SUMMER 2020

CUTTING EDGE

UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION



Members Support the NHS

Members of the UK Gasket & Sealing Association (UKGSA) are prioritising manufacturing and supply for the NHS and key industries during coronavirus.

Kewell Converters are designing and manufacturing foam pads, liners and head bands for PPE. Their PPE face shield visors use Plastazote (closed cell) foam parts which are latex-free, non-toxic and hypoallergenic.

Munsch & Co's new range of Anti-Bac and Anti-Micro PVC, which are tested against various viruses including MRSA, E-Coli and SARS, prevent growth of bacteria and are ideal materials for use in surgeries, laboratories and food processing areas.

Silicone Engineering are manufacturing silicone rubber components for face shields such as head straps and forehead cushioning, silicone gaskets for key medical devices such as ventilators, and porthole covers for intubation shields for NHS hospitals and medical companies across the UK.

East Anglian Sealing Company continue to supply essential industries with respirator valves, screens and partitions, visor parts, gaskets and seals for ventilator pumps and medical grade tubing for drip feeds. They have also been able to produce up to 32,000 units/day of glass clear polypropylene face shields, but have recently switched to supplying products into various drug manufacturers making COVID-19 medications.

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Photo courtesy of Kewell Converters & the lovely nurses from Brighton Hospital #helloflamingo1

THIS ISSUE:

Supporting the NHS • New Technology & New Products • New Member Awards & Celebrations • What the Members Have Been Up To • What We Do

Members Support the NHS



I'm delighted to see our Members rise to the challenge of supporting the NHS...

Simon Winfield -
UKGSA Chairman

J A Harrison are supplying CE approved PPE Cat II lightweight reusable face visors to the NHS and other industries. These visors cover the head & face and a version also fits over a hard hat.

James Walker continues to operate its manufacturing sites across the UK prioritising the design and manufacture of components for ventilators and oxygen equipment. They are supporting businesses who are manufacturing these critical items by supplying sealing solutions including O rings, diaphragms, gaskets and custom designed seals.

James Walker has also supplied visors for local care homes and stores; and staff have distributed care packages to local families and people isolating at home.

W R Gaskets have cut free issue material into sets of scrubs for their local hospitals in Grimsby.

J-Flex have donated hundreds of face masks to two local organisations. They have fulfilled new and repeat orders from a number of companies for thousands of face shield silicone head straps, and have seen an increase in demand for silicone rubber sheeting for medical, pharmaceutical and food production related projects.

Simon Winfield, chairman of the UKGSA and director of MacLellan Rubber Limited, said: *"I'm delighted to see our Members rise to the challenge of supporting the NHS and key industries at this time. Many Members have changed shift patterns in order to retain staff rather than furlough them or are supporting sales & office teams to work from home. By pulling together, all businesses can do their bit to help the healthcare sector get through this."*



Members step up
and prioritise manufacturing & supply for NHS and key industries during coronavirus pandemic

UKGSA : A Message from the Chairman



Simon Winfield
Chair, UKGSA
Director, MacLellan Rubber

Welcome to the summer edition of Cutting Edge...

I have been contemplating for a while on how to open my Chairman's message and that was the best I could come up with.

Having spent the last four months working from home I have forgotten what my office looks like and what it is like to have a face to face business conversation, and I very much miss both. I have undertaken more exercise in these months than in the past five years, eaten more healthily and drunk less alcohol, and as a result of all of that, I weigh the same and feel more fatigued than I have ever done.

So, who has been enjoying lockdown? Anyone? It has been with us for five months and restrictions in some form will likely be with us for a while longer. Although many restrictions are easing, which should be good for business, many people remain cautious and social distancing controls are being interpreted in a variety of ways, depending on your industry and processes.

Consequently, we are seeing a slow return to full capacity. Some owners I have talked too have more work than they can handle, but are reluctant to bring all furloughed staff back 'in case it doesn't last'. Therein rests the problem for the economy and for the Government – Confidence.

Confidence does not come easily to business owners, especially when Governments have exercised the power to shut down large sectors of the economy at a moment's notice – albeit for the right reasons. The UK Government, along with most others across the world, is trying to give businesses confidence through massive fiscal stimulus packages, but they need to understand that pumping money into business to retain jobs doesn't give those employees the confidence to go out and spend, especially if they see there is no activity in their industry, aviation being an obvious example.

Don't get me wrong the furlough scheme has undoubtedly protected millions of jobs and continues to do so, but what we need is demand for output, and for people to buy goods and services not just today, but tomorrow and next month and the month after that. You cannot buy that kind of confidence, the public need to feel it and the media especially need to talk about it, rather than focusing on doomsday scenarios.

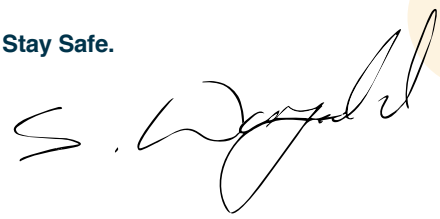
All the politics aside, it is heartening to read the good news and positive stories from numerous Members. Many have risen to the challenge of supporting the NHS, changing their production focus, and in a lot of cases bringing safety critical products on stream in record time.

Flexitallic's outstanding success being crowned the UK's Safest Company to work for sets a benchmark for the industry. Other members have used the lockdown period to identify and develop new products and services and are already promoting these to customers ahead of further economic easing and the expected upturn.

Investing in the future when there is so much negativity takes courage and it takes its own kind of confidence. Confidence in your business and your teams, confidence that we will not be in lockdown forever. Our Members continue to show they have that sort of confidence and that when the upturn happens, they are ready to show that UK Manufacturing is ready to deliver.

Roll on the summer holidays, social distanced trips to the beach, unintelligible communications with shop assistants through your designer protective mask, and a return to Brexit. I cannot wait.

Stay Safe.



Rubber Mouldings Manufacturer Joins UKGSA

Welcome

We welcome Southbourne Rubber Co Ltd (SBR) as our latest Member who joined in April.

Simon Winfield, chairman of the UKGSA and director of MacLellan Rubber, said: *"As well as providing a professional code of practice and networking opportunities, our members possess a huge technical resource and offer fellow members support with manufacturing issues, material selection & processing and design & development. As businesses cope with issues around COVID-19, lock-down and social distancing, now is a perfect time to join the UKGSA for additional support and I welcome Southbourne Rubber to our association."*

Stephen Wilde, managing director of SBR, said: *"We are pleased to become a member of this prestigious organisation and look forward to meeting other UKGSA members at future events."*

SBR has been a key player in the industrial rubber manufacturing sector for almost fifty years. Committed to quality SBR are approved to both AS9100D, required by the aerospace industry to satisfy DOD, NASA and FAA quality requirements, and ISO9001:2015; a recognition of international quality.

Quality assurance is present throughout SBR's specification and manufacturing process including the capability to deliver a vast range of rubber components with a fast and responsive service. The aim is to continually meet and exceed customer expectations with exceptional silicone and rubber product quality.

Since 2016, SBR have been part of The West Group Ltd (TWG). TWG are a privately owned company specialising in the design and supply of fluid components to medical and scientific markets. The acquisition of Southbourne Rubber set it in good stead to continue as a major contributor to these supply chains.

As experts in the field of industrial rubber part manufacturing, SBR are approved suppliers to a large number of prestigious companies and organisations including AIRBUS, BOEING, BAE Systems, Leonardo, GE Aviation and Rolls Royce.

For more information about Southbourne Rubber visit their website.

SURPLUS MATERIAL FROM SBR

Material -
Rogers Corporation BISCO-BF2000 Adhesive backed

Description -
Silicone foam with adhesive backing

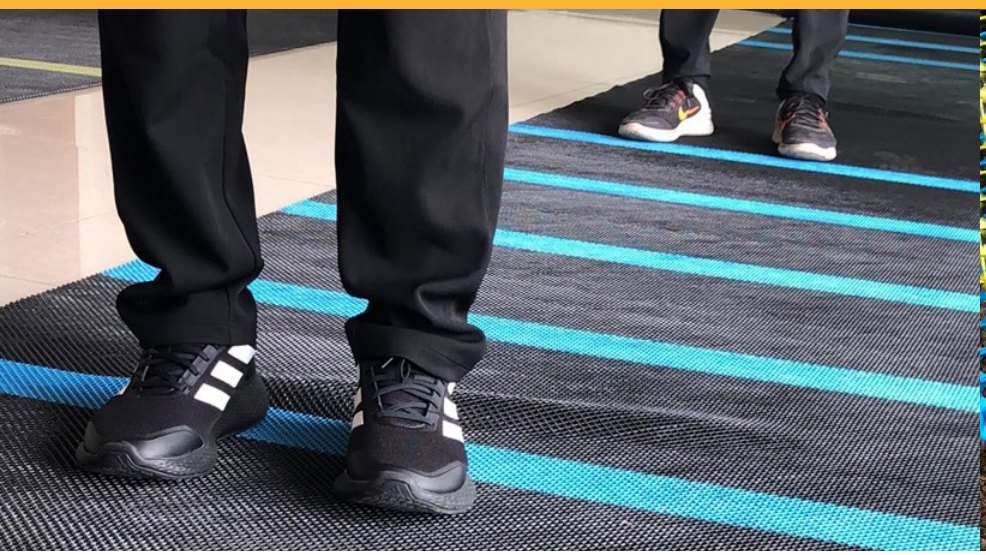
Thickness -
3.2mm Size - 396mm X 198mm

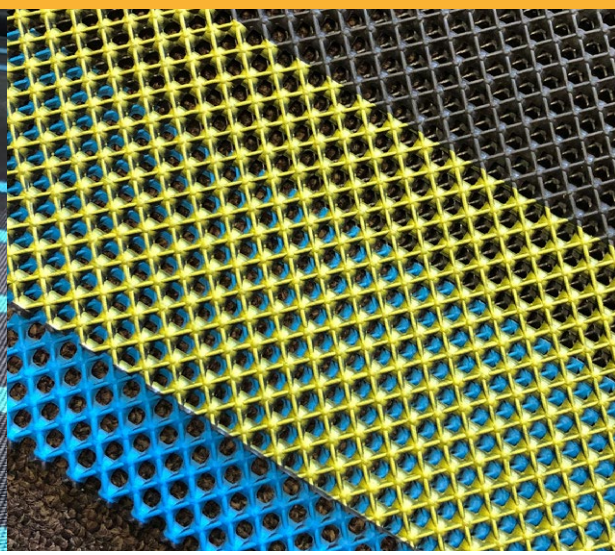
Quantity - 4,000

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.

SBR Southbourne Rubber

Social Distancing Matting for all Environments





Protecting Employees & Visitors

Protecting your employees and visitors within your business against Covid-19 is now more important than ever, and providing simple solutions to help all site users maintain that critical two metre distance is essential.

MacMat Distancing

MacLellan's are introducing non-slip, anti-fatigue matting into its MacMat range with high visibility social distancing markers. Developed from our UL94 V0 Flame-Resistant, Honeycomb PVC matting products will be available in both 3.5mm thick material for light footfall areas, and 6mm thick for higher footfall areas where more durability is required.

The two current options are available in standard rolls 1.2mtr wide x 10mtr long. Rolls can be manufactured in longer length or simply laid end to end.The rolls can be easily cut to narrow widths using standard cutting tools. Standard colours are Black base with Yellow or Blue stripes, however we can manufacture in a variety of base colours with alternative stripe colours to suit your corporate needs.

Social Distancing when Transitioning and Queuing

Our Yellow Bar matting is ideal for areas where personnel move between locations or where they will be queuing. On our basic product the Bars are two metres apart so allow individuals to maintain the required minimum social distance.

On our premium product the Yellow Bar is printed with the words **STOP** at 2 metre intervals and a second Green Bar is printed in between with the word **1 METRE.**

Social Distancing in Work Areas

Our Blue SBar matting is designed to clearly highlight demarcation areas for personnel working on production lines or at workstations. The alternate multiple blue bars denoting a two-metre area for the employee to undertake their tasks followed by an unmarked area to ensure they maintain the appropriate distance from colleagues in their own work areas.

Innovative High Performance Matting

Unlike social distancing stickers, our matting can be easily repositioned without leaving residue.

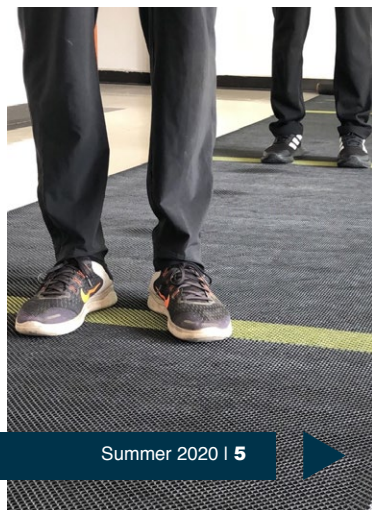
The matting looks professional and does not become worn, scratched or scuffed like stickers. The matting is washable with standard cleaning fluids so fits with your existing cleaning regime and can be sprayed with anti-bacterial solution to keep them hygienic.

The matting is Flame Retardant rated to UL94 V0 and is suitable for most internal and external environments, with resistance to most chemicals, oils and general weathering.

Suitable for construction sites, industrial environments, workstations, public buildings, hospitals, supermarkets, offices, retail parks and schools; both indoors and outdoors.

For more information on all of our Matting products **Click Here** or contact our sales office.





Workplace Safety & Screening Supply

Screening & Sanitary Products

W C Munsch & Co/PTM is supplying a range of comprehensive screening and sanitary products to help companies protect their workforce and their customers.

As people start returning to the workplace it is reassuring to know that there is a supplier of high-quality health and safety products at reasonable prices.

The Covid-19 global pandemic has led to a worldwide shortage of many traditional screening products including polycarbonate and clear acrylic as the demand for screens has increased.

Fortunately, over the last 45+ years we have entered into partnerships with many suppliers meaning that we can source products from different areas. Therefore, we have put together a comprehensive range of screening and sanitary products with accurate lead-times to assist you in protecting your workforce and customers.

From cough and sneeze guards, masks, sanitising gel dispensers to mobile screens for partitioning larger areas, with our large stocks and supplier base we can offer solutions quickly and economically.

We still offer a range of bespoke screening solutions made to order, but as the demand for materials is at its peak, some lead-times are longer.

*For more information on our complete range of screening & sanitary products visit **our website***

PTM SEALING YOUR FUTURE



***WC Munch & Co/PTM** is supplying a range of screening & sanitary products to help companies protect their workforce and their customers*

Flexitallic : Crowning Glory





Flexitallic Crowned UK Manufacturing's Safest Company

Flexitallic UK Ltd has been named as UK manufacturing's safest company after being crowned overall sector winner in the 2020 International Safety Awards. After being presented a Distinction level grade from the British Safety Council in the annual awards, the West Yorkshire-based sealing solutions specialist was named: 'Sector Winner – Manufacturing', becoming one of 13 elite organisations to win an overall sector accolade.

Awarded in recognition of Flexitallic's commitment to protecting its employees from the risk of injury and ill health at work, this is the fourth consecutive year the company has secured an International Safety Award.

Now in their 62nd year, the International Safety Awards recognise and celebrate organisations from around the world, which have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the scheme's independent judges their commitment to preventing workplace injuries and work-related ill health.

The awards also recognise organisations that have shown commitment to well-being and mental health at work.

Mark Horton, Managing Director of Flexitallic UK Ltd, said: *"Achieving this prestigious award for the fourth consecutive year and now being named sector winner for manufacturing industries underlines our commitment to safety, not only in our own operations, but through the support we also offer to our customers. Safety is always our utmost priority and we have an exceptional safety, health and wellbeing culture in the company.*

"This has been particularly prevalent during the COVID-19 pandemic where we have adapted quickly to ensure the safety of our workforce and customers has been maintained. I want to thank everyone in the company for their hard work and efforts to deliver our exceptional standards of safety, health and wellbeing."

> ***I want to thank everyone in the company for their hard work and efforts to deliver our exceptional standards...***

Mark Horton -
Managing Director,
Flexitallic UK Ltd

How To Make Onshoring Work





A Change of Direction for FSP

Mark Kelly, managing director of West Yorkshire based Fleming Seals and Polymers Limited (FSP), shares his experience of the benefits of an on-shoring programme and the change in direction FSP has taken since he bought the business two years ago.

Mark has spent the last 30 years of his career specifying & developing components within some of Europe's largest OEM manufacturers from aerospace, automotive, marine and medical to name a few. Over this time, he has seen a gradual dependence on a global supply chain, predominantly in China and the Far East and, in his opinion, the quality output from China can be excellent; if they can produce a smart phone, they can produce a flange or seal for a pump or valve.

As this geographical dependence grew, Mark saw increased risk associated with the supply of key components. He had a vison of rectifying this issue with a flexible and total cost effective manufacturing solution based in the UK.

Mark explains: *"When I purchased Flemings Seals and Polymers from James Walker Group, a company that had been established to support British industry way back in 1904, my vision was to develop the business as a UK manufacturer that would complement a global supply chain not replace or compete with it."*

"Working with our core competencies we knew we had a great product and a great technical back-up. However, we also know that many OEM manufacturers migrate the purchasing of their day to day parts to China and the Far East."

Many UK and European manufacturers cannot compete with Far East manufacturers on price, so FSP's options were to:

1. **Establish a plant in the Far East**
2. **Source a Partner in the Far East and trade parts**
3. **Invest in state-of-the-art equipment and target a limited number of clients with key parts**

The path FSP ultimately chose was an onshoring programme. FSP have invested in new plant and have strived to be more efficient, but their real USP is the improved service levels and total cost savings that their new onshoring programme can offer.

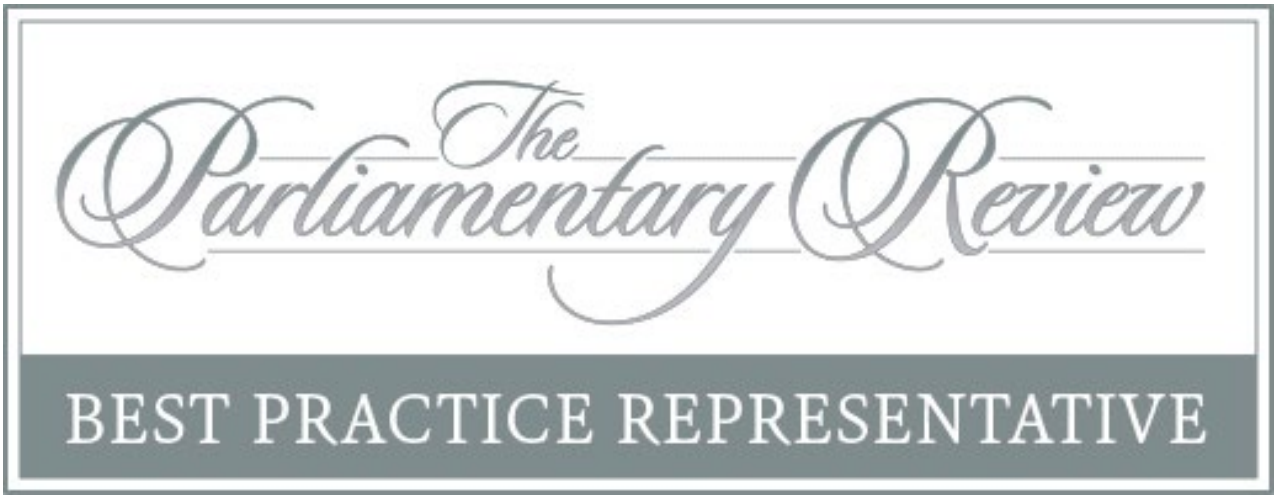
By working in tandem with a client's current supplier in the Far East, FSP are able to remove the peaks and troughs in the supply chain. FSP supply regular smaller orders to clients, but have the capacity to ramp up production if clients are unable to get the parts they require from their offshore partners.

The key Benefits of Onshoring include:

- Reduced inventory
- Eradicates the need to purchase through distribution or third parties
- Secured continuity of supply
- Local technical resource that can reduce costs through own production but also your offshore partner; economy through design
- Reduced carbon footprint
- Increased percentage of UK produced parts
- Increased traceability
- Legacy work catered for
- Design & Prototyping in advance of offshoring, which means clients have more control over the process
- Access to the latest advances in materials and specifications

Mark concludes: *"The model we put forward was successful in attracting government funding to help us put into place the extra capacity and flexibility we needed to be able to offer parallel supply with our clients. For companies looking for a technical, resourceful, skilful and flexible partner to complement or even replace their Far East suppliers, a company who offers onshoring could be the perfect solution. By evolving and adapting, we plan for FSP to still be producing for the next 100 years."*

Parliamentary Review Podcast



Jointine Products (Lincoln) Ltd recognised in the Parliamentary Review

Jointine Products (Lincoln) Ltd recognised in the Parliamentary Review, as Managing Director Jane Smith appears in Leaders Council podcast alongside Sir Andrew Strauss.

Our Managing Director, Jane Smith, was delighted to be invited to write an article for The Parliamentary Review. The Parliamentary Review is jointly chaired by Lord Pickles and Lord Blunkett and seeks to provide a platform for organisations and individuals to discuss their successes, failures and the challenges that lie ahead.

Jane's first draft report went straight to publication and she is now a 'Best Practice Representative' for The Review. As a result she was invited onto The Leaders Council of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and then asked to record a podcast alongside Sir Andrew Strauss, the former England cricketer. She commented that there was a certain symmetry to being paired with Sir Andrew having both cared for and lost their spouses to cancer. Podcast host Scott Challinor asked both guests a series of questions about leadership and the role it has played in their careers to date, as well as their thoughts on dealing with mental health issues.

Scott commented, *"Hosting a show like this, where you speak to genuine leaders who have been there and done it, either on a national stage or within a crucial industry sector, is an absolute honour."*

Jane says it has been an exciting opportunity to be involved at National level. She is overjoyed that the talents of the Jointine team have been recognised, saying: *"The Review has given our small business a big platform and a loud voice. It has been a great opportunity to showcase Jointine and to demonstrate the professionalism at the heart of our small family business."*

Jointine Products (Lincoln) Ltd's article can be viewed here:

https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/organisations/jointine-products-lincoln-ltd

You can listen to the podcast in full here:
https://youtu.be/ybtsVKGDxVM

You can also discover more about both Jane Smith & Sir Andrew Strauss here:
http://www.leaderscouncil.co.uk/members/jane-smith

Shielding Material with Antiviral Properties

Proven Antiviral Properties from HITEK

At HITEK our products are aimed at protecting electronics. Whether that is to stop your electronics emitting energy that could interfere with other electronic devices or to shield them from other electro-magnetic energy. Part of our product range is the highly electrically conductive fabrics manufactured by Statex in Germany.

It has also been long known that the constituent conductive metals used in the manufacture of these fabrics, i.e. silver and copper, are anti-microbial in that it does not support the growth of bacteria on the surface of the fabric.

As the Covid-19 virus began to spread Worldwide, Statex investigated how their product could assist in the protection against the virus.

They enlisted the assistance of Hohenstein Laboratories GmbH & Co. KG and Eurovir Hygiene-Labor GmbH to test the copper fabric products to see if they were resistant, not only to bacteria, but to viruses.

The results were extremely positive – in that the copper fabric tested did not support the growth of the virus tested (transmissible Gastroenteritis Virus of Swine (TGEV-Coronavirus)).

The tests indicated that the virus did not survive longer than 1 hour following exposure to the fabric surface. In comparison, it has been reported that Coronavirus can remain active on surfaces for up to 72 hours. Further tests are being carried out to investigate how many minutes it takes before the virus is no longer detectable.

Statex has now launched a pack of self-adhesive pads that can be attached to door and window handles (as well as any other areas used to operate a door or equipment). The pack includes a pair of pads (80mm x 100mm) along with a set of comprehensive installation instructions, and a door-knob hanger card.

The packs are available in 1, 5, or 10 pairs as well as bulk quantities. Bespoke sized pads can also be created.

This product is now in stock at HITEK and can be purchased through our online store.

For more detailed information and access to the test data, click the link below:

https://www.hitek-ltd.co.uk/copper-handle-cover



HITEK will donate 10% of all sales (before tax) of this product to charities that support the NHS.

HITEK ELECTRONIC MATERIALS LTD

CE Approval of Full Face Visor



JA Harrison doing their bit to fight Covid-19

J A Harrison are doing their bit to fight the Covid-19 virus by utilising their production capabilities and skills to manufacture Full Face Visors which have been designed to protect our exceptional healthcare workers including key support workers across multiple industries.

This new range of visors are lightweight, reusable, highly transparent and include a soft headband with adjustable fastening points for maximum safety and comfort.

Visors are constructed from high-quality polycarbonate materials and designed to be reused as they can be easily cleaned using warm soapy water.

EU Type Examination Certificate
Full Face Visor -
Personal Protective Equipment
for use by healthcare
professionals



bsi.

EU Type Examination Certificate

This is to certify that:

J A Harrison & Company Limited
Britain Works
Greengate Industrial Estate
Greenside Way
Middleton, Manchester
M24 1SW
United Kingdom

Holds Certificate Number: CE 728631

In respect of:

Full Face Visor - Personal Protective Equipment for use by healthcare professionals
To a Technical Specification meeting the Annex II requirements of
PPE Regulation (EU) 2016/425 and EU Recommendations 2020/403
Model: 2-12-0000010653

on the basis that BSI carried out the relevant Type Examination procedures under the requirements with the Regulation (EU) 2016/425 of the European Parliament and Council relating to Personal Protective Equipment Regulation (PPE) Annex V (Module B) and meets the relevant health and safety requirements specified in Annex II

For and on behalf of BSI, a Notified Body for the above Regulation (Notified Body Number 0086):

First Issued: 2020-04-30
Latest Issue: 2020-04-30

Chris Lewis - Certification Director, Product Certification

Effective Date: 2020-04-30
Expiry Date: 2021-04-30

Page: 1 of 3

...making excellence a habit.™

This certificate has been issued by and remains the property of BSI Assurance UK Ltd, Kitemark Court, Davy Avenue, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes MK5 8PP, United Kingdom and should be returned immediately upon request.
To check its validity telephone +44 (0) 345 080 9000. An electronic certificate can be authenticated online.
BSI Assurance UK Limited, registered in England under number 7805321 at 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL, UK.
A member of BSI Group of Companies.

Contact...
J A Harrison on: **0161 832 2282** for more details or email **enquiries@jaharrison.co.uk**

J.A.Harrison
Complete Sealing Solutions

Free Cutting Service For Viton™ Rolls



Buy What You Need

Viton™ is a brand we all know and stand by for its exacting quality standards and superior performance in demanding sealing applications.

As an authorised distributor of Chemours Viton™, MacLellan Rubber offer a free of charge roll cutting service on all our Viton stock rolls, allowing you to buy what you need by the metre with no minimum order.

Our standard stock rolls are 1400mm wide giving optimum yield for gasket cutting.

We're Keeping Stocked Up…to keep you supplied.
We are seeing exceptional demands for some materials and whilst this is putting pressure on our manufacturing facilities, we are managing to keep ahead of the curve and have plenty of product inbound.

To be sure of supply needs and to help us plan accordingly, we are asking customers to place orders early.

For more information call the MacLellan team on:
01902 307711

MacLellan rubber

Antimicrobial Silicone Rubber



Antimicrobial Silicone Rubber for Medical Applications

Hygiene is vital to health and safety, and your organisation needs equipment and devices it can rely on. As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has so clearly highlighted, there are times and circumstances in which ensuring the highest standards of sterility is non-negotiable.

For many industries, including the medical, pharmaceutical and food and beverage sectors, achieving these standards isn't a new requirement. Meanwhile other organisations, such as those within the public transportation industry or indeed anywhere in which large groups of people usually gather, may now be looking to improve their environmental hygiene levels with fresh resolve.

These organisations need materials with hygiene-boosting properties built in – versatile materials that can be used for a wide range of applications. As an antimicrobial silicone rubber proven to prevent the spread of harmful bacteria, neutraSil™ is one such material.

What is antimicrobial silicone rubber & how does it work?

An 'antimicrobial' is an agent, such as a medicine, cleaning product or material that kills micro-organisms or stops their growth. neutraSil™ is Silicone Engineering's innovative antimicrobial silicone rubber, which we have formulated specifically to actively combat and reduce the growth of bacteria. Independent tests have proven that neutraSil™ actively prevents the growth of common bacterial strains such as E-Coli, MRSA and Salmonella.

Silver Ions present in neutraSil™ absorb bacteria and microbes to disrupt the functioning of bacteria on its surface. This silver ion technology is proven to disable the proton pumps of bacterial cells and disrupt sulfhydryl proteins.

Bacteria that comes into contact with neutraSil™ cannot develop and grow due to this process of cell wall breakdown. The silver ions continue to guard against bacterial growth by preventing further contamination and colonisation on neutraSil's™ surface.

What can be made from antimicrobial silicone rubber & who's using it?

We manufacture and supply neutraSil™ in a range of forms, including:

- Silicone sheets & rolls
- Silicone Extrusions – Profiles, Strips, Cords, Tubes & Sections
- Dairy tubing/hoses

We control every aspect of the neutraSil™ formulation, mixing and manufacturing process in-house, giving us full traceability from start to finish, ensuring the quality is of the highest standard.

Like all of our silicone products, neutraSil™ is incredibly versatile. Most recently, neutraSil™ has been used in the efforts to combat the Covid-19 virus providing applications for critical PPE equipment including head straps and comfort strips for face protection shields, hospital door handles and surgical tray liners for the medical and healthcare sectors, where hygiene and sterility are so vital. It's also FDA-approved, making neutraSil™ ideal for use within the food and beverage and dairy industries.

How quickly can antimicrobial silicone rubber be supplied?

Right now, when it comes to products and components that improve hygiene standards, the need for a rapid supply chain and swift order fulfilment could not be greater. That's why we are currently fast tracking all enquiries and orders linked to PPE equipment priority above all others, which includes a fast track manufacturing process and express dispatch.

To find out more about neutraSil™ antimicrobial silicone rubber and how it could help your organisation create a healthier and more hygienic working environment, contact our UK, European and North American offices.

More about neutraSil™

60 YEARS 1959-2019
Silicone Engineering Ltd

FSP Launch Injection Moulding Brochure

Antimicrobial Silicone Rubber for Medical Applications

Fleming Seals & Polymers (FSP) have launched a new Injection Moulding brochure as part of our rebranding and update of marketing materials

FSP have many years' experience in the process of injection moulding. We manufacture both complex and simplistic plastic parts rapidly and consistently in a wide range of engineering plastics with care, attention and quality at every stage of the process. Our parts are produced in the UK at our site in West Yorkshire.

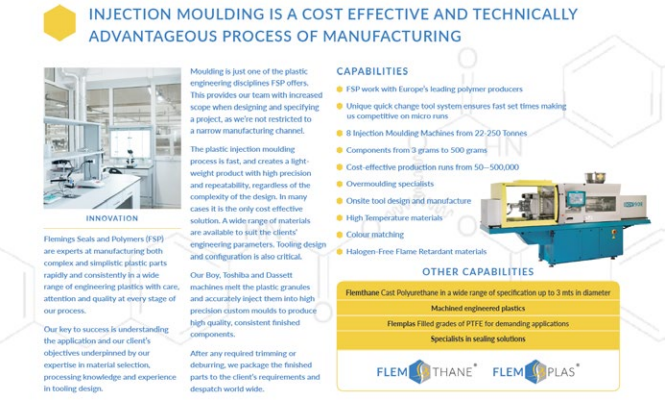
Injection Moulding is just one of the plastic engineering disciplines we offer.

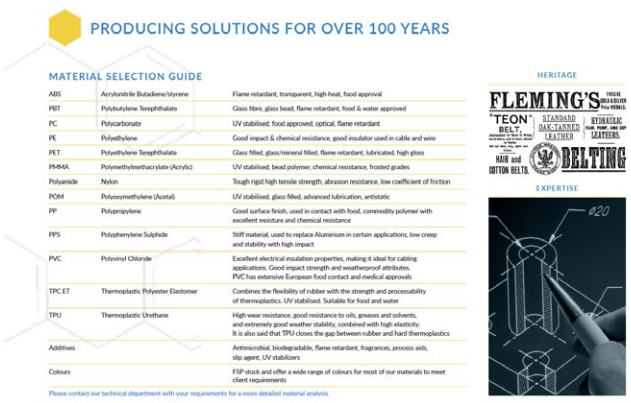
To ind out more visit our website or call: 01484 718391

FLEMINGS | SEALS & POLYMERS

Trusted Experts of Hydraulic & Pneumatic Seals and Injection Moulding









HITEK Celebrating 35 Year Anniversary



2020 Marks a Milestone for HITEK

This year marks a milestone for HITEK Electronic Materials Limited, 35 years of 'Protecting Your Electronics'. Continuing to be privately owned, the company has gone through many changes in that time, from facility enhancements to a growth in product offering.

The one constant is our dedication to customers, many of whom we have been supplying for many years. We are driven to be the best supplier of EMC, Microwave & Polymer solutions to key markets using our in-house expertise in protecting electronics, we are committed to remaining focused on what our customers need in the future.

It all started in April 1985, HITEK Electronic Materials Limited officially opened on Skippingdale Industrial Estate in Scunthorpe as distributors for Emerson & Cuming Specialty Polymers and Emerson and Cuming Microwave. Now under the Henkel brand, we continue to supply many of the original materials. HITEK moved to Unit 15 on Wentworth Road in 1991, increasing office and production space.

HITEK began working with Parker Chomerics in 1995 and supplying their product range, five years later Tecan became the next supplier to be introduced to our customers. In 2003 due to continued growth both in staff and production workload, HITEK bought Unit 16 on Wentworth Road, increasing production capacity and capabilities, introducing new machinery, and over the years, Cortec, Precision Dynamics, Shieldex and Eeonyx products were added to HITEK's product portfolio, in recent years ARC Technologies and Orbel Corporation have come on board.

Over the past ten years, HITEK has continued to grow and develop as a manufacturer, distributor, and fabricator, investing in our staff, quality management systems and supply chain management.

Last year, we purchased Unit 14 thus giving us space to further grow and expand our capabilities – **watch this space!**

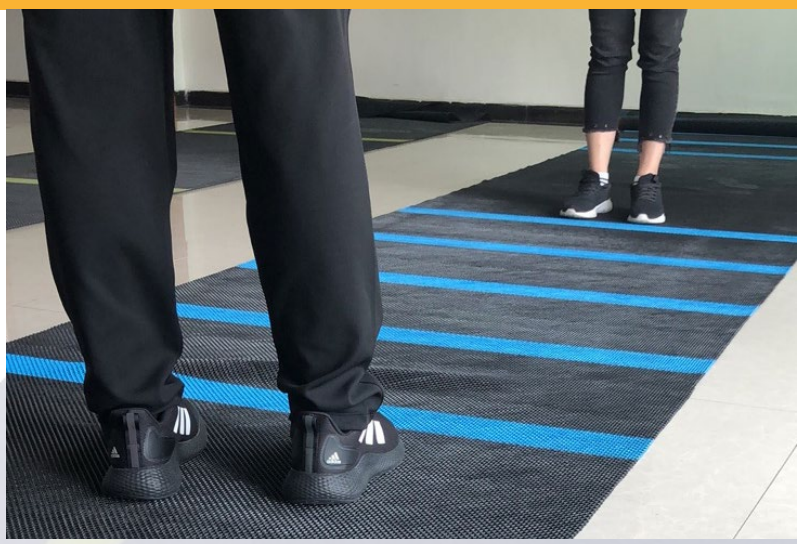


Looking Back: 1991
HITEK moved to Unit 15 Wentworth Road, increasing office & production space

MacMat Message Matting

A Unique Concept in Social Distance Matting

We now offer the opportunity for your design to be directly printed onto the surface of our 3mm thick PVC matting. This is then sealed with a wear resistant protective film, so is suitable for a wide variety of internal and external environments.



Manufactured in standard rolls widths of either 1.2mtr or 1.5mtr, and up to 20mtr long, this matting offers the opportunity for direct communication with the user and, unlike the typical fabric matting, our product can be easily swept clean or washed down in situ.

At 3mm thick the rolls are light weight so are easy to install, remove and relocate as required.

High Quality Materials
The PVC matting is UL94 V0 Fire Rated.
Resistant to a wide range of chemicals and cleaning fluids.
Suitable for a working temperature range of -15 to +70° C
Fabric finish Non-Slip surface.

Innovative High Performance Matting
Unlike social distancing stickers, our matting can be easily repositioned without leaving residue.

The matting looks professional and does not become worn, scratched or scuffed like stickers.

The matting is washable with standard cleaning fluids so fit with your existing cleaning regime and can be sprayed with anti-bacterial solution to keep them hygienic.

The matting is suitable for most internal and external environments with resistance to most chemicals, oils and general weathering.

Suitable for construction sites, industrial environments, workstations, public buildings, hospitals, supermarkets, offices, retail parks and schools; both indoors and outdoors.



For more information on all of our Matting products **Click Here** or contact our sales office on: **01902 307711**

Leaving Lockdown Behind

East Anglian Sealing Company: One of the Lucky Ones...

As the UK gradually comes out of lock-down, we all hope that the dreaded 'second-wave' of the Coronavirus pandemic won't happen – and that life can begin to get back to normal – whatever that new normal is!

At East Anglian Sealing Company, we have been one of the lucky companies who have managed to continue manufacturing since the lock-down was announced in March. We ensured our staff were shielded and have taken all the necessary precautions to maintain social distancing etc within the work-place.

From 1st July we were back at full capacity, however, the last three months have been a learning experience and our working practices have been redefined by social distancing. Many jobs now involve individual employees from start to finish or, where different processes are required, less cross-overs with staff using specific equipment. This has increased our work through-put as we no-longer have any 'log-piles' where certain work accumulated and has also reduced our lead time on most products.

Our emphasis has been on team-work and we're lucky to have a small, dedicated team with a high skill and knowledge level which has helped carry us through the last few months without any issues.

Our business focus has also changed during this period – we've previously set our sights solely on UK SME's but have been approached by a continual stream of larger end-users, both here and overseas, who were having problems with their supply lines due to Covid-19. We've now been lucky in securing business from these bigger accounts while also continuing to work with several others which look very promising.

> ***...we have been one of the lucky companies who have managed to continue manufacturing since the lockdown was announced in March...***

Steve Cant -
Director

EAS
keeping industry working
EAST ANGLIAN SEALING COMPANY

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!

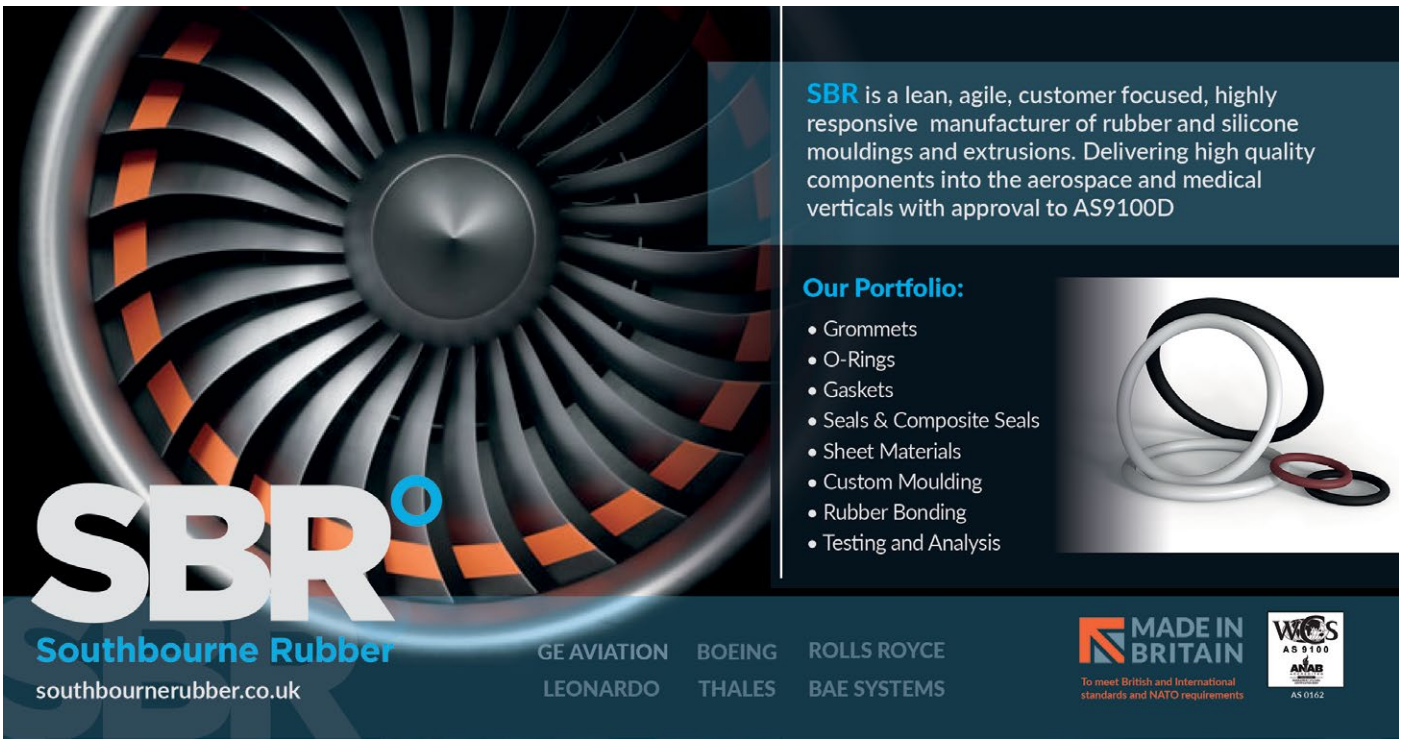
Rates:

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

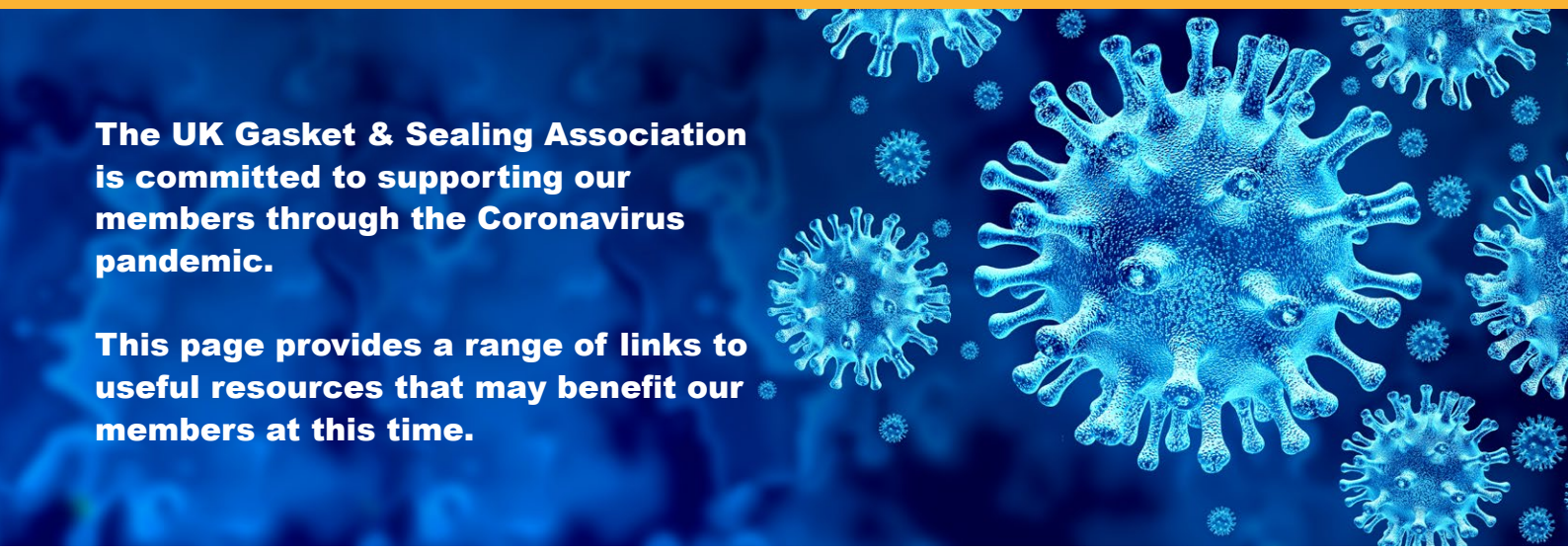
FREE Off-Cuts Advertising (for members only)
UKGSA Members, remember you can advertise your Off-Cuts free of charge in the "Cutting Edge" this is strictly a first come first served basis.

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



UKGSA : Coronavirus Support



The UK Gasket & Sealing Association is committed to supporting our members through the Coronavirus pandemic.

This page provides a range of links to useful resources that may benefit our members at this time.

UK Government Coronavirus (COVID-19) page:
https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

NHS Coronavirus symptoms page:
https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms-and-what-to-do/

Public Health England:
https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

UK Government COVID-19 Support for Businesses:
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/financial-support-for-businesses-during-coronavirus-covid-19

UK Department for International Trade:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-uk-businesses-trading-internationally

Health & Safety Executive: COVID-19 Latest Information & Advice:
https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/index.htm

ACAS: Guidance for employees and employers:
https://www.acas.org.uk/coronavirus

British Chambers of Commerce:
Coronavirus Support Hub for Chambers and Members
https://www.britishchambers.org.uk/page/coronavirus

Federation of Small Businesses:
Advice and guidance for small businesses and the self-employed
https://www.fsb.org.uk/campaign/covid19.html

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 2019/20:



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 : Members on Social Media

What the Members Have Been Up To...

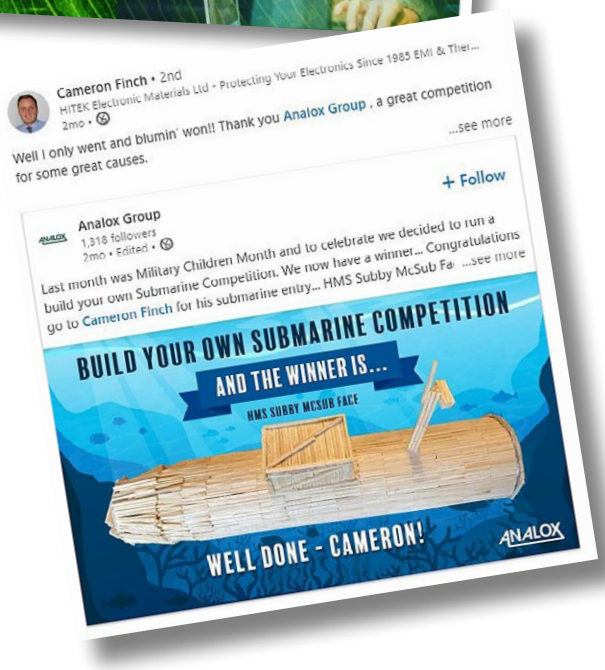












Follow the UKGSA on Social Media:

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

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,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire MK13 0AT
T: 01908 320329 F: 01908 226599
www.britishfelt.com

Corseal Limited
Unit 5, Patches Yard, Cavendish Lane,
Glemsford, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7PZ
T: 01787 282444
www.corseal.co.uk

Direct Gaskets Ltd
Units 26-36, Dansom Lane South,
Hull HU8 7LA
T: 01482 219655 F: 01482 321162
www.direct-gaskets.co.uk

East Anglian Sealing Co. Limited
Unit 3-9, Goldingham Hall,
Bulmer, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 7ER
T: 01787 880433 F: 01787 880442
www.easeals.co.uk

Flemings Seals and Polymers Limited
Atlas Mills, Atlas Mill Road, Brighouse,
West Yorkshire HD6 1ES
T: 01484 718391
www.flemingssp.co.uk

Flexitallic UK Ltd.
Scandinavia Mill, Hunsworth Lane,
Cleckheaton,
West Yorkshire BD19 4LN
T: 01274 851273 F: 01274 851386
www.flexitallic.eu

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15, Wentworth Road, South Park
Industrial Estate, Scunthorpe,
North Lincolnshire DN17 2AX
T: 01724 851678 F: 01724 280586
www.hitek-ltd.co.uk

J A Harrison & Co. Limited
Britain Works, Greengate Ind. Estate,
Greenside Way, Middleton,
Manchester M24 1SW
T: 0161 832 2282 F: 0161 832 3263
www.jaharrison.co.uk

J P Polymer Sheetings Limited
26, Coneygre Industrial Estate,
Birmingham New Road, Tipton,
West Midlands DY4 8XP
T: 0121 520 5020 F: 0121 522 4610
www.jppolymer.co.uk

J-Flex Rubber Products
Unit 1, London Road Business Park,
Retford, Notts DN22 6HG
T: 01777 712400 F: 01777 712409
www.j-flex.com

James Walker & Co. Ltd
Joint Cutting Services, Gote Road,
Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 0NH
T: 01900 823555 F: 01900 827138
www.jameswalker.co.uk

Jointine Products (Lincoln) Limited
Lindum Business Park, Station Road,
North Hykeham, Lincoln LN6 9AU
T: 01522 690050 F: 01522 690060
www.jointine.co.uk

Keith Payne Products Limited
Unit 2, Manfield Park Industrial Estate,
Guildford Road, Cranleigh,
Surrey GU6 8PT
T: 01483 276000 F: 01483 278167
www.keithpayneproducts.com

Kem-tron Sealing Ltd
No. 30, 50 Mariner Avenue,
Birmingham, West Midlands B16 9DT
T: 0330 113 4924
www.kemtronuk.com

Kewell Converters Ltd
KCL House, Station Road,
Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6HL
T: 01732 864310 F: 01732 865206
www.kewell-converters.co.uk

Lonestar Leeds Limited
Units 2-4, Orbital Industry Park,
Hudswell Road, Leeds LS10 1AG
T: 0113 2051900 F: 0113 2051909
www.lonestarleeds.com

MacLellan Rubber Ltd
Unit 16, Planetary Road Ind. Estate,
Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV13 3XA
T: 01902 307711 F: 01902 305201
www.maclellanrubber.com

Silicone Engineering Ltd
Greenbank Business Park,
Blakewater Road, Blackburn,
Lancs BB1 3HU
T: 0845 674 4747 F: 01254 583519
www.silicone.co.uk

SJG International Limited
Wesco House, Tything Road, Arden
Forest Ind. Estate, Alcester B49 6ES
T: 01789 763721
www.sjginternational.com

Southbourne Rubber Co. Ltd
47, Aston Road, Waterlooville,
Hampshire PO7 7XJ
T: 02392 255180
www.sbr.aero

V-Seal Ltd
Unit 2, Park Road Mills, Park Road,
Elland, West Yorkshire HX5 9HX
T: 01422 300009 F: 01422 363025
www.vseal.co.uk

W C Munsch & Company Limited
Units AG2/3, Clarence Mill,
Clarence Road, Bollington,
Macclesfield SK10 5JZ
T: 01625 573971 F: 01625 573250
www.epdm.co.uk

William Johnston & Company Limited
9, Speirsbridge Terrace, Thornliebank
Industrial Estate, Glasgow G46 8JH
T: 0141 620 1666 F: 0141 620 1888
www.williamjohnston.co.uk

WR Gaskets Limited
Units 1-3, Haven Light Ind. Estate,
Gilbey Road, Grimsby,
N.E. Lincolnshire DN31 2SJ
T: 01472 355596 F: 01472 355920
www.wrgaskets.co.uk

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