



Stadco makes major acquisition of manufacturing plant in Telford

The largest independent UK-based international supplier of automotive Body-in-White products and services, Stadco Limited is delighted to announce its highly significant acquisition of a major automotive manufacturing facility in Telford, Shropshire.

The new plant further strengthens Stadco's platform for growth, with the company set to capitalise on the increase in manufacturing activity in the UK automotive sector. The acquisition will result in an additional 50 permanent jobs being created at the site with a further 30 required during the start up phase.

Like many automotive businesses in the UK, Stadco faced many challenges throughout the economic downturn in the industry in 2008-09. After an extensive restructuring, Stadco emerged as a stronger, automotive focused business, which ultimately contributed to the company winning several key pieces of new business with major car manufacturers.

Within the last year, new business won saw 183 jobs created across the group.



Dermot Sterne, Managing Director,
Stadco Limited

The acquisition of the Telford site provides Stadco with additional capacity to meet the increase in vehicle production in the UK. Improved confidence and a more optimistic outlook for the UK automotive sector means that there is now greater demand on Stadco's output, for example from Jaguar Land Rover, which has experienced strong sales and has an exciting new vehicle model development plan.

Stadco is already a key supplier in the UK for JLR, producing parts across the range of vehicles, including the Jaguar XF and XK, and Land Rover Defender, Freelander, Discovery, Range Rover and Range Rover Sport vehicles.

The Telford site is 18 acres in size and will initially incorporate two large mechanical stamping lines, a fully-equipped toolroom and a further 24,000sqm of manufacturing area for future expansion. Stadco will start commissioning work in February 2011, ramping up to full production in June 2011.

The stamping lines provide the capability to produce the largest panels on a vehicle, including the exterior 'A Class' skin panels in both steel and aluminium.

"We are very excited and optimistic about Stadco's future," commented Managing Director, Dermot Sterne. "After having had to react to the impact of the industry downturn, then consolidate and restructure our business, it is clear that Stadco is now well placed to take advantage of the increase in economic activity. The new facility will provide the company with a further platform needed to meet the future requirements of our customers for years to come."

Telford & Wrekin Council leader Andrew Eade: "This is fantastic news for the borough and is another indication of the confidence of the business community in Telford, particularly in the automotive sector, and how we are well placed to benefit as the region moves into recovery."

"The Council has worked very closely with Stadco over the past two months to help make this happen and we are right behind the company's bid for regional growth funding, which may help support further growth at this site and create more jobs in the borough."

For more information about any of the services offered by Stadco please visit www.stadco.co.uk.



Confederation of British Metalforming Associated Bodies:



Fastener Engineering and Research Association
www.fera.org.uk



International Institute of Metalforming
www.metalforminginstitute.org

Water – the forgotten utility

Many organisations fail to realise the costs that can be saved by simply reviewing their water charges and consumption levels. Whilst many are beginning to look at improving energy efficiency, water often gets forgotten.

The fact is there can be large hidden savings to be made on your annual water expenditure. For example, many companies will be paying the incorrect tariffs on their water bills, others will have third party charges that are not relevant and most will be subject to inefficient water usage across their site.

However, water statements can often be confusing and it can take time and expertise to survey your site and identify inefficiencies. Many organisations simply do not have the time or resources to analyse their charges or water usage.

ENER-G's water consultancy team has many years of experience identifying and implementing water-related cost savings. Their service is entirely performance related and can be financed through a shared savings agreement, with the consultants taking an agreed proportion of the savings they identify.

Contact us for a free desktop analysis so our consultants can take a look at your water bills and let you know if there are savings to be made.

Call: Neil Escott at ENER-G on 01527 855053
or email: neil.escott@ener-g.co.uk



2011 has started with a bang for Volvo Trucks. Buoyed by a general upswing that has led to an increase in demand for heavy-duty trucks, the company reported that global truck deliveries in January of this year were 95% higher than the same period of 2010. Worldwide, Volvo Trucks delivered 6503 vehicles in January compared to 3339 a year ago.



Most of the company's regional markets showed triple-digit gains. Asia led all regions with a 188% increase (874 trucks this year vs. 304 in 2010), while North America saw a 152% gain (1376 in 2011 vs. 546 last year). Eastern Europe rose 129% (572 vs. 250) and Western Europe was ahead 101% (2233 vs. 1110).

Source: Diesel Progress



GOOD START FOR VOLVO TRUCKS

EIFI Congress May 2011 in Poland

The annual Congress of the European Industrial Fastener Institute will be held this year in Krakow, Poland at the Sheraton Hotel, which is on the bank of the Wisla River, near to Wawel Castle, with spectacular views of both.

The conference meetings are on Friday 27th May, all in English, and CBM members are welcome to attend. The conference proceedings are solely for EIFI (and CBM) members during the morning, with non-member guests and speakers attending the afternoon sessions. There will be reports from the various EIFI sub-committees (automotive, stainless steel, aerospace, etc), and also on the progress of the European Commission on the EIFI initiated actions such as anti-dumping. Specialist invited speakers will talk on topical issues, the details to be informed later.

The upswing in the Class 8 heavy-duty markets that began last year has continued into 2011, according to information from ACT Research, the Indiana-based analyst of commercial vehicle markets in the U.S. and China.

A preliminary reading of heavy-duty Class 8 commercial vehicles net orders for North American markets rose to 27,300 units in January, according to ACT. The January order volume represents an increase of 320% compared to January, 2010. Preliminary net order numbers are subject to revision and are typically accurate to within 5% plus or minus, ACT said.



Keep on Trucking

"The industry began 2011 where 2010 left off," said Kenny Vieth, president and senior analyst at ACT. "After ending 2010 with three strong order months, the trend continued into January."

"Over the past three months, Class 8 orders have been booked at an annualized rate of 320,000 units. The uptick in orders continues to restock industry backlogs, setting the stage for significant production increases as we move through 2011."

Education – Education - EDUCATION

The recent resurgence of the manufacturing sector on the agenda of government, banks, and economists has promoted a greater awareness of the opportunities for employment and growth. A key driver of taking this forward is to reach the young people at school age.

The CBM in association with the Walsall Enterprise Business Partnership has secured funding support from the Iron and Steel trust (West Midlands) and the Royal Academy of Engineering to run a school engagement programme through 2011. The successful programme in 2010 introduced a group of teachers to West Midlands based CBM member companies to gain an insight into how they make things. The material gathered during the visits was then turned into formal presentations, delivered back in the classrooms. This simple process gets the right messages from the shopfloor into the classroom. If you have a west midlands manufacturing site and wish to get involved with this years programme please email alan.arthur@britishmetalfforming.com. The teacher visits will take place through the summer and there will be a publicised final event in October at the National Metalforming Centre.

The formal programme will be preceded by a reception and dinner on Thursday 26th May. There will also be a Gala Dinner on the Friday evening, and organised excursions of the local area for those who wish to stay on the Saturday. Most of the major European fastener manufacturers are usually represented at senior level at the Congress, so this is an opportunity to meet and talk to them.

EIFI has arranged special hotel rates for those wishing to attend. Details of the meeting can be obtained from: john.newnham@britishmetalfforming.com.



2nd successful CBM Cold Rolled Sector Event



Held at National Metalforming Centre
On Thursday 17th February 2011

As a follow up to the Cold rolled sector meeting held on 23rd June, our second get together was well received with knowledgeable speakers providing expertise in their field to 34 delegates from the section profile producers.

Companies in attendance were; Aisin, Coverworld, Garador, Grove Metal Sections, Hadleys, Metsec, S+C Bowers & Jones, Superior Sections & the Institute of Sheet Metal Engineering.

Presentations were given by;

- Bradbury International UK Managing Director Tony Green who spoke about the art of levelling steel coil and blanks using their range of hydraulic levellers. Tony also spoke about the impressive high speed pre punch units added to the rolling mill, this gave maximum output and better utilisation to the process.
- SSAB Swedish Steel section rolling specialist Peter Alm spoke from experience about rolling Docol Roll ultra-high strength steel. Giving advice on radii to enable stability and reducing spring back through the process due to the high yield value.
- The final speaker was Gordon Addison of Rollform UK. Gordon has been around for a few years as a hands on consultant in the rolling business. He explained that over the years he had seen good and bad engineering practise demonstrating by showing example pictures. He talked in detail about the fundamentals and principals of the process with emphasis on trying to determine correct neutral axis of the profile when designing the rolls.

Following a short question and answer session Adrian Nicklin announced that the CBM would soon make available to member companies an updated cold rolled sector 'Code of Practice' Handbook.

CBM are also considering publishing for purchase a Cold rolled section Handbook which covers all aspects of the rolling process. This identifies fundamental principles of rollforming from decoiling to final shearing.

The CBM would like to thank all who attended and the speakers for their time.

For any enquiries please contact Adrian Nicklin at the CBM on 0121 601 6350 or email: adrian.nicklin@britishmetalforming.com.



EMF Directive

The UK Government is obliged to transpose the EMF Directive into UK law. The Health and Safety Executive is leading the negotiating process with industry and other affected groups.

After a considerable delay, arising from the medical use of MRI scanners, a further revision of the directive is anticipated by early April. In preparation for this, the HSE is preparing a UK Impact Assessment and has requested input from the Metalforming Sector.

The revised directive proposes a "Zonal System" based on "Orientation Values, Action Values and Exposure Limit Values". Different activities will fall into different zones. The zone an activity falls into will dictate the control/prevention measures needed and the level of risk assessment. The subject is complex, but the HSE is advocating sensible and clear limit values, terminology and definitions, together with a simple risk assessment process.

Provisionally, equipment/activities have been allocated to different zones, but the fit is uncertain and it is not clear which categories exceed the exposure limit values. The equipment/activities of relevance to the Metalforming Sector are Induction Heaters, MPI Machines and Welding Machines. However, there is a distinct lack of measurement data to compare with the zonal values. Also, the HSE only have rough estimates of number of machines/people covered by the directive.

New Fastener Standards

BSI has circulated the following new or newly amended fastener standards to members of the fastener standards committee during the past two months. These documents are available for download from bsigroup.com.

- BS EN ISO 12474: 2010** Hexagon socket head cap screws with metric fine pitch thread
This is a new standard, and is based on ISO 21269 of the same title, which has been withdrawn. The standard specifies the characteristics of hexagon socket head cap screws with metric fine pitch thread of nominal thread diameters from 8mm up to 36mm and product grade A. The introduction of the standard says that "The range of approval has been brought into line with the scope of ISO 898-1".
- BS EN ISO 14585: 2011** Hexalobular socket pan head tapping screws
This is a minor revision of the 2001 standard of the same title. The standard specifies the characteristics of hexalobular socket pan head tapping screws with thread sizes from ST2,9 to ST6,3 inclusive.
- BS EN ISO 14586: 2011** Hexalobular socket countersunk head tapping screws
This is a minor revision of the 2001 standard of the same title. The standard specifies the characteristics of hexalobular socket countersunk head tapping screws with thread sizes from ST2,9 to ST6,3 inclusive.
- BS EN ISO 14587: 2011** Hexalobular socket raised countersunk (oval) head tapping screws
Again this is a minor revision of the 2001 standard of the same title. The standard specifies the characteristics of such screws with thread sizes from ST2,9 to ST6,3 inclusive.
- BS 7371-6: 1998+A1:2011** Coatings on metal fasteners. Specification for hot dipped galvanized coatings
This standard supersedes BS 7371-6: 1998 which is withdrawn. The text of the standard closely follows that of its predecessor, except for the inclusion of Amendment 1 modifications, which are clearly noted in the text. The most important of these modifications are probably the new values of minimum average local coating thickness in Table 1. Elsewhere, text has been deleted, and new reference standards included.

CBM Forging Sector Meeting



Tuesday 5th April 2011
at the
National Metalforming Centre, West Bromwich.

For further information please contact: Geraldine Bolton at the CBM on 0121 601 6350 or email: geraldine.bolton@britishmetalforming.com.

The CBM will therefore be contacting members in order to prepare a sector profile which will be fed into the HSE Impact Assessment.

For further information please contact Ken Campbell at the CBM on 0121 601 6350 or email: ken.campbell@britishmetalforming.com.

Manufacturing company fined after safety breaches



A manufacturing firm has been prosecuted after health and safety failures at its Northumberland premises.

Hendry Hydraulics Ltd was prosecuted after Health and Safety Executive (HSE) inspectors visited Hendry Eurohoist Cylinders in Ashington and served two Prohibition Notices.

South Northumberland Magistrates' Court heard the notices were served because the locking mechanism on the doors to two CNC (computer numerically controlled) lathes, designed to prevent workers coming into contact with dangerous moving parts, had been deliberately bypassed.

On 11 March 2010, two HSE Inspectors saw a machine being set up with a spare key inserted into the locking mechanism of the interlock safety device. This meant the machine was capable of operating at full speed with the doors open.

This was observed just four months after an HSE Inspector had stopped work on the same two lathes because safety interlocks had been defeated.

Further investigations revealed the company had provided workers with a spare interlock key to bypass the safety devices.

Hendry Hydraulics Ltd, of Pinefield Industrial Estate, Elgin, Morayshire, pleaded guilty to two breaches of Regulation 11(1) of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 and was fined a total of £20,000 (£10,000 for each offence). The company was also ordered to pay costs of £6,621.

After the case, HSE Inspector Sally Brecken said:

"Companies have a legal duty to ensure there are adequate safeguards in place to prevent access to dangerous parts of machinery. This company had already been served a Prohibition Notice in 2009 regarding the defeating of interlocks on machinery.

"These enforcement notices are served only when there is a risk of serious personal injury.

"However, despite the warning, the company failed to maintain standards and when we returned to the site in March 2010 we saw safety devices being defeated for a second time.

"This has now led to a prosecution but could easily have led to a serious injury. Employers should ensure that advice is followed and standards are maintained."

Source: HSE

Linread Northbridge now part of AFS

On 9th March, Alcoa announced the acquisition of the aerospace fastener business of TransDigm Group Inc, a global designer, producer and supplier of highly engineered aircraft components. The business will become part of Alcoa Fastening Systems (AFS), a leading worldwide designer and manufacturer of specialty fastening systems, components and installation tools for aerospace and industrial applications.

The new acquisition has about 400 people employed in three locations, and includes the Linread Northbridge plants in Leicester and Redditch, as well as Valley Todeco in Sylmar, California.

AFS is a business unit of Alcoa and has headquarters in Torrance, California. It operates 29 facilities in 10 countries, and has over 5,500 employees.



Short and long stay city centre accommodation for CBM members at discount prices

CBM members can benefit from a dynamic pricing arrangement with Premiere Apartments at locations across the UK, Ireland, and mainland Europe. The Premiere organisation offer self contained apartments in secure managed city centre locations, and have recently added two hotels.

To access this offer log onto www.premierapartments.com, choose date and location and put in

the code **78222136**. This will guarantee you the best rate of the day with a further 5% discount, beating any current offer through any 3rd party booking agent/website.

Apartment locations -
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LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER,
NEWCASTLE, NOTTINGHAM,
ANTWERP, DUBLIN
SANDYFORD,
PREMIER SUITES DUBLIN

Hotel locations -
LEOPOLD HOTEL - Sheffield
ASPECT HOTEL - Tamworth



CBM MARKETING Club EVENT

Making a profit from ADVERTISING

7 April 2011



- Advertising **MUST** make a ROI
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- A chance to network with likeminded people
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- Secrets of delivering results from your advertising and measuring the return

For further information please contact Kirsi Lintula at the CBM on **0121 601 6530** or email: kirsi.lintula@britishmetalfforming.com

CBM events diary

- **CBM H, S & E Group Meeting 5 April**
The CBM H,S,&E Group meet quarterly to discuss relevant H&S issues. The recent Accident Reduction in Metalforming Sector (ARMS) initiative has embarked on a strategy to reduce the accidents in the sector and subsequently reduce insurance premia.
- **CBM Forging Sector Meeting 5 April**
CBM Forging Sector meetings provide members and associates with the opportunity to meet and talk to senior managers and directors from other similar manufacturing companies, and at the same time receive presentations on topics of current interest.
- **Day 3 of the 75% HSE funded IOSH qualification for involving workers in health and safety 6 April**
The 'Workforce Involvement Plus' IOSH certificate is available to all individuals who have taken the first two days of training and attained the IOSH 'Certificate in Workforce Involvement'.
- **BLECH India 2011 14 - 17 April**
Exhibition for sheet metal working, India
- **CBM Annual General Meeting 14 April**
The CBM Annual General meeting will take place on 14 April at 16.00.
- **12th International Cold Forging Congress (12 ICFC) 19 May**
The 12th ICFC will be held in Fellbach, Germany, near Stuttgart on May 19th, 2011. On behalf of the ICFC the ICFC 2011 will be organized by the Institute for Metal Forming Technology of Stuttgart University.
- **CBM Executive Board Meeting 1 June**
The CBM Executive Board meets quarterly to review CBM's affairs.
- **IMFAIR 2011 14 June**
This popular conference & exhibition provides an excellent international forum for sharing surface finishing knowledge and best practice techniques for sustainable aviation and defence materials technology.
- **BLECH Nordic 2011 4 - 7 October**
Exhibition for sheet metal working, Sweden.
- **CBM Executive Board Meeting 13 September**
The CBM Executive Board meets quarterly to review CBM's affairs.

All events are held at the CBM Headquarters, National Metalforming Centre, West Bromwich B70 6PY unless otherwise stated.

For further information or to book a place please visit: www.britishmetalfforming.com