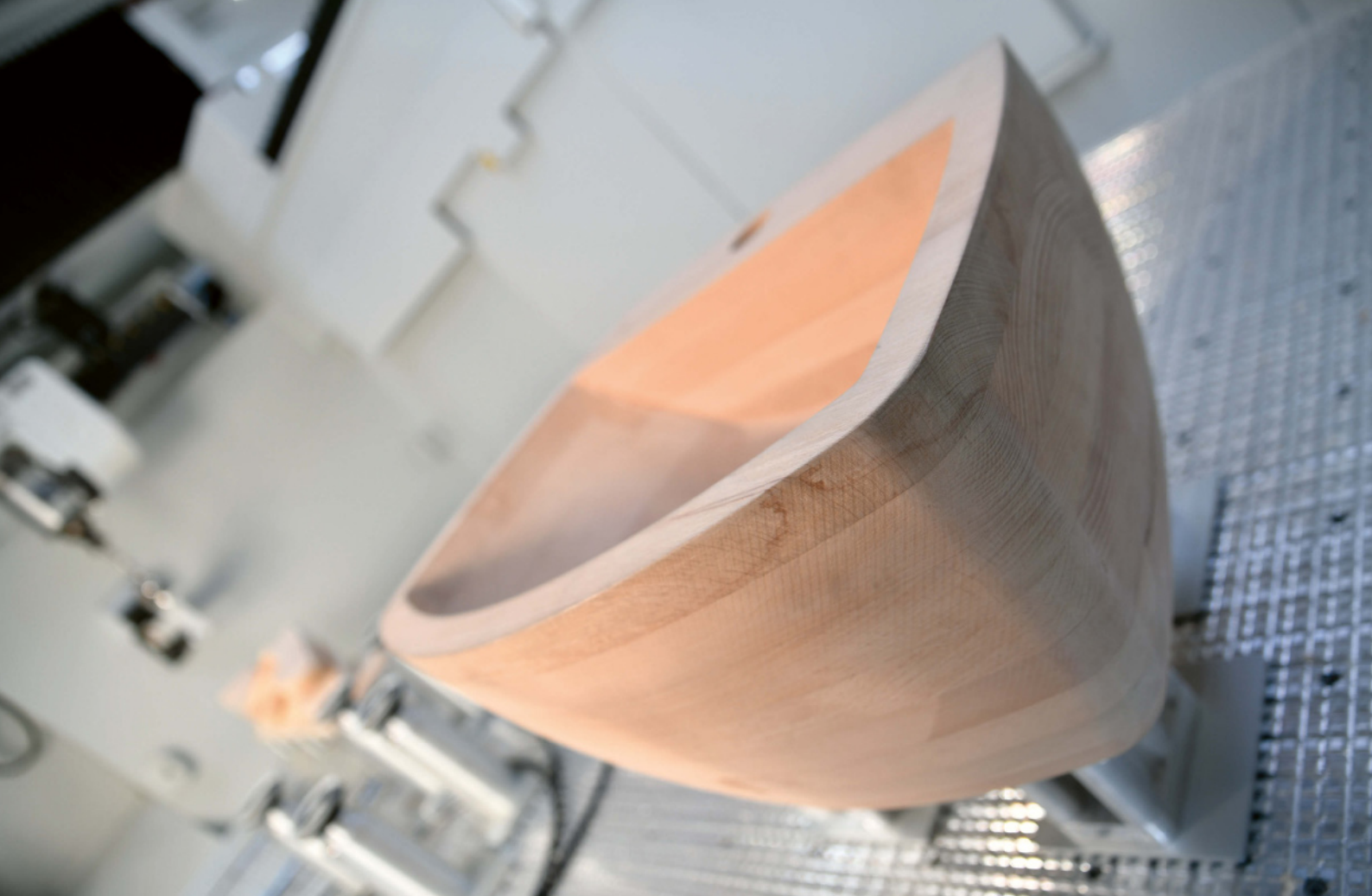
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