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INDUSTRIAL WOODWORKING

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XYZ INFINITE ROUTERS PROVE THEMSELVES

LOCATED conveniently close to the M11 between London and Cambridge, AK Rubber & Industrial Supplies Ltd has built a reputation over the years as a trusted manufacturer and supplier of high quality, non-metallic products.

The extensive product line includes rubber sheeting, strip matting extrusions, mouldings, gaskets and washers. With a commitment to bespoke manufacturing and quick turn-arounds, AK Rubber supports a diverse client base across industries, such as construction, structural steel and bespoke manufacturing.

As a company that thrives on delivering precision, flexibility and speed, AK Rubber has continually looked for innovative ways to scale production, whilst maintaining high standards of quality. The adoption of XYZ CNC routers has been pivotal in achieving these goals.

AK Rubber began considering CNC router technology when its business in manufacturing thermal breaks started to expand rapidly. These essential components are widely used in the construction and structural steel sectors to prevent thermal bridging and AK Rubber's growing list of client required a scalable, repeatable production process.

'The decision to work with XYZ was motivated by a clear need to support the growth of our business partners. We knew that we needed to scale up and fast,' says operations manager, Jack Fellowes-Prynne.

'Given the positive experiences others in our network had with XYZ machines, it was the logical choice,' adds Jack.

The company chose to invest in three INFINITE Series routers from XYZ, a line known for its versatility, robustness and ability to handle a wide range of materials - from rubber and plastic to composites and foams.

The INFINITE router is a highly configurable CNC machine that is suitable for "one-off", small batch production, as well as high volume and high productivity applications, including woodworking and so much more.

For a wide range of routing applications, one can choose from high-speed spindles ranging from 5hp to 15hp. For knife cutting choose from a tangential knife, which can be used for creasing and folding applications, or an oscillating knife, which can be used to process soft goods material.

Although AK Rubber had years of experience with manual cutting processes and bespoke fabrication, adopting CNC router technology represented a significant shift in operations.

As first-time users of automated routing systems, the learning curve could have been steep - but thanks to XYZ's customer support and training, the transition was smooth.

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A WORLD FIRST IN MAINTENANCE: PUMP GREASE WITH THE AID OF A CORDLESS SCREWDRIVER

IN THE construction, agricultural and industrial sectors, unplanned machine breakdowns, due to neglected lubrication repeatedly lead to high costs.

Lutz Pumpen has therefore developed a filling tool called Lutz Lube Drive, which considerably simplifies the maintenance process. The idea: a commercial cordless screwdriver becomes the motor of a pump tube.

Stress breaks out on a building site in Berlin. The concrete for the basement of an office building is to be poured in three days. Now of all times, the excavator has broken down. The reason is bearing damage to the blade - caused by insufficient lubrication.

‘Although operators generally know the benefits of regular maintenance, centralised lubrication systems are often filled improperly, which leads to unexpected and costly failures,’ says sales manager at Lutz Pumpen, Andreas Rossler.

Grease pumps with manual drive often hinder maintenance

According to Andreas Rossler, one off the reasons why re-lubrication is an unpleasant task is that the technical aids that make it more convenient are often missing.

It is still common practice to fill grease from above with a spatula, hand pumps, or pneumatic pumps from containers into the centralised lubrication systems of construction machinery and equipment in agriculture and industry.

‘Filling this by hand is a laborious undertaking and pneumatic connections are usually unavailable and bulky,’ says Andreas.



Lutz Lube Drive simplifies the filing of central lubrication systems - for example in construction machinery and agricultural machinery.

In order to simplify this filling process Lutz Pumpen has therefore developed a new type of filling tool called the Lutz Lube Drive.

‘This is the world’s first eccentric screw pump tube that can be driven by a commercially available cordless screwdriver,’ explains Andreas.

‘This makes pumping grease much more relaxed, without the user having to transport a system with a heavy and expensive pneumatic motor,’ adds Andreas.

Pumping up to 2kg of grease per minute with the power of the cordless screwdriver



The Lutz Lube Drive in action: lubrication should no longer be an unpleasant task.

Lube Drive works as follows: the user places the eccentric screw pump tube made of steel in a container with a capacity of 10 to 60kg of grease. You can then place a cordless screwdriver with bit holder on the pump tube and start pumping.

The cordless screwdriver drives a metal rotor that feeds the grease evenly and gently from the container through a hose into the central lubrication system. The delivery volume is up to 2kg/min. The system is suitable for all commercially available greases up to NLGI-2.

*For further information tel
Lutz in 0049 9342 879 265.*

Visit www.lutz-jesco.com

XYZ INFINITE ROUTERS PROVE TO BE PIVOTAL IN THE SUCCESS OF AK RUBBER & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

'XYZ provided on-site training for both the machine and the drawing software that was key to helping our staff quickly build confidence in using the equipment effectively,' says Jack.

This hands-on approach gave AK Rubber the ability to bring complex custom cutting jobs in-house, improving speed and repeatability without compromising on quality.

Today, AK Rubber operates three INFINITE routers (2 of the 4,000 series and one 5,000 series) across the company's facility. The impact on production has been immediate and significant.

'We have seen a substantial increase in capacity. The machines allow us to take on more work, whilst reducing lead times across the board. Efficiency is greatly improved allowing us to serve clients faster and with even more precision,' explains a team member.

XYZ routers now handle the bulk of cutting and shaping for thermal breaks, gaskets, washers and custom rubber components, whether it is a "one-off" prototype, or a large production run, XYZ machines offer the flexibility AK Rubber needs to keep up with demand.

Beyond sheer productivity, the integration of XYZ routers has brought deeper operational improvements.

Thanks to the automation and repeatability of CNC routing, jobs which once took hours now take minutes - without the need for manual rework. The increased output has directly contributed to AK Rubber's bottom line.

'With higher production volumes, we have seen a rise in our work load which, in turn, has boosted profitability.

'The adoption of CNC technology has changed the nature of work on the shop floor.

'We have expanded our team to support machine operation and production. There have also been some role adjustments to reflect the new technology. Overall, it has been a positive development for our work force,' says Jack Fellowes-Prynn.

Any piece of machinery is only as good as the maintenance behind it - and AK Rubber takes this seriously. The company's XYZ routers undergo monthly deep cleaning and lubrication to ensure continued performance and longevity.

By implementing a structured maintenance schedule, the company

maximises uptime and minimises the risk of costly interruptions.

'The machines are a major part of our production strategy, so keeping them in tip top shape is a priority,' says a spokesperson for the company.

The adoption of XYZ technology has given AK Rubber the confidence to look ahead with optimism. The company is planning to invest in additional machinery in the future.

'Our aim is to further enhance our capabilities and stay ahead of customer demand,' explains Jack.

This proactive approach is typical of AK Rubber's philosophy embracing new tools that help the company to deliver better, faster and more competitively in a dynamic market place.

For AK Rubber, XYZ has been more than a vendor - it has been a true partner in growth.

From the initial consultation to training, installation and post-sales support, XYZ has played a central role in ensuring a successful technological transition.

The XYZ INFINITE Series routers continue to prove themselves daily on the factory floor, helping AK Rubber maintain its reputation for quality, reliability and responsiveness.

AK Rubber and Industrial Supplies Ltd is a company known for bespoke solutions, short lead times and outstanding customer service.

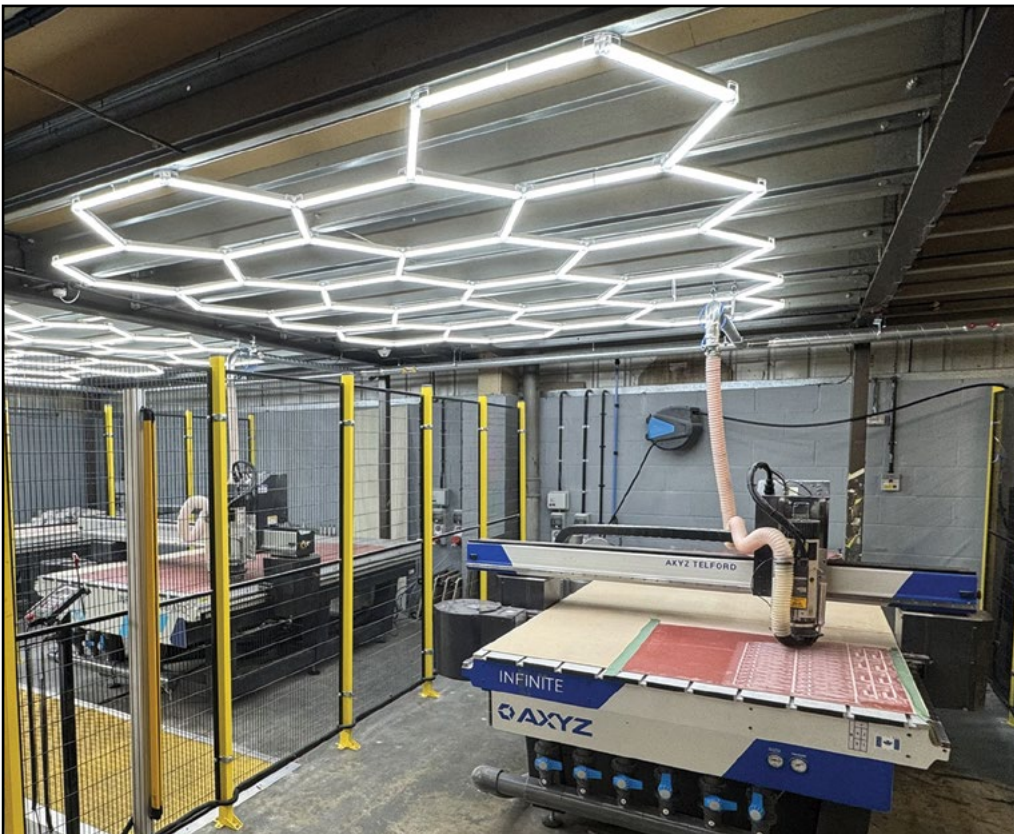
By investing in XYZ CNC routers AK Rubber has been able to maintain all these strengths - whilst scaling to meet rising demands.

Whether it is crafting complex thermal breaks for the construction industry, or

manufacturing custom

gaskets and washers for industrial clients, the team now has the tools, training and technology to meet every challenge head-on.

With a focus on continual improvement, AK Rubber is already looking to the future and the company's XYZ routers will be right there with them.



AK Rubber has purchased 2 of the 4,000 series and 1 of the 5,000 series model of the XYZ INFINITE routers).

For further information tel XYZ on 01952 291600.

Visit www.axyz.com

For further information on AK Rubber & Industrial Supplies Ltd tel 01279 719000. Visit www.akrubber.co.uk

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WHEN BEING BOTH A MANUFACTURER AS WELL AS A DISTRIBUTOR MATTERS

WHEN it comes to sourcing the highest quality products for kitchen furniture, two key players make it all happen. Manufacturers and distributors play a vital role in the industry and Häfele is proud to be both.

With over 100 years of experience in both making the products for its customers' projects and delivering them where they're needed, Häfele helps keep the kitchen furniture industry moving smoothly, from factory floor to finished installation.

Häfele's manufacturing roots

Häfele's heritage is rooted in manufacturing innovation, with a strong focus on solving real-world industry challenges.

Whether it is speeding up the work of cabinet makers, or enabling new design possibilities for furniture manufacturers, its priority is designing purposeful, intelligent products. Nowhere is this more evident than in its exclusive in-house solutions, which combine quality, function and reliability.

Minifix

Launched in 1983, one of Häfele's most iconic innovations is the Minifix connector system, which offers a fast, secure and concealed connection using a hemispherical head based on a centric ball principle.

Häfele produces a staggering 3.2 million Minifix connectors every day at its Berlin factory, with over 500 million units manufactured each year.

Service+

That same spirit of intelligent problem-solving continues through much of what Häfele does today, including its Service+ Customised offering.

Whether it is hand-made wooden drawers, or bespoke worktops, Service+ Customised enables furniture manufacturers and joiners to specify products to exact sizes, finishes and quantities.

Products arrive on site, cut to precise measurements and are pre-assembled as required, creating efficiencies in time and cost.

Utensio

More recently, Häfele has drawn on its century of expertise to create Utensio, its first-ever own-brand collection of storage solutions.

Designed to blend style and elegance with intelligent, thoughtful functionality, the Utensio range features larder pull-outs, corner and base storage and now the UK's largest integrated bin solution.

Developed with a "designed by experts, for experts" philosophy, Utensio

is ideal for furniture makers who demand precision, durability and ease of installation for their designs.

Fixtures and fastenings

Innovation continues in the form of multi-purpose solutions, such as the UC 16/64. A problem solver for any project, the polycarbonate connection device combines snap-in studs and clips with a latching nose and screw holes, making it suitable for a range of applications, from corner and surface connections to angled and double joints. It can also be used as an assembly aid, cable guide, spacer and floor guide.

Another standout is IXConnect SC 8/25, a one-piece connector that requires no glue, dowels, or tools. It simply slots into an 8mm hole and expands to lock panels into place when pushed together, resulting in a concealed connection ideal for cabinets, drawers and furniture units.

Strategic distribution

As a distributor, Häfele has built strong partnerships with leading brands to act as a one-stop shop for the kitchen furniture industry. These relationships also allow Häfele to leverage additional benefits for manufacturers; by gaining insight into buying trends, Häfele can shape its stock profile to better serve its customers' needs.

The company is so committed to its role as a distributor that in 2024, it invested in a £5m warehouse shuttle system, boosting stock capacity and enabling its "Order by 5pm for next day delivery" promise, ensuring that customers receive products whenever and wherever they need them.

Tools and consumables

Häfele has supported kitchen furniture makers for decades by supplying premium-quality hand tools and consumables that deliver reliable performance for every job.

As well as screws, sealants and adhesives and safety workwear, the company has developed strong partnerships with the likes of Wera, Mirka and Festool to offer the complete range of tooling needs. This is Häfele's way of ensuring customers can get everything they need for their projects, all under one roof.

Sliding door solutions

Sliding door solutions offer furniture manufacturers design freedom and Häfele's partnership with Hawa takes that opportunity a step further.

Slide and pivot systems, such as the Hawa Concepta, utilise a hinged system which can slide back into a concealed pocket.

The doors help to completely close off areas of the home, such as hidden kitchens, breakfast stations, or pantries, making them a valuable tool for kitchen furniture makers wanting an innovative solution for their designs.

Your perfect partner

Being both a manufacturer and distributor gives Häfele a unique, holistic view of the kitchen furniture market, with both roles feeding into one another.

Häfele doesn't only make and deliver the products its customers need. It spots emerging trends, develops new solutions and services to align with that and works with the brands on the market that make a true difference to kitchen furniture projects.

That's why Häfele is the perfect partner to meet the evolving needs of today's manufacturing and joinery businesses.



For further information visit www.hafele.co.uk

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TIMBMET - A COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY & INNOVATION

TIMBMET Ltd, established in 1942, is one of the UK's leading importers, distributors and suppliers of timber, panel and composite products.

Over the years, the company has built a strong reputation for its extensive range of high-quality products and exceptional customer service.

Timbmet Ltd operates with a commitment to sustainability and innovation. The company offers a wide variety of timber products, including hardwoods, softwoods and modified woods, catering to diverse customer needs.

The company is known for its two manufacturing sites, which provide customers with a vast array of options for the fabrication of timber and moulding products.

These facilities enable the company to offer bespoke solutions, tailored to the specific requirements of its clients. This flexibility and dedication to quality have made Timbmet a preferred partner for many leading brands.

In 2018, Timbmet Ltd became part of The Hadleigh Timber Group, further strengthening its position in the market.

Timbmet Ltd is also committed to sustainability and responsible sourcing. The company adheres to strict environmental standards and works closely with suppliers to ensure that all products are sourced from well-managed forests.

Overall, Timbmet Ltd's dedication to quality, innovation and



sustainability has solidified its position as a leader in the timber and panel products industry.

The company's extensive product range, bespoke solutions, and exceptional customer service make it a trusted partner for businesses across the UK and beyond.

For further information visit www.timbmet.com

A DIVERSE PORTFOLIO OF COMPONENTS

BASED in the heart of the West Midlands in the UK, The Insert Company supplies high-quality brass, zinc alloy, steel and stainless steel threaded inserts, fastenings and connectors suitable for all applications in wood, metal and plastic.

The Insert Company has the ability to have parts made and finishes to customers' specifications, including turned metal parts, metal presswork and plated finishes. All its inserts are manufactured from the highest quality materials and conform to all industry standards.

The company's expansive product portfolio makes The Insert Company a valuable one-stop shop, with some of its latest launches including self-anchoring inserts, euro and security screws.

Established in 2003, The Insert Company has extensive experience within the fastenings industry, with far-reaching knowledge of manufacturers and suppliers and can find any part at a competitive price.



For further information tel The Insert Company on 0121 439 7329.
Visit www.theinsertcompany.com

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N.E.J. STEVENSON IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

WITH decades of experience in high-end furniture and specialist joinery, N.E.J. Stevenson has forged a reputation for exquisite craftsmanship, intelligent problem-solving and a deep respect for both materials and design intent.

Whether working alongside interior designers, or directly with private clients, the Warwickshire-based firm brings a thoughtful and rigorous approach to every brief.

'We have an uncompromising attitude to quality, which has led us to be one of the best companies in our field,' explains managing director of N.E.J. Stevenson, Neil Stevenson.

'Our aim is always to add value to the design, whether that's by solving structural issues, or elevating the aesthetic.

'Too often, the focus is purely on a programme which encourages speed over quality, but clients will remember the quality and usability long after everything else,' adds Neil.

This ethos of quality and consideration runs through every stage of N.E.J. Stevenson's production processes, particularly when working directly with end clients.

'We always begin by trying to get a sense of the client's aesthetic and functional needs,' says Neil.

'From there, we're essentially working from a blank page. The constraints of the space — the size, the appliances, the flow of the room — those all shape the design. What's left becomes the opportunity for creativity,' says Neil.

Whether installing bespoke cabinetry into Grade II Listed buildings, or crafting furniture for contemporary high-spec interiors, N.E.J. Stevenson maintains a consistent approach on-site.

'The priorities are always the same: the safety of our team, the people around us and the protection of the existing building fabric,' says Neil.

Striking a balance between client vision and technical feasibility is another area where the team's experience shines.

'It's not about saying "No" — it's about explaining the reality,' says Neil.

'We sometimes receive requests to use solid timber in ways that aren't viable structurally. We need to understand the client's thought processes, as well as their prejudices with regard to certain materials, such as MDF and then educate them to understand the attributes of each type of material and its appropriateness for different designs and constructions,' says Neil.

One project that exemplifies the studio's creative problem-solving was a concept table designed for the International Furniture Show.

'We were exploring the question "Is furniture art?" recalls Neil.

'We determined that if something had a practical use, it couldn't be art, so we designed a table that was both practical and impractical, depending on how it was manipulated.

'The circular top was flat until it was rotated, at which point it became a wave and was therefore impractical as a table. The initial designs for the mechanism were highly complex and mechanical and didn't work effectively, as well as being incredibly expensive.

'Rather than abandoning the idea, we revisited the whole thought process around the mechanism and came up with a very simple, inexpensive solution to make it work perfectly,' says Neil.

Sustainability is a growing priority for N.E.J. Stevenson, though Neil is quick to point out that it's not always straightforward.

'There is a great deal of misinformation, particularly around timber accreditations. Some materials that carry accreditation are actually less sustainable than non-accredited ones.

'Our approach is to be honest with clients about the environmental impact of their choices. If a material is legally and ethically sourced and they still want it, we'll use it — but we make sure they understand fully.

'On the technical front, challenges often arise in large-scale, or unusual commissions. One stand-out was a 40ft extendable Victorian Gothic dining table, designed for regular use in a hospitality setting.



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‘We determined that the traditional timber sliding systems would be impractical, due to sagging over significant distances and the likelihood of the mechanism seizing up due to climatic conditions or inappropriate handling,’ explains Neil.

‘We designed a bespoke aluminium system, utilising sliding door mechanisms to provide a rigid extension and a smooth action.

‘In order to facilitate the table being moved around, we designed bespoke sledges, which lifted the table off the ground, allowing it to be wheeled into position without damaging the floor,’ says Neil.

When asked what distinguishes a good bespoke project from a truly great one, Neil is unequivocal.

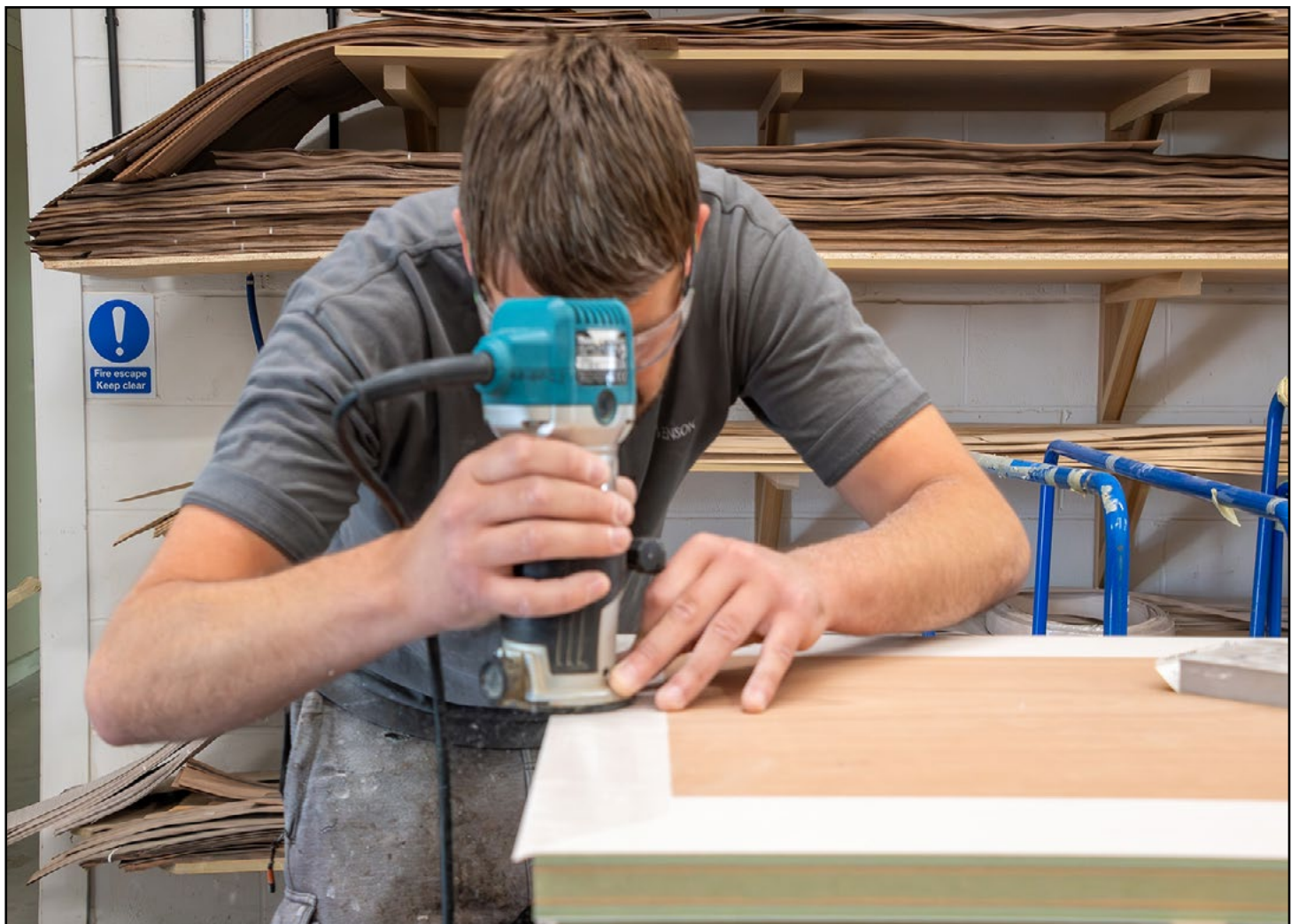
‘It comes down to alignment and intention. If everyone involved is focused on achieving excellence and is not willing to compromise, then you can create something extraordinary. That kind of project is usually not without conflict, but individuals push each other to be better,’ says Neil.

Looking ahead, N.E.J. Stevenson continues to build on its strong foundations.

‘We are growing steadily and securely and investing in our apprenticeship programme. We want to bring new talent into the industry and pass on the values that have defined this company,’ says Neil.

‘As long as we keep delivering quality and staying true to our principles, I think the future is bright,’ concludes Neil.

For further information visit www.nejstevenson.co.uk



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NATIONAL WOODWORKING TEACHERS NETWORK LAUNCHES

THE Furniture Makers Company and the Sylva Foundation are launching the Woodworking Teachers Network – a new national initiative designed to connect, support and empower educators working in woodworking and furniture-making education.

The network emerges as a direct response to the findings of a comprehensive survey conducted in the spring of 2025, which gathered the views of 55 teachers, tutors and technicians from across Great Britain.

The research, complemented by the recent “Crafting Connections” seminar, painted a vivid picture of both the immense value of woodworking education and the urgent challenges facing those who deliver it.

Among the most striking findings, 73 per cent of educators surveyed said that they strongly supported the creation of a national network, with many citing isolation, underfunding, outdated curricula and lack of tailored professional development as major barriers in their work.

Educators - many of whom came into teaching from successful careers in industry - voiced a shared desire for stronger peer connections, modern training opportunities and greater recognition of their subject’s importance.

‘This is about more than just sharing teaching resources - it’s about building a vibrant, supportive community of educators, who are passionate about craftsmanship and committed to passing on their knowledge,’ says Joseph Bray of the Sylva Foundation.

‘Through this network, we aim to nurture excellence in teaching, promote innovation and ensure that woodworking education continues to thrive into the future,’ he adds.

The newly launched network will provide:

Peer mentoring and collaboration, allowing experienced and early-career educators to support one another across institutions.

Subject-specific CPD, with opportunities to develop skills in areas, such as machine safety, CAD/CAM, digital drawing, pedagogy, neurodiversity and sustainability.

An online hub to share teaching materials, safety protocols, project templates, industry case studies and more.

In-person and online gatherings to foster connection, professional dialogue and shared learning.

Advocacy and thought leadership, working with awarding bodies and policymakers to promote the value of woodworking education.

Educators from all settings - including secondary schools, further education colleges, universities, independent training centres, charities and freelance instructors - are invited to join the network.

Importantly, the initiative recognises and values the contributions of informal and non-traditional educators as much as those in formal education systems.

This launch marks the beginning of an evolving journey. An online kick-off meeting is scheduled for autumn 2025 and a second in-person event will be hosted in 2026.

In the meantime, Sylva Foundation and The Furniture Makers’ Company are working together to build a digital platform for ongoing collaboration.

For further information visit www.furnituremakers.org.uk



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MAGNET AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS MANUFACTURING GUILD MARK BY THE FURNITURE MAKERS' COMPANY

MAGNET - one of the UK's most recognised kitchen brands - has been awarded the coveted Manufacturing Guild Mark by the City of London livery company and furnishing industry charity, The Furniture Makers' Company.

Sponsored by the Biesse Group, EMST and Microvellum, the Manufacturing Guild Mark has been the mark of excellence, distinguishing Britain's top furniture and furnishing manufacturers since 1993. The award highlights Magnet's ongoing commitment to quality, craftsmanship and innovation.

With more than 100 years at the heart of British kitchens, Magnet offers a full-service kitchen experience, from inspiration through to installation.

Each of its kitchens is made in the UK, combining timeless design with trusted performance and backed by a nationwide network of expert kitchen designers and over 200 showrooms.

The Manufacturing Guild Mark was officially presented to Magnet by chairman of the Manufacturing Guild Mark, Daniel Mesecke during a special ceremony held at the company's Darlington offices and attended by Magnet team members.

'This recognition is a huge testament to the dedication and skill of our teams,' says quality & technical manager at Magnet, Charlie Allan.

'Quality isn't just a target for us, it's a mindset that's built into everything we do. From the very first design detail to

the final product checks, every kitchen we make carries that same commitment to excellence,' he adds.

The Manufacturing Guild Mark is only awarded to businesses that manufacture the majority of their products in the UK and can demonstrate outstanding standards across seven key criteria: design, product development and function, manufacture, human resources, financial stability, sustainability and sales and marketing.

Companies undergo an independent audit every three years by the Furniture Industry Research Association on behalf of the Furniture Makers' Company to ensure that their standards of operation remain high.

Magnet's achievement reflects both the robust quality management systems in place across the business, including ISO 9001, Six Sigma methodologies and ongoing product testing, as well as its deeply embedded culture of continuous improvement.

'Magnet impressed us across every assessment area - from their robust quality control systems and lean, well-maintained factories to their continuous improvement mindset and sustainability leadership,' says Manufacturing Guild Mark chairman, Daniel Mesecke.

'Their combination of in-house design expertise, rigorous testing and a commitment to UK manufacturing excellence made them a clear candidate for the Manufacturing Guild Mark,' he concludes.

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SPACE ZERO TARGETS £10m TURNOVER WITH MAJOR RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Strategic design consultancy to boost head count by eight to support expanding project pipeline. Manchester-based firm has delivered over 1,000 educational projects in 26 countries.

SPACE Zero, a leading strategic design consultancy, has announced plans for a significant recruitment drive to support its ambitious growth strategy.

Space Zero is a leading strategic design consultancy specialising in the creation of high-impact learning and working environments across the education, hospitality and commercial sectors.

Based in Manchester and operating internationally, the company partners with clients to deliver intelligent design solutions that inspire people, enrich lives and well-being, improve outcomes and unlock potential.

From strategic briefing, interior and FF&E design and delivery, Space Zero blends creativity with commercial insight to shape environments that improve learning outcomes for all.

Since 2009, the company has completed over 1,000 education projects in more than 26 countries, shaping environments experienced by over 10 million students.

The company is on track to achieve a projected turnover of more than £10m by March 2027 — a 35 per cent increase in revenue over two years.

To fuel this expansion Space Zero will grow its 42-strong team by recruiting eight new members in strategy, design and procurement roles, reflecting confidence in its strong pipeline of projects.

This follows an impressive head count increase of 12 over the past 18 months, including senior appointments, such as Kirstine Robinson (Associate Director, Strategy), Olga Collins (Head of Procurement), and Chris Hayley (Head of Projects) and new talent in design, technology, procurement and administrative support.

Founded by Wayne Taylor and Philip Gardner in 2009, the firm found success in interior design and Fixed Furniture

and Equipment (FF&E), supporting the design gaps faced by construction companies and architects, especially within the education sector.

Since then the company has delivered more than 1,000 educational projects in 26 countries, shaping environments experienced by over 10 million students.

Its extensive portfolio spans state schools, SEND facilities, independent schools, further and higher education campuses, with active projects across England, Scotland and Wales.

Space Zero has also successfully delivered more than 100 landmark schools across the UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, China, Thailand, Malaysia, Europe and, more recently, USA.

Looking ahead, Space Zero is poised to help shape the next generation of learning environments under the Department for Education's new £15.4 billion Construction Framework 25 (CF25), starting in 2026.

Building on its success delivering schools through the previous CF21 framework, Space Zero is preparing to support modernisation, optimisation and capacity-building efforts across the public education estate.

The consultancy is also broadening its reach into the UK's independent schools' market, leveraging its international experience to respond to the rising demand from private education providers seeking to modernise and differentiate their facilities.

'Space Zero's growth is underpinned by our international reputation for delivering on our promise: to re-imagine learning environments in ways that improve outcomes, unlock potential, enrich lives and enhance well-being. Our mantra is that we don't



Left to right top row: Alexandros Nikolaidis (finance assistant), Kirstine Robinson (associate director, strategy), Phil Mitchell (financial controller), Beth Dunbar (personal assistant), Chris Hayley (head of projects) and Olga Collins (head of procurement).

Left to right bottom row: Martha Fletcher (estimator), Abigail Lowe (executive assistant), Stephanie Mabon (interior designer), Liam McColgan (interior designer) and Arnold (head of canine), Emily Pester (interior designer) and Aleksandra Koszykowska (interior technologist).

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just design classrooms, we help shape futures,' says founder and chief executive officer, Wayne Taylor.

'For us, growth isn't just about numbers. We're scaling with purpose, to reach more communities and deliver schools that genuinely change lives, backed by world-class, fully integrated solutions from strategy to fit-out, without compromising on quality,' says Wayne.

'As education faces outdated infrastructure, tighter budgets, inclusion demands and rising expectations, our message is clear: build better, or fall behind,' he adds.

'Investing in our talented and brilliant people is central to maintaining our momentum and continuing to drive positive change across the education sector.

'Our international team is made up of bold, curious and collaborative specialists who never settle for "What is" — instead they ask, "What if?". We're expanding because our design works and

because our people believe in our purpose,' says Mr Taylor.

Space Zero's growth strategy is being driven by its continuous £1m+ annual investment in research and innovation. Through purpose-driven, data-informed design, supported by robust BIM and ISO-accredited processes, the company drives innovation and creativity whilst embracing digital tools, automation, AI-assisted workflows, digital twinning, and simulation to improve speed, accuracy and sustainability.

'We're moving beyond traditional design to become a full-spectrum education change partner, re-imagining how space, technology and human experience come together to transform learning — not just for today, but for the next generation.

'By applying emerging technologies and future-focused thinking, from neurodiverse and trauma-informed environments to biophilic design, we deliver projects with proven cognitive, emotional and social benefits far beyond aesthetics,' he concludes.



The Deaf Academy

For further information visit <https://spacezero.co.uk/>



Beatlie School Campus interior

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Castle Brae Community Campus



Founder and chief executive officer of Space Zero, Wayne Taylor.



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FROM AWARD-WINNER TO COMMUNITY LEADER - ASTRID ARNOLD'S MISSION IN THE TRADES

WHEN it comes to inspiring the next generation to discover the value and fulfilment found in the carpentry and joinery trade — particularly in tackling the under representation of women — Astrid Arnold is leading the way.

In this piece, Astrid shares the mission behind her female-led company, TouchWood, reflects on the impact of winning Screwfix Top Tradesperson 2023 and reveals her exciting plans for growth.

[Astrid, could you tell us a little about your own professional background?](#)

My journey in the trade began almost 24 years ago when I saw an advertisement from a college called “Women’s Education and Building, London”.

They were looking for women to enrol for an NVQ Level 2 in Site Carpentry & Joinery, which gave you the training and skills to be able to work on building sites.

When I finished my training, I continued to work on building sites as a self-employed carpenter. I enjoyed working on-site, but it quickly felt repetitive, as I was mostly working on housing developments.

I was then introduced to someone who was teaching green woodwork in Herefordshire and for three years I learnt new techniques and how to use new tools.

Following this, I undertook training on timber frame house construction; it was then that I decided to become self-employed and start TouchWood Southwest in 2015.

[How has winning Screwfix Top Tradesperson 2023 impacted your career?](#)

Winning such a prestigious title was fantastic, as I was competing against some very talented tradespeople. The prize of a £20,000 bundle was made up of £10,000 to spend on tools, £5,000 worth of technology and £5,000 towards training. This has been a great help and we have used it to support the existing training courses that we run for women in our local community.

[TouchWood Southwest isn't your average carpentry firm. Can you tell us more?](#)

Touchwood Southwest is a female-led carpentry and joinery company, with a focus largely on working within the community to empower women with woodworking skills.

We are a team of tradeswomen that teach a wide range of courses for up-and-coming tradespeople, as well as for DIY-ers, alongside offering traditional carpentry services. We have also been involved in several charitable initiatives that support women in the industry.

In addition, we work with primary schools to bring practical skills into the curriculum. Our approach is that if we want to tackle the skills shortage at any point in the future, we must start in primary schools. In these sessions, we demonstrate how carpentry works and try to engage the children with the skills and fun involved in creating something.

[One of your standout initiatives is “Women Build!” — how did that come about, and what does it entail?](#)

Astrid Arnold heads up TouchWood - a female-led company.



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

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We wanted to support women who are survivors of domestic violence and decided to start an initiative called “Women Build!” alongside the probation service.

“Women Build!” empowers women who are unemployed, or on probation with their mental health through carpentry and woodworking, to support them in not only learning a new skill, but helping them develop a path forward for the future.

When we started eight years ago, we taught women carpentry skills by building a mini timber-frame house. This house has been taken to the primary schools we work in, where it is used to help children not only in learning about carpentry, but also maths, geometry and history.

[Can you give an example of how your training connects with wider communities?](#)

We look to provide opportunities to women who are on probation, some of whom have also experienced domestic violence.

We teach them a variety of carpentry and DIY skills, which they can use to build pieces of furniture for themselves and for our online shop. The money raised from the sale of these goes back into the project.

We have worked with over 1,500 adults through our courses and probably the same number of children through our work in

schools. It has been very impactful and I’m excited for what the future brings.

[How do you fund your community training work?](#)

Over the past eight years, we have raised tens of thousands of pounds of grant money to fund our initiatives, which support our educational training programmes.

[What’s next for TouchWood Southwest?](#)

At our core, we are a carpentry and joinery company, providing a service to both clients and students. At the moment, we are expanding a little, which has allowed us to take on bigger projects for clients and build our team of amazing female tutors.

It would be great to do more with the education sector. We have worked with primary schools over the last 8-9 years and to expand our work into secondary schools would be fantastic.

Sadly, working in the trade is still viewed as a second-class career choice, which could not be further from the truth. I would love to set up a team to help inspire secondary school students, particularly young women, about entering the trade.

For further information about the training courses offered by Astrid and her team at TouchWood Southwest visit www.touchwoodswest.com

For further information about the Screwfix Top Tradesperson competition visit www.screwfix.com



KEEP ON TRACK WITH CAD + T

LET'S face it, losing anything can be annoying. but for a manufacturer, misplacing materials, or parts during the production cycle can impact every area of your business, including your bottom line.

Now imagine you have a real-time location system (RTLS) from CAD+T integrated into your production. Whatever the size of your business, the ability to track and locate materials, parts and people in real time and to within 3cm, offers a wealth of benefits alongside the core advantage of never having to search for misplaced materials or parts again.

Ever wondered what areas of your business perform better than others? Maybe you're questioning if your employees could work more efficiently, or if you could eliminate the issue of bottle necks.

'With CAD+T's RTLS, you get a real-time view of your entire production facility and those working in it. This, in turn gives you the data you need to highlight manufacturing and labour inefficiencies, explains chief executive officer at CAD + T, Martina Schwarz.

'It gives you valuable, real-time feed-back into every area of your business and it gives you the tools you need to analyse your entire production set-up, pin pointing any problem areas,' she adds.



Chief executive officer at CAD + T, Martina Schwarz.

For further information visit www.cadt-solutions.com

TAILORED, HIGH QUALITY SOLUTIONS FROM MEYER

MEYER Timber is a prominent supplier of wood-based panels and sheet materials, catering primarily to the trade construction market in the UK. The company offers an extensive range of products, including MDF, plywood, chipboard, OSB, veneer, door blanks and hardboard.

Founded with a commitment to quality and innovation, Meyer Timber has established itself as a trusted name in the industry. The company prides itself on its personalised service, ensuring that customers receive tailored solutions to meet their specific needs.

This customer-centric approach has helped Meyer Timber build strong, long-lasting relationships with its clients. Now with four strategic locations, the levels of service and product range are stronger than ever.

One of the key strengths of Meyer Timber is its extensive product range. Offering a wide variety of MDF boards in different sizes and thicknesses, sourced from premium manufacturers in the UK.

With a plywood range, which includes softwood, hardwood and mixed cores, suitable for numerous applications. Chipboard panels are available in various grades and thicknesses, from standard boards to higher grades for flooring.

Meyer Timber also places a strong emphasis on sustainability. The company ensures that its products are sourced from responsible suppliers who adhere to environmental standards.

In addition to its product offerings, Meyer Timber provides



valuable support and advice to its customers. The company's team of industry experts is always on hand to offer guidance on product selection and application, helping customers make informed decisions.

This level of support is a testament to Meyer Timber's dedication to excellence and customer satisfaction.

Overall, Meyer Timber is a reliable and innovative supplier in the wood-based panel industry, driven by a passion for providing high-quality material solutions to the construction market with a personalised approach.

For further information visit www.meyertimber.com

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EVOLVING THE UK'S WOODWORKING & JOINERY TRADE SHOW NEXT YEAR AT BIRMINGHAM'S NEC

MONTGOMERY Group is thrilled to announce the evolution of the Materials and Finishes Show into Professional Woodworking Expo, returning to the NEC Birmingham from May 17-19 2026.

This exciting rebranding reflects the Group's commitment to serving the UK's woodworking industry and builds upon the valuable insights gained from our successful 2024 event.

The Professional Woodworking Expo is the UK's only dedicated event for woodworking professionals, offering a comprehensive showcase of workshop essentials.

From cutting-edge machinery and tools to innovative software, coatings, varnishes, finishes and materials, this event is tailored to meet the specific needs of the woodworking and joinery manufacturing industry in the UK.

Key features of the Professional Woodworking Expo 2026:

- Curated exhibits featuring products and services tailored for professional workshops.
- Expanded interactive live demonstration areas and tailored content programmes.
- Networking opportunities with 6,000+ fellow woodworking professionals from the UK & Ireland.

'Our decision to refocus and rebrand stems from extensive market research and valuable feedback from our stake-holders, including exhibitors and visitors,' explains event director, David Todd.

'We recognised the need for a dedicated platform that caters specifically to the UK's professional woodworking sector, which comprises over 30,000 joinery and installation businesses.

'By concentrating on wood as our primary material and targeting professional woodworkers across the UK, we are

positioning the Professional Woodworking Expo as the essential destination for forward-thinking businesses looking to improve efficiency, discover new techniques, and connect with key suppliers in the market,' he adds.

Professional Woodworking Expo 2026 will build upon the successes of Materials and Finishes Show 2024 (formerly W Exhibition), particularly the popular content theatres and live demo areas.

'We are committed to expanding these features to provide even more interactive content, practical skills training, and expert advice from industry leaders,' says Mr Todd.

The event will welcome back returning exhibitors, as well as new brands joining us for the first time, further bolstering Professional Woodworking Expo's offering to support attendees looking for a comprehensive solution to their woodworking needs.

Attendees can look forward to seeing trusted names including Ostermann, Advanced Machinery Services, VWM, Leitz Tooling, Elmbridge UK and Mirka, showcasing a comprehensive range of solutions for the sector.

As the woodworking industry continues to evolve, with projected revenue growth and increasing demand for specialised products, the Professional Woodworking Expo will play a crucial role in addressing the sector's needs, including the skills gap and technological advancements.

Professionals in the UK woodworking industry are invited to come along to the Professional Woodworking Expo 2026, where innovation meets skilled and creative expertise and businesses find the tools to thrive in a competitive market.

For further information visit www.professionalwoodworkingexpo.com



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EVA, PUR AND POLYOLEFIN ADHESIVES FOR EDGE-BANDING & EDGE LIPPING FROM KENYONS

IN recent years, the discussion around the best hot-melt adhesives for edge-banding and edge lipping has intensified, particularly in relation to bonding a wide range of materials to wood-based panel products.

Henkel's Technomelt range remains at the forefront of this market, offering innovative adhesive solutions that deliver exceptional performance across all formats.

EVA-based adhesives – simple and reliable

Henkel Technomelt EVA adhesives continue to be a popular choice for many users, due to their ease of use and straightforward processing. These adhesives are suitable for a wide range of applications and deliver reliable bonds in standard environments.

However, for applications where the finished product may be exposed to high heat levels, moisture, or steam, EVA adhesives may not offer the necessary performance.

PUR adhesives – high performance and durability

Henkel's Technomelt PUR adhesives are now widely regarded as the leading solution for edge-banding applications requiring superior durability. As adhesive technology has evolved, PUR has become more accessible to manufacturers of all sizes.

These adhesives offer outstanding resistance to heat, steam and moisture, making them the ideal choice for demanding environments where high bond strength and long-term durability are critical.

One of the most significant advancements in recent years is the development of Henkel Technomelt Micro Emission PUR adhesives.

These next generation adhesives maintain all the performance advantages of traditional PUR – such as low application weight, tight invisible glue lines and exceptional resistance to water and heat, whilst offering major health and safety benefits.

Unlike conventional PURs, Micro Emission PUR adhesives are

free from hazardous labelling, making them safer to handle and more environmentally friendly.

Crucially, these Micro Emission PUR adhesives are now available in all formats, including pellets, making them far easier to use with any type of equipment.

Polyolefin adhesives – the middle ground

Technomelt Polyolefin-based adhesives provide an ideal solution between EVA and PUR, offering improved heat resistance and performance at a similar price point to EVA.

These adhesives deliver ultra-thin glue lines, which enhance edge aesthetics across all board types and colours. They are also clean-running with no stringing, resulting in less downtime for cleaning and maintenance. Thanks to their superior performance, glue consumption can be reduced by up to 20 per cent

Technomelt cartridges for HOLZ-HER machines

Henkel's Technomelt DORUS HKP range of hot-melt adhesive cartridges continues to be a reliable solution, especially for users of HOLZ-HER edge-banders.

The importance of cleaners

Henkel offers a full range of hot melt cleaners designed to clean application systems thoroughly and efficiently. The newest addition is Technomelt Easy Flow Cleaner.

Support that goes beyond the product

What sets Henkel adhesives apart is not only the quality of the products, but also the technical support and service provided by partners like Kenyon Group.

Customers benefit from expert advice, on-site technical assistance, and tailored adhesive solutions that ensure the best possible performance from their equipment and processes.

For further information visit www.kenyon-group.co.uk



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WOODLAND HERITAGE'S OPEN WOODS AND WORKSHOPS EVENT IS A GREAT SUCCESS

OPEN Woods & Workshops, launched this June by the charity Woodland Heritage, brought over 600 visitors to workshops, sawmills and managed woodlands around the UK.

Planting trees is widely supported. However, the fact that the UK is the second largest net importer of forest products in the world, at the same time as significant areas of the UK's woodlands lie unmanaged, shows that broader action is urgent.

The importance of growing trees – not just planting them – and of using home-grown timber to support the management of woodlands should be a vital part of our response to climate change.

Happily, 96 per cent of visitors surveyed planned to take action in their woodlands, workshops and homes following their visit to an Open Woods & Workshops event.

Actions pledged included beginning to manage a woodland, or changing a woodland's management to improve the timber it produces, as well as growing more trees, undertaking to use more home-grown timber and encouraging friends, family and colleagues to learn more about growing trees and using wood.

Open Woods & Workshops attendees also recorded that the events made a significant positive impact on their well-being and even just being a part of growing trees and using wood made just under 80 per cent of people feel more optimistic about the future.

'These initiatives give me hope for my grandchildren's future. I feel that they should be extended to schools to teach the next generation,' said one attendee.

'What a gift to walk in a wood that has been cared for and come closer to the nature of trees and plants through the expert knowledge of our guide. Our woods deserve our attention and respect,' reflected another visitor.

Amongst the visitors was Dr Ellie Chowns MP, the Green Party MP for North Herefordshire, who visited Whitney Sawmill's Open Day in her constituency.

'I was delighted to visit Whitney Sawmill's Open Day and see first-hand the incredible work being done to manage our local woodlands sustainably,' said Ellie.

'Home-grown timber is vital not only in mitigating climate change, but

also in supporting biodiversity, local jobs and community well-being, and I sincerely hope events such as the Open Woods & Workshops inspire more people across North Herefordshire and the rest of the UK to get involved in looking after our trees, growing our timber resource and passing on this knowledge to the next generation,' she added.

'Working with land-owners to manage their woods forms a key part of what we do as woodland consultants and as a nation, we do need to be better at managing our forests,' said the director of Savills and head of woodland management and arboriculture, Mark Townsend.

'A crucial part of this is what happens outside of the woodland and the work Woodland Heritage does to promote and connect the whole supply chain is really amazing.

'My visit to the Duchy of Cornwall woods in the morning, followed by a tour of Whitney Sawmill is the perfect demonstration of how we need a more joined up approach.

Hosts, many not usually open to the public, included Angus Ross, Whitney Sawmills, The Duchy of Cornwall, Great Park, Alder and Sowdens Woods, Broomhill Woods, To The Root, Goodwood Estate, Witherslack Woodworks, Mowat & Co, James Wood, Williams & Cleal, Albion Timber, Treske, Gaze Burvill, The Architectural Association, North Eggardon Farm and John Makepeace Furniture.

'Thank you to Open Woods & Workshop's hosts, visitors and supporters for championing trees and timber!' said Woodland Heritage's chief executive, John Orchard.

'It's wonderful to be able to show people what a well-managed woodland looks like, and what amazing spaces they are for biodiversity, climate as well as beautiful timber. The value of showing rather than telling is enormous, and that is the opportunity that Open Woods & Workshops brings,' he added.

'The road ahead for our woodlands is far from certain, but it's great to see that getting involved with Open Woods & Workshops can inspire people to take action, and to feel more hopeful about the future,' concluded Mr Orchard.

For further information visit www.woodlandheritage.org



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FRENCH POLISHING AND FURNITURE REPAIR - A LEGACY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP SINCE 1986

BARRDALE French polishers located is a proud, family-run business rooted in tradition and excellence.

With over 100 years of combined experience in furniture repair and restoration, Barrdale has become a trusted name for those seeking to preserve the beauty and integrity of their furniture.

The company's rich heritage is not just a point of pride—it's the foundation of the meticulous craftsmanship and personalised service that define every project they undertake.

At the heart of Barrdale's success is a deep respect for the artistry of furniture making. Passed down through generations, this expertise spans a wide range of restoration techniques, from traditional French polishing to modern repair methods.

This blend of old-world skill and contemporary precision allows Barrdale to handle everything from delicate antiques to stylish modern pieces with equal care and attention.

Barrdale's team of skilled craftsmen are passionate about their work. Each piece of furniture is treated as a unique project, deserving of time, patience and a tailored approach.

Whether it's a Victorian dining table dulled by decades of use, or a mid-century cabinet with structural damage, the team works diligently to restore its original charm and functionality.

The goal is not just to repair, but to revive—bringing out the character and craftsmanship that make each item special.

One of the hallmarks of Barrdale's service is the company's commitment to authentic restoration. Best use is made of traditional materials and techniques wherever possible, ensuring that the integrity of the original design is maintained.

French polishing is a time-honoured method that creates a rich, glossy finish ideal for antique wood. It requires a high level of skill and patience—qualities that Barrdale's team has in abundance.

In addition the technical expertise of its workforce, Barrdale is known for a customer-focused approach, offering a full consultation before beginning any work, providing honest advice and clear expectations.

The company's collection and delivery service ensures that every item of furniture is handled with care from start to finish.

Barrdale also works closely with insurance companies, loss adjusters and removal firms, offering restoration services for items damaged by fire, water, or accidents. Their ability to match finishes, trims and mouldings makes them a valuable partner in restoring irreplaceable items to their former glory.

In a world where mass production often overshadows craftsmanship, Barrdale

French Polishers stands as a beacon of quality, tradition and care.

Whether you're looking to restore a family heirloom, or breathe new life into a favourite piece, Barrdale offers the expertise and dedication to make it happen.

Your furniture is in expert hands with Barrdale furniture restoration. The company has a stellar reputation for repairing both antique and modern furniture. Whether it's a simple repair, or a complex restoration that seems beyond saving, great care is taken to preserve original finishes and structures. Repairs are normally near invisible. Before any work begins, customers can expect to receive a clear explanation of what can be achieved and how it can be achieved.

Repairing traditional furniture requires traditional techniques, which the company's expert team have learned and perfected through years of hands-on experience, passed down through three generations.

Quick fixes and modern materials are rarely suitable for these processes. When working on antique furniture, retaining its value is crucial, so it's vital that the work is carried out using specific skills and experience previously gained.

French polishing is a wood finishing technique that creates a high gloss surface with a deep, reflective colour. It is softer than modern polishes and particularly sensitive to spills of water or alcohol, which can cause white cloudy marks. The service offered by Barrdale can restore the finish, seamlessly blending the polish on the damaged areas with the rest of the piece.

In addition to offering high-quality French polishing services for homeowners and business customers, Barrdale French Polishers proudly provides a free collection and delivery service for all orders over £75. The team covers most of the UK weekly, collecting and delivering furniture from your home, office, or clients.

A long wheelbase or Luton van is used for collection purposes, allowing large and bulky furniture items to be transported with ease. Customers can always rely on Barrdale's friendly team to load and unload your furniture into the room of your choice at no extra cost.



For further information tel Barrdale French Polishers on 020 3325 1771 or 0333 207 0590 Visit www.frenchpolishers.co.uk

NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR FOR LEADING LUXURY BESPOKE KITCHEN MANUFACTURER

LEADING UK luxury bespoke kitchen company, Tom Howley has named Kevin Holmes as its new managing director.

Kevin brings extensive experience from senior roles in customer-centric businesses. His professional background covers strategic growth, operational leadership and brand development.

With over two decades of expertise in luxury kitchen design and a well-established showroom presence across the UK, Tom Howley believes it is strongly positioned for its next phase of growth under Kevin's guidance.

His deep understanding of premium consumer brands and a proven track record of steering businesses through transformation and expansion will see him working closely with the senior leadership team to further develop the business—whilst upholding the company's long-standing reputation for craftsmanship, quality, and service.

'I'm honoured to be joining such an iconic British brand. Tom Howley is synonymous with timeless design and exceptional quality – values I deeply admire and share,' says Kevin.

'I'm excited to work with the talented team here and look forward to building on the brand's strong foundations as we move into an exciting new chapter,' he adds.

'We're delighted to welcome Kevin to Tom Howley and the BHID Group,' says executive chair of the BHID Group parent company, Sonia Davies.

'At Tom Howley, we have established an exceptional reputation for creating exquisite kitchen designs that satisfy a variety of lifestyle needs.

'By combining superb appliances and cutting-edge craftsmanship with original thinking, we are able to deliver the highest quality at every stage for a result that is unique.

As Tom Howley continues to grow and evolve, Kevin's leadership will be instrumental in delivering our strategic vision, whilst honouring the craftsmanship and quality that remain at the heart of the business,' concludes Sonia.

For further information visit www.tomhowley.co.uk



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ABS EDGING ROASTED BROWN CREATES COSY ELEGANCE

OSTERMANN'S experts have just chosen the trendsetting edging of the year. It is the edging in the colour Roasted Brown - an ABS edging in an especially warm, pleasantly moderate nuance of brown. For cabinet makers and carpenters, the shade offers diverse possibilities in modern furniture making and interior design.

In colour psychology, the colour brown symbolises warmth and comfort, as well as naturality and being down to earth. Because of that, furniture in warm shades of brown is always a good choice.

Ostermann offers a wide variety of perfectly matching ABS edgings for your building projects. They are available in various widths and thicknesses, as well as in small quantities from 1m upwards. Ostermann's personal recommendation is the ABS edging in Roasted Brown.

Combine perfectly

The soft fawn brown of this edging goes very well with nearly all interior styles from minimalist to opulent. It can be combined with lighter stone and wood decors, but goes equally well with all neutral plain colours. When paired with dark mahogany, or walnut decors, this creates a particularly luxurious ambience.

The many facets of warm brown

Furthermore, Ostermann offers a broad spectrum of

furniture edgings in soft shades of brown, from light Camel Brown to the deep rich hue of its Dark Brown ABS edging.

Depending on the matching furniture board, they are available with different surface finishes. Aside from the classic minipearl structure, Ostermann also offers you the soft brown ABS edgings with either anti-fingerprint excellent matt surface finish, with microstructure, or satin finish, with velvet structure or with super matt surface finish.

Discover the typical Ostermann diversity!

From Ostermann's large and very modern warehouse, it can supply Europe's largest immediately available range of edgings. Aside from the popular ABS edgings in many colours and decors, you will also find furniture edgings made of different materials, such as melamine, real wood, linoleum, aluminium, acrylic, or PP in our range.

In order to properly process these edgings, the company also offers the matching adhesives and cleaners.

For further information visit www.ostermann.eu



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CRAFTSMANSHIP IN NORTHERN IRISH COUNTRYSIDE

LIVING and working in the Northern Irish countryside, Noel McCullough designs and makes specially commissioned items.

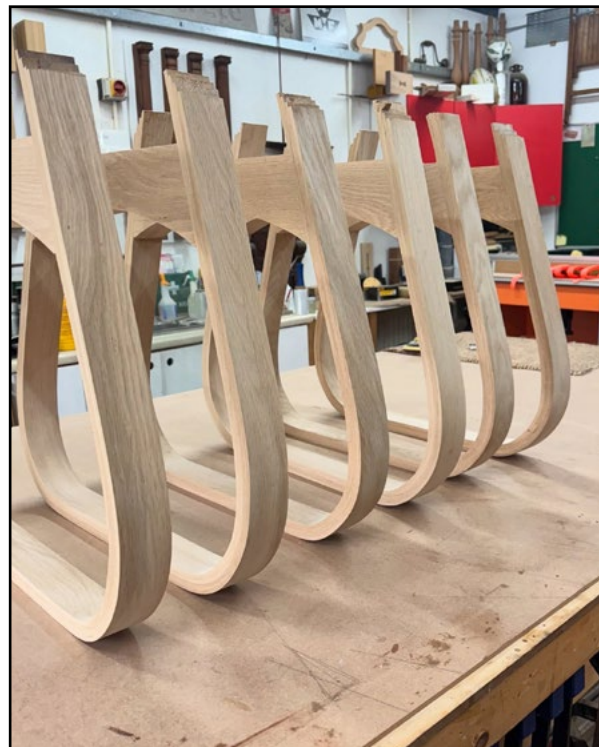
After working as a design engineer in Belfast, Noel returned to his schoolboy love of making and studied for a BA(hons) in Furniture Design and Making.

His work combines his love of traditional crafts found across the British Isles and his interest in new materials and techniques, resulting in products that are durable, functional and aesthetically pleasing.

Being brought up on the family farm near Ballymena in the rural Irish countryside has encouraged Noel to be interested in a sustainable way of living.

As a result, Noel increasingly uses locally grown timber, including trees from his own farm. These trees are usually windblown, or have become unsafe and have had to be taken down.

He then mills these trees into boards, which are air dried for at least a year and then further dried in a kiln adjacent to the workshop.



For further information tel Noel McCullough on 07747 035937.
Visit www.mcculloughfurniture.com



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

Email us at: bill.willowe@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL WOOD FINISHING IN COUNTY ANTRIM

SITUATED close to Ballymena in Northern Ireland and established since 1996, Shaw Wood Finishing specialises in giving old and tired looking furniture a new lease of life.

The company can respray all kinds of wooden products and prides itself on offering a reliable and friendly wood finishing service, as well as competitive prices, offering quick turnaround times.

For anyone looking to enhance the appearance of their home by restoring existing furniture, Shaw Wood Finishing specialises in all kinds of wood resprays. If you need a kitchen refurbishment, or door polishing, you can count on the company's expert professionals..

With more than 20 years of experience in spray painting wood, a quality finish is guaranteed every time. After an initial consultation to discuss the range of collars on offer and suitable stain finishes, Shaw Wood Finishing can transform your kitchen inside a week.

Why choose Shaw Wood Finishing? The company's dedicated team can boast over 20 years of providing a meticulous service which is both friendly and professional and can be relied upon to supply totally reliable quality workmanship, including the provision of new cupboard and door handle fittings

Shaw Wood Finishing receives high praise for their exceptional furniture repair and restoration services. Customers particularly appreciate their kitchen revamp projects, highlighting the transformation from old to new-looking furniture with minimal mess and cost-effectiveness.

The professionalism and efficiency of managing director, Andy



Shaw and the team are also highly commended - for which reason repeat business now makes up a large percentage of the company's work.

For further information tel the company on 028 2588 1277.
Visit www.shawwoodfinishing.co.uk



SURTECO INTRODUCES CIRCULAR EDGE EDGE-BANDING DESIGNED TO MEET THE FURNITURE INDUSTRY'S DEMAND FOR ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE MATERIALS

SURTECO, a global leader in surface technology, has announced the launch of Circular Edge, a new line of sustainable PP edge-bands designed to meet the furniture industry's increasing demand for environmentally responsible materials and regulatory compliance.

Building on the strong foundation of PP Standard – a widely used material in the furniture industry known for its durability and efficiency – Surteco is now introducing two variants with significantly reduced carbon foot-prints – Circular 50 and Circular 100.

Circular 50 PP edge-bands incorporate more than 50 per cent Post-Industrial Recyclates (PIR). This variant reduces the Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) by 47 per cent, offering a sustainable solution for manufacturers engaged in reducing environmental impact.

Circular 100 PP edge-bands are produced from bio-attributed PP, certified by ISCC PLUS. The mass balance approach ensures traceability across the entire value chain and reduces the Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) by 143 per cent, reaching negative values within carbon footprint assessments.

This makes them the ideal choice for committed manufacturers who want to play a leading role in sustainability and comply with the highest environmental standards currently in force within the woodworking industry.

For further information visit www.surteco.com



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

Email us at: bill.willowe@gmail.com

TRADE MOULDINGS: A TRADITION OF INNOVATION AND GROWTH IN FURNITURE MANUFACTURING

ESTABLISHED over 40 years ago by Kevin McOscar, the business is now managed by the second generation of the McOscar family, with managing director, Conor McOscar, production director, Austin McOscar and sales director, Damien Connolly.

The business started out as a manufacturer of wrapped mouldings and sold the products throughout Ireland, the UK and further afield. As new technologies evolved, the business was always at the forefront of investment and development.

The company was one of the first manufacturers of vinyl-wrapped doors and accessories in the UK and Ireland, with production starting in the early 1990s. Five-piece doors and laser-edged doors were added to the range as the business continued to expand and develop.

Today, the company headquarters are based in Cookstown, Co Tyrone and comprise over 250,000ft² of manufacturing facilities equipped with some of the most modern equipment in Europe, producing over 25,000 kitchen, bedroom and bathroom door frontals/week, together with 50,000 linear meters of wrapped mouldings and associated accessories.

Sustainability has also been a key driver as the company has evolved. Today, the factory has its own solar panels, contributing 35 per cent of the company's daily energy needs.

All wood waste is burned on site and used for heating the factories, office and painting facilities. All timber-based panels are responsibly sourced and all products carry the FSC certification.

In order to make the products readily available to the market, Trade Mouldings Distribution was established 25 years ago. Today, the company operates from specially designed warehouse facilities at its headquarters in Cookstown, Dublin and Rochdale in Greater Manchester.

With over 150,000ft² of stock, distribution and storage facilities the company is well positioned to deliver its products on a next day service through the UK and Ireland.

The companies' product sectors are as follows:

Vinyl-wrapped doors: Several ranges are stocked in industry standard kitchen and bedroom sizes for immediate despatch. The stock range is backed up with a Made to Measure service on a two-week lead time with no minimum order quantity. Over 40 door styles and 40 colour options are available covering all traditional and modern styles with new ranges and colours being added regularly thus keeping the product offer up to date.

Five-piece doors: There are three ranges of five-piece doors available from stock. The ever popular Buckingham range is a wide 113mm style door and is available in 13 colours covering on trend blues and

greens and the earthy grey tones. The Balmoral is a modern, narrow 65mm frame Shaker door and is available in seven finishes. The Rivington is a smooth Shaker door replicating a painted finish and is available in five finishes.

Laser-edged doors: There are two families in the laser-edged door offer. The Fenton range is a painted slab door, which features a specially treated lacquered finish, giving a robust and anti-fingerprint effect. It is available from stock in five matt finishes and is also available Made to Order in an ash effect woodgrain finish, as well as in Made to Measure bespoke sizes on a two-week lead time. The Odyssey range is a mix of Senoplast acrylic high gloss finishes and super matt finishes on an MDF core. Available in 14 colours, the laser edge finish gives a perfect edge detail and seamless join.

Timber doors: There are three families within the Timber door range. Albany is a narrow frame modern Shaker door and is available from stock in four popular colourways. The Malham is a more traditional 100mm Shaker door with V grooves and Hadfield is a beaded Shaker door, again featuring a more traditional look. All the timber doors are available Painted to Order in 16 standard finishes and are also available in any Ral colour or popular paint brand finish. Made to Measure timber doors were also added to the offer recently in all designs, so for painted timber doors, basically any colour and any size are available where only a bespoke colour and size will suffice.

Lacquered doors: The Larissa range of J pull handle less doors are available in six gloss finishes and four matt finishes. The lacquered finish gives a flawless appearance and the 22mm thick doors give a comfortable handle grip. The vogue door is an 18mm slab door available in six gloss finishes, perfect for the modern kitchen.

Pro Cab pre-assembled options: At all Trade Mouldings distribution centres, there is also a full range of Pro Cab kitchen cabinets. Available in white, linen and oak finishes, the Pro Cab has a pre-inserted cam and dowel system for easy assembly. A full range of accessories including drawer boxes, handles, fittings and lighting make any trip to Trade Mouldings Distribution a one-stop shop.

'At Trade Mouldings we always aim to put the customer at the forefront of everything we do,' says sales director, Damien Connolly.

'We like to keep our products as readily available as we can in the markets we operate in, hence we have three strategically positioned distribution centres to service Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and the UK,' he adds.

'Having the stock on the ground where it is needed has been key to our success and growth over the years. Where a bespoke Made to Order product is required, most ranges have this offer giving installers and designers maximum flexibility on responsive lead times.

'As new technologies have become available, we have always been pioneers and first to the market place, not only at the inception of the company with wrapped mouldings, but also with vinyl-wrapped doors, five-piece door production and, more recently, with laser-edged door production.

'Trade Mouldings' customers can be rest assured that the products are manufactured to the highest standards and the products are tested and approved to FIRA Gold and ISO 9001,' concludes Damien Connolly.



For further information tel Trade Mouldings on 028 867 62993.
Visit www.trademouldings.com

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RENOLIT'S TREND COLOURS FOR 2025 & 2026

INSPIRE A RETURN TO THE ESSENTIALS

IN AN increasingly digital world, authentic human experiences are more important than ever. This is the focus of RENOLIT SE - an international manufacturer of high-quality plastic films and products, in the new trend report "THE VALUE OF DEEP EXPERIENCES", which examines the longing for something tangible and real in an age when everything seems to be just a click away.

Haptic experiences and the touch of materials are essential to our well-being. The result is three varied colour collections: Each tells its own story. And at the same time, is inseparably linked to one another. Just like people and the colours, shapes and materials that surround them.

Powdery pastel shades remind us of what really matters

The first of the three experiential spaces, "Tactile Delights", takes us on a journey of sensory discovery. It focuses on the connection between humans and material.

Colours such as "Carat Beige" are reminiscent of the warm tones of Nature and invite us to experience the raw beauty of hand-made objects.

"Rose White" embodies the delicate elegance of rose blossoms and conveys a sense of tranquillity. The cool grace of "Powder Violet" celebrates minimalism, while "Straw Beige" evokes positive memories of sunny days and simple pleasures. This colour palette celebrates the diversity and authenticity of nature and inspires us to reconnect with our environment.

These soft, understated solid colours are ideal for designing large-scale furniture elements. Combining these shades with each other, or with finely striped oak designs creates harmonious room atmospheres. It is a new, warm kind of minimalism that promotes a feeling of security and well-being. Surfaces and unique textures appeal to our sense of touch; rounded, organic shapes emphasise our longing for natural cosiness.

Intense colours celebrate intense moments

"Sensorial Flash" is all about the exciting, adrenaline-fuelled

moments in life. Everyday life can often lure us into routine, but the colours of this experiential space break the monotony.

"Fizzy Green" bubbles with vitality, evoking the refreshing citrus fruit that invigorates our senses. "Orange Boost" emanates the warm glow of a sunset and inspires creative ideas.

The vibrant "Thrilling Red" conveys the pulse of adventure and awakens the passion to explore new paths.

This exciting palette is rounded off by "Electric Blue", whose cool intensity radiates both calm and dynamism, inspiring artistic creativity.

These intense pop-up colours not only create visual highlights - they also have a positive effect on our psyche. Used on solitary pieces of furniture, or as an effective accent in the form of coloured cabinetry elements within holistic design concepts, they radiate inspiring optimism and energy. Such strong colours are balanced by soft beiges, greys tones and dark oak decors.

Earthy, muted tones call us back to craftsmanship

The final space is "Creative Hands". This experiential space reminds us of the roots of craftsmanship. In a world heavily influenced by consumption and mass production, this palette shows the beauty of individuality.

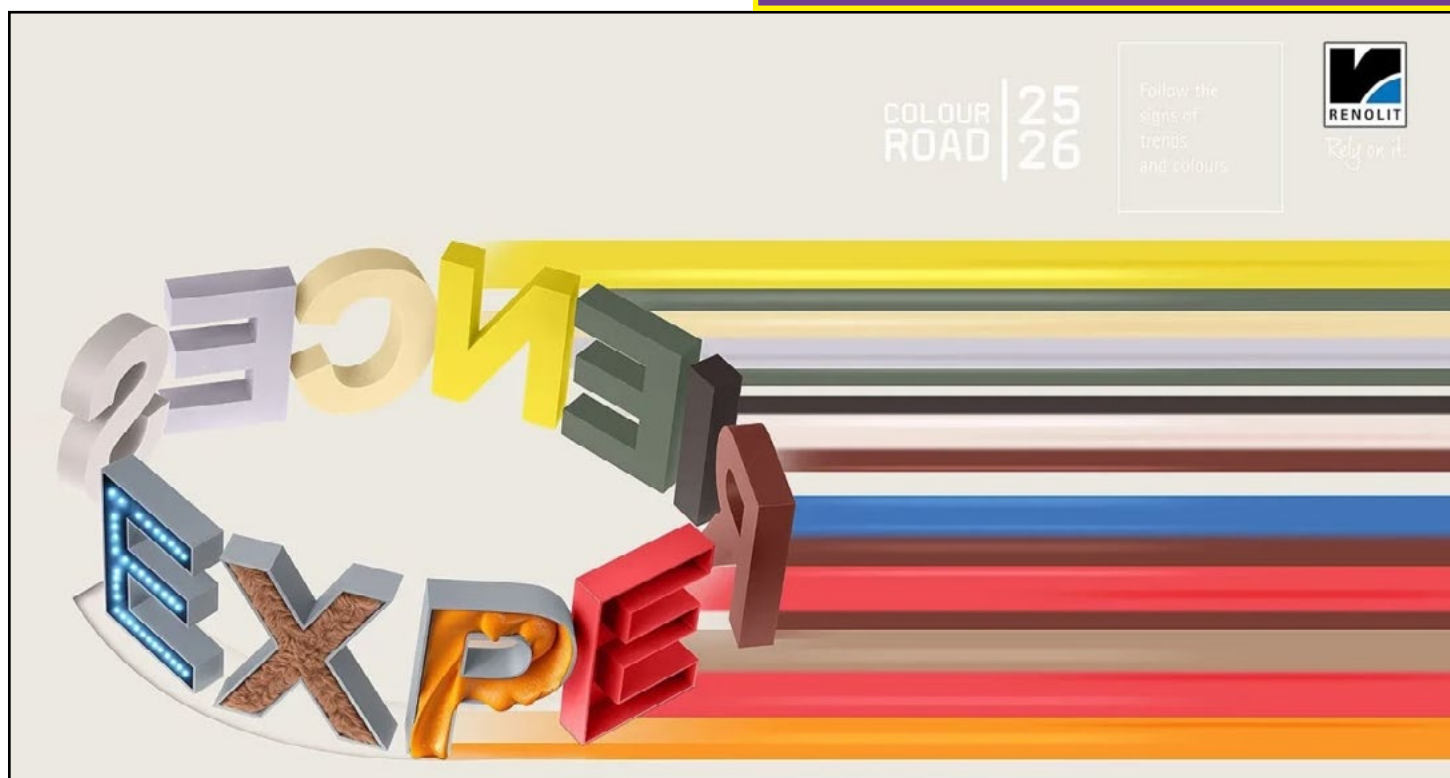
"Alpaca" is a warm, earthy brown and conveys a sense of security like a cosy woollen blanket. "Tuscan Red" evokes the tradition of solid craftsmanship and the relentless pursuit of creating a home.

Inspired by the Japanese Yakisugi technique, "Orrin" shines in a dramatic colour that embodies resilience and attention to detail.

Finally, "Smoke Green" adds an organic elegance to any space with its grey hue, encouraging you to explore the complexity of creative endeavour.

On account of their high black content, these colours can be perfectly used in monochrome, or tone-in-tone combinations on larger furniture elements.

For further information visit www.renolit.com



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

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