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- Hydro excavated materials
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- Glass MRF and kerbside
- Metals waste
- Incinerator bottom ash (IBA)

“ We operate a diverse business, and my focus is the soil recycling facility. We currently run two wash plants, including our recently installed Parnaby system, which is processing trommel fines and mid-size waste streams.

One of the things that immediately appealed to us about Parnaby was that they're a family business, just like us. They've been fantastic to work with throughout the project. We were particularly impressed by the build quality of the equipment, the robustness of the machines and the depth of experience the team has within flotation and aggregate separation.

The support we've received has been exceptional. Throughout commissioning and beyond, Parnaby has had experienced personnel on site helping us optimise the plant and achieve the best possible performance.

I wouldn't hesitate to recommend Parnaby Cyclones. They're genuine people who care about their customers and stand behind their products. When you need advice or support, someone is always available to help. We're extremely pleased with both the plant and the team behind it.. ”

Tom Stuart - Stuart Partners.



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Turning a Costly Waste Stream into a Valuable Resource

For many waste and recycling operators, skip fines represent one of the most challenging materials to process. Often containing high levels of organics, plastics, moisture and various metal contaminants, these waste streams can quickly become a costly burden rather than a source of recoverable value. In 2025, Stuart Partners found themselves precisely facing this challenge as increasing volumes of difficult material were being directed to landfill despite containing significant quantities of recoverable sand, aggregates, and metals.>





The issue was not only environmental but financial. The company was spending between £300,000 and £350,000 each year on haulage costs associated with the disposal of skip fines. At the same time, potential changes to landfill taxation created uncertainty around future operating costs. With increasing pressure to improve recovery rates and reduce dependency on landfill, Stuart Partners recognised that a new solution was required.

After several months researching available technologies, Troy Stuart began discussions with Parnaby Cyclones in July 2025. During the evaluation process, Parnaby demonstrated the capabilities of its Natural Medium Barrel Plant, designed specifically to treat complex waste streams that many conventional systems struggle to process efficiently.

What immediately stood out to the Stuart team was the plant's straightforward yet highly robust design. The Natural Medium Barrel's resistance to material entanglement, combined with its unique dynamic density separation process, offered a practical solution for handling waste streams containing a broad range of contaminants. Unlike many alternatives on the market, the system is not constrained by floats capacity, allowing operators greater flexibility when processing materials with high organic and plastic content.

The relationship between the two companies quickly developed beyond that of a traditional supplier and customer. As family-run businesses, both organisations shared similar values, with direct communication playing a central role throughout the project. From the earliest stages, Troy Stuart and his sons, Tom and Jack, worked closely with Adrian Parnaby and Ian Parnaby, ensuring the final design was tailored to the operational requirements of the Stuart Partners site.



Working collaboratively with the Stuart team, Parnaby developed a fully customised plant layout capable of processing material below 50mm while retaining the flexibility to treat material up to 100mm where required. The plant was designed for a feed rate of 50 tonnes per hour.

The first stage of the system centres on the Natural Medium Barrel. Here, density separation is used to divide the material into distinct fractions. Lightweight contaminants migrate towards the lower end of the inclined barrel, while heavier aggregate material is conveyed upwards. Integrated sizing components also allow material below 4mm to be separated and directed towards further refinement.

Following the initial separation stage, the material enters Parnaby's Natural Medium Cyclone System, where further cleaning of the sand fraction takes place. Using dynamic forces, the cyclone system effectively separates remaining light contaminants from the sand, helping to produce a cleaner and more marketable product.

To maximise efficiency, Parnaby incorporated a Roto-sieve system to manage the lightweight fraction. Continuous cleaning of the rotating screening drum helps prevent blockage and maintains throughput, even when processing fibrous materials that would quickly blind conventional screening surfaces.

The third stage focuses on classification and fine sand recovery. Parnaby's classifying cyclones allow precise adjustment of particle size distribution while simultaneously controlling the material entering the effluent treatment system. This allows Stuart Partners to optimise production according to market demand.

While material recovery attracts most of the attention in a washing plant, effective water management is often the key to long-term performance. Recognising this, Parnaby designed a comprehensive effluent treatment system as the fourth and final stage of the process.

The effluent treatment system comprises water conditioning, solids concentration and solids dewatering. A thickener concentrates suspended solids while allowing clarified water to be returned to the washing circuit. The thickener underflow is then transferred to a buffer tank before progressing to the dewatering stage.

The filter press is the final part of the Effluent Treatment System. During the concept stage of the project Parnaby provided two options for Troy and Tom to consider. These being





the Parnaby Multi Roll Filter Press and the Plate Filter Press. The MRF Press technology allows for continuous operation with a small footprint, reduced slurry storage, lower energy cost, and capital cost as a trade-off against lower moisture content in the filter cake and lower floc usage with a plate filter press. Parnaby are committed to providing the best technology to suit their clients' operational constraints so were happy to openly discuss the pros and cons for both systems and in Stuart Partners case as they were more familiar with plate filter press system and space was less of a concern, they decided to proceed with that technology.

To provide additional confidence in the proposed design, Parnaby arranged independent filter cake testing and analysis. Given the particularly high organic content of the material being processed, a membrane Plate Filter Press was selected from Diemme Filtration to maximize moisture reduction and improve filter cake release.

Beyond the immediate recovery benefits, the project has strengthened Stuart Partners' ability to respond to changing markets and regulatory pressures. As disposal costs and environmental expectations continue to evolve, having a flexible processing solution provides significant long-term value. The plant's ability to adapt to variable feedstocks reduces operational risk while creating opportunities to recover additional resources. By combining proven separation technologies with a tailored plant design, Stuart Partners has established a platform for continued growth while reducing reliance on landfill and improving resource recovery across its operations.

Today, Stuart Partners is successfully recovering value from a difficult waste stream that previously represented a significant disposal cost. By diverting material from landfill and recovering saleable products, the company has transformed an operational challenge into an opportunity.



Client Testimonial

Tom Stuart, Stuart Partners

"We operate a diverse business, and my focus is the soil recycling facility. We currently run two wash plants, including our recently installed Parnaby system, which processes trommel fines and mid-size waste streams.

One of the things that immediately appealed to us about Parnaby was that they are a family business, just like us. They have been fantastic to work with throughout the project. We were particularly impressed by the build quality of the equipment, the robustness of the machines and the depth of

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The support we have received has been exceptional. Throughout commissioning and beyond, Parnaby has had experienced personnel on site helping us optimise the plant and achieve the best possible performance.

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Welcome to issue 100

Yes 100 issues, a true milestone!

In this fifth issue the team at Hub-4 present you with another bumper edition reporting on the latest news from the Quarrying, Recycling & Bulk Handling Industries, including a feature on Material Recycling Facilities and associated equipment.

Marketing in 2027:

If you're looking at marketing in 2027 our NEW media file with feature list can be found here, either PDF download or page flip version:
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Finally, our last and sixth edition of 2026 will be our 101st edition and will focus on Shredders in the UK and Mobile Bulk Material Handling Solutions, for any of these topics I welcome any editorial contributions.

John Edwards
Editor

November | December



SHREDDERS - a review of the latest models.

MOBILE PROCESSING & MATERIALS HANDLING

EQUIPMENT - material handlers, mobile stackers, mobile conveyors, mobile radial stockpilers, mobile-tracked conveyors.

QUARRYING - Open topics for this issue.

RECYCLING - Open topics for this issue.

BULK HANDLING - Open topics for this issue.

Editorial copy deadline – 17th November 2026

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Cracking throughput for Crapper & Sons

Independent and family-owned, Crapper & Sons has been growing for more than 40 years. Having started out as a waste disposal business based at a site in Wootton Bassett, they've now expanded into several different services. With an increase in production, they've switched to an Eggersmann TERRA SELECT T60 Trommel Screen.



Even as they've expanded their services, Crapper & Sons have kept product quality, efficiency and sustainability at the forefront of their operations. Now offering waste management, landfill operations, aggregates recycling and groundworks, any machines they bring into their fleet need to support these values.

As Richard Crapper, Managing Director, explains, "We have a high volume of material being screened every day. We want to get as much usable material out of the process as possible so we can keep it out of landfill and meet our 85% recycling target. It's also important to ensure the quality of our product. Our peat-free compost is BSI PAS 100 standard, for example.



"Initially, we were using two screeners to get this job done, which meant our processes were more complicated than they needed to be. To simplify operations and make them more efficient, we started looking for a single machine solution."

Designed for efficiency

With their own sites and plants, Eggersmann understands exactly what recycling and material processing businesses need. As such, one of the key features of TERRA SELECT T60 Mobile Trommel Screen is the widest drum diameter on the market, which gives operators an above-average screening surface. Its capacity of up to 200m³, the machine helps Crapper & Sons keep up with high demand.



There are also bars between each section of the drum. This and the extra baffles that the business had fitted to their machine, throw up the material more effectively, significantly improving separation. "This has made a huge difference to getting the material how we want it," says Richard. "It already effectively supports our higher recycling and recovery rates."



Alongside maximising efficiency, the TERRA SELECT T60 is designed to be really easy to operate. Completing a trommel screen change is quick and easy, making it straightforward for the business to get the exact cut they want. Its diesel hydraulic engine also delivers up to 102hp, meaning it can work efficiently, whatever material it's processing.

For John Williams, Machine Operator, it's the simple controls that make a big difference, "I'm happy with the interface on the machine. We're handling different materials all the time, but we can easily change the settings just by pressing the right button on the interface. This helps us achieve quality products quickly, even with high throughput."

Richard adds, "Unlike the previous machines, the engine on the T60 is at the far end. This makes maintenance a lot easier. Its straightforward trommel bearings and drives alongside a broom scraper that cleans build ups also help keep our operations running smoothly. We've had it for two and a half months and it still looks in good condition."

"At the end of the day, the fact we've been able to achieve better throughput with a single machine and one lot of fuel says it all really."

Smooth service

The machine purchasing process was just as straightforward for the Crapper team. "We dealt with Martyn Tucker all the way through. It was great, there were no problems at all. A lot of the slack was taken up by Molson, so the T60 was really easy to buy and appeared on site quickly."

Working with their partner business JR Machinery, they were able to get extra help with financing and are now renting the machine between the two companies to maximise its value. This allows them to get better return on investment faster, as well as enjoying all the machine benefits.

When it comes to aftermarket support, the Crapper team couldn't have asked for more either. As Richard says, "Whenever we ring them up we get a positive response and good feedback, which is all you can ask for in a dealer."

PowerX Equipment: Expansion Continues With Move To New Facility

PowerX Equipment, the West Midlands-based aggregate and mineral processing equipment specialist, is continuing its growth journey with a move to a new purpose-built office and warehouse facility in Fillongley, West Midlands.

The new facility has been developed to accommodate the company's expanding operations, incorporating modern office facilities, dedicated areas for parts and machine storage, and substantial indoor workshop space. The workshop will provide the environment required for pre-delivery inspections, machine preparation, maintenance and repair work.

As the official Powerscreen Hire Dealer for England and Wales, the new premises will also support the company's expanding hire operation, enabling a wider range of mobile tracked equipment to be available and ready for deployment.

Commenting on the move and the company's future plans, Luke Talbot, Managing Director of PowerX Equipment, said:

"As the business has continued to grow, we have had to overcome the typical challenges every company has to face and the move to our new premises will set us up for the future.

"The move represents more than an expansion of physical space; it is an investment in our people, capabilities and our ability to support customers across the increasingly diverse and demanding markets that we operate in.

"Bringing everyone together under one roof optimises our business efficiencies and logistics, enabling us to more effectively promote, stock and supply the full range of products and services available from PowerX Equipment."

The move comes at a particularly significant time in the company's development. 2026 has already been an extremely



busy year, with PowerX Equipment delivering and installing a number of new washing plant and water treatment facilities. Its contract aggregate processing division has also continued to secure high-profile projects across the quarrying, mining and construction infrastructure sectors.

Alongside its growing presence in the UK, PowerX Equipment has established a strong international operation, particularly



across West Africa, supplying and supporting aggregate and mineral processing equipment from leading global manufacturers including Powerscreen, Terex Washing Systems, Terex MPS and MS, the water treatment solutions specialists.



The company has also recently strengthened its position in the West African market through a new dealer partnership agreement with MAGNA, a Terex brand, which gives PowerX Equipment responsibility for promoting and selling the range of high-performance crushing and screening equipment.

Since its formation, PowerX Equipment has developed a broad portfolio of services including equipment sales and hire, plant design and installation, contract processing solutions, washing and water treatment, together with genuine spare parts and aftermarket support.



The move to Fillongley is therefore a natural progression for a business that has continued to broaden its capabilities and market reach. More importantly, it provides the foundations for the next chapter of the PowerX Equipment story.



With ambitious plans for further growth in the UK and international markets, continued investment in its people and partnerships with leading equipment manufacturers, PowerX Equipment is building a business equipped not only to meet the demands of their customers, but to play a leading role in shaping the future of the aggregate and mineral processing industries.

PowerX Equipment: Engineering World-Class Washing Solutions

In modern aggregate and mineral processing, washing is no longer simply about putting material through a screen and adding water. With increasing pressure to improve product quality, maximise resource recovery, reduce operating costs and demonstrate stronger environmental performance, today's washing plants need to work smarter as well as harder.

A world-class washing plant must function as a complete system and a weakness at one stage can compromise the performance of the entire operation. This is where PowerX Equipment's experienced approach to washing plant design and installation is transforming the aggregate industry.

From the outset, the objective is to understand each client's application starting from the raw feed material, existing site challenges, finished product requirements and production targets, before developing a bespoke system designed to meet the processing specifications.

The company's ability to design and install turnkey wash plants, water treatment facilities and associated infrastructure, underpins the commitment to managing the wider processing requirement rather than simply supplying a one size fits all solution.



It is a design philosophy that is built on experience, engineering knowledge and relationships with some of the most respected names in the industry.

PowerX Equipment has developed close working Dealer partnerships with high-performance equipment suppliers including Terex Washing Systems, Terex MPS, MS and AKW Equipment & Process Design to access a comprehensive portfolio of proven aggregate processing technology. This includes solutions for washing, classifying and water management.



Making Aggregate Washing More Resource Efficient.

Increasingly, one of the biggest challenges facing the aggregate washing industry is water usage and management. Washing plants require a continuous, high-volume flow of water and site operators are being pressurised to reduce natural resource usage and improve sustainability.

Consequently, water management has become a fundamental element in PowerX's efficient aggregate washing plant design. The challenge is not simply to use water to clean the material, but to manage the resulting silt and recover and recycle as much process water as possible.



That's where the relationship with MS, a specialist water management solutions provider, adds an important dimension to washing plant performance.

MS water-treatment technology, including high-performance filter presses, sophisticated sludge dewatering and water-recovery systems can recycle up to 95% of the water used in the washing cycle. Meaning less wastage of natural resources and the need for traditional silt ponds.

The water management system effectively separates silt from the liquid using a flocculation process to produce a sludge that is then pumped into the high-performance filter press.

What sets the MS system apart is the energy efficiency of the filter press and the way in which it uses additional water pressure to put a final squeeze on the silt to produce a much drier filter cake, separating even greater volumes of water from the sludge.

The benefits include less pressure required to effectively dewater the sludge which in turn leads to reduced wear on the cloths and primary sludge pumps, extending service life. In addition, less power is required and operators gain increased control over filter cake thickness and productivity.

The significance goes beyond water savings.

Recovering water, reducing sludge volumes and capturing valuable fines can all contribute to a more efficient operation. Less water is lost; less material needs to be handled as waste and more of the original feedstock can potentially be converted into saleable products.

That creates a powerful connection between environmental responsibility and commercial performance.

It is precisely this combination that defines the PowerX Equipment washing plant philosophy: **better processing should deliver better business outcomes.**

The future of aggregate washing is not about simply washing more material. It is about recovering more, wasting less, producing consistently to specification, managing water intelligently and creating a wash plant that delivers reliable performance.

That is the PowerX Equipment approach: world-class washing technology, professional engineering expertise and integrated solutions designed around the needs of the customer.

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New Brusque Sorting Plant to advance material recovery in Brazil.

Sutco sets new standards for the circular economy in Latin America.

The new materials recovery facility in Brusque, Santa Catarina, Brazil, engineered and constructed by Sutco, is one of the most advanced and largest mixed municipal solid waste sorting plants in Brazil and is designed to process up to 52 tonnes of waste per hour.

Sutco Brasil and Sutco RecyclingTechnik Germany have successfully completed the design, construction, and commissioning of a new materials recovery facility (MRF) in Brusque, Santa Catarina, Brazil. Owned by Ciclaré, the new cutting-edge MRF brings together sophisticated sorting technologies to recover valuable resources from mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) and demonstrate the potential of next-generation sorting solutions. Its launch marks an important step toward accelerating the country's transition to a more circular economy.



ADVANCED SORTING FOR UP TO 93% RECOVERY

Ciclaré envisioned a facility that is engineered to maximise resource recovery. Today, the plant has a processing capacity of 52 tonnes per hour and approximately 225,000 tonnes per year and is set to recover PET, PP, PE, plastic films, ferrous and non-ferrous metals from mixed municipal solid waste streams and cardboard from its bulky waste fraction.

At the heart of the facility is a sorting system featuring five near-infrared (NIR) optical sorters. Designed to accurately identify and separate different material streams, they help achieve a targeted recovery rate of up to 93 % for 3D PET, PP and PE from the waste stream. After sorting, a continuous baling solution compacts the recovered high-quality materials into dense bales, ready to be supplied to domestic markets for downstream processing.

Guilherme Cavalcanti, Sales Representative at Sutco Brasil states: "Brusque marks a new chapter for the circular economy in Brazil. The facility shows what modern sorting technology can achieve: it enables higher recycling performance, improves the quality of recovered materials, and puts valuable resources back into the value chain. Recovery



rates of up to 93 % for 3D PET, PP and PE highlight the capabilities of the technology and set a new benchmark for modern sorting solutions in the region."

DELIVERING IMPACT FOR CIRCULARITY IN BRAZIL

The plant introduces a future-focused waste sorting concept that

raises the bar for automation, secondary raw material extraction, and operational efficiency in Brazil. By combining high-performing sorting technology with sophisticated process automation, the facility is one of the country's most advanced municipal solid waste sorting plants and will impact the recycling landscape in the country beyond the state of Santa Catarina.

For Sutco, the successful completion and handover of the MRF underline the company's growing commitment to enhancing circularity in Latin America. It is a testament to the company's strategic approach of combining world-class technology with local expertise to develop tailor-made solutions for the local market.

By enabling more recyclable resources to be recovered from municipal waste, the facility marks a major leap forward in resource recovery and supports the transition towards a circular economy in Brazil.

This short time-lapse video documents the process from initial assembly to handover as a turnkey project:

<https://youtu.be/31ASiJrHapU>

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Heidelberg Materials expands capabilities in Leeds with new CD&E waste recycling facility

- **Heidelberg Materials UK has opened a new recycling facility in Leeds.**
- **The facility accepts wastes from construction, demolition and excavation (CD&E) projects, including bricks, concrete and soil as well as selected wastes from utilities contracts.**
- **It has the capacity to process around 250,000 tonnes of waste a year and is part of Heidelberg Materials' commitment to promoting the circular economy.**
- **The materials accepted at the facility will be diverted away from landfill and used to produce recycled sustainable products which can be delivered or collected from the site.**
- **Builders and contractors can deliver waste to the Leeds recycling facility and can also collect recycled and primary aggregates and asphalt.**

Heidelberg Materials UK has expanded its recycling capabilities in Leeds with the opening of a new construction demolition and excavation (CD&E) waste recycling facility.

Located alongside the company's asphalt plant in the city, the facility is open from 06:30 to 15:00 Monday to Friday. It accepts a wide range of material including bricks, concrete and soil, as well as selected wastes from utilities contracts, and has the capacity to process around 250,000 tonnes a year.

The materials accepted at the facility will be diverted away from landfill, processed and returned to productive use as recycled construction products.



The investment is part of the company's commitment to conserve natural resources and support the circular economy, and will help meet the increasing demand for more sustainable construction products.

Billy Benton, General Manager, said: "Our new recycling facility provides easy access for tipping a range of CD&E wastes responsibly and sustainably.

"In addition to being able to collect primary aggregate and asphalt from our Leeds site, builders and contractors can now also buy high quality recycled aggregates for use in their construction projects."

Heidelberg Materials' new Leeds recycling facility is one of several the company plans to open over the coming months as it continues to increase its capacity to recycle and reuse CD&E wastes.





Residual waste: engineering the UK's next resource opportunity

As England implements major collection reforms and works towards a statutory residual-waste target, general waste can no longer be treated simply as the end of the line. Dr Benjamin Eule, Director at STADLER UK and Head of Commissioning, explains why advanced sorting can provide a vital second line of resource recovery.

Closing the recovery gap

For decades, residual waste was largely viewed as the fraction remaining after households and businesses had separated recyclables. It was sent primarily to landfill, mechanical biological treatment or energy-from-waste, with sorting focused on removing metals, producing refuse-derived fuel or reducing disposal volumes.

That model is changing. Even well-established collection systems miss recyclable plastics, ferrous and non-ferrous metals and other recoverable materials. With recycling rates under pressure and growing demand for secondary raw materials, allowing these resources to pass directly to combustion or landfill represents an increasingly costly loss.

In England, policy reinforces the need to act. Residual waste, excluding major mineral waste, must fall to no more than 287 kg per person by the end of 2042 – roughly 50% below 2019 levels. Simpler Recycling, Extended Producer Responsibility and the Deposit Return Scheme will reshape collections and material flows, but they will not eliminate the residual stream.

"Residual waste sorting should complement, not replace, effective source separation," says Eule. "Strong collection systems need an effective final recovery stage, because even the best separate collections will not capture everything."

The greatest opportunity lies at high-volume points before residual material enters energy-from-waste or landfill. Recovering plastics and metals at this stage conserves resources and can reduce the fossil carbon sent for combustion. Although the Government confirmed in August 2026 that waste incineration will not enter the UK Emissions Trading Scheme in 2028 as planned, a revised timetable and final policy design will follow. Carbon exposure therefore remains an important long-term planning consideration.

Engineering the complete process

Residual waste is one of the most demanding material streams to process. Its composition varies by authority, collection system and season, while contamination, batteries and unpredictable items create operational and fire risks. Recovering value reliably requires more than installing individual sorting machines.

"Detecting a recyclable item is not the same as recovering a marketable product," Eule explains. "The complete process must prepare and separate the material, deliver effective



quality control and maintain throughput, availability and safe access for operation and maintenance. The business case depends on the performance of the entire system – not one individual machine."

This complete-system approach is central to STADLER's work. The company supports authorities and operators from material analysis and feasibility assessment through process design, installation and commissioning to long-term optimisation. Its engineers combine screening, ballistic and air separation, magnets, eddy-current separators and optical sorting in processes tailored to the input material and the intended outlets for each recovered product. Adaptable layouts and provision for future equipment allow plants to respond to changing inputs, legislation and markets.

The Resursutvinning Stockholm facility demonstrates this capability in practice. Designed and built by STADLER for Stockholm Vatten och Avfall, its two independent lines process up to 50 tonnes per hour and recover separately bagged organic waste, plastics, ferrous metals and non-ferrous metals. Automated control and flexible plant design enable continuous optimisation as operating conditions change.

For UK authorities and operators, prevention, reuse and source separation must come first, but valuable material will still escape. STADLER brings international experience in designing and delivering turnkey sorting plants together with the local market knowledge of its UK team to help operators recover value from this challenging stream. As Eule concludes: "What we do not recover today becomes tomorrow's disposal cost, carbon liability and lost resource."





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CWM Environmental invests in TOMRA technology to drive £15 million redevelopment of Carmarthenshire RRF

CWM Environmental Ltd has invested in seven of TOMRA's advanced AUTOSORT units for its redeveloped £15 million Nantycaws Resource Recovery Facility (RRF). The new facility, one of Wales's most advanced developments in circular economy infrastructure, entered full operation in July 2026 following the successful completion of its commissioning programme. This marks a significant shift to fully automated sorting at the Carmarthenshire site following the 2021 fire sparked by a lithium-ion battery that destroyed the original plant.

The state-of-the-art plant is capable of processing up to 80,000 tonnes of material annually, managing both household co-mingled waste and commercial segregated recyclable waste streams. Operating a standard single-shift, 40-hour working week, the facility handles a diverse infeed stream including co-mingled dry mixed recyclables (DMR) and kerbside collections from both trade and domestic sources. It has also been engineered with the flexibility to handle a kerbside sort stream for Carmarthenshire County Council, scheduled for mid-late autumn 2026, ensuring it can accommodate forthcoming waste reforms.

The facility supports Welsh Government's ambitions to become a zero-waste nation by 2050.

Advanced sorting configuration

The transition from manual picking to a high precision automated process has allowed CWM Environmental to significantly increase both throughput and material value. Where a manual line would previously have required roughly ten people to achieve this throughput, the seven AUTOSORT™ units are strategically distributed across specialised 2D and 3D lines to ensure maximum recovery. AUTOSORT™ is a multifunctional system which combines AI, multi-sensor technology and advanced image processing to sort an exceptionally wide range of materials.

On the 2D line, two AUTOSORT™ units work in sequence: the first removes non-fibre materials for transfer to the 3D line, while the second extracts brown OCC. The 3D line features four units focused on polymer separation, including PET natural, HDPE natural, HDPE jazz and PP. A final step ensures all other plastics, such as PET jazz, are recovered for reuse.

To maximise yield and resource efficiency, a seventh unit acts as a scavenger, monitoring the reject line to recover any misplaced target material and returning it to the start of the process.

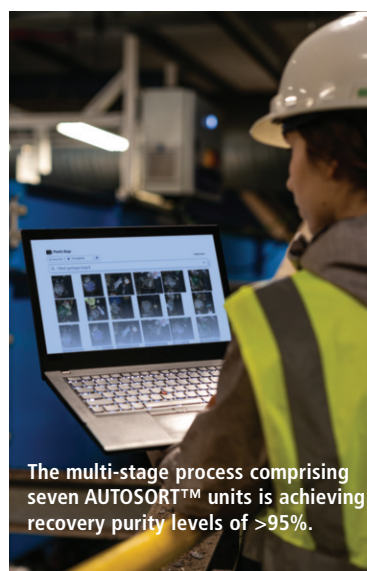
This multi-stage process is achieving recovery purity levels of >95%.

Strategic partnership and performance

Paul Wakelin, Head of Operations at CWM Environmental, comments: "This redevelopment is a milestone for CWM Environmental. After the challenges of the 2021 fire and the subsequent years of operation which relied on manual sorting,



High precision automated sorting has significantly increased both throughput and material value.



The multi-stage process comprising seven AUTOSORT™ units is achieving recovery purity levels of >95%.

this £15 million investment allows us to operate at the very forefront of the industry. TOMRA's technology outperformed all others in our evaluation trials, and the results we're seeing in terms of purity, throughput and efficiency are exceptional. We're now able to consistently meet the rigorous purity standards required by both domestic and

international reproprocessors to turn waste back into high-value products.

"The Nantycaws RRF stands as a tangible investment in the future of the circular economy in Wales. By investing in this modern site, we are building the capacity to process materials more efficiently, boost resource recovery capabilities, support green skills development and offer long-term economic and environmental value to Welsh communities."

Terry Keyworth, Regional Director UK and Ireland at TOMRA Recycling, adds: "It's great to see the RRF return to full operational capacity. CWM Environmental has a clear vision for regional circularity in Wales, and our partnership has focused on building a process that is stable, flexible and capable of meeting the highest market specifications, both today and in the years to come as infeed streams change."

The project was commissioned by principal contractor Colin White Services (CWS), who are based in Glastonbury. CWS contracted McDonald International Limited to design and build the plant.



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Our range includes Overband Magnets and Drum Magnets for ferrous separation, Eddy Current Separators for non-ferrous metal recovery, and Induction Sensor Sorters for high-value stainless steel. Together, these help MRFs separate food and drink cans, and other valuable metal contaminants, from paper, card and plastics efficiently and reliably.

Beyond equipment, Magnapower offers full support: sample material testing, plant design input, installation and after-sales servicing, backed by UK and US facilities. As the industry prepares for the 2027 Deposit Return Scheme, Magnapower is ready to help facilities adapt and maximise recovery.

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Turning Waste into Resource: Impact Air Systems' Air Technology Helps Waste Operators Move Towards Zero-Waste Targets

From valuable metals and fibre to plastics, glass and lightweight fractions that can be recovered for recycling, modern waste streams contain significant potential value. The challenge is separating those materials effectively, particularly where lightweight films, dust, fluff and other unwanted fractions can compromise material quality and downstream processing.

Across recent projects in the UK, Europe and North America, Impact Air Systems is using engineered airflow to help waste operators and manufacturers recover more of what enters their processes – improving material quality, reducing residual waste and helping move operations closer to their zero-waste-to-landfill goals.

With more than 35 years of engineering expertise and hundreds of air separation systems installed worldwide, Impact designs bespoke air technology around the characteristics of each material stream and the objectives of each operation.

Recovering More from Complex Waste Streams

Impact's Zigzag Air Classifier (ZAC) technology uses precisely controlled airflow to separate lighter materials from heavier fractions according to their aerodynamic properties.

At a UK WEEE recycling facility, a longstanding customer returned to Impact for its latest separation requirements. The facility processes waste electrical and electronic equipment containing valuable aluminium, copper, brass, plastics and printed circuit boards, alongside lightweight film, fluff and capacitor waste.

Impact designed a bespoke two-stage Zigzag Separation System to remove the lightweight fraction while allowing the heavier valuable materials to continue through the process. A cyclone removes larger particles from the airstream before the remaining fine dust reaches an automatic dust filter.

The Director of the WEEE recycling facility commented:

"Having previously worked with Impact Air Systems, we were pleased to return to them for our latest WEEE separation requirements. They understood the challenges of removing lightweight film and fluff from our material stream and developed a bespoke Zigzag Separation System to meet our needs. The addition of a new Zigzag system has made a significant difference to the efficiency of our process and quality of material outputs."

At a UK refrigeration recycling facility, Impact engineered another bespoke Zigzag Separation solution to separate lightweight insulation foam from heavier recyclable materials including metals, plastics and glass. The separated foam is collected in a cyclone, while the remaining air and fine dust pass to an automatic dust filter. The cleaner recyclable materials can then be reintroduced into manufacturing processes, helping reduce waste sent to landfill.



High-Capacity Glass Separation

The technology is also being applied to large-scale glass recycling.

A leading UK aggregates and glass recycling business required a high-capacity solution at its Greenwich facility to remove dust, fines, wood, plastics and textiles from comingled glass.

Impact designed a twin Zigzag Glass Separation System incorporating two ZAC800 cascade

enclosures, two HR14 cyclones, two dust filtration systems and dedicated conveying fans.

Using differences in particle shape and density, heavier glass falls through the upward-flowing air stream while lighter contaminants are lifted and carried through the conveying system for subsequent cyclone and filtration. The system was designed for a requested throughput of 40 tonnes per hour across two separation lines, with central touchscreen control of the fans and rotary valves.

Recovering Plastic Film Across North America

Plastic film presents another significant separation challenge, with lightweight material capable of contaminating other streams, wrapping around rotating equipment and increasing maintenance requirements.

One of North America's leading environmental services providers has deployed 13 Impact air technology systems across its MRF network, including 11 FilmLift systems and two



ZAC systems, supported by Impact's expertise in dust collection, pneumatic conveying and industrial ventilation.

Installed after optical sorting equipment, FilmLift uses controlled airflow to remove lightweight flexible films from heavier recyclable materials, allowing cleaner material streams to continue through the process while recovering the film for recycling.

The two ZAC systems have been installed to recover valuable fibre from glass and rigid plastics processing lines, increasing recovery while improving the quality and value of recovered materials. Following the success of the initial installations, the customer continued to specify Impact technology as further facilities were upgraded, resulting in 13 installations across its US network.

A Scalable Approach to Air Separation

Impact has also expanded its ZAC range with the ZAC400, a compact air classifier developed for facilities where space and processing requirements call for a smaller-footprint solution.

Joining the established ZAC800 and high-capacity ZAC1200, the ZAC400 provides a scalable family of dry separation systems. It is designed to improve recycle quality, reduce disposal volumes and maximise resource recovery while minimising installation space and operational costs.

The ZAC400 has already been installed at ENVA's Nottingham Materials Recovery Facility, where the customer reported improved efficiency, reduced downtime and better recovery of fibre and glass compared with its previous system.



Customers can also trial ZAC technology using their own materials at Impact's dedicated demonstration and testing facility, allowing separation performance to be assessed before a system configuration is selected.

Beyond Material Separation

Air technology has applications throughout the processing environment, from separating lightweight materials and recovering

valuable fractions to conveying products, controlling dust and improving working conditions.



Impact designs complete air technology solutions combining material separation, pneumatic conveying, centralised dust collection, dust extraction and industrial ventilation, tailored to each facility's requirements.

The same engineering approach extends beyond MRFs into manufacturing and industrial waste-processing environments, where businesses are looking to recover more process waste, reduce disposal volumes and improve resource efficiency.

Engineering Towards Zero Waste

For waste operators and manufacturers, the objective is increasingly about extracting maximum value from each waste stream and creating outputs that can re-enter productive use.

By improving material separation, recovering previously lost fractions and reducing residual waste, engineered air systems can contribute to wider strategies for increasing resource recovery and reducing landfill dependency.

Impact's recent projects demonstrate this across WEEE, refrigeration, glass, plastics and fibre recovery.

Dave Landell, Managing Director at Impact Air Systems, said:

"The waste and recycling industry is dealing with increasingly complex material streams, and there is no single solution that works for every application. Our role is to understand the material, the process and the customer's objectives, then engineer an air technology solution around those requirements.

"Whether that means recovering a valuable material, removing a difficult contaminant or improving the overall efficiency of a plant, the objective is the same – to help our customers get more value from the resources they already have."

With more than 35 years of engineering experience, Impact continues to develop bespoke air technology solutions for the recycling, waste-processing and manufacturing industries.

For more information about Impact Air Systems' air separation, film recovery, pneumatic conveying and dust control solutions, visit www.impactairsystems.com or contact sales@impactairsystems.com / +44 (0)116 244 8855.

1st Edition 2027

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AGGREGATE CRUSHING & SCREENING REVIEW –

Current projects, contract crushing, screens, screen media, wear parts, spare parts, static & mobile crushing & screening, jaw crushers, impact crushers, cone crushers, grizzlies, feeders, stockpilers, magnets.



RECYCLING - Open topics for this issue

BULK HANDLING - Open topics for this issue

Editorial copy deadline – 20th January 2027 - Advert copy deadline – 27th January 2027

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**BEST
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EMS get the right tools for the job from Molson

From sizing issues in the pre-shredding process to overheating machines inside the processing shed, EMS Waste Services were experiencing challenges with machinery working in their demanding recycling yards. The answer has been provided by the recycling machinery solutions experts at Molson Green, who have supplied a Sennebogen 817E waste handler and an Eggersmann IMPAKTOR 350 twin shaft shredder.



If you're a business or individual in the Southwest that needs skip hire or waste management services, then EMS Waste Services is a name you need in your address book. With six sites across Devon, Somerset, Dorset and Cornwall which operate as a network to sort and recycle materials efficiently. Key to this is getting the right machines on site, which is why the team turned to Molson.

EMS joined Stuart Group, which has roots back to the 1940s, in 2009. Since it was established, the business has been delivering waste collection, recycling, skip hire, waste processing and resource recovery services. Priding itself on

high recycling performance and fast delivery and collection for any size of customer, the company is always looking for ways to improve productivity.

This is made particularly challenging by the fact that there are multiple sites processing a wide variety of waste streams, including mixed and residual waste. As a result, any equipment they add to their fleet needs to be flexible enough to pre-pick, load, shred and process changing materials across any facility. All while making sure throughput and material quality standards are maintained.

Better performance with Eggersmann

The Eggersmann IMPAKTOR 350 is a cost-effective mobile twin shaft crusher that's able to break material down to a definable grain size. Selected after a successful demonstration, it enables EMS to size material correctly before it enters the picking line for downstream recovery. They also have different interchangeable shaft sets that allow the team to switch quickly between waste and hardcore applications.

Effectively processing mixed waste streams, the machine also offers fuel savings while maintaining throughput. This is thanks to an upgraded motor and diesel hydraulic system driven by a Tier V engine that can efficiently deliver 175kW of power. For crushing, this means a throughput of up to 110tph, or up to 40tph when shredding waste streams such as bulky items or wood.

Jack Stuart, Director for EMS, said of the machine, "It creates a more efficient processing flow and reduces bottlenecks. It's also really versatile. We can process good volumes of multiple products and switch between recycling and crushing applications quickly, with a straightforward shaft change. It's also compact, which means it can be easily transported from site to site."



Multi-tasking with the Sennebogen

EMS wanted a purpose-built material handler that could perform multiple tasks more efficiently. Having had some positive feedback from other businesses in the industry, including YPH Waste, the team selected the Sennebogen 817E to replace their 14-tonne excavator with overheating issues.

Compared to the previous machine, the Sennebogen improved handling efficiency while reducing downtime. It does this by delivering the reach of up to 9m, allowing it to reduce movement but still complete tasks like loading vehicles and feeding the static plant. It also supports pre-picking operations prior to shredding, helping streamline operations across the site.



"The Sennebogen handles everything from pre-picking to loading duties with ease," says Jack "With the high-rise cab, the visibility is great. It has made almost all of the day-to-day tasks so much quicker and easier compared to how we had to do things with the old machine."

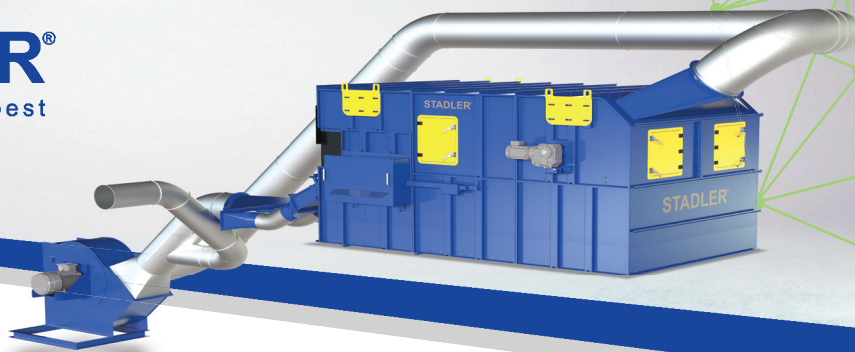
Long-term partnership

EMS has built a strong relationship with Molson over many years, after working closely across several sites to design and deliver recycling equipment solutions that have the flexibility and throughput to meet their requirements.

Jack said, "They have consistently supplied the right machine at the right time for the application and focus on long-term partnerships rather than short-term sales. This approach has resulted in a very positive experience. We massively value the support from Molson, including the ability to use service contracts, where they have proactively worked with us to keep all of our machines fully serviced, keeping our downtime to an absolute minimum."

"If anyone was thinking of buying from Molson, I'd recommend working closely with the team. They take time to understand the application and ensure the machine is the right fit. That commitment to customer success and the strong after-sales support are two key reasons why we continue to invest in equipment supplied by Molson."

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How Greentech Increased Compost Screening Throughput by 50% with the EDGE SCREENPRO S18

From farm diversification to one of the North East's leading green waste recycling businesses

Producing high-quality compost is about far more than simply processing green waste. For commercial compost producers, achieving consistent particle size, high throughput and reliable screening performance—particularly when handling wet and sticky organic material—is what separates a profitable operation from one constantly fighting bottlenecks.

For Newcastle-based Greentech Services, the challenge wasn't producing a quality compost. They had been doing that successfully for more than 25 years. The challenge was producing more of it. After investing in the EDGE SCREENPRO S18 FreeFlow Screen, complete with a bespoke material conditioning system developed alongside the EDGE engineering team, Greentech has transformed its screening operation and increased production by approximately 50%.

Building a Business from Green Waste

Greentech Services was established more than 25 years ago as a diversification from the family's farm near Newcastle upon Tyne.

Operating from Broomfield Farm, the company began processing green waste collected from local authorities before recognising the value that high-quality compost could bring to both agriculture and horticulture. Today, Greentech recycles green waste from local councils, golf courses, landscapers and commercial customers throughout the North East, producing PAS 100 quality compost, specialist soil blends and biomass products while supporting a more circular approach to green waste recycling.

Founder Darren explains: "We started approximately 25 years ago as a diversification from the farm. We had the opportunity to start processing green waste for local councils and quickly

realised the benefits compost was bringing back to the land.

We ended up with flip-flow screens and found we were producing a really good product. Landscapers started taking an interest, and once we realised we could consistently produce that quality, that's the route we went down."

Today, Greentech processes approximately 25,000–30,000 tonnes of material every year, including green waste, compost, screened soils and biomass products.

The Challenge: Quality Wasn't the Problem—Throughput Was

Like many commercial composting operations, Greentech had long relied on flip-flow screening technology. The screens produced an excellent finished product, particularly when processing wet, sticky compost, but they struggled to maintain the production levels required as the business continued to grow.

Darren explains: "We'd been running flip-flow screens for a long time because they produced an excellent quality product, especially with wet and sticky material.

The only problem was production. We simply couldn't get the throughput we needed."

Another issue was feeding the machine efficiently. Large excavator buckets meant operators constantly had to feather material into the hopper to avoid overloading the screen.

"We were loading the hopper with a 360 excavator, but we were having to feather the material into the machine all the time. It wasn't efficient."

For a business processing tens of thousands of tonnes each year, those lost seconds quickly became lost hours.>





Looking Beyond a Standard Scalping Screen

Determined to increase capacity, Darren began researching alternative compost screening equipment. After reviewing several machines on the market, one stood out. The EDGE SCREENPRO S18. Rather than simply purchasing another standard scalping screen, Darren travelled to the EDGE Innovate headquarters in Northern Ireland to discuss exactly what the business needed.

"I did quite a bit of research and looked at a number of different machines before going across to the EDGE factory. They were very approachable, listened to exactly what we were trying to achieve and worked with us to develop a solution."

One idea Darren had always wanted to explore was conditioning the material before it reached the screening deck. Together with EDGE's engineering team, that idea became reality.

Engineering a Better Compost Screening Solution

Instead of allowing compacted compost to fall directly onto the screen deck, EDGE developed a hydraulically controlled rotating conditioning unit positioned above the hopper. The system gently breaks apart clumps of compost before the material reaches the screen, allowing the entire screening surface to be utilised more effectively. Combined with the SCREENPRO S18's large screening area and high-capacity hopper, the result was exactly what Greentech had been looking for.

"I'd always had the idea of fitting a rotavator onto the hopper. Between us, we came up with the idea of fitting it to the top of the ScreenPro S18. EDGE also offered a bigger hopper, a larger screening deck and ultimately the machine we were looking for."

Why the EDGE SCREENPRO S18?

Designed for high-capacity applications across recycling, composting, construction and quarrying, the EDGE SCREENPRO S18 combines heavy-duty construction with exceptional screening performance.

Key features include:

- Large 18' x 6' (5.49m x 1.83m) aggressive flip-flow screening deck
- High-capacity feed hopper designed for wheel loaders and excavators
- Three-way product separation for multiple finished products
- Hydraulically folding conveyors for rapid deployment
- Remote-control operation
- Fast screen media changeover
- Heavy-duty design for demanding recycling and organics applications
- Excellent performance on wet, sticky and difficult materials



For compost producers, the large screening area and aggressive flip-flow action help prevent blinding while maintaining consistent throughput, even in challenging conditions.

One Machine. Multiple Products.

Versatility was another deciding factor. Greentech regularly switches between compost, screened soils, top dressing, woodchip and biomass. Changing machines or spending hours making adjustments simply wasn't practical.

"One of the key reasons we chose this machine was its versatility. We wanted to move from compost to top dressing, soils, mulch or biomass without making major changes to the machine."

The bespoke conditioning unit can also be disengaged in seconds.

"The only time we wouldn't use it is with rough soils containing stones. It simply lifts hydraulically out of the way, switches off and becomes a standard screener."

Around 50% More Production

The difference was immediate.

"Adding the rotavator to the ScreenPro S18 has completely transformed the machine. The biggest improvement isn't just breaking up the sticky lumps—it's making sure the screening deck is being fed properly all the time."

Rather than material arriving in large clumps, it now reaches the screen evenly distributed. That keeps the deck working at maximum efficiency throughout the screening process.

"We're seeing around a 50% increase in production compared to what we were achieving before."

The improvements don't stop there. By removing fines during the initial screening process, Greentech now processes material only once.

"We can now remove all of the fines at the beginning of the process, meaning the material only goes through the machine once. That has made the whole operation far more efficient."

For Darren, the biggest benefit is confidence. "Before, we were always trying to catch up with the workload. Now we're much more confident taking on additional work because we know we've got the capacity to process it."

Investing in the Future

For a family-run green waste processing company, investing in a new high-capacity screen represents a major commitment. Darren acknowledges that the SCREENPRO S18 was a significant investment for Greentech.

"This machine was a big investment. We are not a big company, so it has been a massive investment for us."

However, the operational improvements have already demonstrated the value of the machine.



"But it is definitely paying off. I can see the benefits already."

Those benefits include increased production, more consistent feeding, improved fines recovery, reduced repeat processing and greater flexibility across multiple applications. The machine has also helped Greentech remove a previous production bottleneck and make better use of its existing feedstock.

More Than Just a Machine

Greentech also credits the collaborative approach taken by both EDGE Innovate and UK distributor Red Knight 6 throughout the purchasing process.

"We spoke with EDGE several times before visiting the factory in Ireland. We were given a warm welcome, discussed exactly what we wanted to achieve and looked around the factory. Seeing everything from sheets of steel arriving through to finished machines leaving the factory gave us real confidence."

Working alongside Red Knight 6, Greentech also gained reassurance that aftersales support and spare parts would always be close at hand.

A Recommendation Backed by 25 Years of Experience

Having owned trommel screens, star screens and flip-flow screens over the last two decades, Darren believes the SCREENPRO S18 has become the benchmark for compost screening.

"I'd definitely recommend this machine to other compost producers. We've owned trommels, star screens and flip-flow screens over the years. While the flip-flow machines gave us excellent quality, they couldn't deliver the production we needed. Moving to the larger SCREENPRO S18 with the conditioning system has completely changed the way we work. It's incredibly efficient, gives us the throughput we've been looking for and, in my opinion, it's the best screening machine we've ever owned."

Compost Fines



Producing More Compost Without Compromising Quality

As compost producers continue to face increasing demand, rising operating costs and tighter quality standards, investing in the right scalping screen has never been more important. For Greentech Services, the EDGE SCREENPRO S18 has delivered exactly what they set out to achieve: significantly higher throughput, greater operational flexibility and the confidence to grow their business without compromising the quality of the finished product.

The Greentech Team



Whether processing green waste, compost, topsoil, biomass or organic material, the SCREENPRO S18 continues to demonstrate why it is one of the industry's most capable mobile scalping screens for high-capacity screening applications.



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Smaller grain sizes, smarter separation: At ALUMINIUM in Düsseldorf, STEINERT presents technological advances in LIBS and X-ray sorting.

From 6 to 8 October 2026, STEINERT will provide a comprehensive insight into the future of aluminium sorting. Closing the aluminium loop requires both high throughput and melt-ready quality. As demand for high-grade recycled aluminium continues to grow, STEINERT is advancing its sorting systems on two fronts.

A new laser grid for the STEINERT PLASMAX | LIBS enables the processing of grain sizes down to 15 mm. Another innovation is enhanced cast/wrought separation on the STEINERT KSS | XT L, supported by the AI-based Intelligent Object Identifier (IOI).



Finer material and higher efficiency with STEINERT PLASMAX

A new laser grid option for the STEINERT PLASMAX brings two central improvements: a higher resolution that opens up a broader grain size spectrum for reliable detection, and increased power that raises overall material output.

STEINERT's unique laser grid ensures reliable detection even with high belt occupancy, enabling maximum recovery at a belt speed of 4 m/s. With the further development, STEINERT is extending the sorting range towards smaller grain sizes. Higher resolution enables the system to recognise particles down to 15 mm, while increased processing performance raises recovery.

These advances are built on a proven system with 3 material discharges, allowing several product streams to be separated. High object rates support high throughput, while multi-spot analysis uses multiple measurement points per piece to ensure



Fine aluminium material now sortable with the new high-resolution STEINERT PLASMAX | LIBS. Photo: STEINERT



Clean wrought aluminium fraction ready for further processing into high-quality secondary aluminium. Photo: STEINERT

reliable detection.

The STEINERT.dashboard has also been expanded with further features that support production. It provides operating teams with relevant information and helps them maintain stable sorting performance during day-to-day operation.

The development addresses a central requirement in aluminium recycling: recovering more valuable material, including smaller particles, without compromising the throughput required in industrial processing.

STEINERT's AI landscape "IOI" improves the separation of cast and wrought aluminium

In October, STEINERT will also introduce an AI-supported solution to improve the separation of cast and wrought aluminium. A key part of the approach is STEINERT's Intelligent Object Identifier. IOI combines a wide variety of AI-based methods where object-based information from all available sensor sources and spectral analyses are used to optimise material classification.

In operation, the STEINERT KSS | XT L with IOI uses an optimised sort filter setup to detect low-silicon (Si) alloys. This maintains high wrought-aluminium purity while increasing its output by up to 40% compared with conventional sorting approaches.

Existing STEINERT KSS | XT L sorting systems can therefore be retrofitted and benefit from the enhanced classification approach without requiring the replacement of the complete machine.

Free tour of STEINERT's Test & Development Center

STEINERT invites visitors to ALUMINIUM to join a guided tour of its Test & Development Center in near Cologne. The tour will take place on Friday, 9 October 2026, from 10:00 to 13:00. Over the course of approx. three hours, visitors will experience the complete downstream metal processing line and see how clean aluminium and its alloys can be recovered from mixed metal scrap.

Participation is free of charge. Interested visitors can register via the following link: <https://steinertglobal.com/steinert-test-center-tour-2026/> (Participation is subject to limited availability.)

See you in Düsseldorf

At Stand 6F01 in Hall 6, visitors can meet STEINERT's recycling experts and discover the latest solutions and technologies for even more precise and efficient sorting. The exhibition programme will also include a daily expert presentation entitled "Enabling furnace-ready secondary aluminium" at the STEINERT stand.

Visitors are welcome to arrange a personal consultation with their STEINERT contact in advance. The STEINERT team looks forward to welcoming customers, partners and industry experts to Düsseldorf in person.



Heavy Metal: N&R's Latest Liebherr

The UK quarrying sector has undergone significant change over recent decades. Traditional in-house workforces have largely been replaced by specialist contractors, and companies that have adapted have thrived. One such business is Thor Atkinson Steel Fabrications of Ulverston, Cumbria, which has grown to become one of the UK's leading providers of specialist services to the quarrying industry.

Originally focused on steel fabrication and construction works for quarry operators, the company has expanded over the past 20 years to include plant hire and contract crushing services, working with many of the industry's major names. The growth of its fabrication activities naturally led to opportunities in plant replacement and site redevelopment. This resulted in the acquisition of long-established demolition specialist N&R Contractors, enabling the business to offer a complete package for quarry operators looking to replace, renew or remove redundant processing equipment and infrastructure.

"N&R's Director, Colin Scott, explains: "Developing the demolition side of the business has given us much greater flexibility in delivering solutions for our customers. It allows us to clear outdated or inefficient plant and buildings, creating opportunities for operators to invest in more productive equipment. It also ensures our fabrication and installation teams can plan with confidence, knowing sites will be ready when required."

To support growing demand for demolition services, N&R Contractors recently invested in a second Liebherr R 945 excavator, joining a machine that entered the fleet in 2021.

"The first machine has been an excellent servant for us," says Colin. "It's worked extremely hard and, while we've experienced a few minor issues over the years, Liebherr has dealt with them quickly and professionally. The increase in work meant we needed another machine."

The R 945 is currently the largest machine in Liebherr's Generation 8 excavator range produced at the company's Colmar facility in France. Nearly a decade after the launch of the Generation 8 platform, the machines continue to deliver impressive fuel efficiency alongside strong performance. The range now spans from 20-tonne models through to the almost 50-tonne R 945 SME, fitted with a heavy-duty variable-width undercarriage.



Power comes from Liebherr's 8-litre D944 A7 four-cylinder engine producing 299hp. Hydraulic performance is delivered through twin variable-displacement pumps providing a combined flow of 630 litres per minute and operating pressures of up to 400 bar, making the machine particularly well suited to demanding demolition attachments.

Serviceability is another key feature. Large access platforms and wide steps provide safe access to both the engine compartment and hydraulic systems, helping reduce routine maintenance times.



N&R's new machine is equipped with Liebherr's 2.9m-wide S-HD undercarriage and 600mm triple grouser tracks, giving a ground width of just under 3.5m. Heavy-duty access steps have been fitted to both track frames, with chamfered edges designed to minimise damage when working on rough ground. Additional protection comes in the form of a reinforced plate beneath the slew ring, helping guard against damage from falling steel debris.

Although the cab design has remained largely unchanged since the launch of the Generation 8 range, operator comfort remains a strong point. According to operator Paul Hougham, the spacious layout, visibility and intuitive controls help make long shifts more comfortable.

"I really like the Liebherr cab, particularly how comfortable it is," Paul says. "A tilting cab would be useful for certain jobs, but otherwise I can't fault it. The machine has plenty of power, but for us it's the smooth and accurate operation of the shear that makes the biggest difference."

Both joysticks incorporate integrated mini-controllers that enable precise control of attachments. The cab is also protected by Liebherr's purpose-built FOPS guarding on both the roof and front windscreen.

Unlike many demolition contractors working in congested urban environments, N&R's projects are typically carried out on large quarry sites with plenty of working space.

"In my previous demolition work around London, space was always an issue," explains Paul. "Here we have the room to safely take down taller structures and process materials on the ground."

For that reason, the company chose not to invest in high-reach equipment. Instead, the new machine mirrors the specification of its predecessor, featuring a 7m straight boom and 2.6m stick. Unlike many competing demolition machines, Liebherr designs and manufactures the straight boom in-house, ensuring full compatibility and support throughout the machine's life.

This configuration provides a maximum pin height of almost 11m, more than 2m higher than a standard mono-boom machine. The excavator is fitted with a directly mounted LaBounty MSD2000 shear rather than a hydraulic quick-coupler system, as the machine is dedicated exclusively to steel processing applications. To balance the 5-tonne attachment, N&R selected the heavier 9.4-tonne counterweight package, taking operating weight beyond 50 tonnes.

"We've used LaBounty attachments for years," Paul says. "They're robust, powerful and perfectly suited to the type of steel structures we encounter."



Following its debut on the Liebherr stand at Hillhead 2026, the R 945's first assignment was at a recently closed quarry in Leicestershire. Working alongside a Liebherr R 922 G8 excavator, the machine was tasked with dismantling and processing the site's entire crushing and screening plant before the area was restored for future environmental use.

While the R 922 focused on breaking out concrete structures and conveyor tunnels, the R 945 concentrated on dismantling and processing steelwork. Material was cut into lengths of no more than five feet before being stockpiled for recycling.

"Processing it on site takes a little longer," Paul explains, "but it avoids additional handling charges and ensures we achieve the best possible return on the scrap."

Throughout the project, the excavator demonstrated impressive stability, even when handling several tonnes of steel at full reach on soft ground.

"It feels even more stable than the older machine," Paul notes.

For Thor Atkinson, the investment has reinforced the company's positive experience with the Liebherr brand.

"We've been extremely happy with both the machines and the support we've received," he says. "We always assess different manufacturers when purchasing equipment, but Liebherr continues to deliver the reliability, productivity and operator comfort we need. The excellent fuel efficiency also helps reduce both operating costs and environmental impact."



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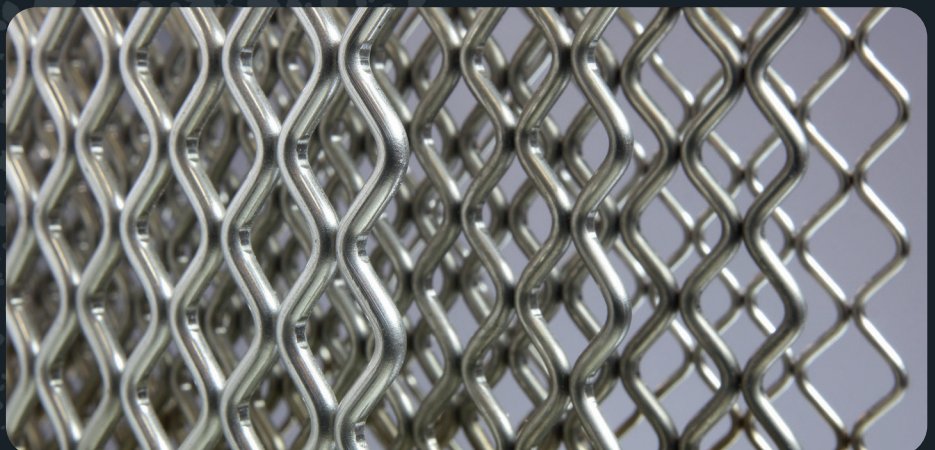
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Keeping critical equipment moving

In quarrying, recycling and bulk materials handling, downtime rarely affects just one machine.

An excavator stops loading, a loader can't feed the plant, or a tracked machine is taken out of action – and suddenly a relatively small component issue can have a much wider impact on the operation.

That is why getting the right replacement part, repair or maintenance solution matters.

For more than 35 years, Plant Parts Ltd has been supporting businesses running heavy equipment, with particular experience across quarrying, recycling, construction and other demanding applications.

When the right part isn't always obvious

Older machinery, different specifications and discontinued components can all make sourcing more complicated so identifying exactly what is required isn't always as simple as finding a machine model and ordering a part.

Plant Parts combines more than three decades of industry experience with access to the FDC database, containing more than two million OEM and replacement part numbers linked to individual machines.



The team can work from machine details, part numbers, dimensions, photographs or technical information to help establish what is required – particularly where the original component is difficult to identify or no longer readily available.

Plant Parts has direct access to 4M+ parts, covering more than 150 machine brands and a wide range of tracked and wheeled equipment, many parts are available for SAME DAY DISPATCH – this shipping turnaround is what keeps Plant Parts customer's machines earning.

And when a machine is sitting idle, time matters.

Getting the correct component identified and on its way quickly can help maintenance teams get on with the job and equipment back into the working cycle.

Sometimes replacement isn't the only answer

A machine may still have plenty of useful working life left, but finding a replacement component can become increasingly difficult as manufacturers change specifications or parts become obsolete. In these situations, repair, reconditioning or an alternative component can provide another route.



Plant Parts' workshop supports the repair and reconditioning of components including final drives, swing drives and hydraulic motors.

The company is also the only Bonfiglioli Approved Repair Centre outside Italy and operates under a ZF Service Partner Agreement, bringing additional manufacturer knowledge into the repair and supply process.



Putting repaired components to the test to ensure performance

One of Plant Parts' more recent developments is The Rig, a purpose-built hydraulic motor testing facility for hydraulic motors. For equipment operating in the dust, vibration, heavy loads and long working cycles associated with quarrying and recycling, knowing that a repaired component has been tested can provide useful reassurance.

The facility uses an electronic dynamometer to test motors under controlled loads, allowing repaired units to be assessed before they return to work, further strengthening their commitment to the highest possible service and confidence levels for their customers.

Learn more at The Rig: Hydraulic Motor Load Testing Facility | Plant Parts

Supporting equipment for the long haul

Quarrying, recycling and materials handling equipment is built to work hard – and often to work for many years.

Established in 1991, Plant Parts now supports customers in more than 100 countries, drawing on decades of experience across heavy equipment and the components that keep it moving.

Supporting that equipment therefore isn't simply about supplying a replacement when something fails. It can mean helping identify a difficult component, finding an alternative for an obsolete part, repairing an existing unit or providing the specialist knowledge needed to make a practical maintenance decision.

Experience matters when the straightforward solution isn't always available. Whether it is identifying a hard-to-find component, repairing an existing unit or finding a practical alternative, the right support can help keep essential equipment working and operations moving.

For more information, please email or call the team – we'd love to see how we can help.

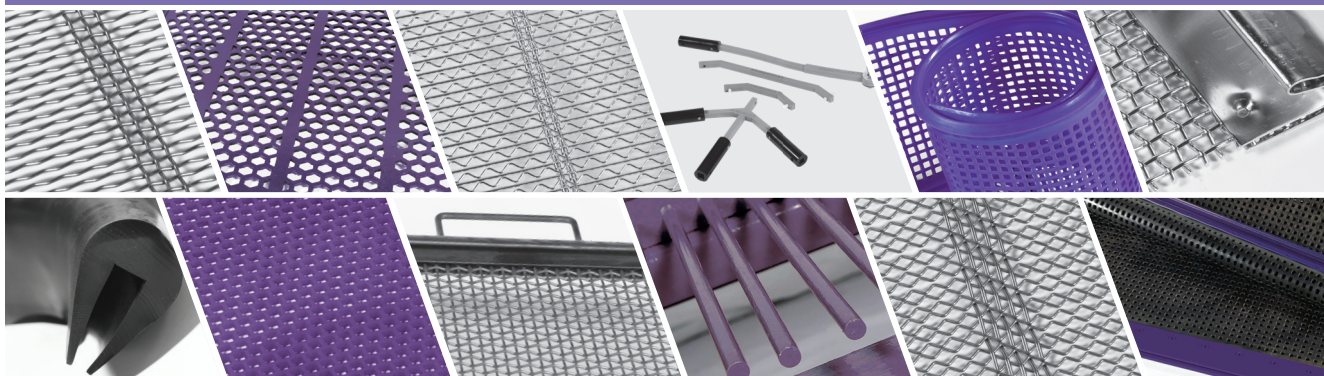
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Metso expands Lokotrack portfolio with two new mobile crushing plants

Metso is expanding its Lokotrack® mobile crushing portfolio with two new models designed for different customer applications. The new Lokotrack® LT400RS mobile impact crusher, part of the Lokotrack® EC Range, is designed for demanding aggregate recycling and demolition applications, while the Lokotrack® LT200HPX mobile cone crusher delivers efficient aggregate production with integrated screening in a compact mobile package.



As urban development and infrastructure renewal increase, construction and demolition waste is becoming a growing material stream. Materials such as concrete, asphalt and mixed demolition waste are more difficult to process than quarry rock, as they often contain rebar, wood and other contaminants and vary greatly in quality. The LT400RS is engineered to meet these challenges. As part of Metso's diesel-electric Lokotrack EC Range, it helps recycling contractors process demanding waste materials more efficiently while reducing fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions.

"The launch of the LT400RS and LT200HPX further strengthens our Lokotrack offering by bringing customers purpose-built solutions for two important applications: recycling and aggregate production. The new models help customers improve productivity, lower their cost per tonne and maintain high uptime. Backed by Metso's strong aftermarket offering and global support network, they help customers get the most out of their investment throughout the equipment lifetime," says Jarmo Vuorenmaa, Vice President of Track Solutions at Metso.

Lokotrack LT400RS expands the Lokotrack EC Range for recycling

The Lokotrack LT400RS, a new 70-tonne diesel-electric mobile impact crusher, combines high crushing and screening performance with the mobility to relocate quickly from site to site. It helps recycling contractors increase productivity, improve material separation and reduce operating costs, while enabling lower emissions.

"The LT400RS is designed to meet the core needs of recycling customers: reliable high capacity, efficient material separation, and easy relocation between sites. With its diesel-electric drive and electric grid connection, it delivers strong performance while helping customers achieve the lowest possible operating costs," says Vuorenmaa.

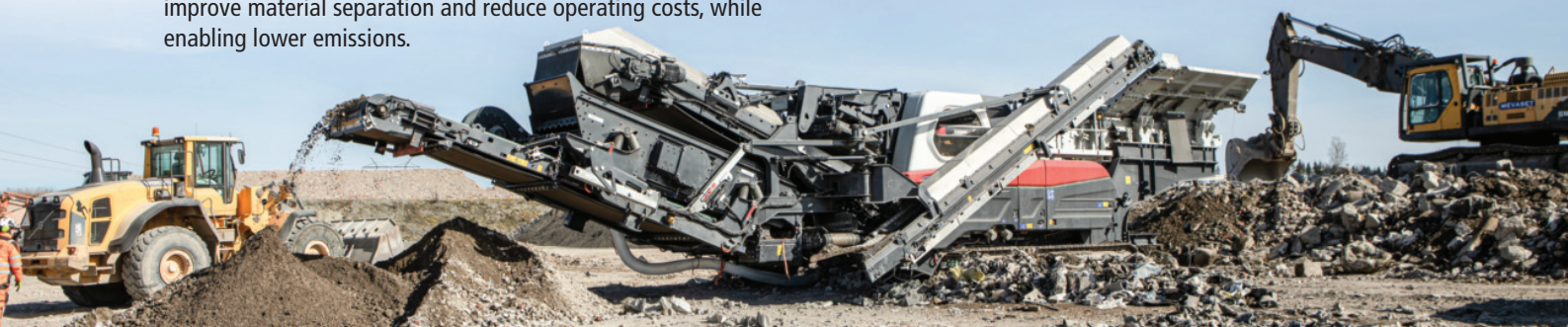
The Lokotrack LT400RS, part of the Metso Plus offering, supports more sustainable and efficient aggregates operations by helping customers improve productivity, and reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Key highlights

- **Proven crushing performance:** the new 250 kW Nordberg® NP1213MR impact crusher with a two-breaker-plate option, supported by a 430kW genset rating and heavy-duty blow bars for recycling.
- **Efficient material separation:** a large 2-deck product screen (6.4 m²), powerful wind sifter, and an adjustable electromagnet help produce clean, accurately sized end products.
- **High, problem-free capacity:** wide conveyors, generous clearances, and excellent cleaning access ensure seamless material flow.
- **Lower cost per tonne:** diesel-electric power transmission and the possibility to connect to an external grid power help reduce fuel consumption, emissions, and noise.
- **Easy relocation:** onboard foldable side conveyors and compact transport dimensions. The screen unit can be transported separately when needed.
- **Safe and simple to use:** a patented mechanical system allows access to the crusher only when the rotor has stopped, making wear part changes safer.
- **New ICX automation system:** larger display, easy troubleshooting, and new features such as production recipes.

Lokotrack LT200HPX boosts aggregate production with integrated screening

The Lokotrack LT200HPX is a versatile mobile cone crusher designed for reliable aggregate production. A 2-deck pre-screen and a large 2-deck product screen (5.6 m²), provide efficient screening in a single track-mounted package, while a robust design and wide conveyors enable seamless material flow and high capacity. The direct crusher drive improves fuel efficiency, and smart folding functions simplify transport and maintenance.



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Any downtime for tensioning, maintenance, or replacement of belt cleaners, as well as clean-up under and around the discharge zone, can significantly lower production and raise the cost of operation.

Providing up to 4X the service life of a standard belt cleaner, the Martin® CleanScape® is unlike any cleaner on the market. Its tungsten carbide tips apply low contact pressure that are gentle on the belt and splice, and its slim design makes for easy installation into tight spaces.

Once in place and adjusted, CleanScape requires only minimal maintenance over its lifespan — reducing any potential risk to your workers or throughput.

 **martin**
engineering

Built for Reliability: Eriez B-HC Feeder Powers Progress at Cemex Dove Holes

Cemex UK is advancing a multi-phase investment programme at its Dove Holes Building Products facility in Derbyshire, a flagship site within the company's national concrete block production network. The initiative focuses on upgrading critical equipment, automation, and supporting infrastructure to enhance efficiency, consistency, and long-term operational reliability.

According to Stephen Leigh, Operations Manager Northern at Cemex Dove Holes, the programme reflects a broader commitment to future-focused manufacturing. "This investment is about preparing the site for enduring success," Leigh said. "By improving efficiency and reducing environmental impact, we're ensuring Dove Holes continues to deliver high-quality concrete products that meet evolving customer expectations."

As new systems are introduced, dependable material handling equipment plays a critical role in maintaining stable production, particularly in facilities where modern automation must integrate seamlessly with established processes.



The Role of Material Handling in Cement and Concrete Production

In cement and concrete manufacturing, material handling systems are central to process stability. Equipment must manage abrasive materials, provide precise flow control, and operate reliably under continuous-duty conditions. During plant modernisation projects, these systems are critical, helping sustain throughput while new machinery and controls are commissioned.

Recognising these demands, Cemex partnered with Eriez®, a global leader in magnetic separation, metal detection, and vibratory feeding technology. With decades of experience supporting cement, aggregates, and mineral processing operations worldwide, Eriez equipment is engineered for applications where reliability directly affects product quality and production yield.

Integrating the Eriez B-HC Electromagnetic Feeder

To support its operational goals, Cemex implemented the Eriez B-HC Electromagnetic Feeder at the Dove Holes facility. Designed for high-capacity applications, the B-HC delivers

consistent material flow with precise, adjustable control, making it well-suited to demanding environments.

"Across the cement and concrete sector, producers are focused on maximising uptime while improving process consistency," said Clay O'Dana, Eriez Global Product Manager – Vibratory. "Our equipment is designed to provide predictable performance and simplified operation, even in the most challenging settings."



The B-HC feeder features Eriez' rare earth permanent magnetic armature system, which applies force in both forward and reverse tray directions to improve linearity and control. Paired with an AC control system with accelerometer feedback, the feeder ensures smooth, repeatable material flow with minimal operator oversight. An epoxy-encased coil protects internal components from dust and moisture, further reducing maintenance requirements.

"When facilities upgrade or modify systems, material handling equipment must perform flawlessly," said Liam Gulwell, Eriez' Regional Business Development Manager, UK & Ireland. "The B-HC is engineered to operate under even the harshest real-world conditions with the utmost consistency."

Supporting Reliable, Consistent Production

At Dove Holes, the Eriez B-HC Feeder supports uniform batching and efficient downstream processing. Its stable performance helps decrease process variation, optimise throughput, and preserve product quality as site upgrades continue.

Because the feeder integrates into the existing plant layout, Cemex has been able to maintain steady production with limited disruption. "Maintaining day-to-day stability while improvements are underway is crucial," Leigh added. "Reliable material handling is the foundation of our entire production process."

Looking Ahead

Cemex's continued investment at Dove Holes highlights its future-ready approach to operational excellence, sustainability, and evolving industry demands. Its collaboration with Eriez demonstrates how proven equipment solutions can support successful modernisation while reinforcing lasting plant reliability.

"Modernisation isn't just about installing new equipment," Leigh concluded. "It's about aligning every part of the process so that each improvement delivers maximum value."

Compaction in Action: Resolving Bulk Silo Blockages

Mike Moody / Business Development Manager - Air Cannons / Martin Engineering

Clogging issues associated with silo and hopper management have inspired safety-minded companies to seek efficient and economical solutions. After facing excessive clogging in its hoppers, Tilcon Connecticut Inc., a producer of building materials like crushed stone, hot mix asphalt, and ready-mix concrete in the Northeastern region of the United States, is one of those companies.



The Tilcon silo/hopper loads both trains and trucks in this dual-lane feeding system.

Operating several silos and hoppers for storage and controlled product flow in its North Branford Quarry, Tilcon works with a wide array of material consistencies that have unique flow properties. However, operators were having buildup and clogging challenges with the silos and hoppers handling basalt.



The long narrowing slope of the discharge chute would quickly build up and clog.

"Usually, clogging and flow issues were resolved by personnel certified in confined space entry using tools and equipment we installed to safely support the task," said Alex Gere, Superintendent for Tilcon. "However, greater production

demands by customers have increased the clogging occurrences."

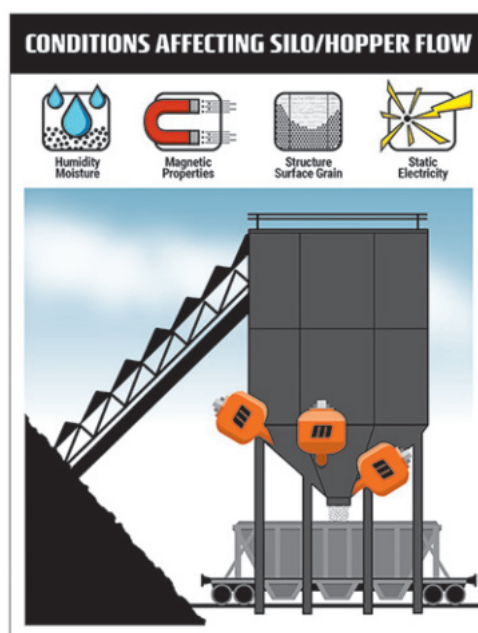
Bulk Powder and Production

Headquartered in New Britain, Connecticut, Tilcon operates four quarries and three sand/gravel pits in the state. Tilcon's two basalt silos were placed side by side, each 40 feet long, 15 feet wide, and 20 feet deep, with a total of 500 tons of capacity. Fed by conveyors, the bins discharge into haul trucks and rail cars.



Clogging would quickly build up to a spilling point, so workers need to enter the vessel to clear it.

Generally, clogs occur at the bottom of the vessel, where the pyramidal slope consolidates material and discharges at a narrow spout. A dedicated two-person crew maintained the bins on a two-shift cycle for cleanup and flow management. Under optimum operating conditions, the crew cleared the bins weekly for about four hours. In moist or humid conditions, operators experience several clogs throughout the shift, which cut production time by up to five hours per day. These conditions vary season by season.



Air cannon placements depend on where, why, and how the silo clog commonly occurs and then are fired in sequence to promote flow.

Many Solutions, Varying Results

Tilcon managers tried several methods to mitigate buildup in the hopper and alleviate clogging. The first method involved the maintenance crew monitoring and resolving the clog through a manual de-clogging procedure.

To clear the clog, both assigned staff members who were trained and certified in confined space entry were fitted with a harness attached to an emergency retrieval system. One would enter the vessel and clear the clog and buildup using a spade shovel supported by the other employee to ensure immediate response to any issues, then they would switch places at certain intervals. Previously, this was adequate to get the material flowing for the rest of the shift, but with greater production and changes in the climate, the prevalence of clogging increased, which seriously impacted production.

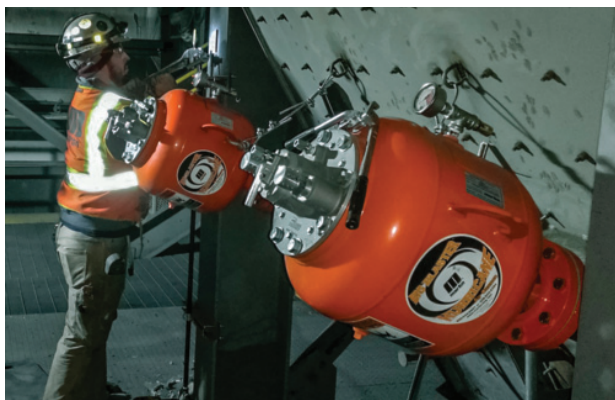
Seeking solutions that would eliminate confined space entry, operators first put large industrial vibrators on the hopper. These would agitate surfaces and shake free buildup. Unfortunately, they were inadequate for the job. Maintenance found they could not deliver enough power to clear the clog adequately and sometimes helped compact the material further.

Operators then attempted to line the chute with a low-friction liner. Chute supports inside the bin proved to be incredibly challenging for proper placement and maintenance. The lining would require periodic adjustment or cleaning, exposing the team to the same confined space entry risks as normal cleaning.

Staying with the slick liner concept, operators installed an inflatable liner system. When buildup is detected, the liners inflate using compressed air, dislodging it and sending it to the center of the bin. Although the technology reduced the frequency of cleaning, operators report that it was not highly effective and still posed hazards and risks similar to those of the liner system.

Silo Clogging Solutions

Having a long relationship with Tilcon through providing conveyor belt cleaners and tensioning systems, plant operators approached Martin Engineering to discuss implementing an air cannon solution.



Modern air cannon designs offer easier and safer access for maintenance and service.

Air cannons are pressurized tanks connected to a central compressed air system. When triggered, they deliver a powerful blast of air toward an area specified by the direction and design of the nozzle. This blast is intense enough to dislodge thick surface buildup and break apart compacted material.

Installing and Testing Air Cannons on Hoppers and Silos

For the testing phase, Martin Territory Manager Nabeel Suleiman partnered with an internal support team to strategically recommend and identify the placement of two 70-liter Martin® Hurricane Air Cannons with fan jet nozzles on

the hopper and to be completed during a scheduled outage or downtime.

"After installation, the cannon's effectiveness was immediately evident as a substantial amount of material was rapidly discharged from the bins into our haul truck with just a few quick blasts," said Gere. "Observing the performance, we knew we'd finally found our solution."



Air cannons are placed in choke points, often indicated by hammer scars from previous attempts to loosen material.



Tilcon's air cannons are strategically placed for optimum effect when fired in a sequence.

Results

After several months, operators found the solution freed up two maintenance people for an entire shift. This allowed them to allocate 16 additional hours per week to other facility maintenance/safety tasks, translating to 64 monthly man-hours dedicated to greater efficiency.

According to managers, without buildup, the bins have greater capacity. Most importantly, staff no longer need to enter the vessel to clear clogs. "This one-time investment eliminated our costs significantly on materials and labor for cleaning the bins while ensuring our personnel's safety," Gere explained.

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The Right Block for the Right Job: Why Concrete Product

Concrete blocks are widely used throughout the quarrying and mineral products sector, but not every block is suitable for every application. Owen Batham of Elite Precast Concrete explains why product strength, structural design, fire performance and traceability must all form part of the purchasing decision.

Concrete blocks have become a familiar sight across quarrying, aggregate, recycling and mineral-processing sites. Their modular nature makes them a practical choice for constructing aggregate storage bays, material separation walls, traffic-management systems, security barriers and other essential infrastructure.

However, the apparent simplicity of these products can create a dangerous misconception: that one concrete block is much the same as another. They are not.

Concrete blocks can vary considerably in their mix design, compressive strength, density, reinforcement, interlocking profile, dimensional accuracy and manufacturing controls. A product that may be adequate for a temporary, low-level installation will not necessarily be suitable for a tall storage bay, a retaining structure or an area where fire is a foreseeable risk.

Selecting a product because it looks similar, fits the available space or carries the lowest initial price may expose quarry operators, contractors and specifiers to avoidable structural, operational and legal risks.

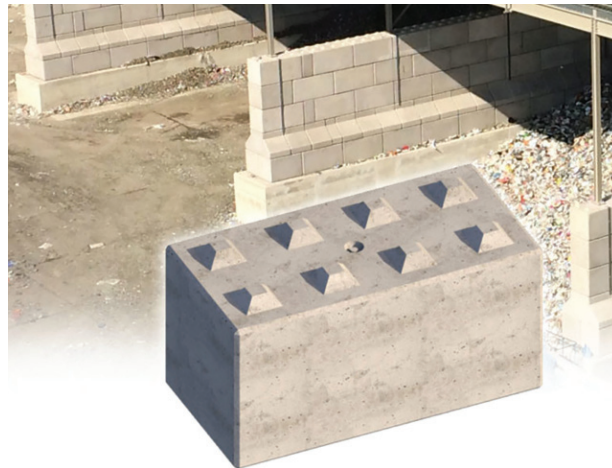


Start with the intended application

The first question should always be: what is the block expected to do?

A block used as a simple site demarcation feature faces very different demands from one forming part of a retaining wall or bulk-material storage bay. Retaining and storage structures can be subjected to considerable horizontal pressure from the material behind them, as well as forces generated by loading shovels, excavators and other mobile plant.

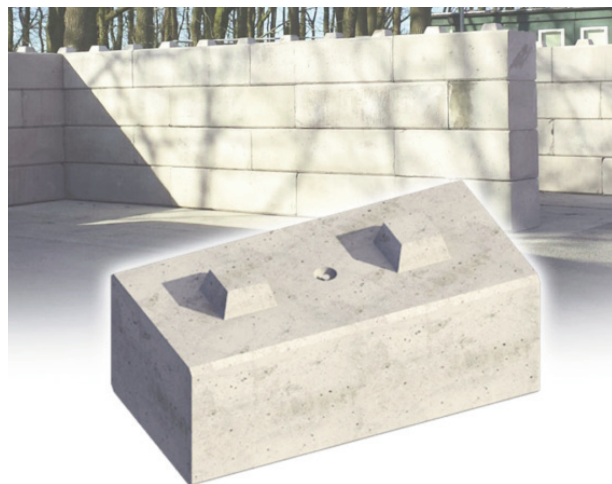
Material density, moisture content, wall height, surcharge loads, vehicle movements, ground conditions and the proposed block arrangement can all influence the performance of a structure.



A block's weight alone does not confirm that it is suitable. Neither does its physical size or appearance. The completed wall must be considered as a system, with an appropriate design based on the site conditions and intended use.

Where a wall is expected to retain material, support operational loads or protect people and plant, the user should request suitable design information. This may include calculations, maximum safe wall heights, installation drawings, foundation requirements and restrictions on use.

If a manufacturer cannot provide meaningful technical information about the product or its intended applications, that should be treated as a warning sign.



Understand what is inside the block

Concrete performance depends heavily on its constituents and how the product is manufactured.

The problem arises when the composition of a product is unknown, inconsistent or unsupported by appropriate test evidence. Variable feedstocks and uncontrolled inclusions may affect strength, durability, density and fire performance.

Operators should therefore avoid relying on broad descriptions such as "heavy-duty", "high strength" or "fire-resistant"



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without supporting documentation. These terms should be backed by measurable properties and evidence relevant to the finished product.

Purchasers should ask the manufacturer to confirm:

- The specified concrete strength
- The product's dimensions and declared weight
- The materials used in its manufacture
- The manufacturing and quality-control procedures
- Relevant test results and technical documentation
- The standards or specifications to which the product is manufactured
- Any limitations affecting its use

Concrete products should be purchased on evidence, not appearance or assumption.

Fire performance must be demonstrated

Fire is an increasingly important consideration for quarry, waste, recycling and materials-processing sites.

Combustible waste, fuel, oils, tyres, batteries and machinery can create a substantial fire load. Lithium-ion batteries entering waste and recycling streams present a particular challenge because damaged or defective batteries can ignite rapidly and may be difficult to extinguish.

Concrete is inherently non-combustible and can provide valuable passive fire protection. However, stakeholders should not assume that every product described as a concrete block automatically carries the same fire classification or will perform identically in a fire.

The composition of the finished product matters.

Manufacturers making claims about reaction-to-fire performance should be able to provide evidence supporting those claims, including the applicable classification and the basis on which it has been achieved.



For example, Owen continues, Elite Precast Concrete's Legato® interlocking blocks are classified as Class A1 in accordance with the relevant provisions of BS EN 13369. This provides specifiers and site operators with clear, documented information rather than an unsupported statement that the product is simply "fireproof" or "fire-resistant".

It is also important to distinguish between reaction to fire and fire resistance. A reaction-to-fire classification considers how a product contributes to the development and spread of fire. Fire resistance relates to the ability of a complete element or

structure to maintain functions such as integrity, insulation or loadbearing capacity for a stated period.

A non-combustible block does not, by itself, establish a fire-resistance period for every wall configuration. The design, joints, height, layout and intended function of the completed structure must all be considered.

Non-conforming products create shared risks

The consequences of installing an unsuitable or non-conforming product can extend far beyond the original purchasing decision.

A wall failure could result in injury, damage to machinery, contamination of materials, production delays and costly reconstruction. In a fire, an inadequately specified product or structure could fail to provide the anticipated level of containment, increasing the potential for fire to spread to neighbouring stockpiles, equipment or buildings.

There may also be insurance, contractual and regulatory implications if products cannot be traced or if performance claims are unsupported.

Responsibility does not rest solely with the manufacturer. Specifiers, distributors, contractors, installers and end users all have a part to play in ensuring that products are appropriate for their intended use.

Procurement teams must understand that accepting an alternative product is not simply a commercial substitution. If the alternative has different structural properties, fire performance or technical limitations, the original design may no longer be valid.

Likewise, contractors should not change block types, layouts or wall heights without confirming the implications with the relevant designer or supplier.

Traceability provides confidence

A reputable manufacturer should be able to trace its products to controlled production processes and provide clear technical data.

Traceability becomes particularly important when investigating defects, confirming product performance or demonstrating that the correct materials were supplied. Products manufactured from unidentified or poorly controlled sources may be difficult to verify once they have arrived on site.

Quarry operators and contractors should retain product data sheets, delivery records, design information, installation drawings and relevant declarations or certificates as part of the project file.

These records provide evidence that reasonable checks were undertaken and help ensure that future site teams understand what has been installed and how it should be used.

Communicate requirements throughout the supply chain

Good product selection depends on clear communication. The designer may understand the loads acting on a storage wall, but this information must reach the procurement team. The manufacturer may specify a maximum wall height, but that information must reach the installer and site operator. The purchasing team may agree to a substitute product, but the designer must be given the opportunity to assess it.

All stakeholders should understand:

- What the structure has been designed to contain or retain
- The maximum permitted height



- The density and characteristics of the stored material
- Whether plant can push material directly against the wall
- Any restrictions on surcharge loads
- The required foundation and installation method
- The product's declared fire performance
- The inspection and maintenance requirements
- The procedure for approving substitutions or alterations

Without this communication, even a correctly manufactured block can be installed or used in a way that creates unnecessary risk. It is the installers responsibility to ensure appropriate structural checks are carried out before any building work begins.

Compliance should be the starting point

The pressure to reduce project costs is understandable, but the lowest-priced block may become extremely expensive if it leads to redesign, replacement, operational disruption or a safety incident.

Concrete blocks used in demanding quarrying applications should be treated as engineered products rather than interchangeable lumps of concrete. Their selection should

reflect the function they will perform, the loads they will experience and the environment in which they will be installed.

The industry should expect manufacturers and suppliers to substantiate their claims. If a product is described as high-strength, compliant or Class A1, the evidence should be readily available. If it is intended for a retaining or storage application, suitable design information should support its use.

Owen believes that ultimately, using the right block is not simply about compliance. It is about protecting employees, contractors, equipment, materials and business continuity.

By asking the right questions at the procurement stage and ensuring that information is communicated across the supply chain, quarry operators can avoid false economies and create safer, more dependable sites.

The message is straightforward: specify by performance, verify the evidence and never assume that all concrete blocks are the same.

To find out more, speak to Owen or a member of the Elite team on 01952 588885 or visit www.eliteprecast.co.uk

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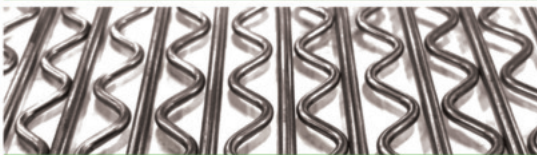
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Harpscreen helps Aggregate Industries UK cut costs, save time and reduce carbon footprint

Harpscreen has helped Aggregate Industries UK streamline its delivery processes, cutting costs, saving time and reducing its carbon footprint. Aggregate Industries UK is one of the country's leading suppliers of construction material solutions for the building sector, running more than 60 quarrying operations backed by a national transport network. As a major producer of fine and coarse aggregates for the British construction industry, the business is constantly looking for innovative, greener ways of working in support of its goal of being a sustainable operator.

The brief

The business has grown exponentially in recent years, expanding its operations within the construction industry and beyond. It has always been committed to finding both the most sustainable and the most cost-effective way to operate, and with this in mind, the company undertook a major review of how its delivery processes were managed.

Working together

Following the review of its operations at Torr Works Quarry, Aggregate Industries turned to Harpscreen, already one of its major suppliers, to talk through ways of saving on spend, managing time more efficiently and reducing environmental impact. Harpscreen listened to what Aggregate Industries needed and worked alongside the team to shape a solution built around those goals.

A more efficient way of working

Working together led to a far more efficient way of operating overall. One clear example was in how deliveries were handled: previously, pallets could go out only part filled with wire woven decks, rubber decks or whatever else had been ordered. Harpscreen put a stop to that, combining orders together so pallets left full and in a single trip, rather than being split across several separate deliveries.

Tangible results

The new way of working has had a wide-ranging impact on Aggregate Industries UK, driving considerable savings in cost and time and helping to reduce the business's carbon



footprint, in keeping with its environmental target of offering sustainable solutions wherever possible.

Harpscreen continues to supply Aggregate Industries UK with a range of screen media products and de-clogging rods through the bespoke system the two companies built together, and the business keeps reporting ongoing cost and time savings alongside a smaller carbon footprint.

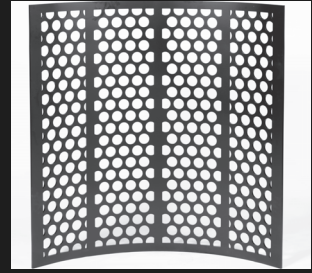
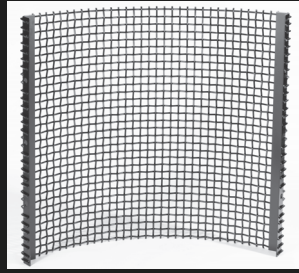
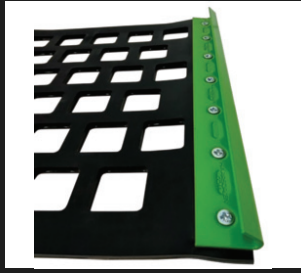
Harry Hughes, Mechanical Maintenance Manager at Torr Works Quarry, Aggregate Industries UK, said:

"We have been working with Harpscreen for some time now and have found them extremely helpful and accommodating, even coming out during a weekend shutdown to measure up, so that production was not affected, a real plus for a busy production plant. As a result of working with Harpscreen, we have managed to save our spend, allowing more budget for screen media".

"I feel that Harpscreen are extremely aware of all our needs and goals. It feels like anything is possible with them, and they very much take a customer-focused view in order to create a solution that is bespoke to us as the client."

What is the Harpscreen difference?

- Widest range of any quarry screen manufacturer
- Top quality products
- Unrivalled customer service
- Prompt, reliable delivery



Once Harpscreen has your order, it's handled quickly and efficiently, keeping downtime to a minimum and uptime to a maximum. All quarry screen products are manufactured in the UK from the highest quality materials, fully inspected before production.

As an ISO 9001:2008 compliant company, Harpscreen runs additional checking procedures throughout production, with tightly controlled inspections as standard, giving clients complete peace of mind.

Because downtime is so costly, Harpscreen keeps an extensive stock of products on hand, including pre-made quarry screens and woven wire mesh screens, ready for instant delivery.

Custom-made quarry screens are manufactured and delivered just as quickly, built around each client's specific requirements.

With the customer at the heart of everything Harpscreen does, and as the UK's biggest quarry screen manufacturer, the company is committed to producing the very best quality products in the shortest time possible, otherwise known as The Harpscreen difference.



HARPSCREEN
SCREENING & RECYCLING CONSUMABLES



100 Issues, Thousands of Moving Parts



One hundred issues is certainly a milestone worth celebrating. But perhaps, more importantly, it's a milestone worth reflecting on.



Behind those 100 issues sit thousands of stories, conversations, product launches, investments, challenges, successes and, above all else, relationships.

We've been fortunate enough to know and work with John and HUB-4 for many years. Along the way, we've also worked with

many of the businesses and individuals who regularly contribute to these pages.

That gives us an interesting perspective.

We've watched businesses grow, products develop and ideas become reality. We've seen UK-manufactured equipment leave these shores for projects around the world, while international manufacturers have arrived here, established themselves and become familiar names within the industry.

There have been plenty of moving parts.

Yet, amongst all that change, some of the fundamentals of good business haven't really changed at all.

It's still about people

Technology evolves. Products improve. Markets change. The way we communicate is almost unrecognisable from when HUB-4 began.

But good businesses are still built on relationships.

They're built on picking up the phone, doing what you said you would do, listening to customers and being there when things don't quite go to plan.

They're built on trust, and trust isn't created by one advert, exhibition, meeting or sale. It's accumulated over time.

Look back through those 100 issues and you'll see familiar businesses and faces appearing at different stages of their journeys. New machines, new people, new facilities, new territories and new challenges.

The story keeps moving.

Keep listening, keep learning

One of the privileges of working across this industry is how much we've learned from the people within it.

Engineers, manufacturers, operators, sales teams, business owners and marketers all bring different perspectives. The businesses we've watched thrive tend to keep listening, to their customers, teams, suppliers and the wider market.

Very few businesses succeed entirely by themselves. Behind almost every success are relationships, conversations and people willing to share their expertise.

That's one of the reasons publications like HUB-4 matter. They connect those people and give businesses a platform to share what they're doing, what they're learning and where they're heading next.

Final Thoughts

Issue 100 gives us an opportunity to look backwards, but perhaps the important question is what we take forward.

For us, it's simple: **build good products, look after people, listen, keep learning, do what you say you're going to do and build relationships before you need them.**

And remember that successful businesses are rarely built from one piece alone.

We often describe business as a jigsaw. Your product, people, marketing, PR, exhibitions, customers and relationships are all individual pieces. The challenge is understanding how they fit together to create the bigger picture.

That's where we come in. At Saward Marketing & Events, we help businesses put those pieces together.

Congratulations to John and everyone involved in the first 100 issues. We're proud to have been one small piece of that journey.

Here's to the next 100, and all the pieces still to be added.

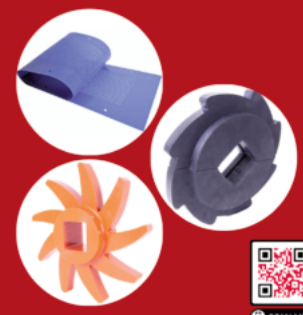


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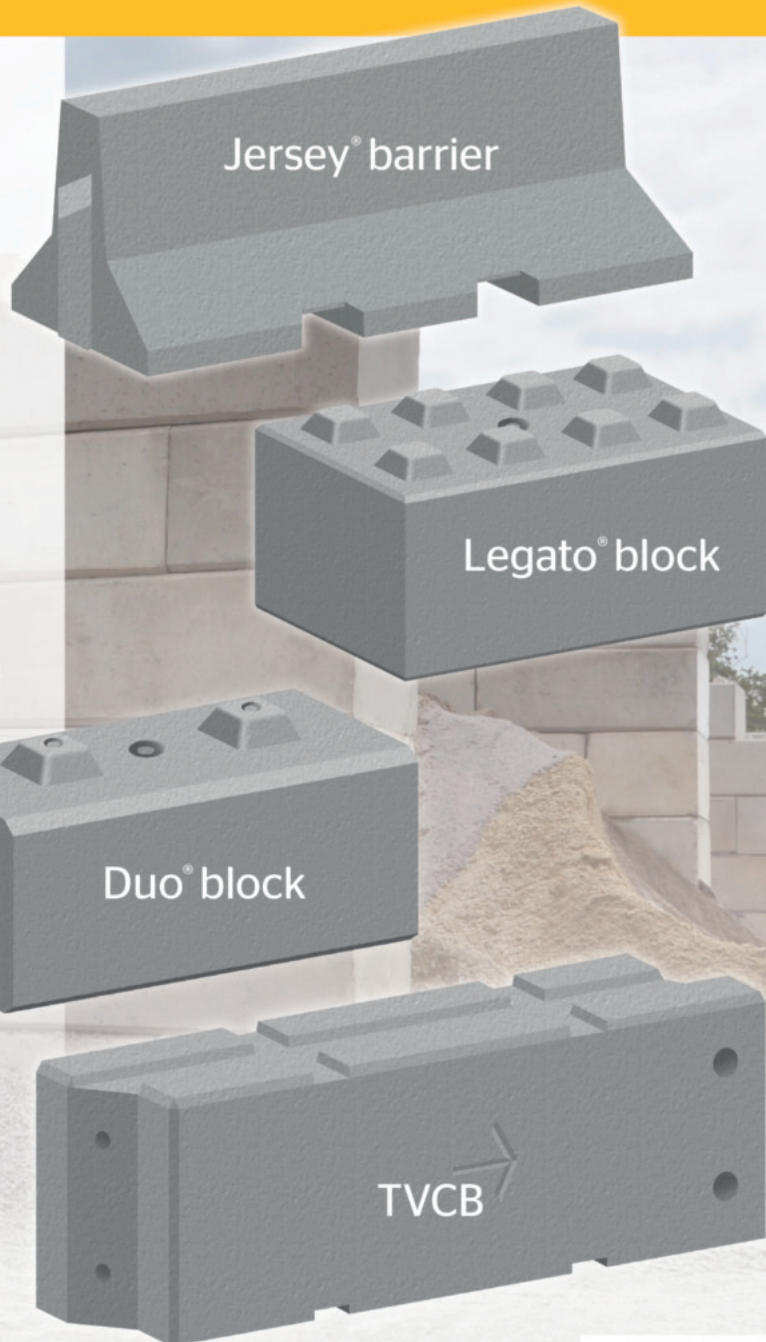
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