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INDUSTRIAL WOODWORKING

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INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND INDUSTRY INSIGHT AT AXYZ & WARDJET'S CNC MANUFACTURING EXPO

AXYZ WARDJet has once again demonstrated its leadership in CNC technology and automation with a successful two-day UK CNC Manufacturing Expo held at its headquarters in Telford on July 16 and 17 2025.

With over 200 sign-ups and a strong physical turnout, the event proved to be a powerful platform for unveiling cutting-edge innovations, showcasing live demonstrations and deepening relationships with customers, prospects and industry partners.

A celebration of CNC innovation

At the heart of this year's Expo was a showcase of intelligent, production-ready technologies that address the modern demands of manufacturing.

Attendees had the opportunity to experience first-hand the latest in AXYZ and WARDJet's evolving portfolio of CNC routers, waterjet systems and automation enhancements.

Live demonstrations ran throughout both days, with a focus on reducing manual labour, increasing production speeds and improving safety. The energy and the demonstration space was palpable, as engineers, fabricators and shop owners saw innovations brought to life in real time.

Introducing the Future: Material Handling

One of the show's standout attractions was the debut of AXYZ WARDJet's new Automatic Material Transfer (AMT) system – a game-changing robotic solution for lifting, loading and aligning sheet materials with ease.

What sets AMT apart is its fully automated operation, decoupled from the CNC machine itself. Attendees saw how dual AMT units can work in tandem, managing sheets of up to 6m in length with precision.

Supporting features such as vacuum flexibility, tandem operation and guided alignment showed how AMT dramatically improves workflow by eliminating traditional bottlenecks in material handling. For many visitors, this innovation sparked serious conversations about shop floor automation and ROI.

High-Speed, High-Accuracy Cutting Solutions

Alongside material handling technology, the spotlight was also firmly on new CNC cutting capabilities. The Swivel HP oscillating knife impressed

with its 12,000 CPM speed and ability to cut dynamic shapes with accuracy across a wide variety of materials.

Meanwhile, the hands-free Auto Sheet Loader and Unloader system showed how production can be streamlined further with minimal human intervention. Together, these systems presented a unified vision of faster throughput with safer, smarter processes.

Enhanced Safety Systems for Modern Manufacturing

With automation comes the need for robust safety solutions and AXYZ WARDJet delivered.

New laser scanners and AI-powered camera systems were showcased, offering real-time monitoring adaptive safety zones and intelligent threat detection.

These safety innovations help woodworking machinery operators manage multi-machine environments more efficiently, whilst remaining compliant with evolving safety standards.

The ability to demonstrate all these systems operating together with a live, production-style set-up gave visitors confidence in their readiness for real-world application.

Hands-on Experiences Drive Business Results

A major highlight of the Expo was the personal, hands-on experience. Attendees not only watched,

but also engaged directly with AXYZ and WARDJet's CNC systems from routers and water jets to automation tools. The option to bring their own materials and run live tests was particularly well received. For manufacturers working with wood, plastic, metal and composites, the results were eye-opening.

The show also opened the door to private post-event demonstrations. For those unable to attend, or interested in further exploration, AXYZ WARDJet extended invitations to return to the Telford HQ in the following weeks.

Visitors can book tailored demonstrations with their own production files and materials to explore how CNC automation can fit their unique challenges.

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HYDROVANE UPGRADES 5 SERIES COMPRESSOR WITH ENHANCED CAPACITY & CONVENIENCE

HYDROVANE has significantly upgraded its popular 5 Series SE rotary sliding vane compressor to offer enhanced capacity, improved space-efficiency and simpler maintenance – all within a more compact and workshop-friendly design.

The receiver capacity of the compressor has been increased from 75L to 100L, enabling it to run more efficiently for longer periods. A new sight-glass gives operators an easy way to check oil levels and maintain optimal performance with minimal effort.

In addition, improved outlet pipe routing ensures smoother airflow and easier system integration and a newly available aftercooler kit reduces moisture in the air supply to protect tools and equipment.

Compact design for tighter spaces

The 5 Series SE has been redesigned to better suit workshop environments. Its overall length has been reduced from 1,120mm to 936mm and a slimmed-down starter enclosure – now within the machine's footprint – ensures both a more streamlined profile and better protection.

Furthermore, the upgraded machine now features four points of contact with the ground instead of three, for improved stability.

Easier servicing and installation

Serviceability has been simplified with the addition of an hour-counter, enabling

proactive maintenance based on actual runtime.

A re-designed base plate allows the machine to be lifted from either the front or rear, while the space beneath the receiver has been cleared to make installing an auto drain easier.

In order to further support long-term performance, a new thermal bypass valve has been added to prevent oil sludge issues before they develop.

'Our 5 Series SE compressor has long been a favourite in automotive, manufacturing and workshop settings. With these upgrades, it has taken another leap forward in terms of the reliability, convenience and the long-term value it offers,' says European sales manager, Steve Downes.

'While piston machines have historically been the default choice, vane compressors actually offer several distinct advantages, including lower life-time ownership costs, better reliability, quieter operation and higher air quality. These benefits are only magnified in our upgraded 5 Series SE compressor,' he adds.

Models in the 5 series range include the HV01 (1.1kW), HV02 (2.2 kW) and HV04 (4 kW).

For further information visit www.compair.com



ABTEC - A FAMILY-OWNED ABRASIVES COMPANY INTENT ON EXTENDING ITS GLOBAL REACH

FOUNDED in 2002, Abtec is a family-owned business spanning three generations, with offices spread across Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

The company was originally established as a local business, but has expanded its reach globally since the launch of its website in 2002.

As a family company, Abtec is committed to delivering a high level of personal service, a core value that defines its approach to customer relationships.

Abtec's team of experts is dedicated to delivering a smooth, reliable experience from product selection to after-sales support for each of its customers.

Since the end of COVID, Abtec's customers have been facing a challenging environment regardless of the industry they serve. Many are working with new materials and they need to be able to access a suitable product to machine that material as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Abtec has over 3000 different abrasive products that it keeps in stock in the UK. This is why the company has established relationships with leading worldwide manufacturers, including Norton, Tyrolit, Sait and Klingspor, to produce suitable abrasive products that can be specially manufactured and delivered in quick time.

Abtec's approach is to offer an abrasive product that may be a sanding belt, sanding disc, grinding wheel, or cutting disc that utilises the very best in modern abrasive technology to enhance material removal, whilst providing a superb surface finish.

Recently, one of Abtec's customers in Hertfordshire was using conventional aluminium oxide abrasive sanding belts on a fixed finishing machine.

He was working on various metal components but finding that the belts being used were clogging and had to be changed far too often.

Abtec advised using a sharper long-lasting abrasive, Zirconia that it could supply from stock. The result was an increase in cost per belt of 1.5 times, but with an increase in life per belt of at least 2.5 times and less downtime for changing belts.

This also means Abtec has to supply a safe working product, which is why many of its customers take advantage of its ability to offer training in the practical and safe use of abrasive products.

Abtec's training department has trained over 7000 delegates over 15 years, mainly on customers' own premises, where the company is able to utilise customers' machinery to show the benefits in a real-world application.

By doing this, Abtec can also offer advice on risk assessment and the importance of utilising correct PPE. Abtec actively encourages the use of the Organisation for Safety of Abrasives products along with Health & Safety Executive (HSE) guidance on PPE to produce a working environment that is as safe as possible for all machine operators.

Perhaps a way of measuring the success of Abtec's training is the large number of companies that utilise its training services for new members of staff, or for refresher training.

Abtec specialises in supplying high-quality abrasives and related products to industries worldwide. It works with businesses of all sizes, focusing on developing the right abrasive solutions tailored to each customer's unique needs.

For further information visit www.abtec4abrasives.com



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MANCHESTER STAIRS RAMPS UP ITS PRODUCTION WITH MASTERWOOD MACHINERY

WHEN Manchester Stairs Ltd opened its doors in 2018, the goal was simple: offer top-quality timber staircases with personal service and competitive pricing.

However, as the Ashton-under-Lyne-based company quickly grew, demand began to outpace production capacity. There was no choice, but to outsource chunks of the company's operation – until a better way was found.

'As orders started building, we realised we needed to bring more of the operation in-house,' explains operations director at Manchester Stairs, Lynsay Thompson.

The Masterwood move

In April 2024, Manchester Stairs took a major step forward by investing in the Masterwood Project 470 CNC. Later that year, a Nesting 'M' CNC machine (MW12.25M) was added to further optimise their operation.

'When we saw the benefits of one Masterwood CNC, we knew we wanted to add another,' explains Lynsay.

Both machines now sit at the heart of a streamlined production process that has transformed the business.

Why Masterwood?

'When a Masterwood representative came to visit us in our first year, I'd never even heard of the brand,' says Lynsay.

'However, our directors knew them well and vouched for them. That gave us the confidence to explore our options further,' says Lynsay.

'We got a good sense of what they were capable of,' says Lynsay.

'And when we sat down with Masterwood, they really took the time to understand our needs and recommend the best options for us.'

Precision, performance and productivity

Prior to these investments, the company relied heavily on external suppliers.

'Now we can do pretty much everything in-house, which has reduced

costs, made us more efficient and given us greater control over the quality of the product,' says Lynsay.

In terms of speed, the results speak for themselves.

'Take a double-winder, for example. The strings used to take us two hours and now take us just 12 minutes. The time-saving has been huge and it's helped us increase our output from around 50 staircases a week to 75, with a smaller team,' says Lynsay.

However, efficiency is only part of the story. Precision is equally critical when producing staircases and that's where the CNCs truly shine.

'The staircase is often the first thing people see when they walk into a home. It has to look perfect. These machines help us deliver that standard, consistently,' says Lynsay.

Excellent service

'Masterwood have been fantastic,' says Lynsay.

'From the installation to the training to the ongoing communication, we've been re-assured every step of the way.

'Masterwood have been excellent in this regard. They're proactive too, reminding us when services are due and keeping the machines in tip-top condition,' Lynsay comments.

Looking ahead

With two powerful CNC machines and a strong partnership in place, Manchester Stairs Ltd is perfectly positioned for whatever comes next.

'Clearly, the world is becoming more and more automated. These machines are basically a must for businesses who want to keep up with the times.

'Our workshop is small, but if we do end up expanding, we will be more than happy to invest in more Masterwood machinery,' concludes Lynsay.

**For further information tel Masterwood on 01293 402700
Visit www.masterwoodgb.co.uk**



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EGGER'S IMMERSIVE DESIGN SPACE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CLEAF AND BLUM

EGGER has launched an immersive design space in the heart of Clerkenwell, in partnership with Cleaf and Blum.

Egger London brings together three family-owned companies - Egger, Cleaf and Blum - in Clerkenwell.

Opening its showroom doors for the first time at the internationally renowned Clerkenwell Design Week in May, Egger London welcomed over 1,200 visits to experience its remarkable interior design transformation, network with peers and meet the three brands behind the concept.

Since then, it continues to welcome designer guests from around the world to create, collaborate and specify in the open space.

Egger London offers an eclectic experience for its designer guests. Its light, bright and flowing interior comprises of design space for guests to work and collaborate on projects, digital space to access supporting tools and brand information, private space for meetings and workshops and welcoming hospitality space for relaxed networking.

Every part of its interior is created with the designer in mind, with real life product application merging form with function throughout. It is packed with large format samples, supporting resources and on-hand expertise from its team.

The highly anticipated showroom is flooded with natural light through its double-height, glass-blocked façade.

Inside, visitors are greeted by its spacious open atrium, centred by a statement, bespoke feature pendant that tells the story of Egger's history of celebrating wood. Moving inside, the space is a designers' playground packed with creative stimulation - from textures and colours to conversations and curated events.

The showroom is founded by Egger, a leading, global manufacturer of

wood-based materials for interior design and construction.

With its unique sole supplier offer for designers, specifiers, architects and fabricators, Egger supplies a range of decorative materials for interior furniture surfaces and wall panelling, decorative interior flooring and structural flooring, suitable for commercial and domestic projects.

Priding itself on its strong environmental ethos and sustainable product portfolio, Egger operates environmentally conscious manufacturing processes at 22 facilities worldwide.

At Egger London, the company is showcasing over 300 finishes for furniture and flooring in a life-size sample library and some of its most innovative materials in real applications across fitted furniture, working tables, networking spaces and design installations.

Adding to the breadth of inspiring surface finishes, designers are invited to explore Cleaf, an Italian company producing innovative surfaces for furniture and interiors. Renowned for striking texture development and exceptionally tactile finishes, Cleaf exclusively manufactures a considered selection of surfacing solutions.

Blum brings movement and fluidity to the space. A global-leading manufacturer of innovative lift, hinge, pull out and pocket systems for furniture and interiors, the brand specialises in motion technologies whilst advocating responsible growth and preservation for future generations.

Under one roof the three partners provide an integrated interior design solution covering a wide range of decors, fittings and flooring, alongside heavy-weight product expertise, giving its designer guests the tools they need to specify bravely, with confidence, and without compromise.

For further information visit www.egger.com



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MAKITA DOUBLES BATTERY WARRANTY ACROSS XGT, LXT & CXT PLATFORMS

LEADING power tool manufacturer, Makita UK is enhancing its standard factory warranty on batteries from one to two years.

Any genuine Makita battery now purchased will automatically qualify for a two-year standard warranty – with no product registration required. This applies across Makita's XGT, LXT and CXT battery platforms.

Makita offers a wide range of power tools. Built with market-leading battery technology, Makita products enable professionals to work flexibly and for longer periods. Extending the standard factory warranty further re-inforces users' confidence in the quality and reliability of Makita batteries.

'Makita batteries are developed using the latest technology to ensure that products are powerful and built for tough, long-term professional use,' says technical services manager at Makita UK, Tony Coleman.



'The new warranty applies to all genuine Makita batteries purchased in the UK and they will automatically qualify without the need for registration. This change clearly reflects our confidence in the technology behind our products, as well as our commitment to supporting tradespeople across the UK,' concludes Mr Coleman.

For further information visit www.makita.co.uk



INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND INDUSTRY INSIGHT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Launch of the New Woodworker Series

In addition to automation and software, the UK Expo marked the official introduction of the next generation Woodworker CNC router. Designed for cabinetry, furniture making and high-volume wood processing, the machine features:

- . Hands-free loading/unloading.
- . Nine-position drill bank.
- . Rotary and rack changers.
- . Roller hold down systems.
- . Auto label printing.

This combination enables unmatched throughput and consistency, especially in multi-shift environments. Several woodworking company owners on-site expressed immediate interest in upgrading their production lines based on what they saw.

Serving Diverse Industries with Tailored Solutions

Throughout the event XYZ and WARDJet made clear their commitment to customer-engineered solutions for sectors, including sign-making, metalworking, aerospace and composite machining.

Live demonstrations and technical consultations helped customers identify how technologies like waterjet cold-cutting, or hybrid router-knife platforms could streamline their operations.

Strong Attendance, Stronger Impact

With over 200 registrations and a high level of on-site engagement,

the 2025 UK CNC Manufacturing Expo was one of XYZ WARDJet's most impactful customer events to date. The combination of live demonstrations, real-time material testing and meaningful face-to-face interactions created lasting value for all involved.



From bespoke applications in medical devices and aerospace parts to custom signage and architectural cladding, attendees left with actionable ideas in how to improve precision, reduce labour costs and accelerate turn-around.

As the machines remain on-site at the Telford HQ for a limited post-show window, XYZ WARDJet encourages those who couldn't attend to take advantage of this rare

opportunity to experience the full line-up in action.

Looking Ahead

XYZ WARDJet continues to push the boundaries of CNC manufacturing by integrating innovation with hands-on support.

The success of the UK CNC Manufacturing Expo underlines a growing demand for smarter, safer and more scalable production tools. With new technologies such as AMT, intelligent safety systems and advanced CNC routing solutions, the future of manufacturing is here and XYZ WARDJet is leading the way.

For further information tel XYZ on 01952 291600. Visit www.axyz.com or www.wardjet.com Email: enquiries@axyz.com

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IRISH COMPANY WESTERN JOINERY SCALES UP FIRE DOOR PRODUCTION WITH ESSEPIGI TECHNOLOGY

NESTLED in the scenic town of Ennis, in County Clare in the Republic of Ireland Western Joinery has long been a respected name in joinery and door manufacturing.

However, when directors, Dave Burke and Paudie O'Callaghan set out to significantly increase fire doorset production, they quickly realised that their existing set-up – based on standard pod and rail CNC machines – couldn't deliver the throughput, or efficiency needed.

'We were producing good quality doors, but the volume just wasn't there,' explains Dave Burke.

'We needed to scale up fast without compromising on quality,' he adds.

After evaluating offerings from several machinery suppliers, Western Joinery found that most solutions were just iterations of what they already had – until they encountered the Essepigi Doormatic at a trade show. This throughfeed door production system stood out immediately for its speed and versatility.

With a fully automated set-up between jobs and the capability to handle all aspects of door machining, including squaring, splayed edge, three-point locks, hinges, drop seals, top closers, letter plates, window cut-outs and spy holes, the Doormatic was a perfect fit.

A visit to the Essepigi factory in Italy, sealed the deal. Watching the machine handle a range of fire-rated doors with remarkable ease and speed impressed both directors.

'It was unlike anything we'd seen,' says Paudie O'Callaghan.

'The speed, the automation, the flexibility – it ticked every box. We placed an order straight after the demo,' he adds.

However, as production ramped up, a new challenge emerged:

the existing frame production process couldn't keep pace, creating a bottleneck.

Once again, Essepigi had the solution in the Horizon Plus – a fully automatic frame machining centre with an integrated loader, twin saws for straight, or mitre cuts, end drilling, a CNC milling head and a secondary head for pilot hole drilling – fits seamlessly into the production line.

'Adding the Horizon Plus was essential. It completed the workflow and eliminated the bottleneck,' says Paudie.

Since installation, the results have spoken for themselves.

'Thousands of fire-rated doorsets have already been delivered across Ireland. Without a doubt, this has been the best investment we've ever made,' says Dave.

The equipment was supplied by JJ Smith and sales director, Paul Parker reflects on the success of the project:

'Western Joinery had a clear vision to dramatically increase output without sacrificing quality. With the Essepigi Doormatic and Horizon Plus, we delivered exactly that. It's rewarding to see a forward-thinking company achieve such rapid success with the right technology,' he says

With increased capacity, streamlined operations, and nationwide delivery of high-spec fire doorsets, Western Joinery is now positioned as one of Ireland's most agile and capable door manufacturers.

For further information visit www.jjsmith.co.uk



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HIGH QUALITY WOODWORKING & TIMBER PROCESSING MACHINERY FROM CIBOR

BASED in Wrexham, CIBOR Woodworking Machinery Ltd is a leading UK-wide supplier of high-quality woodworking and timber processing machinery.

Here, Paulina Skrzypczak, speaks about the company's impressive portfolio of CNC automation and robotics solutions ...

Could you provide a brief overview of CIBOR Woodworking Machinery's portfolio?

We offer a comprehensive range, including CNC machines, robots, SIP panels production lines, sawmills, finger jointing lines, door and window production lines, finishing machines, cross-cut saws and beam saws. At CIBOR, we deliver solutions designed for precision, efficiency and adaptability.

What would you say gives CIBOR Woodworking Machinery a unique edge in the market?

What sets CIBOR apart is our commitment to personalised, tailored solutions. We offer machinery that balances automation, flexibility and cost-effectiveness, ensuring that our customers achieve maximum efficiency while maintaining superior craftsmanship.

Our strong partnerships with top-tier manufacturers allow us to provide robust, durable and innovative equipment backed by expert support and a customer-first approach.

Could you discuss CIBOR's current capabilities with regards to CNC automation and robotics?

At CIBOR, we see CNC automation and robotics as the future of woodworking, offering greater efficiency, precision and flexibility.

Our range includes not only multi-axis CNC machines, like CNC routers, milling machines, lathes, drilling and nesting machines but, in particular, modern robotic stations tailored for furniture and pallet production and automating tasks, such as material handling, sanding, finishing and precision placement, increasing efficiency and consistency in production.

The robots we offer are versatile, easy to program and ideal for both serial production and small batches. By embracing automation, we aim to provide our customers with smarter, faster and more reliable woodworking technology.

What is CIBOR's perspective on the merits of industrial robots as an alternative to traditional woodworking machine tools?

Integrating robots into the production process increases efficiency without needing to expand the workforce. Robots are particularly effective in automating repetitive, labour-intensive tasks, reducing errors, shortening production cycle times and enhancing product consistency.

While traditional woodworking machines remain essential for certain applications, incorporating industrial robots offers greater flexibility, more optimised workflows, and significant productivity gains.

Could you speak more specifically on the robotic opportunities available in the furniture manufacturing & joinery fields?

Kitchen furniture: Robotic systems automate processes like loading/unloading CNC machines and packaging.

Upholstered furniture: Robots are used for nailing frames, applying glue and upholstering.

Pallets and garden furniture: A robotic pallet production system offers speed, simplicity, and flexibility, eliminating the need for manual operation and preventing workplace injuries.

Bed production: Robots for nailing furniture frames provide speed and efficiency, reducing the hard work and time required for manual stapling.

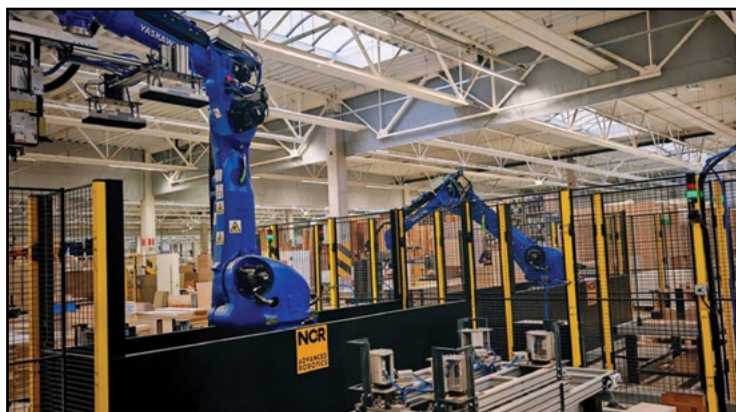
Joinery & carpentry: Robotic assistance in drilling, sanding and finishing ensures consistent quality across operations.

Are there any upcoming launches or developments that you'd like to discuss?

We are continuously working on expanding our product offerings and advancing our robotic and automation capabilities. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to bring the latest technologies to the UK woodworking market.

Robotics and automation are key to improving margins, optimising labour, and achieving a quick return on investment. Implementing this type of technology gives companies a competitive edge in the market. Contact us today to discover the best solution for your business.

For further information visit www.cibor.co.uk



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A NEW MODULAR CANISTER PUMP THAT IMPROVES HEALTH & SAFETY IN INDUSTRY AND TRADE

THE use of hand pumps in industry and trade comes with certain risks. They can endanger Health and Safety and lead to cross-contamination between tanks.

Seeking to prevent this, Lutz Pumpen has developed a new modular pump tube – one of the few specifically designed for use in canisters. A clip-on battery-powered motor enables users to fit several canisters with a pump tube and switch flexibly between them to pump liquids safely and automatically.

Many companies in industry and trade use hand pumps to transfer liquids from canisters – for example, to pump hydraulic oils for machine maintenance or cleaning agents for systems deployed in the food industry.

‘These pumps are often inefficient and not ergonomic to use, with workers forced to get down on their hands and knees to fill the liquid into intermediate vessels,’ explains sales manager at Lutz Pumpen GmbH, Andreas Rössler.

‘Hand pumps are also associated with risks: liquids can splash, or spill, resulting in a danger of slipping or skin contact with harmful substances. They can also lead to contamination due to carryover between tanks,’ he adds.

‘Seeking to improve Health and Safety, we worked to develop a modular pump tube that is one of very few available on the market designed specifically for use in canisters. Used in conjunction with the clip-on motor, users can pump between multiple containers safely and automatically,’ he explains.

[A canister pump tube compatible with a wide range of canister sizes and media](#)

The new pump tubes fit the most common canister sizes. Available in lengths of 400 mm, 500 mm and 700 mm, they are fitted with S60 and S70 threads, widely used in tank technology and for chemicals.

With a polyethylene (PE) pump tube and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) hoses and fittings, the pump tube is durable and chemically-resistant. The shaft is made of stainless steel, which offers high mechanical strength and

resistance to any form of corrosion which may occur.

‘This combination of materials enables the pumping of a wide range of media, including low-viscosity mineral oils, cooling lubricants, disinfectants, diesel, flame retardants, fungicides and insecticides, as well as various cleaning agents and sanitising products,’ says Andreas Rössler.

‘The robust design of the pump tubes increases resistance to abrasion and external influences, extends their service life and ensures reliability in industrial applications,’ he adds.

[Empty a 200-litre canister 12 times on a single battery charge](#)

Once the pump tubes have been inserted into the canisters, users can attach the B2 battery-powered motor from Lutz Pumpen using a quick-release fastener and start pumping immediately.

The 260 watt brushless DC motor reaches a maximum speed of 12,000 revolutions per minute and enables a delivery rate of up to 6 litres of liquid with a maximum viscosity of 400 mPas. A single charge of the replaceable battery is enough to empty a 200-litre canister twelve times in around 35 minutes.

Lutz Holding GmbH has stood for professional fluid management since 1954. The group of companies unites internationally active companies in pump technology as well as water treatment and disinfection and is represented by 13 subsidiaries and agencies in over 80 countries worldwide.

The group includes Lutz Pumpen GmbH in Wertheim, Lutz-Jesco GmbH in Wedemark and Lutz-Jesco Suisse SA in Couvet, Switzerland.

The portfolio includes pumps, systems and accessories for dosing, pumping, emptying and mixing processes for a wide range of fluids. Lutz Group products are used in numerous sectors, including the chemical industry, food industry, automotive production, water and waste water treatment and the paint and coatings industry.

For further information visit www.lutz-jesco.com



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KOCH & LEHBRINK PRESENT MARKET NOVELTIES

MORE than 60 years of experience and continuous technological progress have made Koch a worldwide leading manufacturer of machinery for better woodworking.

The core competence of the company concentrates on joining technology. This includes innovative technologies in sawing, shaping, drilling, gluing, doweling and wood-welding.

Lehbrink Spezialmaschinen GmbH has been part of the Koch Group since 2005. Lehbrink specialises in the manufacturing of machinery for the processing of doors, door frames and folding back panels.

At this year's LIGNA, the focus of the exhibition was on the presentation of the new Multi-flex machine type and the topic of automation.

Together with partner, Ulrich Rotte Anlagen und Fördertechnik GmbH, two different work cells were presented, demonstrating the flexible processing of small quantities and medium quantities in throughfeed applications

In addition, there was an innovation table where innovations in the areas of joining technology, automatic dowel recognition in the dowel tool, glue pot with fill level indicator and much more were presented.

Sprint with robot loading

The work cell consists of the Sprint single-sided drilling machine and a so-called cobot (collaborative robot). Thanks to the cobot, the cell does not require any special separating protective devices, such as safety fences.

The precise loading, processing and removal of narrow parts is particularly special here. The Sprint's horizontal and vertical drilling stations can be freely configured and retrofitted in a grid of 32, which significantly increases the machine's flexibility for future requirements.

The Sprint is ideally equipped for processing carcass furniture, drawers, frame parts and solid wood parts.

NEW - Multi-flex with robot loading

The second machining cell is a real novelty. For the first time, Koch presented the company's newly developed Multi-flex machine model for

flexible drilling and dowel processing of small to medium quantities.

High productivity is nevertheless achieved, with up to 18 parts/min being processed, depending on the drilling pattern.

A new feature of the concept is that the individual machining units, drilling spindle, glue valve and dowelling tool, have been combined into one unit and are fixed in position during machining, or move along the workpiece point-to-point.

If the processing units are in a fixed position, they can be adjusted by motor according to a freely selectable pitch.

The Multi-flex is primarily designed for drilling and dowel processing of carcass bases and narrow parts, such as drawers and narrow parts.

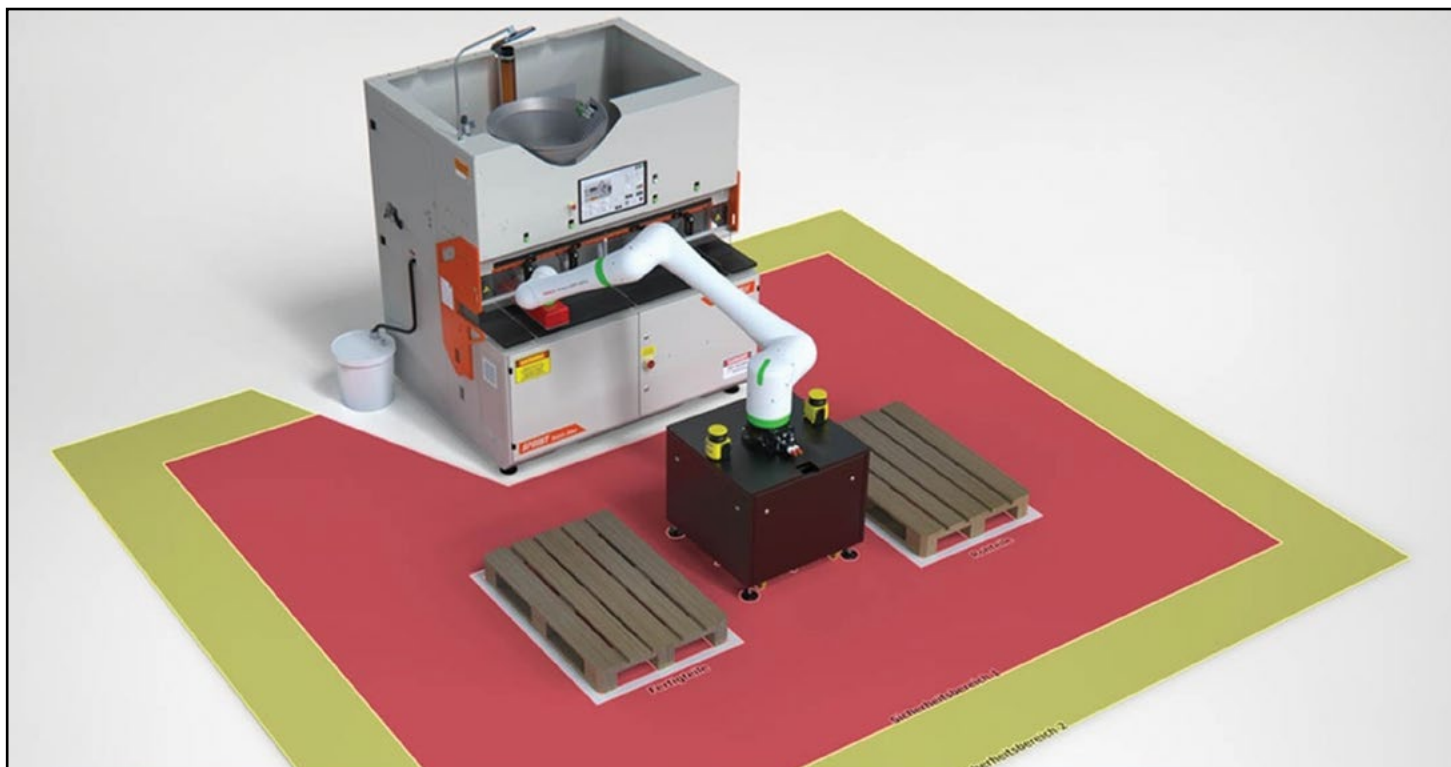
The throughfeed machine can either be integrated into production lines or, as was demonstrated at LIGNA, function as a work cell with automatic loading and unloading. Here, too, the robot connection is controlled by Rotte.

Lehbrink

In addition to the tried and tested machines for processing doors, door frames and rear wall folding, the special machine manufacturer presented further developments in the following areas:

- Compact door seal unwinding stations with feeding from a platform.
- New compact assembly station: Three door fitting elements can be installed in a frame in just one machine: hinge pockets, strike plates and re-inforcement plates for concealed door hinges.
- Glue track monitoring.
- Buffer toothed belt conveyor without fixed cams or lift-outs.
- Chip extraction from processing supports by means of a chip-tight cable chain.

For further information visit www.c.kochtechnology.de



CUT COSTS, NOT POWER - CUSTOMERS EXPERIENCE WEIMA'S IMPROVED EFFICIENCY AND CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS LIVE AT LIGNA

WEIMA showcased its powerful shredding and briquetting systems at LIGNA. At the show, held in Hanover, the focus was on customised solutions, improved energy efficiency and economical wood waste utilisation.

Exhibition highlights included the energy-saving WL 4 with 11 kW drive; the robust WLK 1500 shredder and the recently launched TH 1200 briquetting press.

[Save energy with WEIMA's new 11 kW WL 4 shredder](#)

If you are worried about rising electricity costs, the new WL 4 shredder is just the ticket. The 11 kW motor reduces energy consumption by around 20 per cent and delivers similar performance to the 18.5 kW version.

Weima's test results show significantly lower starting current peaks and reduced average power usage. Yearly savings can exceed £600 - enough to

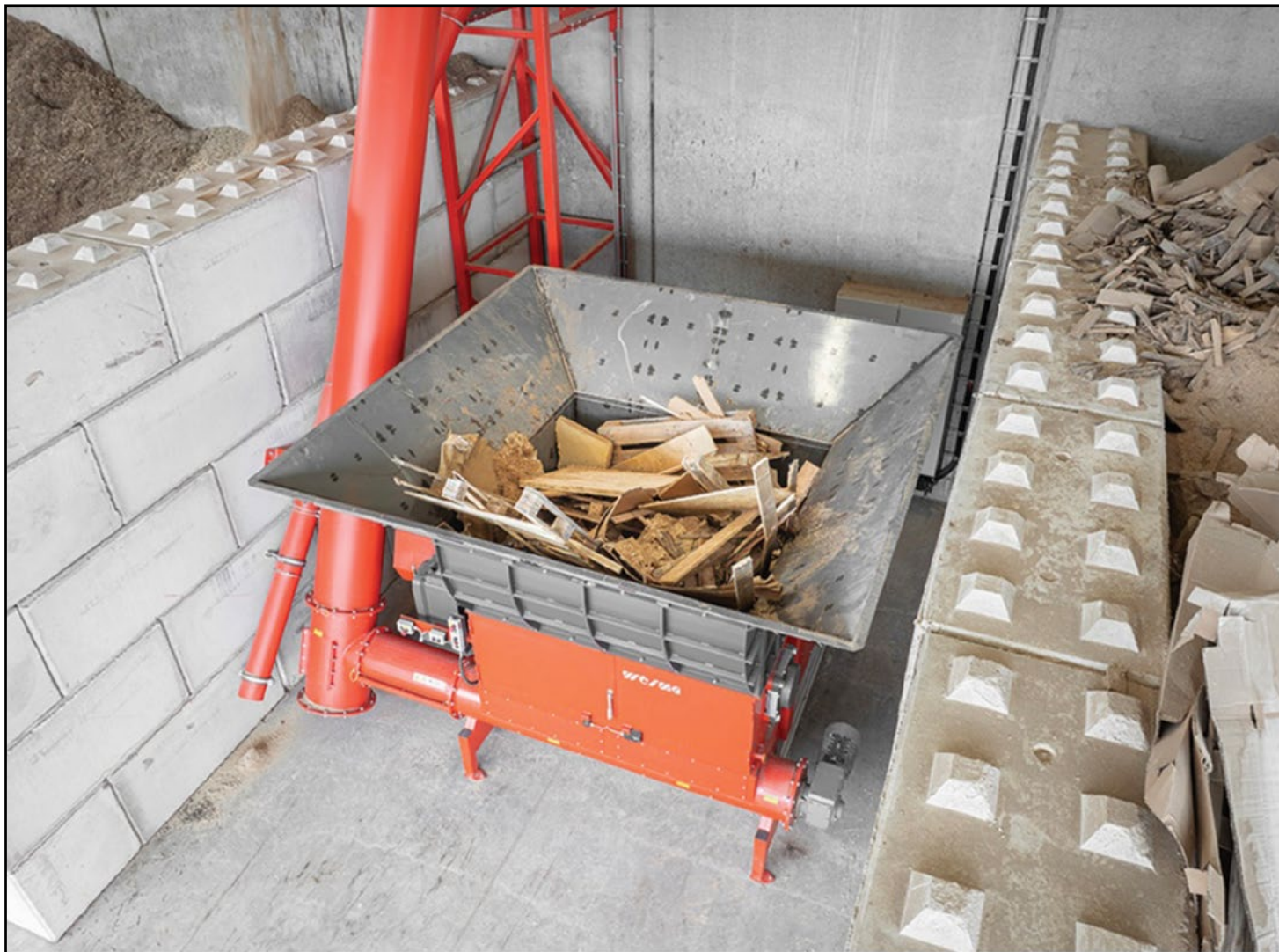
power 25 refrigerators for a full year.

The WEIMA WLK 2000 single-shaft shredder is perfectly suited to handling waste generated by the firewood production process. Here, sustainability is key: the shredder is powered by solar energy and a combined heat and power plant (CHP), which ensures an eco-friendly production process.

The shredded wood chips are repurposed to fuel a wood chip heating system which, in turn provides heat for the drying chambers at the firewood production facility.

A Steiner screw conveyor efficiently transports the chips from the shredder to the heating system, creating a seamless and energy-efficient recycling loop.

For further information visit www.weima.com



-20%

Energy
consumption



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SHAPER TOOLS UNVEILS BENCH PILOT HANDS-FREE CNC MILLING SYSTEM

At LIGNA 2025, Shaper Tools officially launched BenchPilot, a ground-breaking hands-free CNC milling system designed to enhance the flexibility of its hand-held router – Shaper Origin.

The debut turned heads across LIGNA's trade show floor, showcasing how BenchPilot transforms Origin into an adaptable, automated platform – without sacrificing the intuitive workflow that made Origin a favourite among woodworkers.

For years, CNC routers have been seen as powerful, but intimidating – complex to program, difficult to set up and often too rigid for dynamic workshop environments.

Shaper Tools, the company known for bringing human-involved robotics to the workshop, tackled that barrier with the launch of Shaper Origin nearly a decade ago. BenchPilot is the next big step.

A smarter, simpler CNC workflow Origin users are familiar with its unique model: you guide the tool by hand, just like a plunge router, while it auto-corrects in real time to stay on the programmed path.

The tool's onboard screen, camera and software make designing, positioning and cutting straightforward – without needing any CAD/CAM experience.

BenchPilot builds on that same simplicity, acting as an “autopilot” for Origin: just clip it in and let BenchPilot handle the driving. When needed, you can quickly unclip Origin and return to hand-held use, offering the user true flexibility.

The system features a motorised gantry with a mount for Origin in place of a typical CNC spindle. A feed rate knob on the side lets users adjust speed in real time. As BenchPilot handles the movement from Point A to B, Origin still controls the fine precision cutting – just without having to guide it by hand.

Vertical & horizontal milling capabilities

When paired with Shaper Workstation and the new Shelf Upgrade Kit, BenchPilot supports cuts within an 11in × 18in area – plus vertical milling, which enables complex joinery, such as mortise and tenons on table, or chair legs. Vertical clamping is rare at this price point and a stand-out feature for joiners and furniture makers.

Let BenchPilot work, so you don't have to. BenchPilot isn't about replacing your hands in the workshop – it's about freeing them up. Tasks like engraving, batch-cutting tenons, or repetitive joinery can now run hands-free, while you focus on other workshop tasks, or simply take a breather.

It's the best of both worlds: when portability and control matter, Origin still shines on its own, but when repeatability and efficiency are key, BenchPilot is the new go-to.

Your new workshop apprentice

CNC machines often fall into two camps: overly complex and underused, or only accessible to the one person who has invested the time to learn them.

BenchPilot breaks that mould. It feels less like a machine and more like a trained apprentice. Set it up, press go and let it take over the routine work – without a steep learning curve.

Using BenchPilot is intuitive for existing Origin owners. There's no need for CAD, or CAM expertise: design directly on Origin, in Shaper Studio, or import your own SVG, then clip in, select your shapes with a simple WYSIWYG interface and let BenchPilot handle the rest. You can still tweak settings mid-cut and monitor progress on Origin's screen.

For further information visit www.shapertools.com



STRIEBIG CELEBRATES 50 YEARS AT LIGNA

AS the industry celebrates LIGNA turning 50, 2025 marks 50 years of Swiss vertical panel saw manufacturer, Striebig, exhibiting at Europe's largest woodworking machinery show.

Whilst the machines being demonstrated on Striebig's stand this year look worlds away from the company's first wooden-framed vertical panel saw, which was launched in 1960, the Striebig name continues to be synonymous with accuracy, quality and longevity.

'We've never missed a show,' says international sales manager at Striebig, Marco Ross.

'Striebig have been exhibiting at LIGNA since it first opened its doors five decades ago. At this point, we'd already been designing, building and selling vertical panel saws to the German woodworking fraternity for over 15 years, but LIGNA did – and still does – offer a great platform for us to present our products on an international stage. Without a doubt, LIGNA has helped us to grow our company and cement our reputation in the industry,' he adds.

Today, Striebig's space-saving vertical panel saws equate to around 70 per cent of the vertical panel saw market and it is clear to see why.

On this year's stand, visitors were able to explore Striebig's BaseCut and ExpertCut optimisation software offering, as well as the manufacturer's Optistock warehouse

management module, which has been designed to help you manage your external remnant stock.

In addition, for the first time, Striebig showcased its new, fully automatic, programmable panel pusher on its top-of-the-range 4D vertical panel saw.

'The Striebig 4D is the world's first automated vertical panel saw to offer intelligent cut optimisation and it continues to be a huge draw for larger manufacturers looking to streamline their production,' says Marco.

'The new addition to the 4D optimises the cutting process even further. The panel pusher moves the panel into the required cutting position while the saw blade is automatically repositioning itself. Moving in tandem, the time between each cut is reduced, optimising workflow,' he explains.

'On the surface, this may seem like a relatively minor modification, but when you calculate the time saved when cutting large volumes of sheet material, or when multiple vertical and horizontal cuts are required from each board, it should not be underestimated. It's been a great talking point at the show and an opportunity to showcase Striebig's ongoing commitment to Industry 4.0,' concludes Marco Ross.

For further information visit www.tmmachinery.co.uk



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DIGITALISATION TAKES CENTRE STAGE FOR CEFLA

ON the occasion of the 50th edition of LIGNA, Cella Finishing, a global leader in wood finishing technologies, had a major presence.

LIGNA 2025 marked a particularly significant event for Cefla, celebrating half a century of continuous participation as an exhibitor. It is a milestone that re-inforces the company's historic connection with one of the world's key events for the woodworking industry.

Cefla Finishing unveiled a selection of technological innovations designed to meet the evolving demands of a rapidly changing market.

In a context where speed, reliability and sustainable processes are key, Cefla showcased solutions grounded in seven strategic values that underpin the company's product development roadmap: sustainability, productivity, flexibility, simplicity, consistency, reactivity and accuracy.

These values are not just guiding principles – they translate into real, measurable benefits for professionals in the industry: technologies that enhance efficiency, reduce waste, simplify management, and ensure consistent quality.

From low-impact coating solutions to intelligent process control systems, fast colour-change technologies and extensive customisation capabilities, each innovation highlights Cefla's ongoing commitment to a smarter, more responsible and competitive future.

The seven strategic values were represented through seven thematic areas within Cefla's stand, each devoted to a

key benefit and the technology that enables it. It represented an experiential journey to witness the transformations reshaping industrial wood finishing.

With over 60 years of experience and the broadest portfolio of finishing technologies across multiple sectors, Cefla Finishing continues to build tailor-made solutions that combine tangible results with strategic vision and consistent support.

At LIGNA 2025, this approach was fully embodied in the stand's message: "everything, everywhere" – providing solutions wherever needed, for any finishing requirement.

For further information tel Cella on 00 39 0542 653111.
Visit www.cefla.com



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AWARD FOR MIRKA'S ROTARY SANDER THE DEROS RS 600

MIRKA now has four Red Dot awards as the new rotary sander, the Mirka Deros RS has received the Red Dot Design Award: Product Design 2025 award.

The award win highlights Mirka's focus on product development, as well as the brand's expertise when it comes to providing users with an innovative sander that is suitable for a multitude of sectors, from automotive to wood and applications that range from paint removal to sanding wooden floors with ease.

The Red Dot panel of experts awards this internationally recognised seal of quality only to the best products in a category.

The Mirka® DEROS RS 600 has a robust 750W brushless motor, ensuring that it can be employed on numerous surfaces, whilst minimising vibrations and noise.

Its lightweight, compact design enhances user comfort and provides a smooth operation despite it being a powerful heavy-duty sander

'We are truly honoured and thrilled that the Mirka DEROS RS has been awarded the prestigious Red Dot Design Award: Product Design 2025,' says managing director of Mirka UK, Craig Daycock.

'This award is testament to the dedication and innovation of our R&D team in Jeppo, Finland, whose

commitment to developing user-centric solutions continues to set new standards in product design,' he adds.

The Red Dot Award: Product Design has its roots dating back as far as 1955 and determines the best products created each year.

The strict judging criteria, which include levels of innovation, functionality, formal quality, ergonomics and durability, provide a frame of reference, which the jurors then complement with their own expertise.

For further information visit www.red-dot.de



NEW STEEL BELTS LAUNCHED BY CONTINUOUS PROCESS SOLUTIONS

WOOD panel manufacturers in the UK and Ireland now have direct access to a new standard in continuous production equipment, thanks to Continuous Process Solutions, a UK-based specialist in advanced machinery and steel belt technologies.

Continuous Process Solutions is proud to offer a tailored range of high-performance, high-strength steel belts for double and Mende presses, equipment and technical services designed specifically for the wood-based panel industry, including MDF, HDF, LVL, PB and OSB manufacturers.

The company is the exclusive UK and Ireland distributor of Mingke steel belts and process machinery, known globally for their precision engineering, robust performance and long service life.

With decades of combined experience in continuous processing, Continuous Process Solutions provides customers with more than just equipment. Its offering includes full project support, technical consultation, belt installation and servicing, ensuring manufacturers get the most out of their operations.

Whether it's sourcing new steel belts for double belt presses, supplying replacement rolling rods, replacing ageing

conveyor lines or designing bespoke tracking or cleaning systems, Continuous Process Solutions is positioned as a one-stop partner for manufacturers seeking durable, efficient and tailored solutions.



For further information visit www.cpsuk.co or email jarrod@cpsuk.co

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COLLYER & CO - OFFERING BESPOKE CRAFTSMANSHIP AT ITS FINEST

CO-OWNED by Steve Collyer and Phil Dawn, Collyer & Co has been building bespoke kitchens and cabinets from its Nottingham workshop for over four decades.

In 2016, Steve Collyer reached out to Preston Bissett to commission a series of wardrobes and cloak cupboards. Impressed by the quality of the craftsmanship and service, Steve's vision for something new began to take shape.

Having recently sold his financial services business with a view to retiring, Steve had always harboured an interest in exploring a completely new craft.

When it became clear that Preston Bissett's owner was looking to retire, Steve saw it as the perfect chance to embrace a new challenge. A deal was agreed and, in 2020, the business was re-branded as Collyer and Co – marking a new era for the company.

A bespoke approach to cabinetry

Unlike other companies, Collyer and Co does not have standard designs, or sizes. Everything is made in the company's Nottingham-based workshop in line with the client's exact requirements, creating unique pieces for every room in the house.

For Steve, the beauty of Collyer & Co's approach lies in its ability to provide complete customisation. Whether an architect wishes to incorporate a metal column clad in walnut to match a kitchen design, or create intricate, one-of-a-kind pieces, Collyer & Co has the skill and experience to deliver. This level of precision and personalisation has earned the company a reputation for excellence among discerning clients.

Meet the team behind the craft

Central to the company's growth and success has been the strength of its workshop and the skilled team that drives it.

Since 2020, Collyer & Co has made significant investments in state-of-the-art Felder machinery, enabling the team to handle every application with precision and efficiency.

However, it wasn't just about the equipment. Steve recognised the need for an experienced leader to manage the production process following the previous owner's retirement. Enter Phil Dawn, who was brought on board to oversee operations and who now owns 50 per cent of the business.

Phil's expertise, coupled with the talents of Adam Balai —formerly of DeVol — and Eddie Granger, a specialist sprayer, has proven invaluable.

Steve, meanwhile, has focused on the creative side and customer relations. Together, they've created a formidable team, committed to delivering top-tier craftsmanship and a seamless customer experience.

'Collyer and Co will be looking to expand its workforce again this year, following a hugely successful 2024 that saw sales increasing by more than 20 per cent and a record number of hand-crafted cabinetry projects completed in prestigious homes across the East Midlands, London and the South West,' says Steve.

Diversifying the business

Hoping to build on this success in 2025 and beyond, Collyer and Co. has recently appointed digital marketing and PR agency, The Think Tank and brand communications agency, Warbox.

The two agencies are working on a marketing strategy that capitalises on Collyer and Co's excellent brand awareness within the architectural and interior design worlds, in order to build a bigger pool of connections.

Whilst Collyer and Co still works with many consumers, all introduced via happy clients, the business has found that responding to direct client enquiries – while rewarding – can be rather time-consuming, often involving several site visits, with just a one in three strike rate.

The team felt that investing time in this process went against their ethos of wanting to keep costs low and wished to channel efforts into producing and installing brilliant cabinetry.

By concentrating on collaborations with architects and interior designers who already understand the price point and who only introduce potential work when they are comfortable it will proceed to installation, Collyer & Co. looks to renew its focus.

A profitable business model

Key to this success is Collyer and Co's business model. Rather than operating a traditional showroom, or employing a large sales team, the company keeps overheads low, enabling it to offer high-end cabinetry at a more accessible price point.

Rewarding projects

Collyer and Co tends to work in prestigious properties and the team is particularly interested in those projects that present a real challenge in terms of design and execution.

Their current project does just that.

'The team is working in a very large Grade 2 Listed farmhouse where planning restrictions mean the existing fireplace (which is open on two sides and splits the kitchen in half) has to stay,' says Steve.

'As a result, a 3.2m island unit that passes through the fireplace has been designed and built. Understandably, the client wanted to see a mock-up before proceeding – which we were happy to provide – but so far it's been a resounding success!' explains Steve.

Looking to the future

While Collyer & Co's future is bright, there's no denying that personal challenges lie ahead. Steve has recently been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND), a condition that, while moving slowly, will ultimately result in his early exit from the business.

Despite this, Steve remains optimistic about the future of Collyer & Co and he's confident in his co-owner Phil's ability to take the business to new heights.

'Phil is brilliant and he deserves the opportunity to build a very significant business for him and his family,' says Steve.

With Steve's vision and ingenuity at the company's heart and Phil at its helm, Collyer & Co. is ideally positioned to continue its legacy of craftsmanship and superb customer service.



If an architect wishes create intricate, one-of-a-kind pieces, Collyer & Co. has the skill and experience to deliver.

For further information
visit www.collyerandco.co.uk

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

Email us at: bill.willowe@gmail.com



Collyer & Co has been building bespoke kitchens and cabinets from its Nottingham workshop for over four decades.



Collyer & Co production director, Phil Dawn; cabinet maker Adam Balai and managing director Steve Collyer.

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SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON 2025 INTERIOR TRENDS

Head of Group Marketing for the Hadleigh Timber Group, Julie Dean takes us through the surfacing trends shaping interiors in 2025

THIS year, we are seeing a delightful blend of innovation, creativity and originality — trends that promise to transform our living spaces into havens of comfort, style and personality.

From the resurgence of warm, retro colour palettes to the rise of thoughtful, sustainable design, 2025 is about creating interiors that reflect individuality and conscious living.

Earthy muted tones

Earthy tones are significantly impacting interior design trends, bringing warmth, tranquillity and a connection to nature into our homes. These colours, inspired by the natural world, include rich browns, warm ochre, inviting caramels, soft pinks and reds, and elegant taupe.

Warmth and comfort: Earthy tones create a cosy and inviting atmosphere. They evoke stability and security, making spaces feel like a soft embrace after a long day.

Natural connection: These colours remind us of the outdoors, grounding us and promoting relaxation and mindfulness. They are reminiscent of soil, wood and clay, which can help reduce stress levels.

Versatility: Earthy tones are versatile and can be used throughout the home. They pair well with various materials and textures, such as wood, brass, and natural fibres.

Popular tones

Clay-like ochre: This warm yellow shade has a natural dullness that balances energy and earthiness. It pairs beautifully with brown hues and adds a plushness to any space.

Elegant taupe: A slightly warmer and darker beige taupe brings complexity and depth to your interior scheme. It's a great neutral that can make rooms feel brighter and more spacious.

Rich browns and caramels: These shades bring an aura of calm and comfort, perfect for creating harmonious and inviting living spaces.

Not so Neutral

Neutrals are a timeless choice in interior design, offering a versatile and sophisticated palette that can adapt to any style.

The new neutrals include shades of white, beige, grey, and taupe but in warmer biscuit tones to create a serene and harmonious environment. Why choose neutrals?

Versatility: Neutrals serve as a perfect backdrop, allowing you to easily change the look of a room with different accessories and accents. They work well with any colour, making it simple to update your decor without a complete overhaul.

Timeless elegance: Neutral tones never go out of style. They provide a classic and refined look that can make any space feel more polished and put together.

Calming effect: These colours promote a sense of calm and relaxation, making them ideal for creating a peaceful home environment. They are especially effective in bedrooms and living areas where you want to unwind.

Go wild with wood

Character woods are gaining popularity in interior design for their unique textures, linear effects, rich grains and natural imperfections that add depth and personality to any space.

These woods, often featuring knots, cracks, and varied colour tones,

bring a sense of authenticity and warmth to interiors.

Why choose unique woods?

Natural beauty: Character woods showcase wood's inherent beauty, celebrating its natural variations and imperfections. This adds a unique and organic feel to your home.

Warmth and texture: The rich textures and warm tones of character woods create a cosy and inviting atmosphere. They add a tactile element that enhances a space's sensory experience.

Sustainability: Using character woods often involves repurposing or recycling wood, which is eco-friendly. It promotes sustainability by reducing the demand for new timber.

Colour Drenching

Colour drenching is a bold and immersive interior design trend that involves saturating a room with a single colour. This technique creates a cohesive and dramatic look that can transform any space.

Popular tones

Deep blues: Perfect for creating a serene and sophisticated space. Use in bedrooms or living rooms to promote relaxation.

Rich greens: Ideal for bringing a touch of nature indoors. This colour works well in home offices or dining rooms to create a refreshing and invigorating environment.

Warm yellows: These warming tones add cosiness, making them perfect for living areas and kitchens

Soft pinks: Create a gentle and inviting atmosphere in bedrooms or nurseries with soft, blush tones.



Mixology

Mixing metals and marble in interior design is a sophisticated way to add depth, texture, and a touch of luxury to any space.

This combination can create a striking balance between the cool elegance of marble and the warm or sleek finishes of various metals.

Why mix metals and marble

Visual interest: Combining different metals with marble introduces a variety of textures and finishes, making a space more dynamic and visually appealing, not only for bathrooms or kitchens.

Versatility: Both marble and metals come in various colours and finishes, allowing for endless design possibilities. This versatility makes it easy to tailor the look to your style

Timeless elegance: Marble has been a symbol of luxury for centuries, and when paired with metals, it creates a timeless and elegant aesthetic that can elevate any room.

Opulence: create luxury looks for less with marble effects and metallic tonal colours for a high-end feel and focal points.

These trends reflect a desire for personalised, comfortable, and environmentally conscious living spaces. To enquire about any of the decors or ranges, please contact our sales teams, who will be happy to discuss this with you. Alternatively, why not book a visit to one of our showrooms to see the latest designs in one place.

For further information visit www.panelco.com/design-facilities

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BPI ASSET SALES RAISE OVER £200,000 FOR PADDINGTON CONSTRUCTION FOLLOWING BUSINESS CLOSURE

WHEN Paddington Construction ceased trading, BPI was appointed to manage the sale of its extensive woodworking and metalworking machinery, resulting in sales of £200,000.

Known for producing high-quality steel-framed bathroom pods for both commercial and private developments, the business had grown significantly over its 15-year history, expanding into a purpose-built facility in North London to meet growing demand and offer clients a hands-on approach to off-site construction.

The client had previously followed BPI's sales and marketing activity and made contact after seeing the company's strong track record in construction and manufacturing disposals. They were seeking a trusted partner to manage the process from start-to-finish with minimal disruption.

After considering multiple providers, BPI was selected for its in-depth industry knowledge, transparent approach and the confidence the client had in our ability to deliver results.

Two separate auctions were conducted to fully maximise the value of the assets. The first focused on woodworking and joinery equipment, featuring high-specification machinery, including a 2022 Weinig Cube Plus 4-head planer/moulder, a 2019 Weinig Powermat 700 CNC planer/moulder and a 2023 Anderson Genesis Evo 510 CNC router.

The second sale followed with metalworking and fabrication assets.

Together, the auctions attracted over 140 registered bidders from across the UK and beyond, generating a combined hammer price of more than £200,000. Buyers included joinery workshops, fit-out specialists and fabrication companies, demonstrating the value of targeted, industry-focused marketing.

BPI provided a full suite of services to ensure that both sales were delivered smoothly and on time. This included asset appraisal, cataloguing, cleaning and preparation, hosting viewings, marketing, co-ordinating collections, machinery moving and final site clearance. The entire process was completed within seven weeks.

'I can confirm that BPI's service is very effective, quick and user-friendly, achieving a very quick turnaround,' says Adrian White of Paddington Construction.

'Paddington Construction had invested in modern, hi-spec machinery and the response to both auctions reflected that. We were pleased to help facilitate two smooth, transparent sales that ensured the business could close with confidence while achieving high value return on its assets,' says associate director at BPI, Nathan Burnham.

These sales demonstrate BPI's ability to support clients in the construction, joinery and fabrication sectors—offering flexible, end-to-end asset disposal solutions that unlock value and simplify the process, even at challenging times.



For further information visit www.bpiauctions.com



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LUTZ-JESCO PRESENTS A SECTION OF MODERN TECHNOLOGIES FOR WATER TREATMENT IN AFRICA

ACCORDING to the United Nations World Water Development Report, population growth, urbanisation and economic development in sub-Saharan Africa has produced a demand for water that outstrips the water infrastructure present in many countries of this region. As a result, the bulk of the population of sub-Saharan Africa is suffering from water shortages.

Lutz-Jesco argues that modern technologies can support the expansion of such infrastructures. To this end, it showcased a number of solutions at the IFAT 2025, a trade fair for environmental technology held in Johannesburg in July.

Lutz-Jesco presented the new generation of the Memdos Smart stepper motor-driven diaphragm dosing pump. Designed for the dosing of chemicals in water treatment applications – including flocculants, disinfectants and pH regulators – it is deployed in waterworks and industrial and hotel applications.

The centre piece of the pump is a micro-processor-controlled stepper motor, which is able to effect a targeted increase in the speed of priming in order to minimise the vacuum phase and thus the pulsation of the supply stream.

‘Pump users operating standard motors have previously often been required to purchase expensive accessories, such as pulsation dampers in order to bring this negative effect under control,’ explains head of development at Lutz-Jesco GmbH, Steffen Roth,

‘This makes Memdos Smart an attractive alternative, which reduces investment costs,’ he adds.

Available in two sizes with dosing capacities from 2.6 to 182 l/h at pressures of up to 20 bar, the Memos Smart features a 3.5-in touchscreen for control and monitoring purposes, digital inputs and outputs and an Ethernet interface for integration in a superordinate control. The compact structure of the device with its removable foot and optional rotated display facilitates its integration in dosing systems.

[The Topax MC multi-channel controller: network-readiness for more efficient operation](#)

Lutz-Jesco also exhibited the Topax MC at the IFAT 2025. The multi-channel controller supports water treatment operations, using its sensors to monitor various water parameters including chlorine, pH value, REDOX and conductivity.

Dosing pumps can be controlled via digital and analogue outputs (0/4-20 mA and relay/optocoupler) in order to ensure optimal water quality. Its network capability enables users to access the measured values and device data via a web browser, or to send it to a remote maintenance facility.

‘The network capability of the Topax

MC provides a decisive advantage, especially in African contexts,’ says Steffen Roth.

‘The efficient operability of the system in remote areas, or in contexts lacking in personnel enables the deployment of maintenance personnel in a far more sparing and targeted manner,’ he adds.

[Vacuum regulator C 2214: safety when dealing with gas cylinders](#)

Lutz-Jesco also showcased its C 2214 vacuum regulator at IFAT 2025, which increases safety levels when withdrawing chlorine gas, hydrogen chloride, carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide from gas cylinders.

Operators of water treatment systems can fit the controller directly to the gas cylinder and connect it to the vacuum line system. Should a leakage result in a fall in the negative pressure, the C 2214 closes automatically and prevents an uncontrolled and dangerous release of gas.

In the case of an impermissible level of positive pressure, a safety blow-off valve releases the gas via a separate connection.

‘The automatic shut-off function and integrated safety blow-off valve of the C 2214 vacuum regulator brings additional safety, also in contexts in which the provision of training and technical support can be subject to restrictions,’ says Steffen Roth.

‘This makes the system especially suited to deployment in water treatment systems operated in the challenging conditions found in many African regions,’ he concludes.

For further information visit www.lutz-jesco.com



THE CURTAIN RISES ON THE VISUALLY STRIKING APPEARANCE AT LICHFIELD'S GARRICK THEATRE

THE show begins long before the curtain rises at Lichfield Garrick Theatre. First impressions matter and the theatre's public spaces play a crucial role in shaping the audience's experience.

So, when architectural practice, Design Unlimited was tasked with redesigning the venue's busy box office and bar area, two of the venue's most high-traffic spaces, they needed a solution that was both visually striking and built to last.

To meet the challenge, the team partnered with Medlock FRB and James Latham, one of the UK's leading independent distributors of timber, panels and decorative panels. Together, they chose HIMACS, an advanced solid surface known for its design flexibility and durability, to bring their vision to life.

The Garrick's bold brand colours, including vibrant yellows, blues, greens and pinks, meant any new addition to the space needed to hold its own, but not compete. In order to balance the scheme, Designs Unlimited opted for a calm, neutral backdrop for the new box office.

At the heart of this vision was a sculptural reception desk specified to be understated yet impactful. For this, Designs Unlimited was set on using HIMACS in Arctic White. Sourced through James Latham and crafted in collaboration with Medlock FRB the solid surface material was key to realising their concept.

HIMACS's ability to be seamlessly joined and its thermo-formable properties made it possible to create a fluid, continuous surface, allowing for a subtle dropped section to accommodate wheelchair users.

This thoughtful detail blends effortlessly into the overall design, reflecting the theatre's commitment to inclusivity without drawing attention to accessibility features.

'The box office is the first stop for most visitors, so we wanted it to be

instantly recognisable, which is why we used plain tones that contrast with the expressive colours that feature elsewhere,' says lead interior designer on the project, Jo Heyse-Moore.

'The ability to cut, bend, twist, and shape the HIMACS sheets meant that we could be far more playful with the furniture's structure, giving it its own identity. It immediately stands out as a prominent feature, performing an artistic purpose, as well as a functional one, much like material itself,' she adds.

HIMACS was not simply chosen for its sleek aesthetic, it ticked every box when it came to performance. With excellent impact and scratch resistance, a non-porous surface and the ability to seamlessly join sheets, it is hygienic, durable and easy to maintain.

Designs Unlimited selected HIMACS in Ebony Concrete for the back-of-bar workspaces, where the surface must withstand constant use, from food preparation and drink spills, to the occasional broken glass.

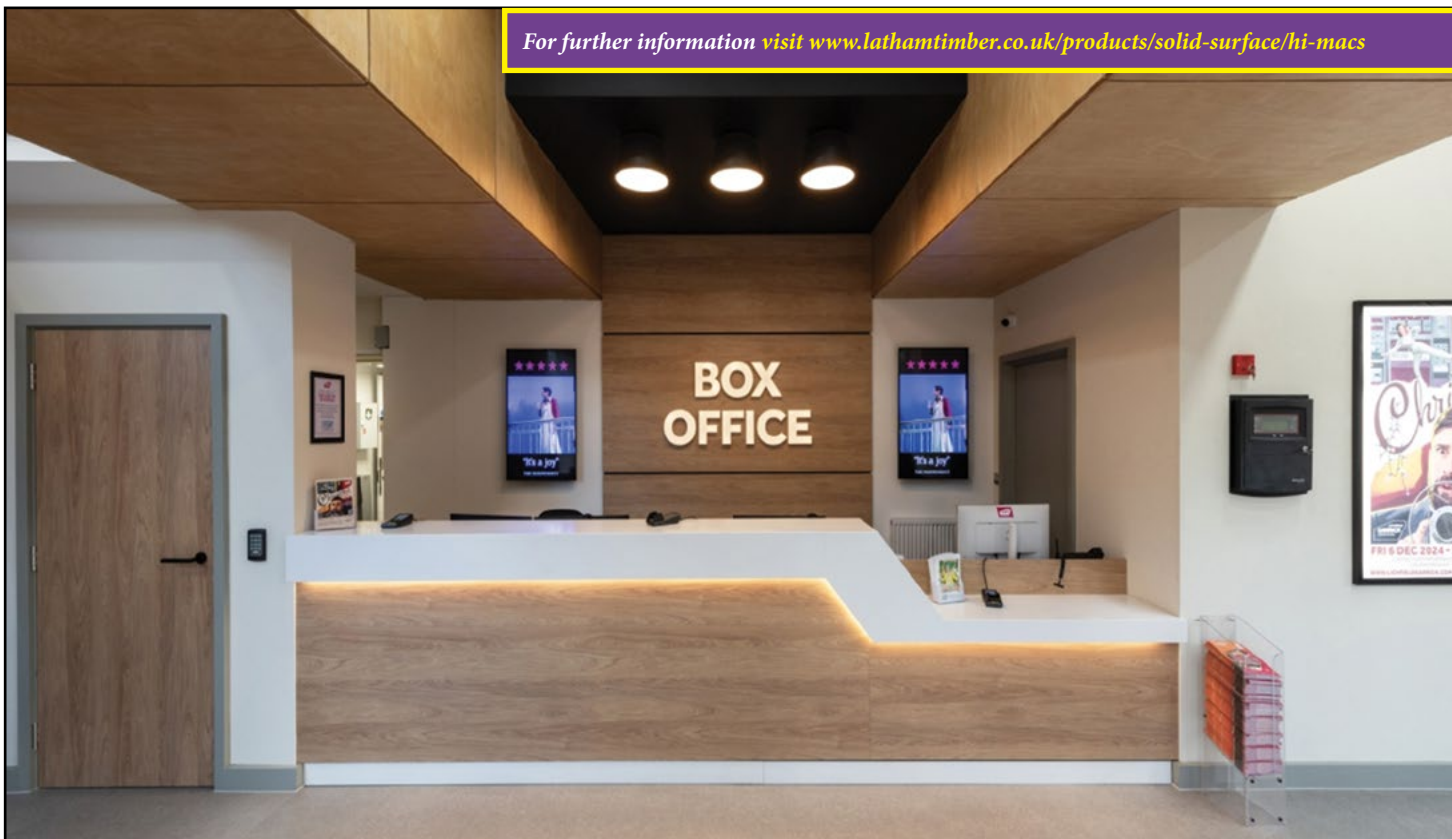
Its durability is matched by long-term value, too, thanks to a 15-year limited warranty that extends the refurbishment cycle, reducing the need for frequent repairs or replacements.

'Designing for bar areas is a unique challenge. They need to look inviting to customers, but the working areas behind the bar see heavy use and require frequent cleaning. That puts pressure on the materials we specify, especially for surfaces,' explains Jo.

'Stainless steel is a popular choice, but it scratches and dents easily. Timber is beautiful, but needs a lot of upkeep to stay that way.

'HIMACS offered the best of both worlds – robust performance with a premium finish. And the colour range is impeccable. While we stuck to neutrals for this space, the bold shades open up exciting possibilities for future projects,' she concludes.

For further information visit www.lathamtimber.co.uk/products/solid-surface/hl-macs



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