SPRING 2021

CUTTING EDGE

UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION



New Website Resources

The UK Gasket & Sealing Association is developing a new Resources area on the website which will contain useful reference tools for both Members and website visitors.

Two sections within this new area have already gone live:

Member Product Trade Names – a list of trade names used by UKGSA members for products they manufacture. The list provides an 'at a glance' reference tool along with a product description.

To view the trade names list Click Here.

Common Technical Terms – as with any industry, there are a range of technical terms commonly used within the gasket and sealing sectors. We've collated some of the most popular technical terms and provided their more commonly used abbreviations.

To view common technical terms Click Here.

We are also developing more resources which will be made live on our website in the coming months. These will include storage conditions, installation techniques, flange table sizes and dimensional charts.

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Engineered Plastics Company of the Month • Catching Up over Coffee • New Member Joins Expansion & Growth • New Customer Services Team Members • What We Do

UKGSA : A Message from the Chairman



Simon Winfield
Chair, UKGSA
Director, MacLellan Rubber

Welcome to our Spring 2021 Issue of Cutting Edge in the New Post Brexit Age

For those of you whom I haven't spoken to in the last few months, I hope you have remained safe and well.

There are many individuals within our industry whom have been impacted by the pandemic and, since our last communique, I have become aware of several industry colleagues who remain in critical care at this time; our thoughts are with them and their families.

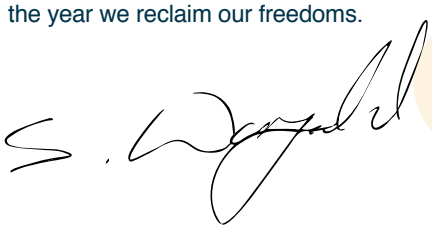
As the UK continues its sprint to vaccinate the adult population and the adult population prepares itself for relaxation of Covid restrictions, it would seem appropriate to have some optimism that life, work and society will return to some form of normality that closely resembled what we had way back at the start of 2020. Except that life has changed in so many ways, and the challenges of operating 'as normal' are likely to remain for some time to come. Despite all of these obstacles, the news from members remains significantly positive – investment remains high with many members expanding facilities and capabilities – investment on new products continues at a rapid pace with an array of new product launches from members in Q4 2020 and Q1 2021 – and investment in people, with furloughed personnel being bought back and new additions to teams being announced. The articles in this issue attest to both the resilience and tenacity of our members and their ability to adapt to any situation.

Having survived, and in many cases thrived, during the national lockdown and the last minute Brexit deal (I can't begin to comment on how poorly that has been managed and communicated), the immediate challenge facing many of our members is the growing shortage of raw materials. There are many factors impacting on this including reduced oil processing during national lockdowns resulting in less chemicals that are used in the manufacture of polymers being available as demand increases; confusion over import and export controls post Brexit; and limited container availability in the far east for shipping materials and goods. Add to this the fact that shipping companies have unilaterally taken the decision to inflate sea freight costs by four fold and more because according to a recent news item with a CEO of one of the main shipping lines: 'consumers can afford to pay more for their goods' and the outcome is price increases. In some cases these are moderate at 3 – 6%, however I have seen letters quoting 20% plus on many plastics. What the result will be on inflation is yet to be determined.

There is a silver lining of course, I hear increasing talk about companies reshoring manufacturing – or whatever the latest buzz word is – which means increased opportunities for high quality manufacturing offered by our members. Recognising this the Association has increased its marketing activity across a number of platforms promoting members where it can to ensure maximum exposure to UK, European and International customers.

The other silver lining is that with the easing of lockdown restrictions we can restart our networking events, so I am looking forward to welcoming many of you to the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) in July and our charity Golf Day in September.

Stay safe, stay well, and keep everything crossed that 2021 is the year we reclaim our freedoms.



UKGSA : Welcome to New Member

Rubber Mouldings Manufacturer Joins the UKGSA

The UK Gasket & Sealing Association (UKGSA) welcomes The Seal Extrusion Company Limited who joined as members in March 2021.

The Seal Extrusion Company Limited (TSEC), established in 2017 with its strong branding and marketing expertise, has become one of the UK's leading suppliers of rubber extrusions and trims for the Automotive current and after-market and classic cars. Industries supplied include Trade, Marine, Architectural, Plant & Industrial use and Original Equipment Manufacturers.

TSEC are proud to stock 1000's of metres of off-the-shelf standard extrusions, and can manufacture small or large quantities from customer drawings or from their extensive tool library. They can even be made to the RAL Classic range of colours.

2020 saw an extensive move to a new bespoke industrial unit, enabling high stock levels and expanding their already extensive range. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought many staffing problems in how to keep safe in a working environment, and the new premises has enabled all staff to work safely.

For further details visit: https://sealextrusions.com/

Launch of New 'Member of UKGSA' Logo

We are delighted to launch the new 'Member of the UK Gasket & Sealing Association' logo which is available for all authorised Members to use.

The new logo demonstrates which gasket and sealing companies across the UK are members of the Association, comply with our Code of Conduct and are part of a growing network of likeminded businesses.

The new 'Member of' logo, can be used, for example, on members' websites, stationery or promotional materials and on email signatures.

We look forward to seeing our new 'Member of' logo in use!

MEMBER OF THE UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION

www.ukgsassociation.co.uk

Engineered Plastics Company of the Month

FLEMINGS | SEALS & POLYMERS

Trusted Experts of Hydraulic & Pneumatic Seals and Injection Moulding

Member Selected as Engineered Plastics Company of the Month

UKGSA Member, Flemings Seals & Polymers, was selected by Business and Industry Today as their Engineered Plastic Company of the Month in February.

Flemings Seals & Polymers offer engineered plastic solutions, working with OEMs in a number of industries who manufacture pumps and valves for food & drink, pharmaceuticals, conveyor belting and material handling applications.

Based in a 10,000 ft² facility in West Yorkshire, Flemings was acquired by Mark Kelly in 2018 who has a passion for UK manufacturing. He has since invested in machinery including a Citizen sliding head, Mazak 4-axis machine centre and Hurco CNC capabilities and is planning to develop a recycled range of plastic for niche applications, helping to reduce the company's waste output.

Despite COVID-19, Flemings has taken on more staff and is expanding its capabilities further by starting to machine stainless steel hose fittings and electronic parts.

For more information visit: www.flemings-seals-polymers.com


Engineered Plastic Company of the Month

Heritage, innovation, expertise, with a passion for UK manufacturing

8 Business and Industry is sponsored by Flemings Seals & Polymers – see them on page 8

Flemings Seals & Polymers offer engineered plastic solutions for OEMs across industry sectors, including: food & drink, pharmaceuticals and conveyor belting & material handling applications.

Quality Seal of Approval

MacLellan Does More Than Tick the Quality Box

At MacLellan Rubber Limited, we take great pride in all that we do and, to ensure we are meeting the highest standards for our customer base, we are proud to announce that we have once again been awarded ISO 9001 certification with zero Observations and zero Non-conformances following our TUV reassessment.

ISO 9001:2008 is an internally recognised Quality Management System and sets out the policies, processes and procedures for the planning and delivery of the core business.

MacLellan Rubber was assessed by Rob Harris of TUV, an independent auditing body, and our Quality Consultant Lynne Cowan from Quality in a box.

The findings from the ISO audit showed zero Observations and zero Non-conformances, which means there are no additional preventative actions required or any failure to show evidence of compliance. Being re-accredited to ISO9001 demonstrates MacLellan's commitment to supplying the right products at the right time whilst offering consistently high levels of customer service. We were advised following the audit that MacLellan Rubber are "market leading and without comparison within a similar sized company" in this area.

Andrew Onions, Joint Managing Director, commented:
"At MacLellan's we constantly strive to set the standard for service and quality within our industry, and this has been validated in our recent audit report and re-certification. However, maintaining high quality is not a static activity, customer demands, industry legislation, business focus and supply chain challenges mean we are already looking at additional resources and technology that will maintain and improve how we manage and deliver."

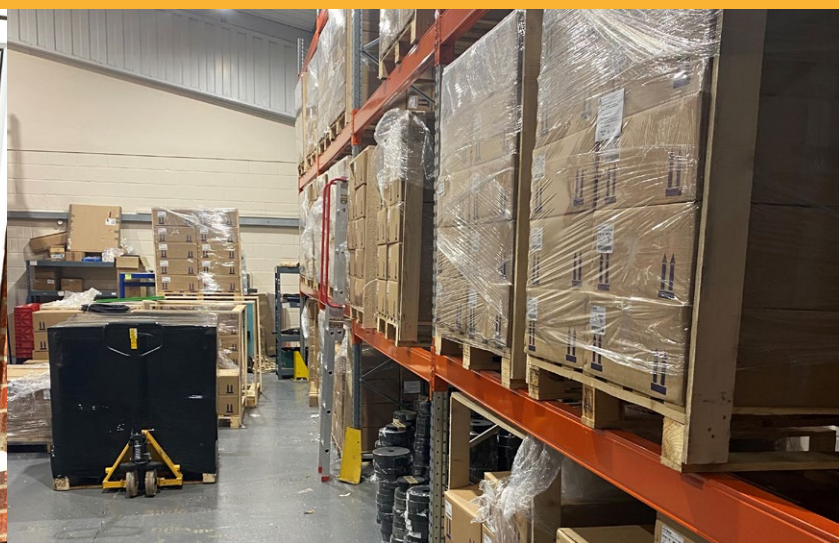
Our thanks goes out to both our in house team and consultant Lynne from Quality in a box for their support during what has been a very challenging period for us all.



MacLellan rubber

Celebrating 15 Years





Corseal Celebrates 15 Years

Corseal Ltd, one of the UK's leading manufacturers and suppliers of gaskets, seals and other associated industrial products, is celebrating 15 years in business.

Corseal is a dedicated family-run company with husband and wife team, Greg and Alison Ansell, at the helm. In addition, three members of the same family: Nick (father) and sons James and Harry, are valued members of their expanding team.

Greg, who started the company in 2006, explains: *"I saw a niche in the local market for a skilled company that specialised in gaskets, rubber products and industrial hoses. Who thought from those humble beginnings in a converted farm unit and four moves later, including our most recent at the end of last year, that we'd be operating out of a bespoke 4,000 square foot industrial unit?"*

The most recent move to Bull Lane Industrial Estate in Acton, Suffolk means stock levels have multiplied tenfold which demonstrates their commitment to customer service and supply. Corseal have grown to supply a range of gaskets as well as rubber and plastic mouldings, extrusions, edge trims, washers, sheeting, matting, strip, grommets, bonded seals, cords, industrial hose and tubing. In 2014, Corseal was appointed Master Distributorship for Swedish coupling manufacturer, Manntek.

The extra space also meant they could install new cutting machinery with more machinery planned.

Greg added: *"I'd like to say a big congratulations and a huge 'thank you' to all who have worked for us previously and especially to our current employees."*

Corseal have been supporters and members of the UK Gasket & Sealing Association for many years, with Alison an active member of the Committee, and they plan to support the association for many years to come.

Here's to the next 15 years!

Visit Corseal's website at: https://www.corseal.co.uk/

Catching Up Over Coffee



Coffee with...Sam Bradley

We recently caught up with Sam Bradley to ask him about his new role and why he enjoys working for Flexitallic.

When did you join Flexitallic?
This is now my eighth year. I was previously employed as Commercial Manager at Sealex Ltd which many people will remember was an independent gasket cutter. Sealex was bought by Flexitallic in 2015 and I became their UK Sales Manager. I was then promoted to UK Sales Director in 2018.

Tell us about your job?
My role changed about 4-5 years ago. Historically, I undertook a sales role covering the UK, but over the last few years I've taken on more responsibility for all our UK branches, managing internal operations as well as external sales teams.

Tell us about your exciting new role?
In addition to managing the UK branches, I will be developing Flexitallic's business in Belgium and Netherlands. Flexitallic have invested in a 1,000 square metre manufacturing facility in Antwerp which makes spiral wound, kammprofile and soft-cut gaskets in-house. It is going to be an exciting 12 months!

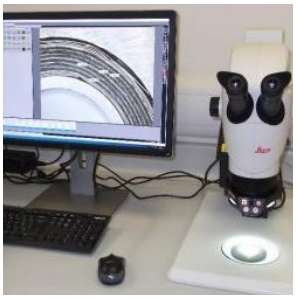
What is your biggest achievement?
Building a talented team whose primary purpose is to provide engineering support to our customers.

How have Flexitallic coped during COVID-19 (and Brexit)?
It's actually been non-stop and we've managed well. We employ 217 people in the UK and so far have experienced little impact from coronavirus or from Brexit. Our operations teams have adopted safe working practices minimising all risks to the team. Staff that can work from home have been encouraged to do so wherever possible. The biggest challenge has been maintaining efficient communication, but we've adopted new initiatives to ensure that our customers experience no difference even with remote working requirements.

Why are Flexitallic members of the UKGSA?
The UKGSA creates a great environment to network and keep in touch with members. I'm primarily interested in the challenges found in process industry and where we can collaborate to deliver solutions and develop new products.

Flexitallic has a strong history as an innovator, and we have been releasing new solutions ever since we invented the spiral wound gasket in 1912. Our global R&D facility is based in Yorkshire, and we continue to make significant investments to ensure we can analyse the most challenging applications. The lab has an extensive range of equipment, but my favourite is the TEMES rig that can replicate application conditions up to 1000° C and 160 bar, measuring leakage using mass spectrometry at 10x-12.









Flexitallic's by-word is innovation and its Global R&D Facility, based in Yorkshire, has seen significant investment to ensure it is able to replicate & analyse the most challenging application conditions and continually develop new products.

Our R&D team are continually developing new products such as Corriculite, a material to remove graphite from salt water in hydrocarbon services. We also created Change gasket technology, designed to provide ultimate recovery in thermally cycling applications such as heat exchangers. The market is saturated with 'me-too' products, but we are interested in true innovation.

Putting you on the spot, describe Flexitallic in three words:
I'd say: Innovation / Reliability / Customisation – Flexitallic are great at manufacturing gaskets used in standard connections, but we excel in the creation of solutions where other legacy technologies fail to meet demands of modern industry.

And finally, what keeps you sane outside of work?
I have just signed up to do another 100-mile cycle charity challenge and many readers will know I'm a keen golfer, so I'm really looking forward to our Annual Golf Day in September. I've also been doing some gardening during the lockdowns and also enjoy sailing and scuba diving.

[*Editor: Did you know Sam is also Treasurer of the UKGSA?*]

Expansion into Metal Machining



J A Harrison Expand into Metal Machined Parts

Keith Shepherd, managing director a J A Harrison, tells us about their recent expansion into metal machined parts.

J A Harrison are proud to offer the one stop shop solution to many of our customers, however, we were being asked more and more for metal machined parts to go hand in hand with our PTFE and plastics machining.

After years of sourcing metal machined components we took the decision to invest in our own top of the range CNC machinery. With the PTFE department having to be a clean environment, the decision was made to establish the machining of metal components in our Cardiff utility as we had already purchased the unit next door.

We invested in a CNC machining centre with a table size of 2 metre x 1 metre and a CNC 3-axis turning lathe with a 1.5m between centres. The 3-axis lathe helps to speed up operations when shafts need keyways machining in them, as the machine can mill as well as turn, meaning no second operation is required.

A new lighting system was also installed and we linked Cardiff to our offline CNC programming suite in Manchester. Offline programming helps to eliminate a lot of down time and double checks the program is correct, increasing our productivity and also helping to reduce our costs and ensure we remain competitive. We increased the power to the building to cope with the increased draw and we are fully operational - "if it's turning, it's earning"! The machines did not stay clean for long and are now working 8 hours a day, 5 days a week making components that would have been sent to a third party to manufacture.

The machinery thus far has mainly been used in the manufacture of pump shafts, drive shafts, large leadscrews mainly with trapadizol threads and brass nuts complete with matching threads. Filtration and separation plates and rollers, many of which are used in the bakery industry, perfectly complement our PTFE range for use on the same machinery.

Further investments are continually being made and recent additions are a mechanical saw and a manual centre lathe that have been significant in moving the department forward and keeping up with our customer's demands.

J.A.Harrison
Complete Sealing Solutions





For all your metal machining enquiries please email: sales@jaharrison.co.uk

Effective Solutions to Mitigate Noise & Vibration

MacVibe Anti-Vibration Mats & Pads

MacLellan introduce our MacVibe range of Ant-Vibration and Noise Attenuation pads for effective solutions designed to mitigate unwanted airborne noise and vibration transmission problems.

Anti-vibration mats and mounts are used to significantly reduce structure-borne noise and vibrations from Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning units, Generators, motors and industrial machinery.

By addressing structure-borne vibration, the correct anti-vibration solutions can significantly reduce the noise levels within applications such as chillers, fans, motors, air handling units (AHU's) and manufacturing equipment to meet occupational and environmental demands.

- The MacVibe range are durable and resilient, single compound & composite materials that isolate and separate the machinery from the subsurface or factory floor.
- MacVibe solutions are designed to absorb, reduce and stop the transmission of unwanted frequencies and vibrations.
- MacVibe solutions are simple to install and require no bolting. These solutions provide maximum resilience & minimal creep.
- MacVibe solutions are supplied as mats, pads or strips depending on the application & the noise control requirements.
- Size Range: 50mm x 50mm through to 457mm x 457mm
- Thickness Range 5mm to 19mm
- Hardness Range 30 to 90 Shore A
- Options in Natural, Neoprene, Nitrile and EPDM Rubber

Find out more...
For more information contact your MacLellan Rubber account manager or our sales office on: **01902 307711**

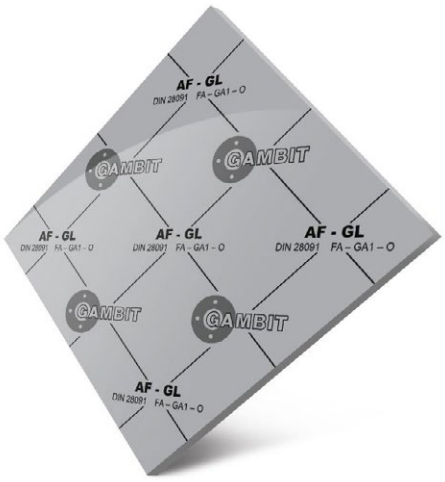
MacVibe Key Attributes

- Eliminates equipment creep without the need for anchoring
- Greater Sound Insulation than other rubber / metal isolators
- Better Vibration Isolation and reduced audible noise
- Better shock isolation
- Easily aligned to size of machine or leg on site
- Higher deflection than other types of vibration isolation system
- Highly resilient to cleaning compounds, oil, dirt, heat aging and mechanical fatigue

MacLellan rubber

Sole UK Distributor







Sole UK Distributor for Polish Gasket Manufacturer

East Anglian Sealing Co Ltd are pleased to announce their appointment as Sole UK Distributor for Gambit Lubawka Sp, Poland – one of the most progressive gasket sheeting manufacturers in Europe.

Having been working with Gambit for over 12 years, with absolutely no issues, EAS feel that their material range offers a quality product – used all over the World, at highly competitive prices.

As members of the European Sealing Association, it is noteworthy to point out that Gambit continually invest in new materials and are one of the most active manufacturers of new grades in the market.

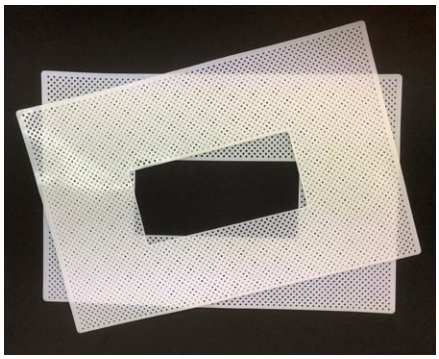
Although delivery from Poland is normally only two weeks, to accommodate the build-up of stock in the UK and also to increase their production floor space, EAS are taking on further units at the Bulmer facility from February 2021.

Specification sheets for the main material grades are available at www.easeals.co.uk and material can be purchased on-line through the web-shop - alternatively call EAS and material samples can be sent out for appraisal, trial cutting and testing.

New production equipment at the site will include a 2.1m x 5.5m bed multi-axis CNC cutter-router, with automatic saws and sanders to accommodate the increasing amount of rubber and plastic machining now taking place. Other equipment for finishing rubber and plastic moulded products supplied by EAS will also be installed – this will include paint and gel coat finishing for the automotive industry and non-contact video inspection mostly for the food and medical sectors.

With the increasing amount of rubber being handled, EAS also faces the inevitable increase in waste product and, faced with higher costs in recycling rubber, is also looking to install their own shredding and crumbing equipment on site. The plan is to offer this service to companies also in the same position at cost prices so that their rubber can also be recycled and less is buried in land-fill – which in turn involves high charges.

In all the gasket and seal production facility at Bulmer will increase by 40% and warehousing by 100% - further expansion on the 8 acre site will now mean new building – but there's ample room for that!



EAS have expanded their operation to accommodate the increased rubber & plastic machining now taking place.

EAS
keeping industry working
EAST ANGLIAN SEALING COMPANY

UKGSA : Save the Dates

Networking Opportunities

The Committee has reviewed our planned events for 2021 and have taken the decision to change the dates to help ensure that these can be held and attended.

Technical Visit to MTC

A technical visit and tour of the facilities at the Manufacturing Technology Centre in Coventry will take place on **Thursday 8 July**. Established in 2010, the independent research and technology organisation aims to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

The MTC will give a tour of their facilities which include technical manufacturing system solutions, National Centre Additive Manufacturing, manufacturing support service, business launch centre, SME support and training.

Golf Day

The UK Gasket & Sealing Association's Annual Golf Day is a key networking event not to be missed! Due to coronavirus, the event has been rearranged for the same venue with a new date of **Thursday 23 September**…and we've already got people booked!



Members & visitors will be playing at the Telford Hotel Golf Resort in Shropshire which boasts a par 72, 18 hole championship golf course designed by John Harris and Brian Griffiths. The course includes strategic water hazards, tree-lined fairways and is a firm favourite with professionals.

The Golf Day provides an opportunity for our members and guests to network whilst playing golf. The golf is then followed by a Charity Dinner to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Depending on social distancing measures next summer, the dinner may be different, but it still promises to be a great event.

For more details about the event see our Annual Golf event **page.**

New & Improved Website

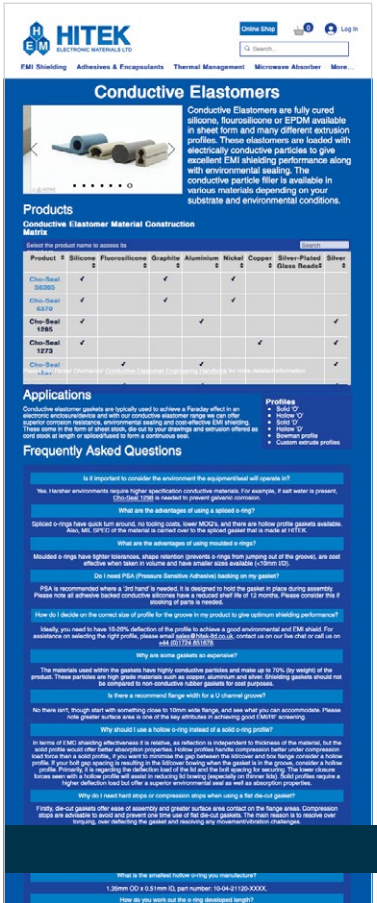
New Website for HITEK

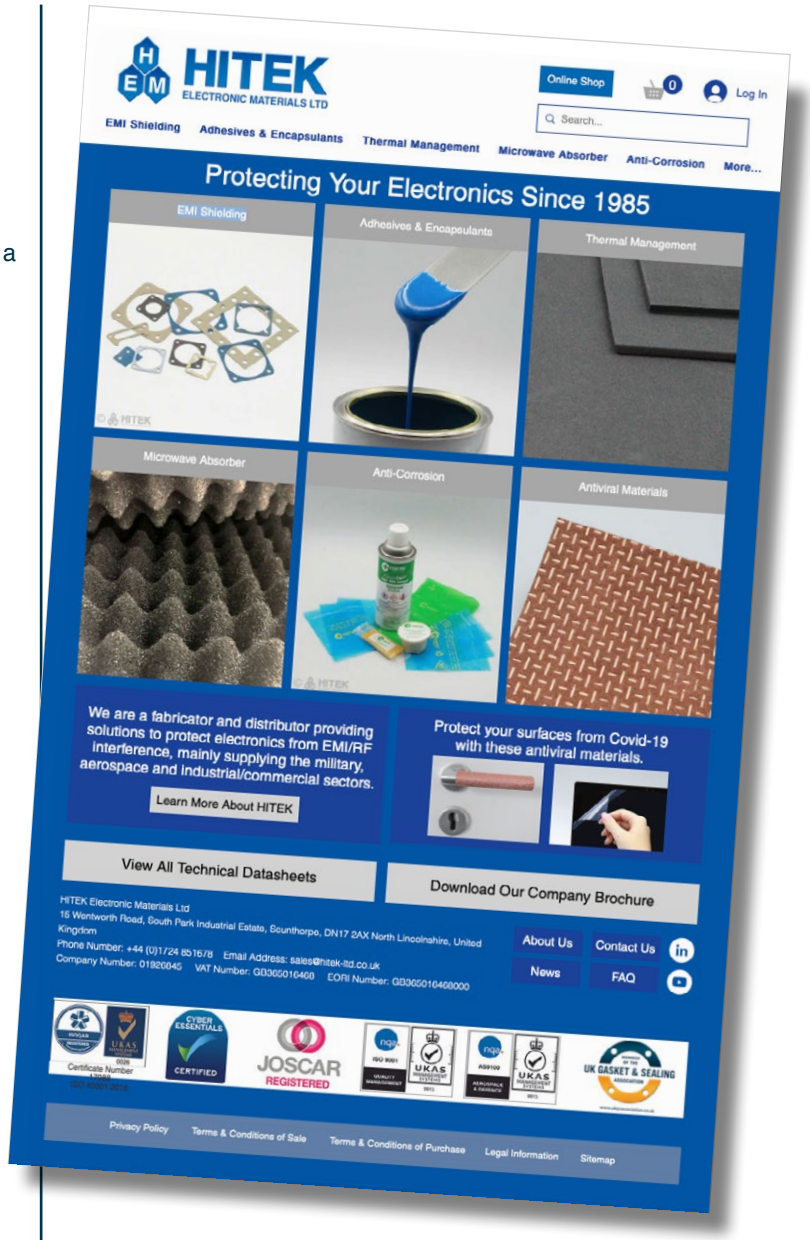
HITEK Electronic Materials Ltd have launched our new website. It encompasses an improved layout, revitalised look and will enable our customers to navigate to the information they require.

We provide solutions to protect electronics from EMI/RF across a wide array of product ranges; EMI Shielding, Adhesives and Encapsulants, Thermal Management, Microwave Absorbers, Anti-Corrosion and Anti-Viral Materials offering our customers access to Technical Datasheets (TDS) and Material Safety Datasheets (MSDS) for further product information.

Our Product pages now include Products, Applications and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help our customers source the answer they need. If there are any further questions or enquiries, website visitors can contact us via our contact us page or live chat whilst browsing.

Meanwhile, our online shop continues to grow and shows a selection of the full product ranges we offer. Please get in touch if you require technical advice or RFQs.





Product pages on the new HITEK website now include, Products, Applications and Frequently Asked Questions to help customers find the answers they need quickly & easily.

New Appointment

Technical expert Tim Earthrowl appointed as South West business development manager

Flexitallic UK Ltd, the specialist manufacturer and supplier of sealing products and services, has appointed technical specialist Tim Earthrowl as its business development manager for the South West region.

A highly qualified mechanical engineer, he has more than 13 years B2B experience, combining his technical expertise with consultancy and commercial skills to secure sales from customers involved in demanding projects valued at hundreds to millions of pounds.

He previously spent 13 years as technical sales manager with the Socitec Group, where he was responsible for developing technical business opportunities, maintaining existing client relationships, and achieving ambitious sales targets in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

His extensive B2B sales experience has been gained through his involvement across a range of global projects, most notably within the defence, aerospace, marine, chemical, oil & gas, nuclear and motorsport industries.

Tim was also regularly involved in international projects, working alongside sister companies in France, Germany, and the United States. Prior to that he was a research and development engineer with Thermo Fisher Scientific.

In an earlier academic career stretching back more than a decade, he was a Research Fellow at Aston University, where he carried out work around numerical modelling, algorithm development and prototyping of sensing and instrumentation technology for defence and biomedical applications.

He said: *"My focus is adhering to the principles of delivering sound technical expertise to customers and following this up with impeccable customer service – an approach I will continue to adopt in my new role.*

"I'm excited to join Flexitallic, which is a market leader in its field, and look forward to contributing to its ongoing growth and success."

Tim, whose hobbies include motorcycle restoration, fishing, and DIY, added: *"This is also a fantastic opportunity for me to further my own career and to rise to new challenges."*



This is a fantastic opportunity for me to further my own career and rise to new challenges...

Tim Earthrowl
Business Development Manager

Flexitallic

UKGSA : FREE Advertising

Claim Your FREE Advert

The UKGSA are now offering existing Members one FREE colour advert to appear in one issue of Cutting Edge e-newsletter per membership year.

Many UKGSA Members already take advantage of the free news editorial in the e-newsletter to share their company updates, product developments, staff news etc, but the addition of the free advert provides Members with even more opportunity to promote their business across the Association and to our wider contacts.

Non-members can also place adverts in the e-newsletter for a nominal charge. And new Members will receive a free half page advert when they sign up!

Rates:

	Members	Non-Members
Full Page	£350.00	£440.00
Half Page	£200.00	£250.00
Quarter Page	£125.00	£155.00

FREE Off-Cuts Advertising (for members only)
UKGSA Members, remember you can advertise your Off-Cuts free of charge in the "Cutting Edge" this is strictly a first come first served basis.

The e-newsletter is issued three times per year, providing a round-up of member and industry news. It is available to download from our website.

To book your advert contact the Secretariat

OFFCUTS

MacLellan Rubber is offering, on behalf of a trade customer, the following off-cuts:
BS2752 C60 Neoprene Rubber Sheet: 238 - 520mm x 465mm x 8mm thick
All reasonable offers considered

MacLellan rubber

Introducing our new range of

Non-Asbestos Sheet from GAMBIT



EAS

Quality Materials at affordable prices

Grade Y sheeting 1.5m x 1.5m 1.5mm from £31.91 per sheet, 3.0mm from £65.22 per sheet

Grade X sheeting 1.5m x 1.5m 1.5mm from £45.72 per sheet, 3.0mm from £90.59 per sheet

WRAS approved 1.5m x 1.5m 1.5mm from £27.58 per sheet, 3.0mm from £51.46 per sheet

General Purpose 1.5m x 1.5m 1.5mm from £25.10 per sheet, 3.0mm from £46.41 per sheet

Other thicknesses and qualities available from stock or within 2 weeks from production

East Anglian Sealing Co Ltd

Tel: 01787 880433 Email: sales@easeals.co.uk

Looking Forward with Optimism

Optimistic Times Ahead for SJG International

Sitting down to write this article a year on from the start of the first Covid-19 lockdown in the UK, gives time to reflect on many things, writes Lucy Simpson of SJG International.

As a company, SJG are both very grateful and fortunate to have a great team of people behind us. We have remained open throughout the period with a reduced and flexible workforce, to allow us to adhere to the recommended social distancing guidelines and practices.

Reviewing the past year, some of the mix of work and customers we supply has altered and we have been fortunate enough to be able to adapt to support critical industries with PPE wear into places such as the Nightingale hospitals.

As a business, the change in the way we have worked over the past year has given us the chance to take the time to review and confirm that we need to continue to make investment and grow the business.

Over the last couple of years we have invested in machinery across a number of areas including a new ATOM flash knife cutter, a new CNC Router and a new Kiss Cutting machine.



2021 will see continued investment in both machinery and our buildings. We have recently commenced work to replace the roof on one of our buildings and we have invested in electric charging points on the front of the building to support our increasing fleet of hybrid and all-electric vehicles. We are also taking delivery of an additional van in May/June to allow us to further support deliveries to our customer base across the UK.



In terms of machinery, we are awaiting delivery of a new 100 tonne press which will further increase our gasket cutting capabilities.

For further details about our manufacturing capabilities and product ranges visit our website at www.sjginternational.com.

We were delighted to recently have our certification with the Joint Supply Chain Accreditation Register (JOSCAR) renewed, confirming we satisfied requirements to work with companies such as M.O.D and BAE.

With the rollout of the vaccine programme in the UK, and rules being relaxed in terms of restrictions, people and companies seem to be optimistic about the future and that's certainly the case at SJG International.

If you have current or future requirements for Gaskets, Rubber Extrusion or Foam, please don't hesitate to contact us:

Lucy Simpson
E: lucy.simpson@sjginternational.com
T: 01789 763721

OFFCUTS

We have a large number of Flexitallic SF2800 off cuts: 1.5m x 1.5m x 3mm thick

Circular Discs:

90cm diameter	*QTY 134*
104cm diameter	*QTY 8*
61cm diameter	*QTY 5*

Plus a number of large L shape pieces of various sizes

New Team Members

Introducing New Members of the MacLellan Rubber Customer Services Team

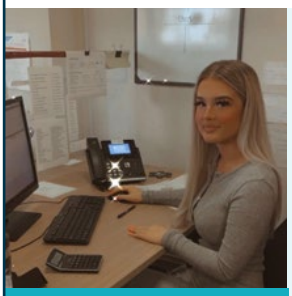
As I'm sure you will all be aware, MacLellan Rubber have a long established history of seeking out future talent to support us in offering award winning customer service to our client base. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce our two most recent additions to the customer service team.

Bo and Chloe, who joined us via our customer service apprenticeship programme, will be training in a number of disciplines in the MacLellan Rubber commercial office and are a very welcome addition to the MacLellan family.

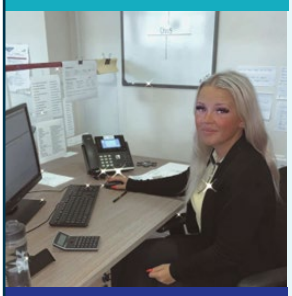
Chloe says: *"Since joining MacLellan Rubber earlier this year I have been enjoying my first few months of training whilst also undertaking completion of my NVQ in Business Administration. I believe I have settled into the team well and so far have learned basic order processing and stock checking procedures. I enjoy speaking to people on the phone and look forward to helping you with your requirements in the near future."*

Bo adds: *"Since joining MacLellan Rubber earlier this year as a customer service apprentice, I have already leaned a number of new skills such as stock checking, customer price enquiries, order processing, quotation generation and I'm looking forward to further adding to these skills each day. I look forward to speaking to you and helping you as much as I can"*

Chris Hickson, Sales Manager, says: *"I'm sure all of our customers and UKGSA members will join us in welcoming both Bo and Chloe to the MacLellan family."*



Customer Services - Chloe



Customer Services - Bo

I'm sure all of our customers & UKGSA members will join us in welcoming both Bo & Chloe to the MacLellan family...

Chris Hickson - Sales Manager

MacLellan rubber

Alfa Romeo Championship 2021 Sponsors



Headline Sponsor for 2021 Alfa Romeo Championship

This year HITEK Electronic Materials Ltd will be the headline sponsor for the 750 Motor Club Alfa Romeo Championship. This is their 40th consecutive year of racing.

The HITEK Electronic Materials Alfa Romeo Championship (as it will be known this season) will be providing exciting high-quality racing for drivers and spectators as COVID restrictions ease.

The Alfa Romeo Championship have a rich heritage of championship drivers - view their previous champions. This season will see the following drivers taking part in the races.
The Alfa Championship has three main championship classes: Modified, Power Trophy and the Twin Spark Cup. Eight different models raced with them in 2020, so variety is a big part of their Championship. As well as Alfa Romeos, they welcome Fiat, Abarth and Lancia models in 2 of their classes. The races take place at all the major UK circuits over six race weekends through the season with 12 races in total.

If you would like to learn more, please take a look at their website.

HITEK
ELECTRONIC MATERIALS LTD

Teeside Expansion Plans



Flexitallic expands Teesside centre to include training and demonstrations facility

Flexitallic UK Ltd is set to move into larger premises on Teesside to meet rising client demand for specialist gasket materials, engineering services, and engineering compliance in line with strict fugitive emissions legislation.

The new facility will allow Flexitallic to expand its gasket manufacturing, stockholding, and workshop capabilities, as well as hosting a dedicated ECITB-approved training facility.

The move will enable Flexitallic to provide increased support to a growing client base in the North East, which is home to chemistry, fine and speciality chemicals, petrochemicals, polymers and composites, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, biofuels, and energy sectors.

Part of the global Flexitallic Group, the Teesside centre is part of a network of branches established in industry-focused locations including Aberdeen, Merseyside and South West - along with its UK headquarters and manufacturing base in West Yorkshire.

The branches act as the distribution arm for Flexitallic's sealing solutions, including its comprehensive range of gaskets d esigned and manufactured to meet the requirements and safety focused operations of all industry sectors.

In addition to its expanded stockholding, the new branch will also provide 24/7 access to commercial and technical support and complimentary delivery service for its North East clients.

Supporting its product range is Flexitallic' s extensive technical expertise, which offers expert advice and training to clients. The Teesside centre will host workshops, industry discussions, flange management and bolted joint integrity calculation soft-ware demonstrations, as well as specialist training using its Flange Assembly Demonstration Unit (FADU) and ECITB accredited training rigs encompassing various gasket specifications and tightening methods.

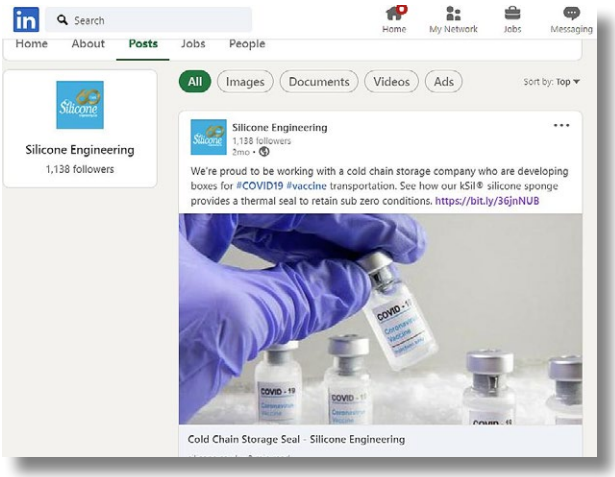
The Teesside Service Centre is operated by a team of joint integrity professionals experienced in the local process sectors. Among them is an applications team, which works closely with clients on a range of specialist bolted joint integrity projects including design reviews, gasket redesigns and industry compliance to standards such as EN1591-1 & ASME PCC1 2019.

Sam Bradley, UK Sales Director at Flexitallic said: *"The demand for our industrial gaskets and sealing solutions has led to the need to expand our operations on Teesside, enabling Flexitallic to provide a more comprehensive bolted joint integrity service to our growing client base. Our clients share our view that gaskets are more than a commodity item and want a supplier that can provide technical expertise, support, and training alongside innovative products. Our new larger branch will enable Flexitallic to better serve the North East market and work with clients to find fit for purpose solutions to issues such as chemical compatibility and thermal cycling of equipment."*

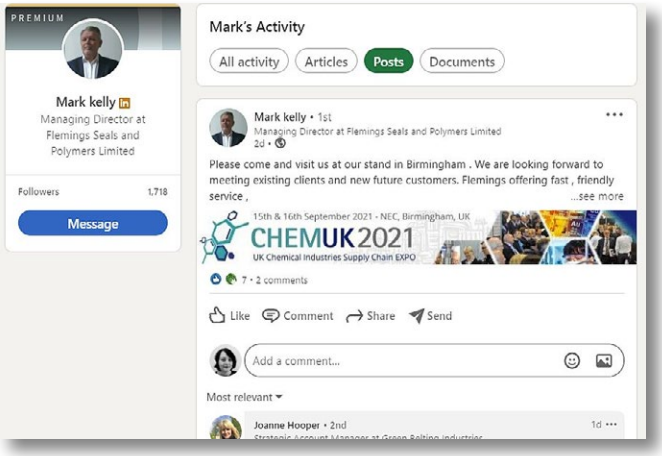
Sam continues: *"We can also provide a range of flange integrity training and demonstrations in our new dedicated training suite, which further supports our clients' preference to work directly with a manufacturer that has a broad and expert understanding of bolted joint integrity."*

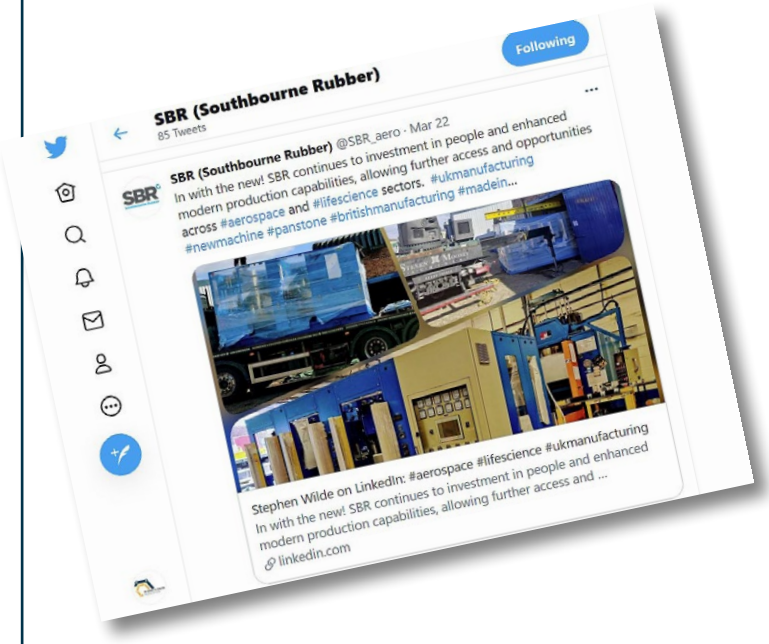
UKGSA : Members on Social Media

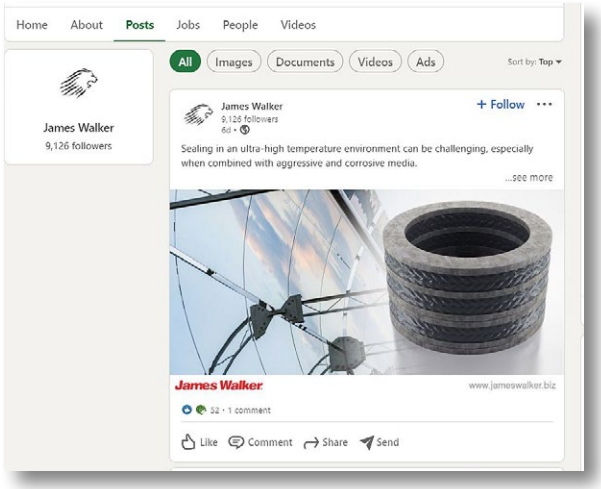
What Our Members Are Up To...











Follow the UKGSA on Social Media:

Twitter: @UKGSAssoc | LinkedIN: @uk-gasket-sealing-association/ | LinkedIN Group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4707335/

Meet Your Committee

The UKGSA is led by a Committee who help ensure that the UKGSA's activities serve the needs of our members.

Here is the Committee for the year 2020/21:



Sandy McEwen
VICE CHAIR & FUNDRAISING



SAM BRADLEY
TREASURER

Andrew Crowther
OFFICER





ROGER DENT
OFFICER

Alison Ansell
MARKETING & EVENTS



Simon Carless
GOLF DAY



UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION



Simon Winfield
CHAIRMAN



Keith Payne
MEMBERSHIP

If you're interested in joining the Committee please get in touch.

UKGSA : What We Do

What You can Expect from Us and How We can Help You Reach Your Goals

Networking Events – serving our members with activities designed to promote success and growth, through collaboration and best practice. The Association aims to provide a platform for members to network with decision makers and influencers at the highest level and across all sectors of our industry.

Technical Events – industrial and manufacturing tours or presentations to member and non-member sites. These events aim to give insights to advanced manufacturing, best practice and material technical developments that will inspire our membership.

Technical Support – members have access to an unprecedented technical resource in their fellow members who are available to offer support on manufacturing issues, material selection and processing, and design & development.

Representing our Members

Behind the scenes we actively promote our members' activities and views through press releases to national and international trade magazines and general media.

We represent our industry to various technical bodies on international standards and actively look for opportunities to promote our values.

We aim to proactively promote our members' views to government and trade bodies and influence the decisions of those organisations to the benefit of our members.

Marketing Support

We actively use social media (Twitter and LinkedIn) and encourage all of our members to follow and tag us. We also publish member profiles on our website in addition to sharing news stories.

We are extremely active, developing strong media relationships with all of the mainstream manufacturing & engineering publications.

We also send out regular email newsletters to our members and our wider industry contacts with a variety of information as well as member news features.

Procurement Support

Through our affiliation with the British Standards Institute members are able to acquire electronic copies of UK, European and International standards at discounted prices.

Members have access to the **Joined Up Thinking Buying Group** giving access to hundreds of suppliers, products and services which are being constantly benchmarking to make sure members receive the very best value for money. The service offered by Joined Up Thinking is **Free-of-Charge** to our members.

Charitable Giving

We aim to support our chosen charity – Macmillan Cancer Support – through fundraising activities undertaken at our events, such as our annual charity dinner, and directly by our members.

If you are interested in joining the UKGSA
Click Here.

UKGSA : Members List

AS Rubber & Plastics Limited
Elwell Street, West Bromwich,
West Midlands B70 0DN
T: 0121 5205782 F: 0121 5203515
www.asrubber.com

British Felt Co.
Unit 5, Fingle Drive, Stonebridge,
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www.britishfelt.com

Corseal Limited
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Acton, Suffolk CO10 0BD
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Hull HU8 7LA
T: 01482 219655 F: 01482 321162
www.direct-gaskets.co.uk

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www.flemingssp.co.uk

Flexitallic UK Ltd.
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Jointine Products (Lincoln) Limited
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www.jointine.co.uk

Keith Payne Products Limited
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Surrey GU6 8PT
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www.keithpayneproducts.com

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www.kewell-converters.co.uk

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Southbourne Rubber Co. Ltd
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T: 02392 255180
www.sbr.aero

The Seal Extrusion Company Limited
Unit 5A, Bull Lane Industrial Estate,
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Elland, West Yorkshire HX5 9HX
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www.vseal.co.uk

W C Munsch & Company Limited
Units AG2/3, Clarence Mill,
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www.epdm.co.uk

William Johnston & Company Limited
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www.williamjohnston.co.uk

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N.E. Lincolnshire DN31 2SJ
T: 01472 355596 F: 01472 355920
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