BRITISH PAPER MACHINERY NEWS

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News and views from the
British Paper Machinery Suppliers Association

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Yankee, MG and drying cylinder coded fasteners from Walmsleys ... and every one is certified!

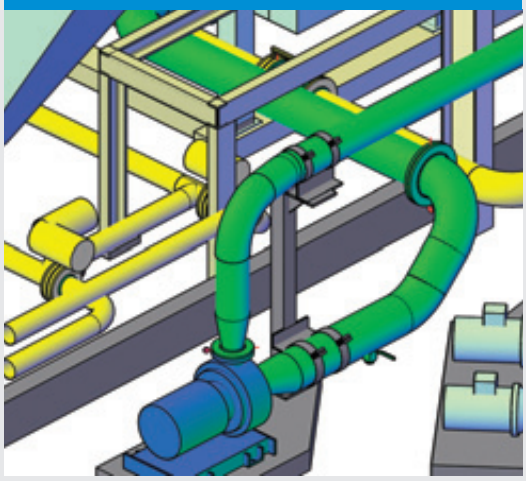
read about it on page 14

Optimise water usage through machine-level audits says Kadant UK

read about it on page 10

Effluent treatment plant upgrade by Poole Projects ... completed with no adverse production impact

read about it on page 5



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What's in this issue . . .

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Just follow the links to the issue you wish to read

The next issue of BPM News will be published in April 2026

Editorial Comment

Industry resilient in difficult times - Last year paper and board consumption increased by 7.0% and production recorded a higher rebound than first expected according to figures released earlier this year by the Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI - www.cepi.org). And growth was recorded across all segments of the pulp and paper industry with packaging grades leading the way followed closely by tissue production, respectively 6.7% and 5.6%. Graphic grades have ceased to reduce with an increase of 3.4%.

The current economic climate and Government increases in operational costs, of course, do not help the competitive situation, but despite all this the pulp and paper sector continues to deliver on sustainability with European CO_2 emissions having decreased by 50% compared to 2005 levels, with 6.3% of that being during last year alone. All this is a result of mills investing in cleaner technologies, green fuels and more energy efficient operations … exactly where BPMSA member companies can help with a wide range of high quality state-of-the-art equipment and services.

Jori Ringman, Director General of CEPI said, "We have proven that industry is more resilient when it is investing in long-term sustainability. The proposal for incentives in a new bioeconomy strategy should help create a level playing field between fossil and bio-based materials."

M&S trials paper based food trays - the trial features a paper ready meal tray for Tikka Masala and has been developed in conjunction with two partners. The limited run aims to gain customer feedback with M&S saying that it is easily recycled at home with other paper and cardboard and there is no need to remove the thin plastic lining.

The trial will help it strive for net zero across its business operations and supply chains by 2040 as the company constantly looks for new and better ways of doing things. M&S says it is committed to doing the right thing and giving customers the confidence to make more sustainable choices when shopping.

Children's book from recycled coffee cups - Despite Government short sightedness in cancelling the national paper cup recycling scheme last year, James Cropper's CupCycling has continued the process by supporting the debut of a children's book named 'Little Coffee Cup and the Big Surprise'. This is the first of its kind to be printed on paper made from recycled coffee cups using the company's unique process with each book produced from approximately thirteen coffee cups collected from across the UK.

The book's author says that if we can create books from UK waste and show how recycled coffee cups can become new books, we can promote greater rates of recycling and thus promote circular economy themes.

Confusion still reigns - People are still hoping for the best when it comes to disposing of packaging in the recycling bin with the stream regularly contaminated and therefore reducing the quality and value of the post-consumer material. The onus is on us all, brands and retailers too, to educate consumers through consistent end-of-life labelling, removing ambiguity and giving the correct disposal advice for each sector. There have been vast improvements in recent years but, sadly, consumers aren't always seeing or hearing about them.

I make no apologies for repeating that more education is needed to help us all, and we should definitely begin to see recycling as needing to make the most out of all materials, not just disposing of an unwanted waste product.

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Upgrade screen baskets for better wear, stability and compliance

The UK paper industry is under pressure to improve reliability while preparing for tighter controls on hazardous substances. AFT's DiamondWire® technology available from Salvtech Limited addresses both needs. DiamondWire is a proprietary, wear-resistant surface treatment for screen cylinders that is hexavalent chromium-free and can boost performance without increasing exposure to Cr(VI) risk. It's available on any AFT MacroFlow™ screen cylinder and across fibre applications and is simple to adopt in UK plants.

DiamondWire gives longer screen life and excellent resistance to corrosion and impact … benefits that lead to fewer shutdowns, steadier slot geometry, and cleaner accept quality at a given energy input. Field reports indicate cylinder life extensions of 20% or more in high-wear jobs, meaning lower life-cycle cost once labour and restart waste is factored in.

The regulatory context matters. Under UK REACH regulations, hexavalent chromium uses remain under authorisation, with recent decisions and a policy direction to replace SVHCs where feasible. In parallel, the EU's chemicals agency (ECHA) has moved toward broader restrictions on Cr(VI) substances given their potency as workplace carcinogens. For UK mills serving European customers - or sharing supply chains - these trends increase the value of chrome-free options that maintain performance.

Where a chrome finish is still specified - for example, to match legacy rotor/basket pairs - AFT also offers DuraShield™ re-chroming. This controlled deposition process produces a uniform, thick chrome layer and is recognised for extending basket wear life versus conventional chroming. This gives UK mills a useful strategy: deploy DiamondWire to de-risk future compliance while using DuraShield to extract the best-possible life from existing chrome cylinders.

UK mills can apply DiamondWire in recycled and virgin stock preparation, approach flow, and OCC lines where abrasive contaminants and rotor loading drive slot edge wear. Expect more stable slot profiles, improved run-length between cleans, and fewer emergency basket swaps … valuable on sites with limited maintenance windows or high energy-costs. With sustainability and uptime important, DiamondWire's combination of durability and chromium-free chemistry makes it a timely, UK-ready upgrade.

Cycling for a cause: 264 miles for Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation

The cycle challenge group in the Netherlands

Throughout June 2025, Dr.Mike Draper, Director of Strategic Operations and R&D at Kadant UK, completed a 200km cycling challenge to support the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation. The purpose was to raise funds and awareness in memory of a family member who sadly passed away from the disease in February 2024.

The challenge was to cycle every other day throughout June to reach 200km, combining fitness with fundraising. In the end, Mike not only achieved his target, but absolutely smashed it, completing 264 miles (425km) across 15 rides. The routes varied from shorter local rides along canals and the countryside around Lancashire, to virtual rides around Lake Coniston on rainy UK days. The highlight, was a cycling trip to the Netherlands with three friends, covering an impressive 165km in two days.

The first day involved riding from Sloterdijk, just outside Amsterdam, to Utrecht and back, exploring Utrecht's charming canals, medieval churches, bustling historic squares, and vibrant atmosphere.

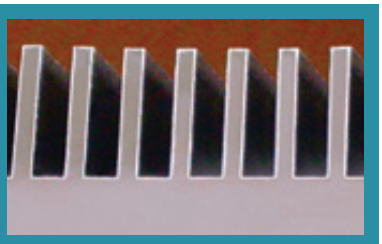
The second day involved cycling from Amsterdam down to Delft, known for its beautiful city and famous for its striking market square, leaning church tower, and Delft blue pottery. Along the way the group enjoyed excellent company, fine food, and refreshing beers, making it an unforgettable experience.

Mike would like to extend his sincere thanks to the BPMSA/Picon for its extremely generous sponsorship donation to the cause. This generosity will help fund life-saving research and support services for patients and families affected by lung cancer. "It also gave me the extra motivation to push myself to keep going on the longest rides," added Mike.

Mike Draper (left) with friends Andrew, Graham and Peter

The Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation is the UK's leading lung cancer charity. For more than three decades it has been the driving force behind lung cancer research, investing millions into early detection and new treatments. Its mission is to ensure everyone diagnosed with lung cancer can live well with the disease for as long as possible. Importantly, it continues to prove that early detection saves lives, making its work vital for the future.

Seven decades of high quality service



▲ *Profile of Airaghi milled filling*

◀ *Profile of cast filling*

Represented in the UK by Reel Solutions Ltd and founded by Ezio Airaghi, Officine Airaghi S.r.l. has almost seven decades of experience in stock preparation equipment. It brings to its clients a wealth of knowledge and the latest technologies for spares production such as refiner discs and cones, deflakers, screen plates (or sectors) for pulpers, sleeves for shafts, pulper and screen rotors, impellers and shafts, basket screens, HD or LD cleaners, and much more. And having knowledge of technical and maintenance problems means all these can be rapidly designed and manufactured too.

Its product quality stems from using stainless-steel alloys as raw materials and considering the type of product and pulp that will be treated ensuring parts have maximum life and reliability. These stainless-steel alloys have been developed by its technical department in collaboration with some of the most reputable European steel mills and tested carefully before use. Each spare part is thermally treated to obtain appropriate hardness and wear resistance for its purpose and to confer optimal stability and performance even in harsh working conditions.

Refiner spares - Both disc and conical refiner spare parts for all brands can be supplied including disc fillings from 330mm (13") to over 1016mm (40") diameter. For conical refiner spares there is a wide range of moulds as well as milled solutions. All products are made on a CNC milling machine so the pattern can be easily modified according to customer's needs. Every common pattern required by paper mills can be made such as short conical fillings with shallow angle (Conflo), low conical fillings with shallow angle (Jordan) and short conical with large angle (Claflin).

Deflaker spares - All popular deflaker spare parts can be supplied including drilled deflaker discs, toothed rims from 270mm to 950mm diameter and deflaker monoblock castings, all in thermally treated stainless steel alloys. Also deflaker parts can be manufactured for new models and castings if requested.

Other spares - Having a long history in stock preparation machinery and applications, the company has developed spares for many other machines. These include screen or pulper drilled plates, pulper rotors, turboseparators and screens, basket screens with holes and/or slots, HD cleaners, impellers and pump shafts along with sleeves for shaft protection.

Optimised energy consumption for best results - Choice of the most appropriate refining intensity is fundamental and is dependent on the selection of spares that optimise energy consumption to give the best results for the end product. The company has developed a specific manufacturing method to achieve this … the milling technology … allowing it to design and produce spare parts specifically for each customer, without manufacturing restrictions when using traditional methods such as casting, fabricating or welding.

Attention to detail and the accurate finish of fillings obtained using CNC machine tools produces perfect bars and grooves and consequently gives reduced friction and energy consumption, meaning maximised refiner efficiency throughout the spare lifetime. In fact, a complete and high-quality service, from customised design to manufacturing, execution and final delivery.

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Reinforcing reliability ... tissue machine framework rebuild

A major overseas tissue manufacturing facility recently completed a critical five-day planned shutdown on one of its key tissue machines, tackling significant corrosion of structural elements and alignment issues that could have impacted long-term performance and safety. The project focus was to address the immediate concerns that would restore the machine's structural integrity. This has been completed, though key follow-up actions remain on the maintenance horizon.

Battling corrosion at the core - A structural survey and finite element analysis had already been performed by Walmsleys. This flagged advanced corrosion in multiple components, most notably the vertical press frame columns at the wet end of the Yankee dryer. Supporting elements of the hood system, such as the hood support frame and cross-machine jack shaft beam, were also suffering from deterioration, particularly at mounting points for hood jacks.

Structural element corrosion

With a tight deadline, the replacement steelwork was designed and supplied in time for the summer 2025 shutdown. Walmsleys replaced two vertical posts and the cross-machine beam for the hood opening cross shaft mechanism. All new components were supplied in stainless steel. Two of the eight hood inclined ramps were also installed, with the remaining six slated for future maintenance windows.

New components ready for installation

The height discrepancy challenge - The shutdown also confirmed a historical misalignment of the hoods: the tending side (TS) hood support frame sat approximately 35mm higher than its drive side (DS) counterpart due to corrosion jacking. This difference creates uneven hood-to-Yankee dryer gaps, ranging from as narrow as 6mm to over 60mm affecting drying efficiency. While new ramps allow some adjustment, full correction hinges on future replacement of the TS hood support framework.

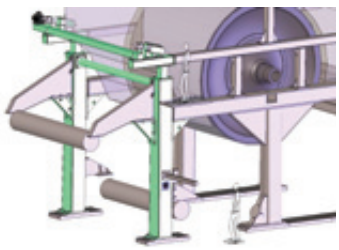
Corrosion jacking at FS hood ramp

New ramps

The cross tie fit conundrum - Installing a new machine framework cross tie proved unexpectedly tight. Drawing on prior rebuild experience in the UK, Walmsleys suspected a seized Yankee dryer bearing rocker assembly as the culprit. These rockers, designed to accommodate thermal expansion, when inspected appeared corroded and seized. This transfers contraction stresses directly into the machine framework, Yankee dryer and Yankee dryer bearings. Walmsleys advised a straightforward diagnostic, measuring cold-to-hot movement at the TS bearing housing, before dismantling and servicing the rockers to restore freedom of movement.

Corroded and seized rocker

Looking ahead - With core structural repairs completed, the machine is stronger and safer. Still, the corrosion-jacked TS hood support frame and seized Yankee dryer rockers remain essential next steps to ensure optimal performance and reliability. As paper manufacturers worldwide face aging assets and rising output demands, this project underscores the value of targeted shutdowns, detailed inspections, and proactive component replacement. In Walmsleys' own assessment, timely intervention now will prevent more costly repairs and downtime later.



▲ *Perspective showing new framework (in green)*

Walmsleys has a number of other overseas rebuilds similar to this, as well as additional corrosion surveys planned in the coming months.

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Heat recovery CPD launched for winter training

Turnbull & Scott (Engineers) Ltd, specialists in heat recovery and thermal engineering since 1933, is inviting paper, printing and manufacturing professionals to attend its upcoming Heat Recovery Continuous Professional Development (CPD) sessions this winter.

Available as online webinars or in-person team training, the sessions focus on the requirements, applications, and benefits of flue gas heat recovery (FGHR) in energy-intensive industries such as papermaking, print and packaging. Attendees will gain insight into how FGHR technologies capture waste heat, improve system efficiency, cut carbon emissions, and deliver significant cost savings.

The CPD sessions explore key topics including:

- UK decarbonisation targets and their impact on industry
- Environmental and financial consequences of wasted heat
- Technologies for recovering and reusing thermal energy
- Real-world case studies, from food processing to commercial printing
- Design considerations for retrofit and new-build projects

▲ *Join Turnbull & Scott at one of its CPD training events this winter*

Led by Turnbull & Scott's technical team, the training is designed to equip facilities managers, engineers, and decision-makers with the knowledge needed to integrate heat recovery into existing operations. All participants will receive CPD certification on completion.

For further details or to book a session, please contact the company or follow it on LinkedIn.

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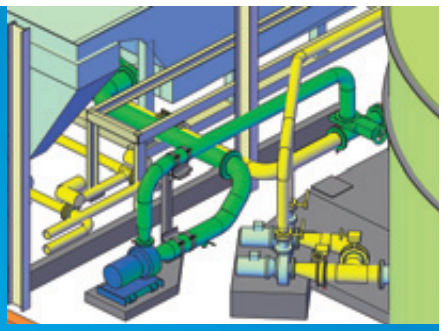
Poole Projects upgrades effluent treatment plant



▲ *3D layout of the new upgrade installation*

◀ *Effluent treatment plant upgrade by Poole Projects was completed with no impact on site production*

Turnkey projects are becoming extremely important for pulp and paper mills as their in-house engineering departments are reduced in size. To satisfy this need Poole Projects Ltd, the Manchester, UK independent consultant engineering company, provides a broad range of engineering capabilities which include mechanical, process, E&I and project management with full responsibility for CDM and health & safety.

Due to the confidential nature of much of the work carried out by the company on behalf of its clients, it is difficult to be specific about the nature of these projects, but its client list includes paper, board and tissue mills, speciality and currency mills, dairies and recycling/effluent treatment plants.

A recent project for a UK-based dairy involved upgrading an existing effluent treatment plant (ETP) following a pre-engineering study carried out by the company to identify possible areas of improvement and efficiency. The site has expanded considerably in recent times, with further expansion being planned for the coming years.

Following the pre-engineering study, the current ETP was understood to be operating close to its design limit volumetrically and the site was at times having to take wastewater away by tanker at significant cost which was adversely impacting site production. Poole Projects provided the customer with several options to improve and upgrade the current ETP capacity, with the varying costs for each option.

The customer prioritised two of the options offered:

Option 1 - Improving the sump pump controls to optimise the flow to the screening system.

Option 2 - Installing a pump on the clarified water outlet from the dissolved air flotation (DAF) unit to increase flow.

For *Option 1* the existing pipework from the sump was reworked to allow for the mechanical installation of a new flow meter in the line, with the meter being cabled back into the existing ETP control system.

For *Option 2* Poole Projects engineered a workable layout in a compact space to allow for the new system to be installed. In addition, it supplied a new stainless-steel pump, installed a new pump suction nozzle on the DAF unit, installed new suction and delivery pipework, installed new manual valves, and relocated the existing instrumentation. The new pump was integrated into the existing ETP control system.

The biggest issue with completing the work was that the site operates 24/7, 365 days a year, allowing a window for any shutdowns of just 6 or 7 hours before the ETP system must be restarted to prevent any impact on site production. Poole Projects engineers designed, planned and managed the work with this in mind and were able to successfully complete the installation with no impact to the site production.

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Getting the post moving

Conversion on the go - In Austrian Post's largest mail logistics centre, an approximately 8km long, fully automated conveyor line was to be fitted with modern control technology. The goal and also the challenge was significantly increased plant availability. This has a particularly high priority as in accordance with the 'Universal Service Ordinance', mail items must reach the recipient at the times that the ordinance specifies. The conversion work could only be carried out at weekends and in the tightest time frame. As the general contractor, Pilz was responsible for all conversion and modernisation work. Today, the new technology and safety concept managed by the Pilz PSS 4000 automation system ensures greater flexibility and safety. And the conversion was completed with practically no downtime!

Austria's leading logistics and postal service provider has been equipped with modern control technology by Pilz

Update absolutely safe - The automated conveyor and sorting plant handles up to 46,000 letters per hour and must function smoothly around the clock. Emergency stop pushbuttons along the entire conveyor line, and at the transfer stations in particular, ensure that the operating personnel can stop the system quickly and intervene if there is a problem.

However, the entire plant immediately came to a standstill in the event of an emergency stop, so the aim was to find a practical safety solution that also complied with the standards. For this reason, the conversion was planned to divide the conveyor into four areas. Today this ensures that only the area directly affected comes to a standstill if a transport container becomes wedged. Pilz's technology update was safe in every respect, and in each individual phase of the conversion work, it was possible to fall back onto the old system - PSS 3000 - until the newly installed system was working perfectly.

Benefits at a glance

- No production downtime during conversion - the system implementation ran practically in parallel with operations
- Simple conversion from PLC controller PSS 3000 to its successor controller from the PSS 4000 automation system
- Higher plant availability - now only the affected area is shut down after an emergency stop

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Energy efficient infrared dryers from Compact, an effective decarbonisation tool

▲ ◀ *Carbon dioxide reduction capabilities of infrared dryers from Compact Engineering have been proved in recent trials on a coated board machine in Europe*

Recent trials run on a coated board machine in Europe have proved the carbon dioxide reduction capabilities of Compact Engineering's infrared dryers. Given the machine layout and the customer's priorities, trials were run in three locations in the machine direction with the overall aims of improving the quality of the finished product and reducing the carbon dioxide evolved per tonne of board.

One of the trials was to establish a baseline for water removal at the dry end of the machine for CD moisture profile control. The trial dryers removed more water per kilowatt than we had guaranteed, and fully installed dryers will see an improvement in energy efficiency.

CD moisture profile control improves the quality of the finished product and allows the manufacture of a sheet with an even basis weight, if the basis weight is flexed to influence the moisture profile. There are other benefits to CD moisture profile control too, in that the IR compensates for the less well performing parts of the dryer section, allowing the dryer section to be run at its sweet spot with the IR only applying additional drying where required. On heavier basis weights, a typical consumption of 20-35kW/tonne will remove a 3%+ moisture variation and provide a 10% speed increase or commensurate carbon dioxide reduction.

The second trial was run at the entrance to the MG. One of the problems with MG machines is that a speed increase puts the MG in the wrong MD location, due to the necessary moisture distribution through the sheet, required to achieve a good glaze. To create the correct moisture distribution through the sheet to ensure that a future speed increase can be accommodated (without having to move the MG!) the IR was applied to one side of the sheet to accumulate moisture on the side of the sheet that will be glazed. This trial was a great success meaning that the pre-dryers can be run as a conventional dryer section, at a higher speed without bias. This improves the energy efficiency of the dryer section, saving steam consumption per tonne of board produced and so saving carbon dioxide emissions.

Perhaps the largest possible steam saving came from the final trial where two of Compact's heavy duty dryers were used at the wet end of the machine. Installing the dryers at the entrance to the dryer section, after the last press and before the first cylinder, yielded some interesting results. The unique wavelengths of Compact's dryers allow them to transfer a huge amount of energy to the heart of the sheet, while not blowing the sheet apart.

Getting energy into the heart of the sheet on a heavy basis weight machine is very important. In a conventional dryer section, the sheet is heated over steam heated cylinders that rely on conduction to transfer the energy from the condensing steam to the sheet. As the water on the sheet surface evaporates, the rate of heat transfer from the cylinders reduces. Using IR to heat the heart of the sheet gets the entire sheet to the constant rate temperature and creates a positive vapour pressure inside the sheet structure. The vapour pressure is important as it pushes water vapour from the middle of the sheet to the surface to evaporate. The water vapour passing from the middle of the sheet to the surface rehydrates the dry surface fibres which reinvigorates heat transfer by conduction from the following cylinders.

This means that the IR acts as a catalyst for the dryer section, bringing in the early cylinders as dryers rather than just heaters but also making the water in the sheet more available to the cylinders. Due to these effects, the apparent moisture removal rate from the part of the sheet that was preheated was 0.8kg/kW and resulted in a reel sheet moisture average 2% lower than the unheated parts of the sheet.

If preheaters were installed across the full width of the sheet, the reduction in gas consumed to raise steam for the dryers could be reduced by around 6% leading to a meaningful reduction in carbon dioxide per tonne of board.

From a quality point of view there are benefits from preheating the sheet too. It is quite common on heavyweight sheets, especially where different furnishes are used through the sheet thickness, for surface defects to form brought about by different drying rates through the sheet thickness. Preheating the sheet removes this problem as the whole sheet shrinks in the same machine direction location, resulting in a smoother sheet which in turn, increases the heat transfer from the cylinders.

It is important to not preheat the sheet before the press section where calliper and bulk are considerations in the final sheet. This is because the extra dewatering at the presses is brought about by the increased deformability of cellulose at elevated temperatures and with reduced resistance to the pressure in the press nips, the bulk is squeezed out of the sheet. Any notional benefit gained by savings made by the reduced drying load in the dryer section due to the increased dewatering is more than offset by the increase in fibre costs required to reestablish the bulk.

The combination of preheating the sheet, redistribution of moisture through the sheet (where required) and CD moisture profile control at the dry end can reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emitted per tonne of board. The exact amounts will vary depending on grade, speed, furnish and the source of electricity, but Compact is happy to discuss available options.

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An interview with Liam Foster, Business Development Manager, Kadant UK

▲ *Kadant UK's Liam Foster talks about problem solving and seeing results*

Liam has worked for over 15 years in the pulp and paper industry, with 12 years at Kimberly-Clark in operations and production. He started as an operator before moving into team leadership, which gave him a real understanding of how paper mills run and the day-to-day challenges they face. He joined Kadant UK Ltd in early 2022 as a Business Development Manager, South, UK. His territory covers mills from Kent up to the Midlands and across to South Wales and the West Country.

He enjoys being out on site, seeing the machines, and working with mill teams to find practical ways to improve efficiency and results.

"Interviewer" What attracted you to work for Kadant UK?

"Liam: " Kadant has a great reputation for quality and innovation. I liked the idea of working with products that have a direct and noticeable impact on mill performance. The people here are knowledgeable, supportive, and easy to work with, which made the move an easy decision.

Can you describe your role at Kadant UK and your key responsibilities?

I look after customers across my region, visiting mills to understand their challenges and match them with the right Kadant solutions. No two sites are the same, so every visit is different. I enjoy getting to know the teams, learning about their processes, and finding ways Kadant can make a real difference.

Which products or services at Kadant UK have you found to be the most intriguing and why?

My Lean Six Sigma background taught me to look for quick wins, meaning low-cost changes that deliver measurable improvements. Doctoring is a great example. It might look like a simple process, but choosing the right doctor holders and doctor blades can have a big impact on production efficiency and product quality. It is always satisfying when a small change makes a big difference.

How has your experience been at Kadant so far?

Very positive. The team is friendly and full of experience, and I like the variety in the role. I genuinely enjoy visiting mills, meeting different people, and seeing first-hand how our products are helping them.

Are there any other areas of the business you would be interested in exploring or contributing to in the future?

As market conditions shift, with pressures like raw material costs, skilled labour shortages, and increased competition, building deeper partnerships with customers is essential. To truly identify value, it is less about a traditional customer and supplier relationship and more about working as partners. This means offering guidance on preventative maintenance, improving operational efficiency, and helping mills achieve more predictable, consistent production.

What is the best part of your job?

The mix of problem solving and seeing results. When a customer tells me that something we have provided has saved downtime, improved quality, or boosted output, that is a great feeling.

Do you have any hobbies or interests?

I am a big sports fan. I have a season ticket at both Tottenham Hotspur and Ebbsfleet United and also follow the New England Patriots in the NFL. I also enjoy history and travelling, especially visiting historic sites and experiencing different cultures. Most of all, I enjoy time with my wife Georgia, our children Fletcher and Freya, and our toy poodle, Rolo.

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Pumps on show at ESS Expo '25

Salvtech Limited was proud to exhibit at the Environmental Services & Solutions Expo '25 (ESS Expo '25), held at the NEC Birmingham, UK in mid-September. Over the two-day event, the team showcased its extensive range of Lotzer & Mühlenbruch pumps, drawing interest from professionals across the paper, recycling, and EfW sectors.

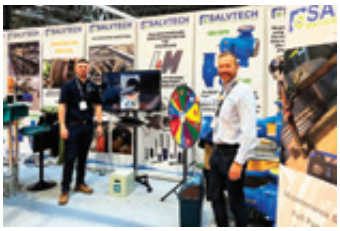
The pump lineup includes centrifugal, positive displacement, submersible, and vertical immersed designs … each built to handle demanding industrial environments with reliability and efficiency. These robust systems are engineered to deliver consistent performance where it matters most.

Beyond pump supply, Salvtech highlighted its comprehensive outage and site services. The company provides full support during planned shutdowns, including pump and fan overhauls, mechanical seal changes, laser alignment, dynamic balancing, and emergency repairs. Its experienced team is equipped to manage multi-day outages, working closely with plant personnel to ensure minimal disruption and fast turnaround.

Emergency hire of pumps and fans was another key offering, helping facilities stay operational during unexpected failures. This rapid-response capability is a vital part of the company's commitment to keeping plants running smoothly.

With sustainability and efficiency driving modern engineering, Salvtech's stand attracted attention for its cutting-edge solutions and hands-on technical insight. Attendees had the opportunity to explore real-world applications and discuss tailored support options with the team.

The show provided an ideal platform for Salvtech to connect with industry leaders, share expertise and reinforce its role as a trusted partner in industrial reliability ▶



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Industrial security is a management issue says Pilz

When asked about security a common response from machine manufacturers and operators is, "Security? That's not our concern!" And with apologies they usually add, "Our IT department is responsible for security."

In practice, however, IT lacks the specific knowledge, particularly with regard to automation networks. On the other hand, design engineers or even health and safety managers are unsure how to deal with cybersecurity. So how do you prepare for Industrial Security?

There is a need for a strategic approach in the light of upcoming regulations and whilst many machine manufacturers do believe that security is solely an IT concern, that neglects the specific needs of automation networks. The Machinery Regulation (MR), effective January 2027 in the EU, mandates protective measures against cyber threats, making industrial security a critical management issue. Collaboration amongst various departments (IT, design, HSE) is essential to build a common understanding of legal obligations and the intersection of safety and security.

Industrial security is becoming business-critical and a management task which must be firmly entrenched within any company

Implementation strategy - Companies should first conduct a risk assessment to identify vulnerabilities and potential threats, integrating both IT protection goals and functional safety. Continuous monitoring and adaptation of security measures are necessary due to the complexity of IT infrastructures, and having expertise in both machinery safety and industrial security is crucial for effective implementation, as the processes do share similarities.

Training and support - Pilz offers training programmes like 'Fundamentals of Industrial Security' and 'Certified Expert for Security in Automation (CESA)' to equip professionals with the necessary skills. Pilz also has its 'Identification and Access Management' (I.A.M.) portfolio which provides solutions for user authentication and data protection, addressing both safety and security needs.

Companies are encouraged to proactively develop individual strategies and define responsibilities to meet the challenges of today's industrial security, building knowledge along the way initiated ideally by management.

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Paper Gold Medal awarded to Robert McClements

Jonathan Ashworth (left) and Andrew Large (right) with this year's Paper Gold Medal winner Robert McClements

In June representatives from the UK's paper-based industries gathered in Stationers' Hall, London, to celebrate the industry achievements. The Paper Industry Gold Awards were hosted by Andrew Large, retiring Director General of the Confederation of Paper Industries (CPI) with the awards being presented by Jonathan Ashworth, Chief Executive of Labour Together and a former Labour Shadow Cabinet Minister.

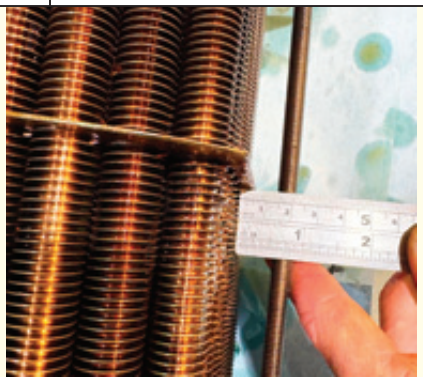
The awards recognised achievements across seven categories with each winner receiving a trophy, with additional commendations made in recognition of exceptional entries. Highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the Paper Gold Medal, regarded as the industry's most prestigious individual honour. Established in the late 1960s, this award is presented to a person who has demonstrated excellence and dedication well beyond their day-to-day role, making a lasting and unique contribution to the broader UK's paper-based industries.

This year, the Gold Medal was awarded to Robert McClements, who beyond a distinguished 25-year career with BPIF, has devoted over two decades to voluntary work supporting the industry. Since retiring in 2024, he has continued to champion the sector, mentoring young people and promoting its valued role amid growing digital competition.

Andrew Large said, "Alongside his professional career, Robert's commitment to voluntary service in support of the industry has been exemplary. I especially admire his focus on attracting the next generation into careers in the industry."

Accepting the award, Robert said, "I am honoured to receive this recognition by the CPI. It has been my good fortune to work in such a vibrant industry and to be able to introduce and mentor some of its next generation. I am grateful to the many people who have supported and enabled me to pursue such a rich and enjoyable career … leading to this extraordinary accolade. Thank you."

Tailored heat exchanger replacement keeps Scottish paper mill running

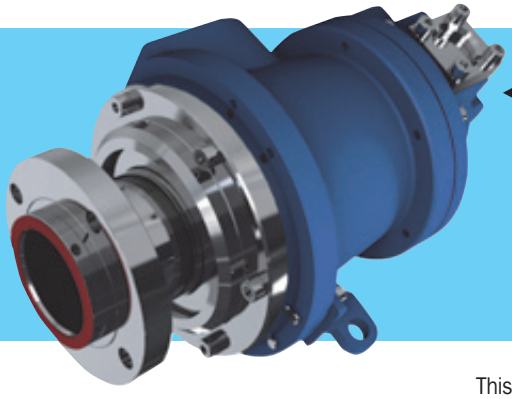


Turnbull & Scott engineer measures the tube bundle ▶

When a Scottish paper mill faced the failure of a critical brass finned tube heat exchanger bundle, Turnbull & Scott (Engineers) Ltd stepped in to design and manufacture a one-off replacement that would keep production on track.

The exchanger, used to cool process oil at 40–60°C and around 6 bar pressure, had originally been built with brass finned tubes.

Deublin success with H68-Series rotary pressure joints



Deublin is well positioned to provide customers with the products and on-time support needed to keep machinery and operations running reliably and efficiently, the H68 shown here being a direct replacement for the H67 version

Founded in 1945, Deublin is the world's leading manufacturer of rotating unions, a mechanical device allowing the transfer of pressurised fluid from a stationary source into rotating machinery for heating, cooling or transfer of fluid power. It also manufactures electrical slip rings and swivel joints and has five manufacturing sites and sixteen sales locations around the globe, its world headquarters being situated in Illinois, USA.

The most popular self-supported rotary pressure joint, engineered specifically for steam and hot oil applications common in the pulp & paper and other general industries is the H-Series. Especially suited for open gear machines, where external mounting surfaces are not available, the self-supported design of the H-Series features two widely spaced, self-aligning carbon graphite bearings that distribute the load evenly, reducing wear and promoting longer seal life. The sealing surfaces can be easily reconditioned with an emery cloth.

The sealing mechanism is designed so that the carbon graphite is under compression. Carbon graphite under compression is four times stronger than in tension so it better withstands pressure surges and water hammering. The convex seal ring is also suited to handle mechanical and thermal shock.

The H68-Series is available in either monoflow or duoflow configurations, with flanged or threaded rotors. The end cap of the duo-flow version for steam service has dual sight glasses to monitor condensate flow.

This simple and robust design extends operating times and reduces maintenance. A single model is applicable for multiple sizes, reducing lead times and spare parts inventory.

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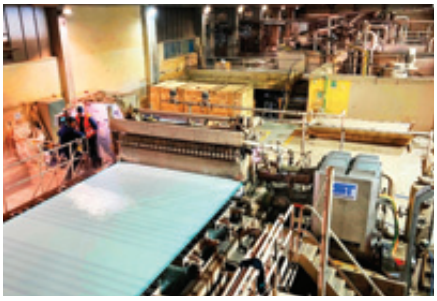

A revolutionary shaker installation has yielded extremely satisfactory results at this Italian mill

Italian mill chooses supplier for revolutionary shaker installation

In 2024 to improve its product performance and process innovation, a team from Cartiere di Guarcino in Lazio, Italy decided to install the latest-generation shaker on its PM1 that would allow an increase in running range ability and frequency. This mill specialises in decorative paper grades characterised by their extremely high quality. The formation of the sheet and fibre orientation are undoubtedly amongst the most important variables, as they are crucial for runnability and stability in subsequent processing phases.

There are few builders capable of providing this technology, and as part of its research, the mill approached ST Macchine, represented in the UK by Reel Solutions Ltd. This supplier has recently developed a revolutionary shaker that guarantees maximum performance with extreme ease of use. This inertial shaker can reach 600 strokes per minute with a stroke of ± 15mm, without transmitting any force to the foundations other than its own weight.

The new shaker was installed in December 2024, replacing a traditional one, and close collaboration between the mill and supplier made it possible to minimise assembly and commissioning times. Upon restarting, the results were immediately encouraging, and it was thanks to the competence of the production staff that all the guarantees were met. Decorative papers are highly sensitive to the slightest change in production setup, so an optimisation process was conducted that required numerous tests, analysed and validated by the laboratory, that ultimately yielded extremely satisfactory results.

The mill also decided to replace the oscillating bearings on the breast roll with hydrodynamic bearings which allow operators to choose the shakers operating parameters even more freely.

This supplier's ability to consistently offer cutting-edge technological solutions, the result of expertise and a strong commitment to research, has kept it amongst the leaders in this market for many years.

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However, sourcing brass in the required specification proved impossible. After a site survey to assess the existing unit, Turnbull & Scott engineers proposed a copper finned tube design … offering superior thermal conductivity and long-term performance.

To ensure compatibility, copper was tested against the mill's process oil and approved by the client. The final bundle combined copper finned tubes with brass tube sheets, baffles and tie rods, all precision-machined and assembled in-house. Rigorous NDT and hydrotesting confirmed compliance with safety and performance standards.

Cost-effectiveness was also a priority. By reusing the existing bonnet connections for hydrotesting, the project avoided the need for additional test components while still meeting stringent quality assurance.

The completed bundle not only secured reliability for the mill's cooling process but also introduced material improvements in thermal efficiency. The project demonstrates how bespoke engineering solutions can overcome material availability challenges while supporting the demanding conditions of paper production.

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Optimising water usage through machine-level audits

Paper machine water audits are essential for improving shower system reliability, reducing freshwater consumption, and enhancing overall operational efficiency. These audits involve tracing shower piping to identify water sources, evaluating filtration systems, and collecting nozzle and pump data to calculate flow rates accurately.

A common audit finding is the assumption that fresh water is clean. Fresh water often contains particulates that contribute to nozzle plugging. Filtered white water, when properly treated, can be cleaner and more thermally efficient. Using filtered white water improves shower performance, reduces the need for heated water, lowers energy costs, and increases system temperature to inhibit bacterial growth. The RotoFlex™ resource recovery strainer reclaims white water, heat, chemicals, and fibre without electrical motors or continuous shower water, removing more than one tonne of fibre per day (500-10000ppm).

Kadant UK's RotoFlex™ resource recovery strainer can remove more than one tonne of fibre per day ▼

▲ The ErGo™ filtration system ensures reliable showering

Flow rate data is critical for sizing filtration systems and selecting appropriate media. Undersized pumps and piping can limit water delivery, especially in high-demand applications like flooded nip showers. These showers must deliver enough water to fill the wire's running void volume, which depends on fabric calliper, width, speed, and void factor. Insufficient flow decreases cleaning effectiveness and makes sheet release unreliable.

Nozzle orifice size is also significant. Many mills increase orifice size to reduce plugging, but this often leads to excessive water use. Water audits frequently recommend optimising nozzle size and spray angle. For example, converting full-width high-pressure showers to traversing showers can reduce water consumption from 87 L/min to just 10 L/min per shower, saving millions of litres annually, improving cleaning efficiency, and reducing the need for additional doctoring.

Filtration upgrades are consistently recommended. The automatic backflushing ErGo™ filtration system or MegaFlo™ backwash barrel filter units ensure reliable showering, removing up to 5 kgs of fibre each day. These are the industry standard for polishing filters. These backwash filtration systems are sized based on flow rate requirements and nozzle dimensions. For high-pressure showers with 0.84 mm - 1 mm orifices, multi-barrel filter units are typically required to maintain water quality and prevent plugging. They can be disassembled without tools.

Spray direction is another key factor. Showers that spray perpendicular to the wire or felt can push contaminants deeper into the fabric. Adjusting the spray angle by 15 degrees creates a chiselling effect that lifts debris and improves cleaning. Doctor lubrication showers should be positioned to wash debris into the saveall and lubricate the blade, extending its life and preventing roll damage.

In summary, water audits provide mills with actionable data to:

- Replace fresh water with filtered white water where feasible
- Size filtration systems based on actual flow rates and nozzle specifications
- Reduce water consumption through nozzle optimisation and traversing showers
- Improve shower reliability and reduce maintenance by upgrading filtration
- Enhance sheet release and cleanliness through proper spray direction and doctoring

Implementing these recommendations helps mills achieve significant water savings, reduce energy costs, and improve machine performance, all while supporting sustainability goals.

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Salvtech welcomes Lucy Barker to the team

Lucy Barker joins the Salvtech team, her skills and energy meaning the company is well positioned to continue its growth and deliver the high standards of service for which it is recognised

Salvtech Limited is delighted to announce the appointment of Lucy Barker as sales and marketing administrator, bringing a wealth of industry knowledge to the business. Joining from Valmet, Lucy has already made a significant and positive impact and will be responsible for in-house sales and marketing activities, including customer communications, exhibitions and ensuring clients are fully supported. Taking the lead on Salvtech's digital presence, she has successfully launched the company's refreshed website further strengthening its online platform.

Managing director Martin Christmas said, "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Lucy to Salvtech. Her experience, professionalism, and enthusiasm are already shining through. I knew she would bring exactly the qualities we were looking for, and it's fantastic to see her making such an immediate impact. She has slotted perfectly into the team and is already helping us move forward with confidence."

Lucy added, "I'm thrilled to be part of the Salvtech team. It's been an exciting start and everyone has been so welcoming. I already feel very much at home. I'm particularly pleased to see the website project taking shape and to be able to play a role in ensuring our customers have clear and easy access to the information they need."

And Lucy and Martin have previously worked closely together, her transition into the company being seamless. Her approach aligns perfectly with Salvtech's culture and values, and she has quickly established herself as a valued team member. The appointment reflects Salvtech's ongoing investment in people and its commitment to strengthening customer relationships.

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Did you know?

Frogmore Paper Mill -

The mill reopened for guided tours this October following the tragic arson attack in January 2022 which destroyed the visitor centre. 90% of the collections have been saved and restored and papermaking operations resumed to the delight of the team who can't wait to get back to doing what they do best and invite the general public back to see what has been done in the last three years - with a bit of paper history added in!

'Hard hat' tours, will allow the Apsley Paper Trail, to showcase the restoration so far in total safety with the tour highlight being the new roof topping the machine house of Fourdrinier No.2 machine. This building was originally erected in 1906 and is now stripped of asbestos with all leaks and dullness removed, the repaired beams, pulleys and dials looking great in the natural light.

Frogmore Paper Mill reopened in October 2025

The repairs have been completed with care and skill under the Grade 2 listing of the mill managers house and the mill is well on the way to become an accessible, stimulating, vibrant museum, which will be future proof and sustainable.

Paper is one of the greenest industries and together with Frogmore's solid history of recycling it now launches a crowdfunder to ensure a sustainable future … if you'd like to help please visit https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/greenfrogmore to make a donation.

The dinosaur of printing machines -

A mill in the north of England has been used in the paper industry since 1875 … Roach Bridge Paper Mill was in family ownership for many years closing in 1999. It was owned and run as a traditional paper mill by Camilla Hadcock's grandfather and following closure she and her husband Charles set up Roach Bridge Tissues using one of the printing machines and a sheeter to produce bespoke printed tissue paper. The company supplies many well-known stores and luxury brands across Europe.

Said Camilla, "You can't really print tissue paper digitally, it just doesn't work, it's too fine and just rips. It's a slow and steady process. Years ago, many things were wrapped in tissue paper, a layer between everything. Now it just gives a little bit of luxury, a sort of special feel when products come wrapped in it."

All products from the business are fully recyclable and biodegradable using environmentally friendly water-based inks.

> "Many well-known stores and luxury brands are supplied with bespoke tissue products from a small mill in the north of England"

▲ *Alex Veitch has joined the CPI as Chief Executive*

New chief executive for the CPI

Following Andrew Large's decision to step down as Director General of the Confederation of Paper Industries (CPI) earlier this year, the CPI Board is delighted to announce the appointment of Alex Veitch as its next chief executive.

Alex took up his role in August following several years as director of policy and insights at the British Chambers of Commerce, representing business interests in Westminster, Brussels, and every part of the UK.

He brings over 25 years of experience in strategic leadership, service delivery, policy, research, communications, and member relations to the Confederation. Kevin Bussey, CPI President, said, "Alex impressed the board with his in-depth knowledge of UK industry and his drive to build a sustainable future for UK manufacturing".

Incoming CEO Alex Veitch said, "I'm delighted to be joining the CPI as chief executive. This sector brings together so many of the things I care about - championing UK manufacturing, building a sustainable economy, and providing skilled jobs for the future. I'm excited to join the fantastic CPI team and build on its position as the leading membership body for this great sector."

Drawing office services from Walmsleys

Many mills visited by Walmsleys Ltd no longer have their own drawing offices and are slowly losing their data, both paper and electronic. They have also lost design engineers and the software to allow them to access and update drawings. All this leads to time wasted searching for information and either finding none or drawings that are out of date.

Walmsleys has a UK based drawing office from where it services its customers worldwide. Equipped with the latest CAD and FEA software, the team of qualified and experienced design engineers undertake paper machinery projects on a daily basis.

With the appointment of a new IT manager, the company is now able to go a step further and offer hosting of customer data. Gary Bradshaw joins the team as project and IT manager and will be developing the infrastructure to provide:-

- Data migration onto Walmsleys secure servers with backup service and remote access including drawing retrieval, viewing and printing which can prevent further site data loss
- Migration can include electronic data and the scanning of paper data
- Secure 24/7 access to selected members of your team
- Once data is secure, it can be catalogued and segregated
- Data can then be checked against the current installation with old drawings archived and 'as installed now' drawings completed
- The customer can then modify or add to the data, or use Walmsleys qualified design engineers for support
- All data is segregated, secure, confidential and remains the property of the client

Advantages to the customer include data security, access 24/7 and the ability to have it updated as changes are made on site. This enables our drawing office to become your drawing office. Walmsleys can provide further information on request if this service interests you.

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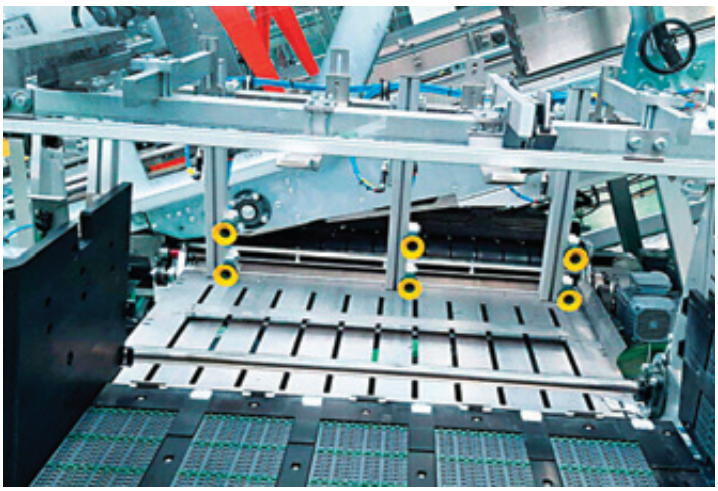

Pilz has installed its PNOZmulti 2 safe small controller on a packaging line at ACMI SpA in Italy

Safe, 'green' packaging ... plastic replaced

The safe small controller PNOZmulti 2 from Pilz was already in use in the mineral water bottling plant of ACMI SpA, ensuring that bottles were handled smoothly during the filling and sealing process. The Italian manufacturer recently expanded its line to include an Ecopack case packer to enable it to pack in cardboard. In safety terms, the cardboard feed was the most critical point ... in this feed if there was sufficient cardboard packaging material in the feed opening, it would be impossible to reach into the danger zone. However, if there was no longer any cardboard in the process, the operator could reach into the machine unhindered with possible consequences.

A sustainable, expandable solution was found with the Pilz PNOZmulti 2, which reliably monitors other safety functions as well as the cardboard feed.

Packaging line expanded sustainably - The state-of-the-art Ecopack cartoner has a cycle rate of 40 strokes/minute and simplified handling for setup and format changes. To ensure that it is also safe for the operating personnel, the PNOZmulti 2 small controller was installed. The controller monitors the photoelectric sensors installed directly on the infeed opening which report the material status of the cardboard to the controller. If necessary, the PNOZmulti 2 can monitor multiple cardboard stores simultaneously with a single base unit.

ACMI SpA can also implement additional safety functions such as E-Stop, safety gates or light curtains, if necessary. This provides added flexibility with the plant being well equipped for the future along with high productivity. Because Pilz had already arranged certification prior to the retrofit, ACMI also saved time during planning, design and commissioning.

Benefits at a glance

- Operator safety for new plant module for the Ecopack cardboard feed
- Line is efficient ... a single base unit monitors multiple cardboard stores simultaneously
- Rapid retrofit with the option to expand the safety functions

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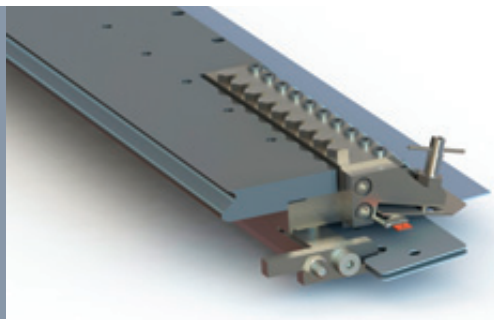
Successful installation of Conformatic™ XL creping blade holder



The Conformatic XL installation at this UK tissue manufacturer was completed by Kadant UK over two days in a total of 24 hours

In the competitive world of tissue manufacturing, unplanned downtime can significantly impact productivity and profitability. One of Kadant UK Ltd's valued customers, a leading tissue manufacturer based in Leicester, UK, faced this challenge with its previous creping doctor blade holder. Frequent unplanned downtime disrupted operations, leading to inefficiencies and increased costs.

Recognising the need for a reliable solution, it turned to Kadant for assistance. After reviewing the machine setup, operating parameters, machine stability, and overall output, Kadant UK's technical experts recommended installing the Conformatic XL creping holder to optimise production efficiency. The Conformatic XL creping holder is renowned for its innovative design and superior performance for high-speed, high-load tissue production manufacturing requirements. It offers enhanced stability and precise blade positioning, ensuring consistent and efficient operation. Engineered to deliver reliable performance under demanding operating conditions, its innovative design and patented technology make it ideally suited for large tissue production manufacturers requirements.

Since the installation of the Conformatic XL creping holder, the tissue manufacturer has experienced a remarkable improvement in its production process. Unplanned downtime has been significantly reduced, allowing for smoother and more reliable operations. The enhanced performance of the Conformatic XL creping holder has not only increased productivity but also contributed to overall cost savings.

Kadant is committed to providing its customers with innovative solutions that enhance operational efficiency. The technical services team worked closely with the tissue manufacturer's operations team throughout the project, from diagnosing the root cause of the runnability issues, to commissioning and supporting the installation. "They came to us with a clear challenge, and we were able to deliver a solution specifically engineered for their production environment," said Liam Foster, business development manager at Kadant UK Ltd. "The Conformatic XL creping holder has enabled this tissue manufacturer to enhance machine stability, improve creping performance, and reduce maintenance downtime."

The success of the Conformatic XL creping holder is a testament to Kadant's dedication to quality and customer satisfaction. The company is proud to support its customers in achieving their goals and looks forward to continuing its partnership with the tissue manufacturing industry.

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Belinda Guo and Lord Black of Brentwood, host of the awards, at the Rising Star event

Turnbull & Scott's Belinda Guo named Rising Star 2025

Belinda Guo, a marketing executive at Turnbull & Scott (Engineers) Ltd, has been recognised with the Printing Charity's Rising Star Award 2025, marking her as one of the UK's most promising young professionals in the print and allied industries.

The award, which provides a £1400.00 grant for training and professional development, is given annually to early-career talent showing exceptional initiative and ambition. Belinda stood out for her achievements in digital marketing and communications, as well as her clear vision for growth in the engineering and sustainability sector.

A former Picon intern, Belinda began her career gaining first-hand experience of how trade associations support innovation and collaboration in the printing and graphics industries. Building on that foundation, she joined Turnbull & Scott in Edinburgh, where she now manages digital strategy, website and web shop development, social media, Google Ads, SEO, and marketing collateral for the company's specialist heating and cooling solutions. She has also been instrumental in developing Continuous Professional Development (CPD) training resources and strengthening customer engagement.

"This award is not just a recognition of what I've achieved so far, but also an investment in what comes next," Belinda said. "I'm excited to use it to expand my skills, particularly in service design and hospitality marketing, so I can keep creating campaigns that are both innovative and commercially impactful."

The Rising Star Award underlines Belinda's growing influence in the industry and reflects the opportunities created through initiatives such as Picon's internship programme. It also highlights the supportive environment at Turnbull & Scott, where young professionals are encouraged to innovate and build long-term careers.

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New version of ISO 14119 gives guidance for safety gates

ISO 14119 specifies the design principles for safeguarding safety gates with interlocking switches. Now there is a new version of the standard ▶

ISO has published a new version of ISO 14119 *'Safety of machinery - Interlocking devices associated with guards'*. The established standard sets out principles for the design and selection of safety gate systems and the requirements for accessible safety gates have now been specified. Design engineers should familiarise themselves with the new features early to guarantee machinery is also CE-compliant in the future.

ISO 14119 has classified interlocking switches and regulated the specifications for installing guards since 2013. The new, third version of ISO 14119:2024 specifies the procedure for safeguarding accessible gates. If there is a risk that machinery will start up unexpectedly, devices such as a manual reset function or presence detection must be present. There should also be a suitable means of escape and emergency release.

Specifically, the new version requires the use of key transfer systems and the series connection of electromechanical contacts (number of devices that can be connected in series), in order to increase the safety of accessible safety gates. The two subjects were previously described in ISO TR 19837 (interlocking systems) and ISO TR 24119 (series connections). These new features now form part of ISO 14119, in the new Clause 6.3.

"The new version has not yet been published in the Official Journal of the EU. However, there will be no more changes to the content of the new version," explains Jan Franck, member of the standards team at Pilz GmbH & Co.KG, the company being involved in developing the new version.

"We therefore recommend that ISO 14119:2024 is now used as a basis for designing safety gates, as it represents the current state-of-the-art," advises the Pilz expert. With its safety switches and safety locking devices, Pilz meets the requirements of the new version and as a result supports design engineers who develop systems that are standard-compliant and future-proof.

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Yankee, MG and can dryer coded fasteners

◀ *A wide range of coded fasteners available from Walmsleys*

Packed for shipment ▶

On a drying cylinder all installed pressure retaining fasteners are periodically tested. Ultrasonic testing is used to identify defects such as cracks and it is recommended that spares are held for such circumstances.

For Walmsleys Limited, it has been a busy year for the supply of coded fasteners for Yankee dryers, MG cylinders and can dryers, as multiple orders have been received in recent months from mills around the world. This marks a change as it appears that paper and board manufacturers are now increasing their stockholding of certain critical machine spares.

Walmsleys Yankee team manages the inspection, site measurement, manufacturing, quality control and installation of fasteners. All of these are fully traceable from the original forging to the finished article and certification is provided for every bolt supplied.

Having spares available at the mill site means that any defects found during routine inspections, once identified can be replaced much sooner, if not immediately.

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Global position strengthened

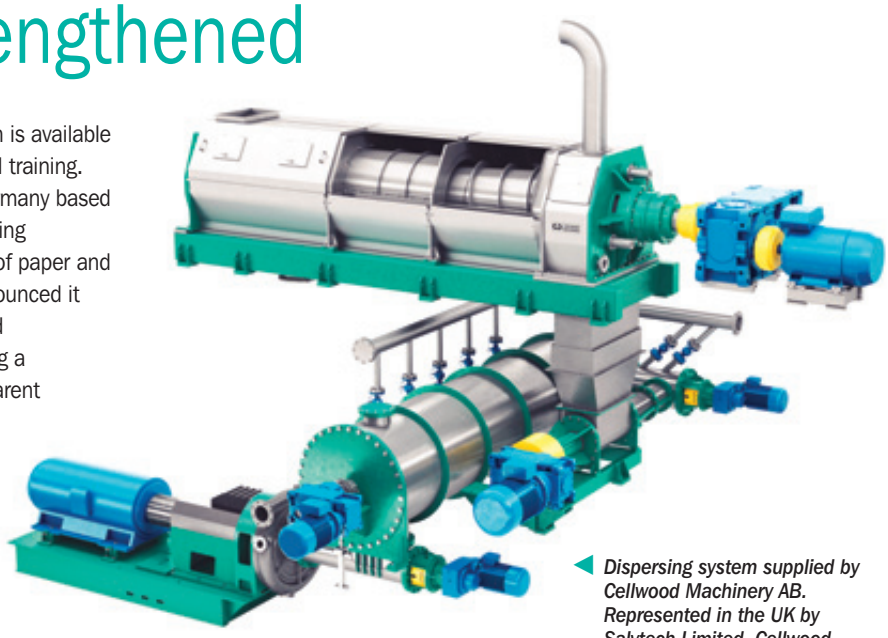
Salvtech Limited is the UK agency for Cellwood Machinery AB, an internationally renowned Swedish based manufacturer of systems for wastepaper recycling and bioenergy pre-treatment. Cellwood has played an important part in the development of the modern pulp and paper industry and is a world leading supplier of dispersing systems used in the wastepaper recycling process. More than 700 system installations have been delivered to paper mills around the world.

Cellwood's product portfolio includes Metrans, known for its conveyors and handling solutions, the Grubbens pulper and the Algas microfilter. All products offer energy efficiency, improved paper quality and sustainable resource utilisation. The company has an extensive research and development operation within the field and at its head office in Sweden a state-of-the-art pilot plant is installed which is available for customer trials and training.

This September Germany based Bellmer GmbH, a leading international supplier of paper and board machinery, announced it had acquired Cellwood Machinery AB following a structured and transparent process. The closing is expected by the end of October 2025. The former owners selected Bellmer due to the strong alignment between both family-owned companies and their shared long-term strategic outlook.

"We are proud to become part of the Bellmer Group," said Henrik Lefvert, managing director of Cellwood Machinery AB. "Bellmer's values and long-term perspective mirror our own, and we are confident that this partnership will bring new opportunities for our customers and employees worldwide."

"This acquisition aligns perfectly with our vision to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions to the paper industry," said Martin Kollmar, president of Bellmer GmbH. "We are excited to welcome Cellwood's expertise and commitment into our group."



Dispersing system supplied by Cellwood Machinery AB. Represented in the UK by Salvtech Limited, Cellwood has recently been acquired by Bellmer GmbH

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Close collaboration by Reel Solutions founder

Reel Solutions supplies a range of reel spools and core plugs all backed by a full maintenance package

For over 35 years, David Jobson of Reel Solutions has worked very closely with Svecom PE of Italy, a leading supplier of expanding shafts and chucks for the paper and tissue industry. Over this time the Svecom 640/PQL (Pope) reel spool has become the industry standard for tissue mills for winding on cardboard or plastic cores.

Svecom reel spools adopt the fully tried and tested fail-safe system of air bladders, with aluminium centring expanding and rubber gripping ledges. The system is a multivalve one where each air chamber (bladder/ledge row) has its own valve to ensure expansion. In a rare case that one becomes damaged, the rest remain active and the spool is still able to operate. As with all the company's products if maintenance is required, generally only a simple bladder change, this can be carried out by mill personnel with just a pair of scissors and an Allen key. These reel spools are designed to individual machine requirements, dynamically balanced at the required speed and can be supplied with bearing housings and brake drums.

For the converting side Svecom offers a complete range of core plugs, from aluminium and carbon fibre 'spider web' non-expanding, through to a pneumatic mechanical design which offers a large expansion range to cope with reused cores from within the mill. And the company has broadened its scope of supply with a complementary range of spool extractors and core plug trollies to meet and exceed current H&S requirements.

Reel Solutions offers full technical and service solutions for all these products, from initial design requirements, through to delivery and backed by a full maintenance package including spares and service.

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A quarter of a century recognised

In celebration of 25 years of Picon's annual dinners, on 11 July 2025 and following the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the Association, a dinner was held at The Museum of Liverpool. 140 members and guests were in attendance and entertained by a theme of 'The Greatest Showman' with acrobats and dancers taking to the stage. Whilst the guests knew that the event was in Liverpool, the location of the dinner was a highly guarded secret until the day.

The Museum of Liverpool showcases Liverpool's global importance through its distinctive geography, rich history and vibrant culture. Visitors can discover how the port, its people and the city's creative and sporting heritage have helped shape modern Liverpool.

What's on around the world?

PAPER-ME 2025	17-19 Nov 2025	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia www.papermideast.com/ksa
TISSUE WORLD VIETNAM	25-26 Nov 2025	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam www.tissueworld.com/ho-chi-minh-city/
PULPFOR EXPO 25	25-27 Nov 2025	St.Petersburg, Russia www.en.pulpfor.ru
PAPEREX/TISSUEEX 2025	03-06 Dec 2025	Noida, India www.india.paperex-expo.com
PAPER & TISSUE SHOW	31 Mar-02 Apr 2026	Abu Dhabi, UAE www.paperoneshow.net
PULP & BEYOND	15-16 Apr 2026	Helsinki, Finland www.pulpandbeyond.messukeskus.com
TISSUE WORLD MIAMI	22-24 Apr 2026	Miami Beach, Florida, USA www.tissueworld.com/miami/
PAPER & TISSUE AFRICA	15-17 May 2026	Kampala, Uganda www.mxmexhibitions.com
PAPER EXPO CHINA 2026	13-15 May 2026	Guangzhou, China www.paperexpo.com.cn
ZELLCHEMING EXPO	16-18 Jun 2026	Wiesbaden, Germany www.zellcheming.de
PAPER & TISSUE SHOW	11-12 Nov 2026	London, UK www.london.paperoneshow.net
EXPOCORMA	18-20 Nov 2026	Concepción, Chile www.expocorma.cl
PAPEREX SOUTH INDIA	03-05 Dec 2026	Chennai, India www.southindia.paperex.in

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Thank you
Rod Lomax, Editor - BPM News

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