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bill.willowe@gmail.com

INDUSTRIAL WOODWORKING

2025 ISSUE N^o. 11

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TURN TO TALBOTT'S FOR WASTE DISPOSAL

WHEN your business uses FSC certified timber and/or FSC recycled wood products, it is supporting environmentally friendly practices worldwide, but what you do next with any waste residues is just as important to the fight against climate change!

With energy costs in the UK at record highs, woodworking manufacturers should be looking at ways in which they can reduce energy usage, making their business more sustainable.

These can include a Talbott's biomass heating system for heating and waste disposal.

One of the easiest ways to reduce CO2 emissions is to deal with the

waste wood material on-site, saving all of the emissions and costs associated with transportation.

Many woodworking manufacturers have invested in equipment, such as Talbott's Biomass heaters to allow safe and efficient combustion of the waste materials on-site, saving time and money and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

By combining sustainably sourced FSC timber with a clean and efficient Talbott system you have the possibility of saving a great deal of money and saving CO2 emissions.

For the full story Please turn to Page 19 of this issue.



**SPECIAL FEATURE ON WOODWASTE &
DUST CONTROL TURN TO PAGES 18-23**

To find all the latest news online go to www.industrialwoodworking.co.uk

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CHIPPENDALE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF FURNITURE EXTENDS BURSARY OPPORTUNITY TO YOUNG SCOTS

THE world-renowned Chippendale International School of Furniture is once again offering aspiring furniture makers in Scotland the chance to attend its popular 10-week course free of charge.

Now in its third year, the Ronnie Guild Bursary covers full course fees for young Scots passionate about woodworking, but facing financial barriers.

Fine furniture making is often an expensive pursuit, with costs rising, as skills progress to include machinery, specialised tools and premium materials.

Recognising this, the Chippendale International School of Furniture — founded in 1985 — has long been committed to making woodworking more accessible through its bursary program.

Running from May 12 to July 18 2025, the 10-week course provides hands-on experience in woodworking and fine furniture making.

With expert guidance in a fully equipped studio, students gain the skills and confidence to pursue a career in woodworking, or advance as expert craftspeople.

‘The bursary gave me the opportunity to train in an amazing environment with some of the world’s best woodworking tutors,’ says last year’s bursary recipient, Gregor Hogg.

‘My time at Chippendale was truly life-changing; it gave me the skills, confidence and industry knowledge to pursue a future career in woodworking — something I’d always dreamed of,’ he adds.

For young woodworkers who may not have had the means to pursue formal training, the Ronnie Guild Bursary offers a unique opportunity to study at one of the world’s leading woodworking schools.

Application details

- Open to Scotland-based applicants under 30.
- Full tuition fees covered - transport, accommodation and living expenses must be self-funded.
- Apply now: www.chippendaleschool.com/10-week-bursary-application



BRUSHED METAL HPL FROM DECORATIVE PANELS PROVIDES A TOUCH OF GLAMOUR

FOR those looking to add a touch of glamour and elegance to their interior, metallic finishes are a great way to liven up any room. Decorative Panels now offers a range of six brushed metal HPL designs from Kronospan – a leading manufacturer of wood-based panels.

These modern and sophisticated Metal HPL finishes include Brushed Aluminium, Brushed Platinum, Brushed Inox, Brushed Gold, Brushed Copper and Brushed Bronze.



Made from high-quality MDF substrate, the decors are coated with real aluminium sheets and covered with protection foil. They are suitable for vertical applications, such as doors, as well as horizontal surfaces like home and retail countertops, offering a stylish and tactile experience in residential, business, or commercial spaces.

Nowadays, interior and furniture design is no longer limited to wall colours, or the choice of furniture. The group’s designers are increasingly looking for original solutions to give rooms and furniture a unique character and elegance.

Distinctive metal surfaces offer an alternative to traditional decors. Long-lasting, stylish, and fashionable, Metal HPL surfaces attract those who value raw, expressive accents.

The advantage of metal HPL surface is that it can be combined easily with other materials. When duetted with certain woods (especially oak, or acacia), or glass, it creates beautiful furniture and interior accents that will last for years to come.

For further information tel Decorative Panels Lamination on 01484 658341. Visit www.decorativepanels.co.uk

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MAXIMIZE SAWMILL EFFICIENCY WITH THE WOOD-MIZER EG350 BOARD EDGER

WOOD-MIZER has introduced the EG350 board edger - a versatile machine designed to maximise sawmill productivity by improving the yield from every log. Combining edging and multi-rip capabilities, it increases efficiency, output and profitability.

Expanded Cutting Capacity

The EG350 is built for sawmills looking to expand operations, efficiently removing rough board edges, whilst ensuring precision and consistency.

The machine handles cants up to 100mm thick and 550mm wide, with a maximum cutting width of 420mm. This makes it ideal for processing larger, thicker material.

Precision Cutting and Flexibility

For accuracy, the EG350 features an optional laser alignment system with two lasers - one fixed and the other adjustable. A measurement scale above the indeed slot provides manual alignment options in metric and imperial units.

Operators can switch between two cutting modes:

- . Edge Mode - Two blades (one fixed and one movable) trim rough edges.
- . Multi-rip Mode - Up to five blades can be mounted using spacers, allowing customised cuts. The side cover opens easily for blade changes.

Efficient Material Handling:

The EG350 features modular indeed and outfeed roller table (1.8m each), which extend to handle longer cants.

The infeed system includes a double roller system for smooth material feeding, whilst the outfeed system has a 200mm roller, ensuring effortless processing of thicker cants. A powered feed system (2-20m/min) optimises speed based on wood type and conditions.

Powerful Performance & Safety

The EG350 is powered by 18.5 kW (25 HP) or 22 kW (30 HP) motors, with a remote control panel featuring an emergency stop switch, manual blade adjustments and a Setworks system for automatic width adjustments.

For safety, the machine includes anti-kickback fingers, an electric interlock for maintenance purposes and a dust collection system with three extractor outlets.

A Smart Investment for Sawmills

The EH350 board edger enhances sawmill efficiency, reduces waste and increases profitability.

For further information Wood-Mizer on 01622 813201
Visit www.woodmizer.co.uk



MILWAUKEE ADDS M18 FUEL GUIDE RAIL COMPATIBLE CIRCULAR SAW TO ITS CARPENTRY RANGE

MILWAUKEE continues to expand its circular saw line-up with the introduction of the M18 FUEL guide rail compatible circular saw, designed for professional carpenters, remodellers and general contractors who demand high-performance, durable tools.

This saw delivers exceptional power and speed, allowing users to tackle demanding applications with greater efficiency.

It provides the power to rip-cut and maintain 6,000rpm throughout the cut for a faster, smoother cutting experience, thanks to its advanced FORGE technology.

On a single M18 FORGE 12.0Ah battery charge, it can cut up to 700 pieces of 90mm x 45mm pine stud, or 64 linear metres of 42mm thick pine panel.

Equipped with a 190mm blade, the saw delivers a 68mm depth of cut, enabling it to slice through a stack of three 22mm OSB boards.

For improved dust management, the circular saw includes a vacuum adaptor, compatible with all Milwaukee dust extractors, together with an integrated dust blower to keep cut lines clear.

Designed for comfort and durability, this saw features an ergonomic, compact and lightweight build, making it ideal for all-day use.

Additional enhancements include:

- Positive bevel detents for increased productivity and reduced downtime.
- Electric blade brake for safety.
- LED work light for better visibility.
- Rafter hook for convenient storage.

All-magnesium guards and shoes for enhanced durability on tough job sites.

This saw incorporates Milwaukee's new segmented motor for superior performance.

The M18 FUEL™ guide rail circular saw is fully compatible with the entire M18™ system, which now offers more than 315 solutions — allowing professionals to work all day on a single battery platform.

For further information Visit www.milwaukeetool.eu



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STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY FROM GLOBAL LEADER AXYZ

IN THE competitive world of furniture and joinery, efficiency, precision and adaptability are crucial for success. AXYZ, a global leader in CNC routing solutions, has positioned itself as the perfect partner for woodworking professionals.

With its state-of-the-art technology, innovative design and unwavering commitment to quality, AXYZ offers unparalleled solutions tailored to meet the specific needs of the furniture manufacturing and joinery industries.

Cutting-edge CNC technology for superior performance

AXYZ CNC routers, such as the WOODWORKER, are engineered to provide seamless performance and high-speed cutting, ensuring impeccable finishes on a wide range of wood materials.

Whether working with solid wood, plywood, MDF, or phenolic-based materials, such as High Pressure Laminate (HPL), AXYZ machines deliver superior precision and durability. Their advanced direct servo drives and helical rack systems ensure smooth operation, enhancing efficiency in high-volume production settings.

Customisation for maximum efficiency

Recognising that no two woodworking businesses are alike, AXYZ provides a variety of customisable features to enhance workflow. Multiple spindle configurations, including single 5, 10 or 15HP HSD spindles, allow for optimised production capacity.

Additionally, a nine-position drill bank can be integrated for faster processing and increased productivity. With automatic tool changers ranging from seven to 21 positions, AXYZ routers enable seamless tool

transitions, reducing downtime and boosting operational efficiency.

Enhanced dust collection and workplace safety

A clean and safe work environment is essential for maintaining equipment and protecting workers. AXYZ CNC routers come equipped with advanced dust collection systems, featuring a high-volume 4in dust collection set-up, oversized dust boot, high-flow manifold and hose management system.

These features effectively capture both large wood chips and fine dust, ensuring a safer and more productive workspace.

Seamless workflow with innovative features

To further streamline manufacturing processes, AXYZ offers cutting-edge solutions, such as the Automated Label Printer (ALP). This optional feature simplifies part identification, reducing errors and improving efficiency in the final assembly process.

For businesses requiring complex designs and intricate details, the optional rotary axis equipment enables 360 deg machining, expanding the possibilities for custom and bespoke furniture designs.

Reliability and long-term value

AXYZ machines are built for longevity, ensuring that furniture and joinery manufacturers receive a lasting return on investment.

With their robust construction, precision engineering and a commitment to technological innovation, AXYZ routers provide reliable performance, minimal maintenance requirements and consistent quality output.

For further information tel AXYZ on 01952 291600.
Email: enquiries@axyz.com



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IN SEARCH OF THE GREEN MAN IN UNEXPECTED LOCATIONS

ONCE seen, never forgotten... there is something distinctly unsettling when you first catch sight of a face peering back at you from among thick green foliage, which is apparently sprouting from its mouth.

It may be finely carved from timber, or sculpted from stone and such figures are commonly found throughout France.

The Nouvelle-Aquitaine region is home to the earliest known representatives of the Green Man disgorging vegetation, whilst further north in Poitiers in the Eglise Saint Hilaire-le-Grand are other early examples.

It is always possible to encounter the Green Man in unexpected locations and where you would least expect to find him. Indeed, in France he would seem to be omnipresent, occupying locations too numerous to mention in any detail.

Anyone visiting Poitiers should not miss out on the opportunity to view the magnificent and miraculously well-preserved carved oak Green Man.

His face peers out enigmatically from one of the stalls, which have stood in the choir of the 13th century Gothic cathedral, since shortly before its completion in 1271 - perhaps the oldest surviving original examples of Gothic sculpture in France.

These ancient carved wooden sculptures depict an assortment of exquisitely carved non-biblical and often humorous characters, all executed with a degree of creativity.

Set against the simplicity of a typical church interior, these carved symbols would be seen by the congregation, as light poured through stained glass windows into otherwise dark and gloomy interiors, like a medieval slide show and nobody "does" stained glass better and more colourfully than the French.

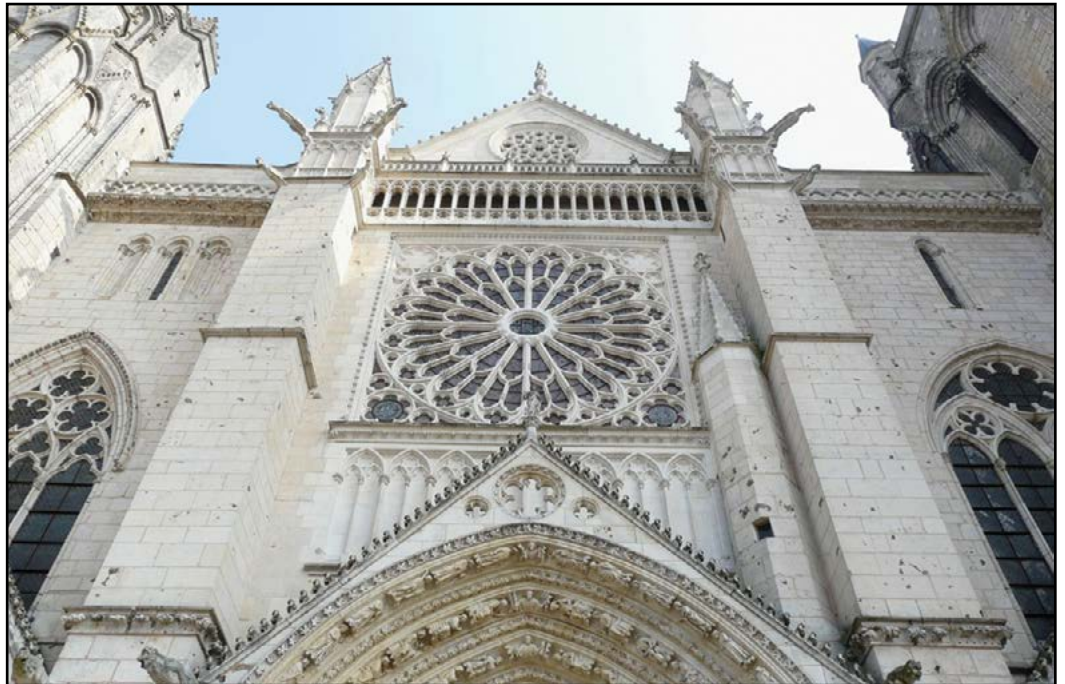
The Green Man is a legendary being mainly interpreted as a symbol of rebirth. Fertility is another timeless theme, but the ever increasing sophistication of the settings in which the Green Man would come to be represented seems to suggest other interpretations.

Despite the passage of time, many important French buildings would continue to depict the Green Man as a decorative motif.

As omni-present as these symbols are

throughout France, across the Channel, the Green Man features on the Palace of Westminster, in St Paul's Cathedral, on the ornate gates to Kew Gardens and in some of the Oxford colleges.

Around the dawn of the 20th century, there was also a re-emergence of the Green Man in the swirling naturalistic forms of the Art Nouveau movement.



In Poitiers in the Eglise Saint Hilaire-le-Grand there are several early examples of the Green Man - all exquisitely carved in oak.



The stone work of this cathedral in Poitiers features several examples of the Green Man.



There is something distinctly unsettling when you first catch sight of the face of the Green Man peering at you from among thick green foliage, sprouting from his mouth.

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HPP ADDS NAMURI FINISHES TO ITS RANGE OF ASPIRE VINYL-WRAPPED DOORS

HILL's Panel Products (HPP) will be one of the first suppliers in the UK to sell a cutting-edge décor foil that aims to set a new benchmark in furniture industry design and functionality.

Originating from South Korea and called "Namuri", eight of the 16 finishes are being added to HPP's Aspire made-to-measure, vinyl-wrapped doors range, creating a "range within a range".

HPP is trading with Plasfoils, a leading distributor of foil materials, to bring Namuri to the UK market.

Inspired by woodland colours, Namuri features deep woodgrain embossing and a sophisticated two-tone effect that captures the look and feel of painted wood.

HPP is introducing three greens – Kombu Green, Reed Green and Sage Green; two blues – Alby Blue and Indigo Blue, alongside Cashmere, Frost White and Black.

All the colours can be combined with matching boards from Egger, Kronospan and other manufacturers.

'Designers and specifiers have long sought a unique, yet versatile product to meet market demand, with something that features a seamless

blend of robust performance and striking aesthetics,' says business manager at Plasfoils, Chris Green.

'With Namuri, we've created a product that delivers a realistic painted effect, whilst offering robust performance. It is crafted using innovative embossing technology, resulting in a PVC foil that offers a sophisticated interplay of matt and semi-matt finishes. The feed-back from customers has been overwhelmingly positive, with many mistaking it for real wood,' adds Mr Green.

The new product is available in two thicknesses tailored for diverse applications, including decorative panels, profile wrapping and 3D pressing processes.

HPP's vinyl-wrapped doors are made-to-measure at the firm's Oldham manufacturing plant. They are ideal for use in virtually any furniture situation. The vinyl coverings are tough, hard-wearing and durable for many years of trouble-free use.

For further information Visit www.hpponline.co.uk



NEXT ISSUE: MORE NEWS ON LIGNA

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MAKITA LAUNCHES NEW 40VMAX BELT SANDER ONTO THE MARKET

MAKITA has expanded its range of high-powered 40VMax XGT tools with the addition of the BS001G cordless belt sander. This model easily matches the performance of a corded version, whilst providing greater convenience and boasting new features not previously seen on similar machines.

The BS001G has been designed for efficient sanding with a 76mm x 533mm sanding belt to make sanding large surfaces quicker and easier.

The toolless belt changing means that it is simple to switch between sanding grades when moving from coarse to fine sanding tasks.

The BS001G is comfortable to use horizontally, or vertically depending on the task and has been engineered for an optimal weight balance to deliver even sanding.

It has a variable speed control conveniently located beside the rear handle, allowing the user to select the required belt speed ranging from 120 to 470m/min. There is also a lock-on button for more comfortable use when sanding large areas.

The BS001G includes the option for use as a stationary bench sander, due to the completely flat top of the housing. Using specially designed clamps available separately, the sander can be securely fitted upside down to a solid surface to act as a bench-top sander for smaller workpieces.

It is also easy to manage dust thanks to Makita's innovative Auto-Start Wireless System (AWS) technology built into the tool. This connects

the sander to compatible dust extractors via Bluetooth to run the dust extractor automatically when the tool is in use, therefore streamlining the process.

The new sander also has the option to use the large on-tool dust bag, which includes an anti-drop feature. When used vertically, the newly designed lock mechanism prevents the dust bag dropping off under its own weight.

For ease of use, the BS001G has an adjustable front handle, with four positions from 30 degrees backward to 60 degrees forward. This allows the sander to be held in the most comfortable and effective position for the task at hand.

Moving the handle to the vertical, or back position allows sanding up to walls, or other vertical surfaces. The design also allows sanding flush to edges on the right side of the tool.

Additionally, the sander has a LED work light, the angle of which can be adjusted to better illuminate the surface of the material.

It is compatible with the Makita PDC1200 or PDC1500 portable power packs. These backpack-mounted power sources feature 33Ah and 43Ah batteries respectively and can be used with a wide range of Makita's twin 18V (36V) LXT and 40VMax XGT tools.

For further information Visit www.makita.co.uk



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EFFECTIVE CLEANING OF ROLLER COATER MACHINES

MOST problems and defects you face with a roller coater machine can be avoided by proper cleaning and maintenance, according to TAKA-WPR.

Over time, residual glue, dust and debris can accumulate on the rollers, affecting the uniformity and quality of the application. This build-up can lead to uneven glue application, streaks and other surface defects, ultimately compromising the aesthetic and functional quality of the finished furniture.

There might be more productive activities than cleaning a machine, which is often considered to be a waste of time. Machine operators tend not to take responsibility for the state of their machines, especially towards the end of their shift.

In addition, there is often a lack of education, because there is actually a quick and easy procedure to keep your equipment in the best possible condition.

Remove residual glue

Release the remaining glue in between the rollers by opening the gap. Collect the glue in a heat-resistant tray. Once no glue is flowing, close the gap again and apply an appropriate cleaning product on the glue.

ROLL CLEANER 2 from TAKA has been specially designed for the cleaning of spreading rollers. Unlike other cleaners on the market, it has

no corrosive effect on rubber-coated rollers, or metal rollers. The salt-like substance will disintegrate the adhesive, so it will liquidate and can be easily released into the tray.

Clean the rollers

Once you have removed most of the residual glue, it is time to take care of the rollers. Carefully disassemble the machine components to access all areas that require cleaning. Dip a soft cloth, or sponge into the cleaning solution, or spray the cleaner directly on to the rollers and gently wipe them, paying particular attention to areas with stubborn residue.

A non-hazardous cleaner from TAKA works best on hot machine parts. The product is called CLEANER WPR and is a label-free solvent-based cleaner, available also in a handy spray can.

Next carefully re-assemble the machine, ensuring that all components are securely in place and the machine is ready to operate once again.

Implement this short procedure in your standard operation procedures and, once it has become a regular habit, you will notice the benefits: improved surface quality of the finished products, reduction of downtime, an increase in productivity and, in the end, fewer customer claims.

For further information Visit www.taka-wpr.com



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LOOKING AHEAD TO LIGNA 2025

JUST a few weeks ahead of its opening, LIGNA 2025, the world's premier trade fair for the woodworking and wood processing industries has secured commitments from over 1,100 exhibitors, covering more than 105,000m² of exhibition space.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, LIGNA is embracing its roots. Launched as a stand-alone event in 1975, the trade fair has consistently served as a beacon for innovation and optimism.

Today, as the industry faces new economic pressures, LIGNA continues to provide solutions and opportunities for growth. The 2023 edition hosted 1,300 exhibitors spread over 114,000m² of hall space and attracted 80,000 visitors.

Strong commitment despite economic challenges

'The excellent registration numbers for LIGNA 2025 are a critical signal for the woodworking community,' says head of LIGNA at Deutsche Messe, Stephanie Wagner

'In the current economic climate, committing to a trade fair is a significant investment, particularly for LIGNA exhibitors, who require large spaces and complex set-ups to showcase their advanced machinery. This level of commitment demonstrates the industry's confidence in LIGNA's value,' she adds.

LIGNA 2025 focus topics

Over its five-day run in May 2025, exhibitors will spotlight innovations across three core themes:

CONNECTIVITY, SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION, and ENGINEERED WOOD. These themes address the industry's most pressing challenges:

- LIGNA.CONNECTIVITY: Solutions for seamless digital integration, enabling vertical and horizontal system compatibility.
- LIGNA.SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION: Highlighting approaches to protect the Environment, conserve resources and improve workplace conditions.

- LIGNA. ENGINEERED WOOD: Innovations in wood-based composite materials for diverse applications.

'These topics resonate with both small craft businesses and large industrial groups as they navigate digital transformation, circular economy adoption and intelligent product development,' explains Stephanie Wagner

Exhibition layout & program highlights:

The exhibition spans no fewer than 10 halls and an open-air site, offering a familiar, yet dynamic layout:

- Halls 11-15 & 27: Tools and machinery for custom and mass production, bridging

craftsmanship and industrial applications.

- Halls 25-26: Sawmill technology, wood-based panel production and energy from wood.
- Hall 16: Machine components, automation technology and robotics.
- Halls 16-17: Surface technology innovations.

The open-air site will feature forestry machinery and roundwood production, with the debut of LIGNA.TruckStop, a hands-on showcase of products tailored for tradespeople.

Special formats for engagement & collaboration

LIGNA 2025 will also include specialised formats to enhance collaboration and innovation:

- LIGNA.FutureSquare: A platform for start-ups and suppliers to showcase cutting-edge solutions.
- LIGNA.Recruiting: Connecting talent with employers through interactive activities like speed dating.
- LIGNA.Circular: Focusing on circular economy practices, fostering cross-sector collaboration.
- LIGNA.TruckStop: A vibrant hub for tradespeople, featuring roadshow trucks and daily practical demonstrations.

A milestone for the woodworking industry

Organised by Deutsche Messe and VDMA Woodworking Machinery, LIGNA 2025 celebrates its 50th anniversary by continuing to lead the industry.

The event showcases the entire woodworking value chain, from tools and machinery to sustainable innovations and future-focused technologies.

For further information Visit www.ligna.de



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THE WORLD'S LARGEST WOODEN STRUCTURE SITUATED IN SEVILLE

INITIALLY titled the Metropol Parasol, the Mushrooms of Seville - otherwise known as the Setas de Sevilla, or simply "The Mushrooms", is a large, predominantly wooden structure located in the old quarter of the city of Seville in Spain.

It accommodates an archaeological museum, restaurant facilities, a traditional market and a performance square, used for various events as well as a "rooftop" terrace with a panoramic view of Seville's old city.

In 2004, the City Council of Seville inaugurated an international competition to solicit bids to redevelop the area. The aim of this initiative was to restore the life and splendour that the Plaza de la Encarnación had enjoyed years before and, of course, to put an end to the precarious situation of the market's traders.

From among 65 proposals, the international jury chose the innovative Metropol Parasol project, designed by the German architect, Jürgen Mayer. His proposal radiated Seville in every stroke.

Far beyond being a building to once again house the city's market, the space was designed so that the heart of Seville would beat to the tune of the joy of its people and visitors. And, by way of "the icing on the cake", the reticular structure would provide the much-desired shade in the Seville summers.

The structure was completed in 2011. It measures 150m x 70m (490ft x 230ft) and boasts an overall height of 26m (85 ft).

Initially beset with technical problems, as well as budget and schedule overruns, the parasols are constructed of 3,500m³ of micro-laminated Finnish pine and the building lays claim to being the world's largest wooden structure.

Since its opening, this remarkable building has become Seville's third-most visited urban landmark.

The structure consists of six parasols loosely resembling large mushrooms and inspired by the vaults of the Cathedral of Seville and the ficus trees in the nearby Plaza de Cristo de Burgos.

The Setas are organised in four levels. The underground level (Level 0) accommodates the Antiquarium, where Roman and Moorish remains discovered on site are displayed in a museum.

Level 1 (street level) is the Central Market - the roof of which forms the surface of the open-air public plaza, shaded by the wooden parasols above and designed for public events. Levels 2 and 3 are the two stages of the panoramic terraces offering awe-inspiring views of the city centre.

From the 19th century onwards a dedicated market building was located in the plaza. The Encarnación Market is the first known food market in the city of Seville. It was built on the site of an old medieval Augustinian convent called the "Convent of the Encarnación".

The original market housed over 400 stalls selling fresh produce. Due to its size and location, at one time the market supplied the entire city, as well as serving as a meeting point for the people of Seville.

It was partially demolished in 1948, but the market itself remained until 1973, when the remainder of the dilapidated building was finally demolished.

In the 1950s Seville was growing fast and change was afoot; in order to adapt to the new Sevillian life and the influx of traffic in 1950 Calle Imagen was widened.

In 1973, due to structural problems with the vegetable and fish stalls in the Market, the Tamarguillo flood and the appearance of the first supermarkets, the remainder of the dilapidated market building was finally demolished.

Facilities were set up so that merchants could carry out their activity on a temporary basis for a maximum period of 3 years, which was finally extended to 37 years. During all this time, this part of the heart of Seville became a fenced-off lot, which led to the deterioration of the entire area of the city that had once been its commercial and social epicentre.

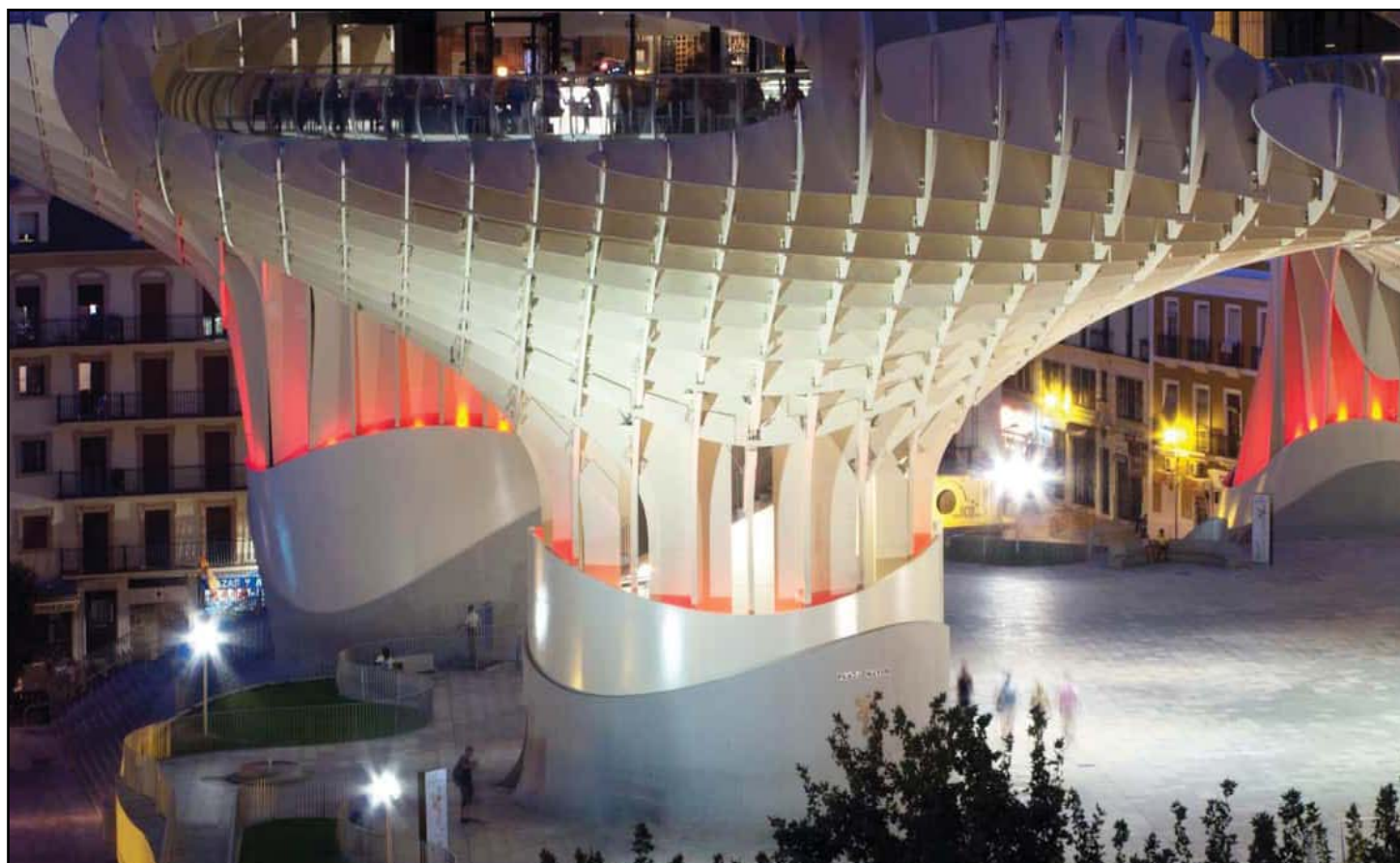
Following demolition the land remained undeveloped until 1990, when the city planned to construct a market with underground parking.

During construction, ruins dating to the Roman and Al-Andalus eras were discovered and construction was frozen after 14 million euros had already been spent on the project.

Construction began in June 2005, with an estimated cost of 50 million euros and a completion date June 2007 was set. By May 2007, the engineering firm, Arup informed the municipal authorities that the structure was technically unfeasible as designed, that a number of structural assumptions had not been tested and that the design appeared to violate the limitations of known materials.

Alternatives to buttress the structure proved impractical because of their added weight, with a glued re-inforcement resolution developed by early 2009 — with a revised cost of approximately 100 million euros.









HIMACS SETS THE PERFECT SCENE AT LA PATISSERIA IN BARCELONA WITH THE HELP OF HIGH-QUALITY HIMACS

LA PASTISSERIA in Barcelona, run by the artisan couple, Josep Maria Rodríguez Guerola and Ana Jarquín has begun a new chapter with the complete renovation of the destination venue on Barcelona's Aragón Street.

The re-design has transformed the shop into a bright and luminous space, which makes the most of high-quality materials, such as HIMACS to highlight the eye-catching array of delicious pastries.

The renovation is an ode to elegant minimalism. Inspired by the most exclusive bakeries in Paris, it integrates elements of prestige, sophistication and modernity, taking the customer experience to the next level.

The visual continuity between the exterior and the interior of the bakery, achieved through the cohesive use of materials and colours, such as HIMACS in Snow Concrete, creates an inviting feel for visitors.

'We wanted to create a space that would make an impact at first glance with its minimalism and we are thrilled with the successful result,' says project manager, Eduard Ribes.

'The idea is that, once inside, people focus their attention on the vibrant colours of the products and feel comfortable with the warmth of the place,' he adds.

The materials chosen for the project not only comply with strict sanitary regulations in terms of food handling, but also allow for easy cleaning – essential in a high-traffic, public-facing environment.

The robust versatility of HIMACS has been employed to beautiful effect in aesthetically connecting the exterior and the interior of the establishment, where it has been applied to both the façade and the service counters, the cash register desk, the display shelves behind the counter and the tops of the tasting tables.

Each installation was meticulously fabricated by Articryl, a renowned specialist in solid surface materials in Spain and a member of the Quality Club network of HIMACS-approved workshops.

The choice of HIMACS Solid Surface for this project was clear when considering the need for a material that can combine aesthetic impact with functional cleanliness, while also being resistant and durable, including for outdoor applications.

The flawless finish of HIMACS, with no visible joints, adds to the sense of sleek perfection, offsetting the wares of these masterful artisans to stunning effect.

For further information Visit www.lxhausy/uk-en





HIGH-END KITCHEN COMPONENT MANUFACTURER, PROBOX TURNS TO WOODWASTE CONTROL TO PROVIDE NEW EXTRACTION SYSTEM FOR NOTTINGHAM FACTORY

HIGH-end kitchen component manufacturer, Probox, has once again turned to dust extraction specialist, Wood Waste Control to provide a new waste extraction system at its Nottingham factory.

Probox's headquarters are in Gawcott in Buckinghamshire, but it carries out manufacturing from factories in Manchester and Nottingham totalling 30,000ft² and 35 manufacturing staff.

Two years ago, Probox employed Wood Waste Control to design, manufacture and install a combined waste extraction and heating system at its Manchester production site.

The company specified its WFS 3900 drag chain filter system with SmartAIR energy-saving gate system and new rolled-edge ductwork to process waste from the machinery, together with a Reinbold AZR 600 shredder to chop offcuts into small pieces. The waste is then burned in a WWH 25 automatic warm air heater with a 20 c/m silo to heat the factory.

SmartAIR is an innovative constant airflow controller system specifically designed for dust, fume and laden airstreams.

It maintains optimum control of the fan speed to help achieve additional energy savings across the dust extraction system with continuous air quality monitoring, configurable "duct cleaning" programs and real-time monitoring for filter pressures and damper fault conditions.

Probox was so satisfied with the extraction system that it returned to Wood Waste Control to install an identical extraction system at its Manchester site.

Wood Waste Control has hundreds of successful waste extraction, processing and heating equipment installations across the UK and

*For further information tel 01628 525290.
Visit www.woodwastecontrol.co.uk*



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HOW CAN UK FURNITURE & JOINERY MANUFACTURERS PLAY THEIR PART TO COMBAT GLOBAL WARMING?

FOR anybody running a manufacturing business in 2025, it is hard to ignore the growing need for sustainability in all aspects of your business.

For woodworking companies it is well known that this should start with using FSC-certified timber and wood panel products, but how can the benefits of sustainable timber sourcing help other areas of your business reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

Before you can manufacture sustainably, you first need to source materials sustainably. This might seem obvious to many, but how can responsible businesses ensure that the materials they buy help the fight for carbon neutrality?

FSC certification

FSC certification for timber is a trusted and respected sign that the wood material was harvested from sustainably managed forestry and transported in a sustainable method. It is internationally recognised as the primary indicator of environmentally responsible timber supply.

When your business uses FSC timber and FSC recycled wood products it is supporting environmentally friendly practices worldwide, but what you do next with this material and any waste residues are equally as important to the fight against climate change!

Modern factory machinery and the factory environment

Factory essentials such as CNC machines, edge-banders, saws, moulders and dust extraction equipment all require high electricity usage, while many factories are heated with costly gas heating.

With energy costs in the UK at record highs, all woodworking manufacturers can look at ways in which they can reduce energy usage, making their business more sustainable.

These can include the installation of technology, such as rooftop solar panels, electric vehicles, energy-saving control systems such as AirSmart by Air Plants Dust Extraction, or even a Talbott biomass heating system for heating and waste disposal.

After sourcing sustainable materials and manufacturing using energy-

efficient factory machinery, what else should you do to reduce emissions?

Sustainable wood waste management

After the manufacturing is complete, you will likely be left with waste materials. For woodworking and furniture producers, this often comes in the form of sawdust, wood shavings and solid offcuts. There are several outlets for this material, but many of them are costly to both profits and the environment.

According to UK Government statistics, the total commercial and industrial waste generated is over 40m tonnes each year, with almost 700,000 tonnes of wood waste from the UK commercial and industrial sector including manufacturing.

In 2011, the UK sent 27 per cent of all wood waste directly to landfill, creating a significant amount of greenhouse gas emissions both from transport and also from landfill decomposition of wood waste, which creates methane, a greenhouse gas.

Thankfully, the percentage of waste wood sent to landfill has reduced over the years, as other methods for disposal have become popular for the manufacturing sector, such as animal bedding, wood panel manufacturing, and biomass wood fuel for power and heating.

How can on-site biomass heating help the environment and save money?

One of the easiest ways to reduce CO2 emissions is to deal with the waste wood material on-site, saving all of the emissions and costs associated with transportation.

Many woodworking manufacturers have invested in equipment such as Talbott's Biomass heaters to allow safe and efficient combustion of the waste materials onsite, saving time and money and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

By combining sustainably sourced FSC timber with a clean and efficient Talbott's system you can save money and save Co2.

**For further information tel Talbott's on 01785 813772.
Visit www.talbotts.co.uk**



WORKING TOGETHER TO ENSURE CLEAN FACTORIES

BOTH UK-based Extraction Solutions (ESL) and Dutch family business, Modesta are experts on dust extraction with several generations of experience.

They found each other in their shared mission of finding the right solution for every customer. Now, they work together on UK-based projects to ensure clean, safe and efficient factories.

Wyboud Kloppenburg and James Parkes are both in the business of dust extraction. Being the third and second generation in their family businesses, respectively, they make sure woodworking businesses can keep their factories clean and safe. Their close-knit collaboration has been on-going for almost seven years; it started out with a single telephone call back in 2018.

‘With many projects in the UK and Ireland, I found myself travelling back and forth regularly,’ recalls Wyboud.

In order to enable a faster service to clients on the other side of the sea, he was looking for a local partner.

‘I had seen Extraction Solutions’ work on a couple of occasions at jobs throughout the country and I’d noticed the quality of their work: from all the different projects I’d seen, they were the best,’

The feeling was mutual:

‘We’d seen Modesta’s filters at work on-site and liked their cascading system and built-in fans and were particularly impressed by how much energy they saved, so when Wyboud called us up to arrange for a meeting, we were very happy,’ recalls James from Extraction Solutions.

Turn-key solutions

Extraction Solutions is a Yorkshire-based business that started out in 2012. Founders, Neil Parkes and Nick Wright had worked on over 100 installations together in their previous jobs, Nick with a focus on installation and Neil as an extraction specialist.

They realised that, together, they could design and implement the best extraction and handling solutions available. With their business, they deliver everything from small-scale projects to turn-key extraction systems for big factories, mostly within the woodworking industry.

Both of their sons are currently active in the company as well. James Parkes started on-site, but gradually moved into contracting and designing. Now, he oversees the larger projects.

‘I’ve have enjoyed a great deal of freedom to discover the different jobs and departments within the company,’ says James.

‘That helps me do my job well: having worked on-site in various roles has given me a better understanding of the whole process,’ he adds.



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Empowering clean air

Like James, Wyboud Kloppenburg has had several roles within his family's company before taking over the baton from his father, Diederick, in 2018. His grandfather founded the business in 1949, amid the post-war reconstruction period in the Netherlands.

Starting out as a company specialised in the drying and conditioning of grains and grasses by applying heat and air, Modesta slowly shifted towards ventilation technology for the agricultural, woodworking and recycling industry under the reign of son of the founder, Diederick Kloppenburg,

When Wyboud took over his father's role, he had been involved in the family business for many years already. He currently oversees general operations, sales and client contact, travelling all over the world regularly. Both family businesses value a customer-first approach.

Efficiency and transparency

'Being family-owned, we're not trying to please any shareholders,' says James.

'For both me and Wyboud, it's not just about selling: it's about doing a good job. We want to provide a great solution for a reasonable price.'

That translates to an efficient, transparent way of working.

'We don't just go in and provide what a customer asks for: we also challenge their ideas and offer advice based on our past experience,' explains James.

'They greatly appreciate that. We work together with the customer to ensure that they get the best system possible,' he adds.

Joining forces

Both companies have their own expertise: whilst Modesta has three generations worth of experience in extraction, ESL brings its extensive knowledge about ducting.

Their first mutual project took place in 2016, when they delivered a filter installation at the Images Kitchens and Bedrooms factory in Chester.

Recently, they delivered their largest project to date, at Wren Kitchens, with an extraction capacity of 1,700,000m³/h. However, smaller projects, such as the one at Select Interiors, are part of their mutual portfolio, too.

'For us, it's an added value that we have a local partner on the ground, someone that has a network in the area and can take care of the operational and practical aspects of installing a project. They can also take care of service and stocking spare parts,' says Wyboud.

'We can do most of the servicing ourselves, but if we need any modifications on the software, we simply call Modesta and they fix things remotely,' concludes James.

By combining the two companies' knowledge and capacity, they're able to take on any dust extraction project, whether big or small.

For further information

visit www.modestafilts.com or www.extractionsolutions.com



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Email us at: bill.willowe@gmail.com

REVOLUTIONISING WOOD WASTE RECYCLING: THE IMA SCHELLING AND UNTHA PARTNERSHIP DRIVING UNMATCHED EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

WOOD is one of the most important renewable raw materials and, if used efficiently, up to 100 per cent of it can be repurposed. Initially, wood is used in the production of houses, walls, furniture and window frames; however, residual wood can also be processed and re-used – for example, as biomass for energy and heat generation.

Untha wood shredders make the recycling and disposal of waste wood more efficient and cost-effective. The units help customers improve their carbon foot-print, generate self-produced energy for company buildings, as well as reducing both storage space requirements and labour costs associated with wood waste management.

The Austrian manufacturer, Untha develops and manufactures shredding technology for joinery and carpentry businesses, sawmills and the wood processing industry. Additionally, wholesalers and transport companies that handle large volumes of wooden pallets also rely on these shredders.

Waste wood processing plays a key role in ensuring smooth production processes, as well as the efficient use of resources and energy. In an era of rising energy costs, waste wood recycling is becoming even more relevant.

‘Our customers are increasingly thinking about how they can make their processes more efficient and sustainable. In this context, the processing of residual wood is particularly important,’ says sales and key account manager of IMA Schelling UK, Andy Hepworth.

‘Ideally, residual wood shouldn’t require a separate operation in the production process, helping to conserve personnel resources.

‘Wood scraps go directly from the production area to the shredder, are automatically processed and then transported via a conveyor system directly to the central heating boiler.

‘The heat generated can be used to warm production facilities, drying chambers, offices and even nearby residential units. In this way, many of our customers have become energy self-sufficient, saving both time and money,’ explains Andy Hepworth.

Customised shredding solutions

The first step in the thermal recycling of waste wood is shredding it into homogenous wood chips. Untha wood shredders can be used as stand-alone solutions, or integrated into fully automated plants.

Thanks to a compact design and innovative technology, they can be seamlessly incorporated into any operation, ensuring that all types of waste wood are processed efficiently.

Untha’s product portfolio includes a range of shredding solutions: from the RS series – robust four-shaft shredders designed for intensive continuous operation – to the LR series – featuring powerful single-shaft shredders capable of handling large quantities of residual wood.

Untha also offers a wide selection of conveyor systems, metal separators and additional features that enhance efficiency and safety.

‘Wood is a valuable resource, which is why it is essential to use it responsibly and efficiently. Untha wood shredders can process all types of waste wood efficiently, transforming it into combustion material, or pellets.

‘This ensures that 100 per cent of the wood is recycled, an approach that’s both economically and environmentally sustainable,’ concludes Andy Hepworth from IMA Schelling UK.

Interested parties can visit the company’s showroom in Wetherby and can also view Untha products at LIGNA.

*For further information tel IMA Schelling on 01937 586340.
Visit www.imaschelling.co.uk*



The Untha LR10.

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Untha's Model LR1400.



Untha's LR520 and PS1300 photographed in the UK showroom at Wetherby

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TRADESMEN PROTEST AGAINST TOOL THEFT “EPIDEMIC”

Hundreds of tradespeople stage a rally to protest over tool theft.

A CARPENTER who considered suicide when thieves stole £12,000 of his tools joined hundreds of fellow tradespeople marching on Parliament recently over what has been dubbed a “van tool theft epidemic”.

Stephen Baker is among around 500 people who descended on Westminster to urge the Government to do more to battle the issue of tool theft.

Mr Baker told how he considered taking his own life after thieves stole thousands of pounds worth of tools from his van in minutes, leaving him unable to work.

‘Everything I had worked for over the previous 13 years was gone in five minutes. I felt desolate with no way forward. It was as if the life had been sucked out of me,’ said Mr Baker.

The carpenter is not alone, with builders’ groups saying the issue is having a devastating impact on small businesses in the UK construction industry.

Hundreds of tradespeople joined the rally organised by Trades United – a group of tradespeople who have come together to draw attention to the issue – from Brent Cross to Parliament Square to demand that the Government takes action with stricter enforcement of existing laws, particularly around tool theft.

Participants staged a “go-slow” convoy in Westminster, driving through the area for two hours to raise awareness.

Stephen Baker, from Hertfordshire left his tools inside his hire Ford Transit van outside a hotel in Watford.

Hotel rules prevented him from taking his tools inside, but he chose a position which blocked the back door and had CCTV on the side door.

Despite that, his van was raided by thieves – with CCTV later showing how they popped the lock in just 22 seconds, emptying the contents of the van into a car in just four minutes.

The thieves were never caught and even when tools thought to belong to Stephen Baker were found, they couldn’t prove it, as the serial numbers had been scratched off. He was also unable to claim anything on his insurance, because he had been using a hire van.

‘Power tools are expensive – you can’t just replace them. When they take your tools, you can’t work. I couldn’t afford to buy more. I couldn’t do the jobs I had, or look for any more,’ he said.

‘I hear about thefts like this four times a day. Five years ago you heard about it, but never saw it happening, or knew anyone it had happened to. We won’t get this country built up if tradespeople aren’t supported,’ he adds.

Two charitable organisations that helped Stephen Baker – Trades United and construction charity, Band of Builders – get back on his feet, are calling for harsher penalties for those convicted of tool and vehicle theft, improved security at public spaces, a dedicated task force to address theft relating to tradespeople, better support for victims and a public awareness campaign.



Construction charity, Band of Builders, which itself has fallen victim to its van being broken into, is joining the rally.

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'The UK construction industry can't go on like this - it's beyond crisis point,' says Band of Builders chief executive officer, Gavin Crane - whose own charity van has been broken into twice.

'Tradespeople face this threat every day. Their vehicles are their livelihoods. Enough is enough.'

'The van rally was used to demonstrate the strength of feeling about this epidemic amongst the community of tradespeople in the UK, he adds.

The van rally in Westminster was the second organised by Trades United, with a previous one taking place last June.

It followed a petition launched in April 2024, calling for the Government to address the escalating tool theft crisis by banning the sale of tools at car boots and markets, which garnered over 46,000 signatures, reflecting the widespread concern within the industry.

Tool theft is a serious issue for tradespeople in the UK, according to figures which suggest that a tool theft is reported every 12 minutes in the UK.



Stephen Baker has told how he considered suicide after thieves took £12,000 worth of his tools in minutes.

Analysis by Direct Line business insurance reported in 2024 suggested that UK tradespeople had tools worth £98m stolen in 2023 - up 5 per cent from the previous year.

Its research found 44,514 tools thefts were reported to the police in 2023. Tools are most frequently stolen from vans, with thefts up 14 per cent in 2023 to 24,543 reports - accounting for more than half (55 per cent) of all tool thefts.

The rising thefts came despite 94 per cent of tradespeople taking extra precautions to secure their tools, spending on average £626 retro-fitting their vans with additional security, including additional locks, drill plates, trackers and alarms.

In terms of the impact, on top of the cost of replacing tools, 83 per cent of tradespeople said they lost business because of the theft and not having tools to work.

Tradespeople reported losing work worth an average £1,836 the last time their tools were stolen, meaning an estimated £82m worth of jobs were lost by trades in 2023 alone.

CLOCKING UP 40 YEARS OF HIGHLY INNOVATIVE EDGE-BANDING SOLUTIONS

WITH 40 years dedicated to the production of high-quality edge-bands, Cantisa has earned a solid reputation in Spain's edge-banding industry.

Originating from a tradition of veneer processing that dates back to 1931, the company based in the recently flood ravaged province of Valencia combines its extensive experience with a constant focus on innovation and quality.

While well-established in Spain, Cantisa is also gradually expanding its presence in international markets, aiming for steady growth and broader recognition in the global furniture sector.

Mastery in wood veneer edge-banding

Cantisa produces wood veneer edge-bands from all species, including thick veneer rolls of up to 5mm. While wood remains a timeless material, Cantisa brings a modern and creative approach to its application.

The company's extensive range includes cross-grain and end-grain options, OSB designs, deeply dyed veneers, patina-effect finishes, and 3D-textured embossings.

Amongst Cantisa's stand-out new products are authentic cork edge-bands, available with wood veneer or PVC bases and even a cork-on-fleece version ideal for wrapping mouldings. These products showcase Cantisa's ability to blend natural materials with contemporary applications, delivering both unique aesthetics and sustainable finishes.

Matching edge-bands in PVC & ABS

Collaborating closely with leading board manufacturers, Cantisa offers PVC and ABS edge-bands that flawlessly match the designs of melamine boards.

This partnership ensures that the company stays up-to-date with the latest board innovations, enabling it to supply edge-banding solutions for any new design. Cantisa's catalogue includes over 2,700 stocked references, which can be customised to any width and shipped promptly.

Decorative edge-bands that make a difference

In addition, Cantisa stands out for its wide range of

decorative edge-bands in wood veneer, PVC and ABS. These products are designed to add a distinctive and sophisticated touch to furniture.

Options such as the stitch edge-band, mosaic edge-band, grid-effect edge-band (winner of an Interzum Award), or metallic edge-bands align with the latest interior design trends and demonstrate how Cantisa's products elevate furniture design.

3D edge-band visualiser

In order to support furniture designers in their creative process, Cantisa provides an innovative 3D edge-band visualiser. This virtual customiser enables users to combine boards and edge-bands interactively, simplifying the selection process for decorative finishes and ensuring precision in design.

For further information visit www.cantisa.es



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HOZO DESIGN LAUNCHES THE NEW M-CUBE 02 ANTI-GRAVITY LASER LEVEL

Revolutionizing alignment and measurement with advanced vacuum adhesion, 360 deg rotation and real time precision for both professionals and DIY enthusiasts.

HOZO Design, a leader in innovative design solutions, proudly announces the launch of the M-Cube 02 anti-gravity laser level.

It redefines traditional levelling and measuring tools by integrating cutting edge technology with a sleek, modular design. It is perfect for mounting, aligning, measuring and positioning in any environment.

It features a powerful vacuum adhesion system, which secures the device to walls and surfaces with ease, freeing up hands, or the need for tripods.

This next generation tool eliminates the challenges of conventional measurement methods, delivering versatility and reliability in various applications.

Its 360 deg rotation enables users to calculate precise angle measurements, supported by a built-in angle sensor, which provides real time feed-back, ensuring accuracy in all tasks.

A key innovation of this product is its ability to combine laser levelling and laser measurement. It offers horizontal and vertical levelling functions alongside distance measurement, allowing users to pinpoint exact locations with efficiency.

The device's integrated system calculates horizontal and vertical positions relative to the user's location, making it perfect for aligning objects, installing fixtures, or determining precise placements in complex layouts.

Additional stand-out features include the ability to measure the distance

between two objects and find mid-points, simplifying advanced calculations and positioning. It even syncs with the MEAZOR App, enabling users to receive instant measurements on their Smartphones for remote targets.

[Building on the success of the original M-Cube](#)

Ecosystem, the M-Cube 02 seamlessly integrates with the M-Cube 00 module, including the OOG green laser edition, offering users the flexibility to expand and enhance their tool-kit.

With magnetic modules which allow for easy upgrades, the M-Cube 02 unlocks new possibilities for productivity and creativity across a variety of work flows.

It is designed to perform in both indoor and outdoor environments, with specialised protective covers available to safeguard the entire M-Cube ecosystem.

Whether used as a stand-alone laser level, or in combination with other M-Cube products, the M-Cube 02 delivers unparalleled precision and usability.

This revolutionary tool is set to transform how professionals and hobbyists approach levelling and measurement tasks, offering the perfect balance of innovation, functionality and ease of use.



For further information visit

www.hozodesign.com/pages/m-cube-02-anti-gravity-laser-level



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EXPERIENCE CUTTING-EDGE CNC & WATERJET INNOVATION AT FESPA WITH AXYZ AND WARDJET

JOIN AXYZ and WARDJet at FESPA Global Expo 2025 in Berlin from May 6-9, where the latest advancements in CNC routing and water jet cutting technology will be showcased.

Visit AXYZ and WARDJet in Hall 25 on Stand D 45 and discover how industry leading AXYZ and WARDJet solutions can elevate your business with precision, efficiency and versatility.

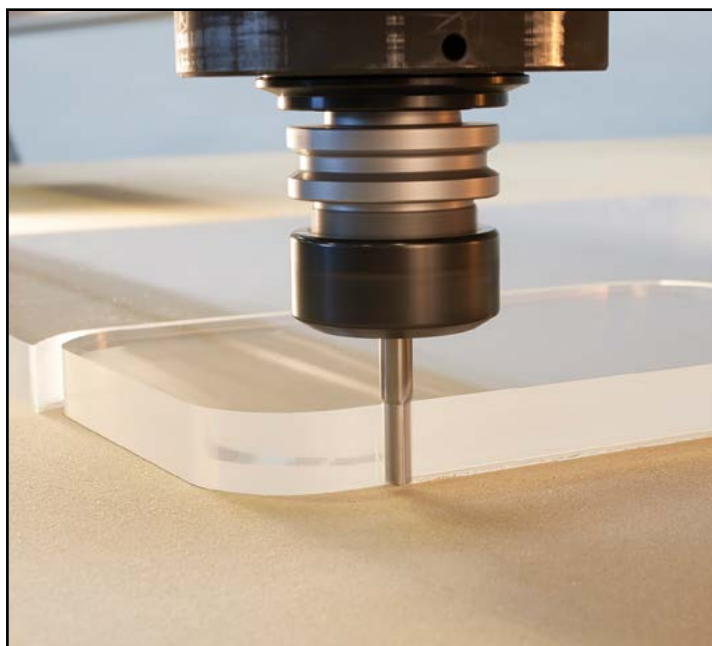
Expert Advice & Live Demonstrations

A team of technical specialists will be available to answer your questions and provide expert guidance on selecting the right CNC, or water jet solution for your business. Experience live demonstrations on two of the most advanced machines designed to deliver unparalleled cutting accuracy and workflow efficiency:

XYZ TRIDENT - This is a game-changing router-knife hybrid system, which is perfect for sign-making, woodworking and fabrication. This high-performance machine can process aluminium, acrylic, foam, wood and more, offering superior precision and the flexibility to achieve complex cutting styles.

XYZ INNOVATOR - Engineered for high quality cost-effective routing the INNOVATOR provides an ideal solution for prototyping, sign-making, woodworking and educational purposes.

Featuring an optional three-position tool changer and the A2MC



controller, it seamlessly integrates with industry-standard software, delivering efficiency and reliability with every cut.

WARDJet: Precision Waterjet Cutting

As a leader in waterjet cutting technology, WARDJet delivers high-pressure water jet solutions capable of cutting through metals, composites and plastics with precision and speed.

Designed for a wide range of industries, these advanced systems allow businesses to achieve fast, efficient and accurate cutting with minimal material waste.

Experts from the two companies will be on hand to guide you through the extensive range of models, ensuring that you find the perfect solution for your production needs.

Tailored Solutions for Your Business

Every business is unique, which is why AXYZ and WARDJet provide customised CNC and water jet solutions to your specific needs.

Whether you are looking to increase production speed, improve cutting accuracy, or expand your material processing capabilities, this innovative technology can help you achieve your goals.

Don't Miss Out - Visit AXYZ and WARDJet at FESPA 2025!

This is your opportunity to experience the future CNC and waterjet cutting technology. Visit AXYZ and WARDJet in Hall 25 Stand D45 and see first-hand how the companies' cutting-edge solutions can transform your business.

For further information tell AXYZ on 01952 291600.
Visit www.axyz.com or www.wardjet.com

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WOMEN GO FOR IT! THE TECHNOLOGY SECTOR NEEDS MORE WOMEN ENGINEERS

WOMEN have a hard time in the male-dominated technology sector and are taken less seriously. This is a media and societal misrepresentation that urgently needs to be addressed.

In a time in which industry faces a shortage of young talent, it is vital that women are not discouraged from pursuing a career in this area.

This is the view of Lisa Kagerbauer, an engineer at the pump and dosing specialist Lutz-Jesco in Wertheim, speaking on the occasion of International Women's Day.

'What counts is performance, not gender,' says Lisa.

'I have to work twice as hard to be accepted. I cannot afford to make any mistakes, otherwise everyone will think that women aren't cut out for this job. I need to adapt and make sure I don't stand out too much,' adds Lisa.

'The list of misconceptions that hinder women who would like to work in the male-dominated technology sector industry is long

However, the reality is usually much more progressive, according to Lisa Kagerbauer, who has worked as an engineer at Lutz-Jesco since 2020.

Lutz-Jesco is a specialist manufacturer of industrial pump technology and dosing systems.

'From an early age, women are presented with a rather distorted picture of life by the media and society that doesn't match reality in most cases,' says Lisa.

'The idea that women in the technology sector constantly have to assert themselves does not match my experience,' she adds.

Ms Kagerbauer did not experience any prejudice or discrimination at university.

'I studied under two woman professors, who were highly competent and recognised as valued experts in their fields,' she explains



What about her transition to employment? Here too, gender was not an issue.

'As a woman fresh out of university, I was appreciated and supported from the very beginning,' she says.

Many older colleagues were impressed by her passion for technology and did not hesitate to share their knowledge and experience with her.

'The idea that women in the technology sector constantly have to assert themselves does not match my reality. What counts is performance, not gender,' says Lisa.

'It is vital to Germany's future that more women contribute their potential to the technology sector,' she adds.

According to Ms Kagerbauer, in times in which young talent is at a premium, it is important that women also enter the technology sector. However, women remain under-represented in this area.

Official figures show that the proportion of women employed in technical research and development in 2023 amounted to just 18 per cent.

'In my opinion, it is vital for Germany's future that more well-qualified young women bring their potential to the technology sector,' says Ms Kagerbauer.

She has the following tip for women interested in the field:

'Be confident and follow your own path. The men are usually on your side. Be confident in salary negotiations. Make realistic demands and never sell yourself short.'

Lisa started work as an engineer at Lutz-Jesco in 2020. In the system and process technology department, she and her team develop water treatment systems for industry and sewage treatment plants.

'I love working in an informal atmosphere with great colleagues. It suits me much better than the anonymity of a large corporation,' she says.

JAMES LATHAM UNVEILS VALCHROMAT WHITE PEARL

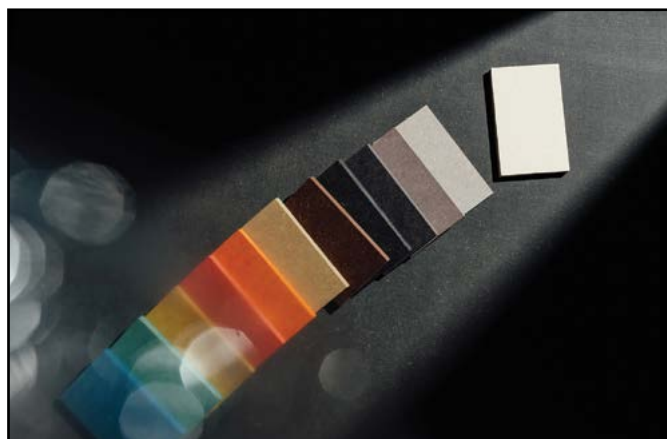
JAMES Latham, the leading independent distributor of timber, panels and decors is proud to introduce the sensational Valchromat White Pearl.

This innovation marks a turning point in the manufacture and production of full-colour MDF, achieving an unprecedented white hue. The result of seven years of research and development by Valchromat, White Pearl truly embodies the premium brand's boundary-pushing reputation.

Distributed by James Latham in the UK and Ireland, this game-changing board stands out from the competition, due to its exceptional brightness and opacity. A unique proposition, this MDF has an attractive white shade across its entire length, breadth and depth.

Set to transform the way pale colours are used in interior and furniture design, the material provides a literal and figurative blank canvas, offering endless aesthetic potential for architects, designers, furniture-makers and fit-out professionals alike.

The latest addition to Valchromat's 12-colour palette range, White Pearl pairs seamlessly with other shades in the collection, or contrasts beautifully with other materials, from natural timber and stone to burnished metals and tempered glass.



For further information visit www.lathamtimber.co.uk

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