

AUTUMN 2022

CUTTING EDGE



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE UK GASKET & SEALING ASSOCIATION



Members Support Employees During Cost of Living Crisis

We recently asked our Members to tell us about how the cost of living crisis and mini-budget is affecting them.

(Find out more on page 2)

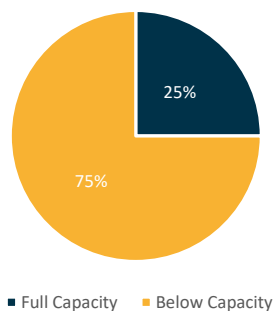
THIS ISSUE:

Members Visits / Member Survey / Member Growth

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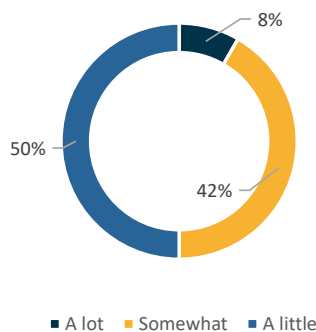
Q1

Business Capacity. 75% of our Members reported they are currently operating below capacity.



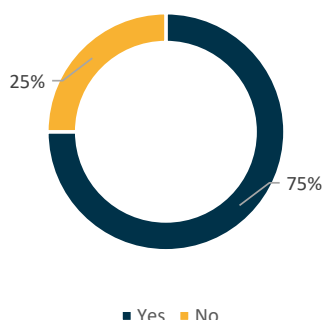
Q2

The Government has introduced an Energy Bill Relief Scheme to protect businesses from rising energy bills. We asked members if they had been negatively affected by rising energy bills. 42% felt that had been somewhat affected.



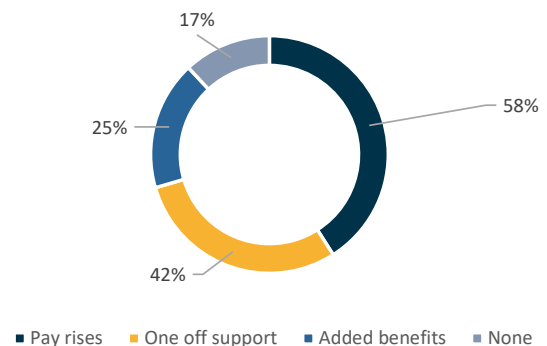
Q3

We asked Members if they had undertaken any energy saving schemes and an overwhelming 75% had introduced activities to help reduce costs.



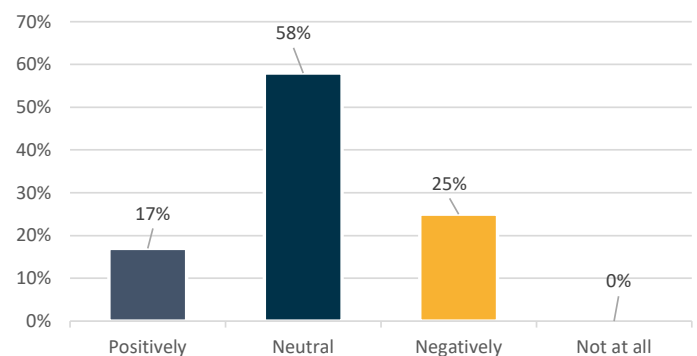
Q4

When asked if Members were supporting employees during the cost of living crisis, 58% had given pay rises and 42% had given employees one off support payments.



Q5

Members told us how the Chancellor's mini-budget impacts their business. Only 17% felt it had positively affected them and 25% felt it had negatively affected their business.



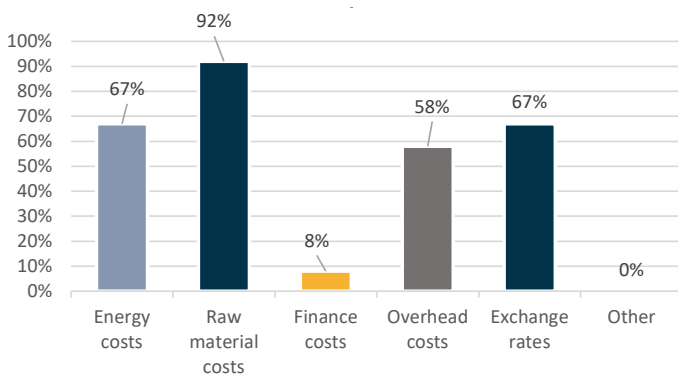
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We also asked for their views on how confident they are feeling for the remainder of the year and into 2023.

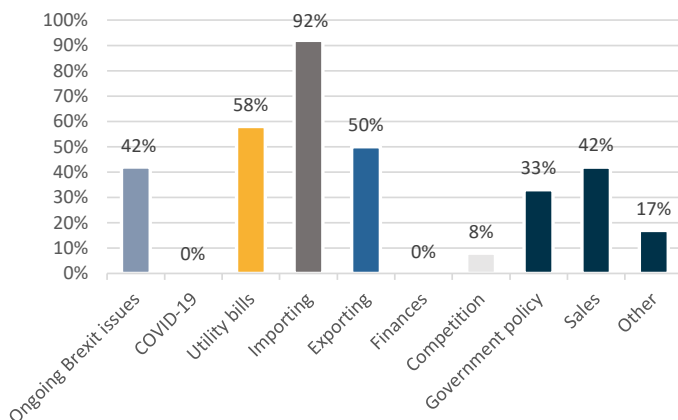
Q6

We were keen to know what pressures Members are facing to raise their prices. Raw material costs account for 92% of pressure followed by rising energy costs at 67%.



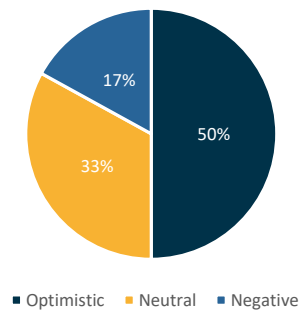
Q7

Members told us their main business concerns for the next 6 months. An overwhelming 92% felt Importing was a big concern followed by Utility bills at 58%. Brexit issues remain an ongoing issue with a reported 42% highlighting this as an area of concern.



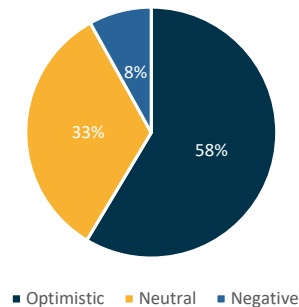
Q8

50% of Members who responded to our survey felt optimistic about the outlook for 2022 and only 17% felt negative.



Q9

Finally, when asked their opinion on the outlook for the year ahead, 58% of respondents felt optimistic and only 8% felt negative.



Message from the Chairman



Simon Winfield
Chair, UKGSA
Director, MacLellan Rubber

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of Cutting Edge packed with news and information from members and around the industry which we hope will inform and educate.

I have now had to re-write this introduction several times as the pantomime over who leads the conservative party and therefore becomes Prime Minister played out. Congratulations to Rishi Sunak, let's hope he lasts longer than Liz Truss for all of our sakes. Media coverage over the fallout for the public and businesses in the form of higher costs of borrowing; the resultant black hole in the public finances (is this a new one or the same one we had before?); and devaluation of the Great British Pound fuelling inflation, is overwhelming and in truth none of us know what the future holds.

What we do know is that we need someone, indeed anyone, to demonstrate leadership and understanding at these challenging times, with a plan to resolve these issues for the long term not simply short term fixes – typically throwing tax payers money at a problem for future generations to repay - as has been the nature of 'popular government'.

I am at heart a free trade enthusiast and believe that competition is healthy and brings about improvements and new developments, but am convinced that at times of international emergency – such as now with fuel costs – dramatic and cohesive intervention by governments across the world are what is needed as we had with the financial crisis and the pandemic. Allowing financial speculators to trade up the price of oil and gas at these times is immoral; paying utility companies to subsidise peoples fuel bills whilst they are making exceptional profits is ridiculous; paying inflated prices for renewable energy which is produced at a fixed cost is nonsensical. The governments in

the UK and around the world would have been better spending fewer billions of GBP, Dollars and Euros nationalising some of these companies whilst the crisis persist and then re-privatising them once it is over – not unlike the actions taken during the financial crisis.

Since our last issue we have seen the retirement of Keith Payne (Keith Payne Products Limited) from the industry and the stepping down of Simon Carless (WC Munsch Limited), both titans of the industry with decades of experience between them. Keith was one of the founders of the original Gasket Cutters Association, and both have been major contributors and influencers over many years. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them at the 30th Anniversary event in 2023.

In this issue you can see also the results of our latest member survey which picks up on the theme of the cost-of-living crisis and the recent mini budget – now almost entirely reversed but from which we are still feeling the financial effects. Most members have seen negative outcomes during this period typically in the form of rapidly escalating material and energy costs and are trying to manage these through efficiency programmes and targeted cost cutting. Despite all of the inflationary pressures the majority remain optimistic about prospects for the rest of this year and into Q1 2023, and as reported in this issue, many continue to invest in improvements to plant, machinery and facilities, as well as providing better financial support to staff.

On the subject of investment, we recently had our first Open Door Event after Covid with WARDJet waterjets and AXYZ CNC routers hosting Members at their facility in Telford and demonstrating their world class machines. Our next event is planned for November when DLR Elastomers will be hosting us for a tour of their manufacturing facilities in Leyland. I look forward to seeing you there.

As we move towards the end of the year the thoughts of everyone at the UKGSA are with you all, and I know this is a bit early, but we hope you enjoy a warm and relaxed Christmas holiday with friends and family.

Elastomeric Manufacturer Open Door Event



Thursday 10th November 2022

A blue door is open, revealing a bright yellow interior. The words 'OPEN DOOR EVENTS' are written in bold black letters on the yellow background.

**OPEN
DOOR
EVENTS**

On 10 November 2022, DLR Elastomer Engineering are hosting a visit to their facility in Leyland near Preston.

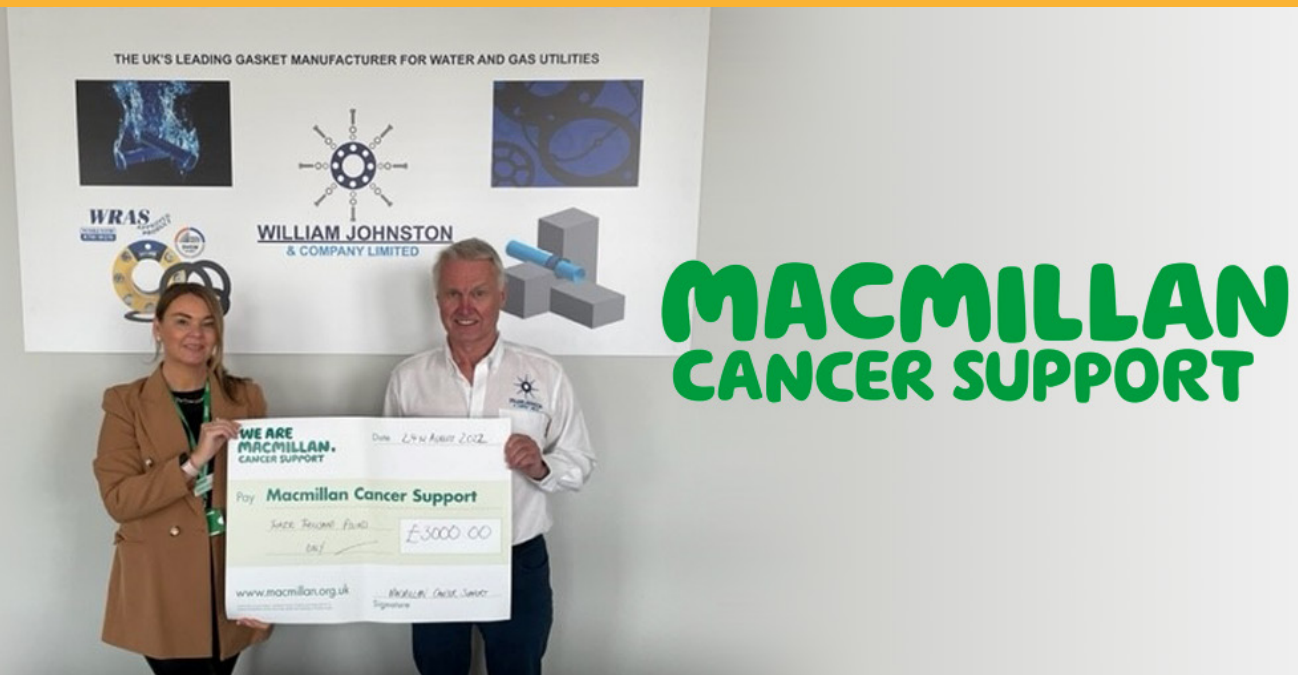
The company is a highly experienced and reliable rubber sheeting, fabrications and moulding company with a range of materials science and manufacturing expertise. The team specialise in rubber-to-metal bonding and making parts from thermosetting rubbers providing high quality solutions.

During the tour, UKGSA Members will find out about DLR's tailor-made sheeting, bespoke rubber mouldings, polyurethane casting & moulding services as well as their capabilities in design, development and manufacturing.

**Don't miss out on the chance to visit
DLR and to network with fellow
Members. Visit our Events webpage to
[download booking form](#)**



Members Raise Money for Charity



An amazing £3,000 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support by Members of the UK Gasket & Sealing Association (UKGSA) at our Annual Golf Day Charity Dinner in July.

This year's event was held at Shrigley Hall Hotel & Spa in Macclesfield which is known for its challenging golf course. The event saw both members and their guests enjoy a day of golf followed by a black-tie charity dinner in the evening.

Fundraising activities included sponsorship of golf trophies, Heads & Tails game and a raffle. The evening closed with auctions of a golf experience at the Trump International course in Aberdeen (donated by Flexitallic) and two hospitality tickets for Manchester United Football Club (donated by J A Harrison).

Sandy McEwen, vice-chairman of the UKGSA and consultant for founding members William Johnston & Company Limited, said: "Macmillan Cancer Support has

been our nominated charity for a number of years and I'm delighted with the amount our Members raised in just one day!"

Macmillan's fundraising manager for the West of Scotland, Michelle Campbell said: "At Macmillan, we're here to help people live life, no matter what, but we can't do it without the amazing people who fundraise for us. I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone at the UKGSA for their continued support."

For more information visit
<https://www.macmillan.org.uk>

Happy Retirement Keith!



Many of you will have heard that our illustrious Membership Officer, Keith Payne, has retired after a long and successful career in the gasket industry.

Keith has sold his company Keith Payne Products Ltd, a highly regarded supplier and producer of gaskets and other cut and converted parts, to the Polymax group (www.polymax.co.uk) - a leading and fast growing manufacturer and supplier of industrial and technical rubber products, thus securing the long term future of the business and continued employment for his staff.

Keith is well-known and respected across the industry and, in 1992, was one of the founding members of the then Gasket Cutters Association (GCA).

Rishi Nijhawan, Director of Polymax Ltd said: “We are absolutely delighted with our acquisition of Keith Payne Products Ltd, with its proud history of manufacturing high quality gaskets in Surrey since 1978 and look forward to continuing with Keith’s legacy. This acquisition will

accelerate the innovative and comprehensive product portfolio and know-how we bring to our customers, and build further on our UK and international presence.”

Simon Winfield, Director at MacLellan Rubber and Chairman of the UKGSA said: “We would like to thank Keith for all his hard work and dedication to the Association. He has been a stalwart of the committee for many years and his involvement has helped to develop our membership base. We wish him well in his retirement.”

Sandy McEwen, consultant to and previous director of William Johnston & Company and Vice Chairman/ Fundraising Officer of the UKGSA said: “Keith has always been a sage for providing wise counsel to the committee during my time on it and this will be sadly missed. He has been an extremely valuable Member and has always worked diligently in his specific role of recruiting new Members. We can all join in wishing him a long and pleasant retirement.”

Alison Ansell, Director at Corseal Limited and Marketing & Events Officer of the UKGSA said: “I have many happy memories of Keith and I organising the annual Golf Day Dinner over the years. We’d watch the golfers tee off, Keith would walk the course taking photos of Members playing golf and would photograph our prize winners in the evening. He will be greatly missed on the committee and I hope he thoroughly enjoys his well-deserved retirement.”

The UKGSA will be celebrating its 30th anniversary at our Annual Golf Day and Charity Dinner in September 2023, and we will extend an invitation to the event to both Keith and Simon Carless, who retired from the Committee earlier this summer, so we can acknowledge their support to the UKGSA.

Environmentally Sustainable Rubber Sheeting



As business's make greater strides to reduce their CO2 emissions and increase the recyclability of their products, the pressure to develop more environmentally friendly Rubber Sheet materials has increased over recent years. It is only now as investment in processing technology has increased, and with demand primarily from global consumers in the tyre industry, that breakthroughs are being made.

Renewably Sourced & Environmentally Sustainable

There are several key developments that will enable MacLellan Rubber to shortly release its EnviroPolymer rubber sheeting materials which are more sustainable and more environmentally friendly than anything else available in the market.

- Bio Sourced Polymers
- Recovered Carbon Black
- Non-Fossil Fillers
- Plant Based Oils

EnviroPolymer is a range of Rubber Sheeting produced from sustainably sourced raw materials which we are targeting to be 95% renewably sourced.

Early tests show MacLellan's EnviroPolymer products will provide excellent mechanical properties, are Reach and ROHS compliant, PAH Free and have chemical resistance in line with high grade materials we already supply to the market.

**To register your interest in
EnviroPolymer materials please
contact your account manager or
email sales@maclellanrubber.com**



MacLellan
rubber

Our First Member Open Door Event



World-class WARDJet waterjets and AXYZ CNC routers were showcased during a visit by members of the UK Gasket & Sealing Association to AAG UK earlier this month.

A number of Members attended the Open Door event on 20 September at AAG's UK headquarters in Telford, Shropshire. The company, which has 30 years global experience, manufacture customisable CNC router machines and waterjet solutions.

The Telford site houses modular parts which are shipped from the USA and Canada and then assembled to customer's exact requirements. Their customer base is

wide covering aerospace and defence, automotive, health and packaging.

Product experts from AAG who are passionate about their products, gave hands-on demonstrations of a range of their industry-leading router and waterjet systems highlighting each machine's technical capabilities and precision cutting. They also provided advice on materials and machine configuration.

The Telford site also includes CNCShop filled with critical parts for servicing and spares and is home to their technical support team. 24/7 customer support is being launched shortly and they have further plans to expand the site in the next two years.

The visit was the first UKGSA Members Open Door event to be held. These events provide an opportunity for Members to host a tour of their facilities to fellow Members.



Kewell Converters Ltd introduce Ross Thurlow



We would like to say a warm welcome to our new Head of Business Development, Ross Thurlow.

Ross joined us in July 2022, and comes with 11 years of experience in the Foam Conversion industry. He has undertaken various roles in the past in operations, but over the last several years has been responsible for Sales and Commercial Management roles.

Ross enjoys building relationships with customers, ensuring his customers get the very best service and communication.

Ross lives in Northamptonshire with his fiancée and two children. He has a great love for live music and regularly likes to attend concerts. He has also started to take up

golf, albeit not at the best level! (Editor: we look forward to Ross joining us at our Golf Day next September!).

Ross is a valuable addition to our team and we are very much looking forward to working together.



HITEK Launch New Stand at EDS



HITEK Electronic Materials Ltd exhibited at The Engineering Design Show on 12-13th October at Coventry Building Society Arena. This exhibition is their first with their new stand designed by Banner Box.

Operations Director Roger Dent and Business Development Managers Cameron Finch, who covers the North of the UK and Mo Khan, who covers the South of the UK were on stand to chat with customers.

EDS is the ideal place for Design Engineers to have direct access to the latest products, services, and innovations. HITEK can offer products and solutions to protect electronics and work in partnership on projects with a wide range of EMI shielding materials, adhesives and encapsulants, thermal management materials and microwave absorbers.



SBR – Investing in the Future



**Precision elastomeric
sealing products**

Soaking up the sunshine



At SBR we have made a huge step in our mission to become leaner and more environmentally friendly with the recent installation of solar panels to our roof.

With sustainability and renewable energy being hot topics we are keen to lessen our impact on the planet and are always looking into new ways to achieve this.

We're already re-cycling our waste from silicone production which would otherwise have been consigned to landfill, and company cars are now hybrid or electric, but we realise we must continue to explore all options available to us for a brighter future.

In addition to safeguarding the planet we also work hard to protect SBR's future by investing further in our award-winning apprenticeship scheme. At present we employ over five apprentices and another three will start their two-year NVQ courses shortly in a wide range of disciplines.

We always enjoy following the development of our apprentices and embrace their contribution to the team.



**Precision elastomeric
sealing products**

Our reputation is built around flexibility, technical ability and customer service, providing high quality products and solutions.

Our Product Portfolio



O-rings



Gaskets



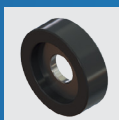
Grommets



Washers



Diaphragms



Anti-Vibration



Gaiters & Bellows



Custom



Co-located Events ● RAI, Amsterdam, NL ● March 21 – 23, 2023

Understand the important role silicone and tape play in the gasket and sealants industries.

Innovation and technology professionals from across the sectors will gather at the RAI Amsterdam to network, source solutions from suppliers, and enjoy a wide range of conference programming delivered by industry experts.

tfff
Europe
tape & functional film **EXPO**

- Technical Conferences
- Thought Leadership
- Live Product Demos
- International Networking

Scan to register for
early bird passes!



* Offer valid until
December 31, 2022 *

Early bird
registration has
officially opened
for Silicone Expo and
Tape & Functional
Film Expo
Europe!

silicone **EXPO**
Europe



www.silicone-expo.com ● www.tapeandfilm-eu.com

XYZ Announces Incredible Offers on the Purchase of one of their New Routers



As a leading global manufacturer of CNC router machines and knife systems, we recognise the need for versatility when it comes to cutting systems.

Our portfolio of routing machines consists of 5 different models: Innovator, Infinite, Trident, METALWORKER and PANELBuilder, all with their own unique options and versatility to cross over infinite markets. We are excited to announce our special offer that starts on the 11th October and runs to the 30th November 2022.

The offer includes 10% off all standard XYZ Routers (Innovator, Infinite, Trident, METALWORKER, PANELBuilder).

- No extra charge 2 Year Warranty
- No extra charge 2 Year Pre Paid Maintenance (Parts and Labour)
- No extra charge industry specific starter Tool Kit

This fantastic offer is only available for a limited time don't delay!

For a detailed look at XYZ machines visit our website, but here is a quick snapshot of what is available:



INNOVATOR [click here](#)

INDUSTRIAL PRECISION. COMPACT DESIGN. FULL-SCALE CAPABILITY

The XYZ Innovator, optimised for prototype, signs and graphics, woodworking shops and educational institutions, the Innovator is equipped with powerful integrated servo motors, an optional tool changer and standard helical rack. Choose from two standard sizes that fit the most common sheets sized for this market.



INFINITE [click here](#)

THE MOST VERSATILE AND CUSTOMISABLE CNC ROUTER SYSTEM IN THE INDUSTRY

The Infinite router is a highly configurable CNC machine. The Infinite Series is suitable for one-off, small batch production as well as high volume and high productivity applications, including point of purchase, sign making, Woodworking, Plastic Fabrication and so much more.

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AXYZ Announces Incredible Offers on the Purchase of one of their New Routers



TRIDENT [click here](#)

THE MOST VERSATILE ROUTER-KNIFE HYBRID IN ITS CLASS

Processing a wide range of materials requires more than one cutting head. The Trident combines three different cutting technologies to provide maximum versatility by offering a choice of routing spindle and two knives, which can be either tangential, oscillating or a combination of both. Ideal for foam processing, graphics & print finishing, point of purchase & sign making.



METALWORKER [click here](#)

HIGH PERFORMANCE CNC ROUTER

Manufacturers looking to process non-ferrous metals in low to high volume manufacturing environments will benefit from a standard list of features that make METALWORKER CNC Router among the leading machines in the market specifically engineered for high precision part production in nested-based CNC operations, such as metal fabrication, aluminium & metal composites.



PANELBUILDER [click here](#)

THE WORLD'S LEADING PANEL FABRICATION SYSTEM

The PANELBuilder system is the most sophisticated, all-in-one solution on the market. By combining advanced, easy-to-use software with custom machine design, it processes all types of cladding materials faster, more consistently and at a lower cost than ever before. With its dedicated CAD/CAM software for automated panel fabrication we are confident that it is the world's leading panel fabrication system.

**For more information contact us today
or visit our website.**

Tel: 01952 291600

Email: enquiries@axyz.com

Web: www.axyz.co.uk

**To see our complete range of equipment,
parts and accessories visit CNCShop.com**

RGH's new facilities in Great Dunmow



RGH Rubber announce the opening of their fourth facility in Great Dunmow, Essex.

RGH plan to continue to build their reputation as one of the leading material converters in the UK and this investment will increase manufacturing capacity to help cope with recent growth whilst also preparing them for future demands.

It has also allowed RGH to invest in the latest slitting and die cutting machinery which in turn has led to the expansion of their workforce.

Twelve months of hard work have been spent redeveloping the offices and manufacturing facility to make it a clean, modern and fully air-conditioned environment for people to work in. Opening this new unit signals the next chapter in RGH's history of innovation and manufacturing excellence.



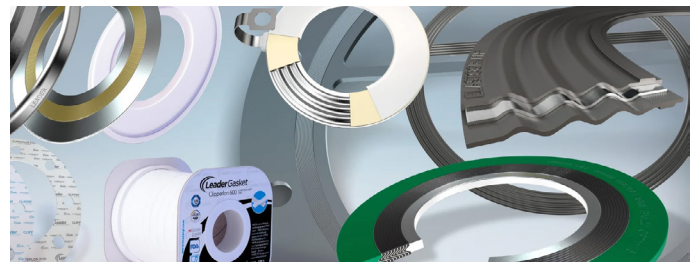
Congratulations Thomas



Corseal Limited are celebrating after new employee, Thomas Irwin, passed his Fork Lift course.

Thomas joined the company earlier in the year and has excelled in all departments he's worked in. He initially learned about the wide range of gaskets, seals, sheeting, matting, hoses and tubing products sold by Corseal and the infrastructure of running the business.

Well done, Thomas!



SBR's New Temperature-Controlled Storeroom



As part of continued investment in our facilities, we have recently installed a bespoke, temperature-controlled room with pallet access, located in the heart of our shop floor.

Our insulated storeroom uses a state of the art air conditioning system to assist with controlling the internal temperature of the room, ensuring longevity and optimisation of our materials.

Incorrectly storing and exposing material to varying temperatures can significantly impact materials resulting in considerable wastage and risk of part failure, thus emphasising the importance of maintaining a controlled temperature for material storage.

When exposed to high temperatures the curing process of a material may be initiated, resulting in deteriorating performance and premature failure once products are produced, as well as excessive wastage. On the other hand, extreme low temperatures can lead to partial

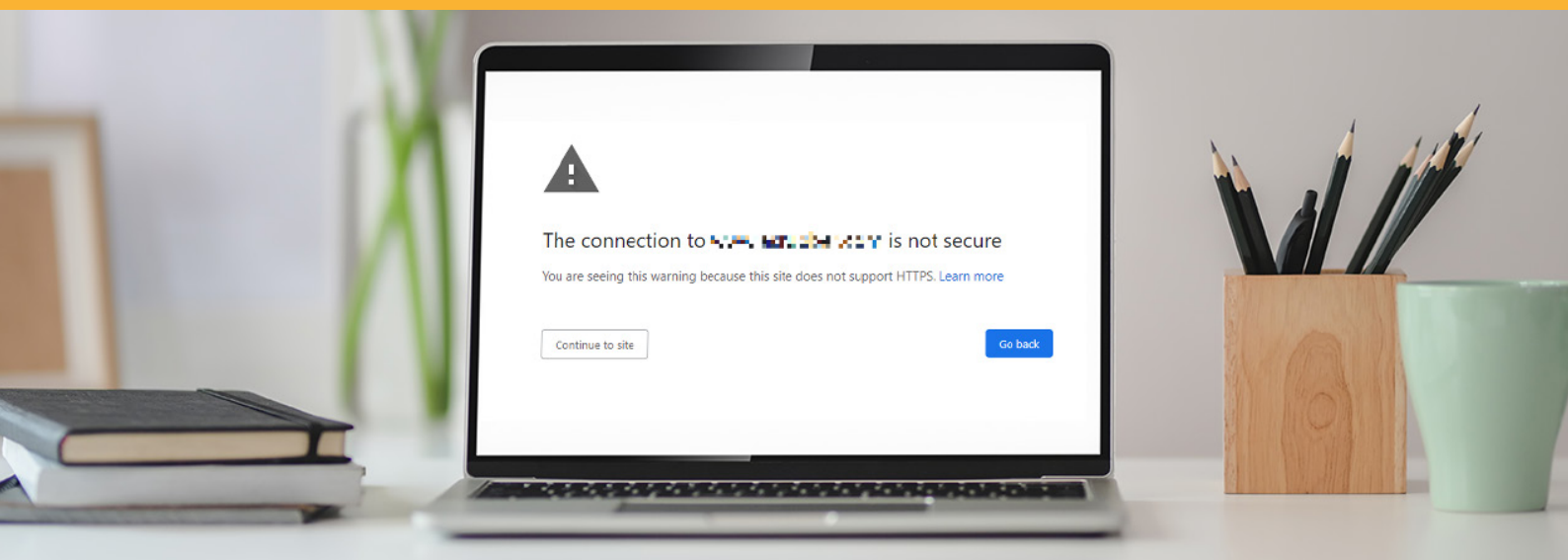
crystallisation and a loss of elasticity, making the material brittle, this is also known as the rubber-glass transition.

Key benefits of a temperature-controlled storeroom:

- Material optimisation
- Reduced wastage
- Deformation prevention



Is your connection secure?



Have you ever clicked on a website link and seen the message above?

Our Secretariat explains what it means and what action you should take.

What is https?

'https' stands for hypertext transfer protocol secure and is used to create a secure connection between you and the site you are visiting on a browser. It's a protocol for encrypting data over a secure connection. Sites with http have a padlock icon near their URL.

Originally, https was used by websites that dealt with online transactions such as e-commerce. It identified to a user that the website was safe and secure for online payments.

However, over recent years Google has been pushing for all sites to use https for website security not only for payment information but for personal information held by the website. They even suggested that you could risk losing website traffic through a 'not secure' notification appearing when users click on a link to your site; and your site could drop in search rankings.

If this message appears users can still click through to your website, but only if they know and trust your site.

What can you do about it?

It's easier and cheaper than you think. The easiest method is to ask your hosting supplier to purchase and install a secure sockets layer (SSL) certificate, which is basically a digital certificate, on your website hosting account and enable it.

Website links need to be changed to https:// and you will need to check your site for any broken links, for example if you have linked to a page within your site. You may also wish to set up 301 redirects from http to https to help search engines know your new site address exists so they can index them, and if anyone has bookmarked your site it will automatically redirect to the new https address.

The cost for a SSL certificate ranges depending on provider, but is in the region of £25 per year. You will need to renew your SSL certificate annually, usually when you renew your website hosting.

To ensure your website is secure and you don't lose valuable traffic, ensure your website has a SSL certificate installed and uses a https URL.

Grade & Roll Length Rationalisation Project

At Jointine Products (Lincoln) Limited, we are always striving to improve the manufacturing process workflow wherever possible. As a result of some recent work, there are some coming changes that our customers need to be aware of.

Grade Retirement

With the prices of raw materials having increased so sharply in 2021 and 2022 we are in a phase of doing what we can as a company to save costs and therefore not pass increases on to our valuable customers.

With the above in mind, we have been undertaking a factory-wide grade and roll length rationalisation project with the desired outcome to continue to offer a wide range of gasket material thicknesses to our customers whilst retiring the less popular grades. The grades that are being retired are now forming a very small part of our overall annual output and are readily replaceable with other grades from our range.

All retired grades have valid (close to or in spec) alternatives, as can be seen on the table below:

Retired Grades (Changes only)

Old Grade (mm)	New Grade/Alternative (mm)
0.20	0.25
0.30	0.25
0.70	0.80
1.40	1.60
1.50	1.60
2.50	2.40
3.00	3.20
5.00	4.80

Retired Grades and Alternatives

Roll Lengths

The costs of packaging materials have also very significantly increased this year; this has prompted us to reduce the range of roll lengths that we offer with the aim, again, of keeping the costs we have to pass on to customers to an absolute minimum. We will therefore offer a single roll length per paper grade, as per the table below:

Standardised Roll Lengths

Grade (mm)	Standard Roll Length
0.15	100m
0.25	
0.40	
0.50	
0.80	
1.00	50m
1.20	
1.60	
2.00	25m
2.40	
3.20	
4.00	20m
4.80	
6.40	15m

Standard Roll Lengths

Any reduction on the standard roll lengths from the above table (i.e. 100m to 50m, or 25m to 18m) will attract a 5% per m² re-reeling charge.

For more information contact
Jointine Products
on 01522 690050



Outlook is positive for the Kewell team



Autumn is upon us – the days are getting shorter and we're holding back on putting the heating on, but the outlook remains positive for the Kewell Team!

We've been busy planning our largest event of the year, The Foam Expo in Stuttgart has come around again. We've invested in a new stand and already lined up some positive meetings – it's a great industry event and the perfect opportunity to catch up with peers, manufacturers and customers alike. Time to dust off the lederhosen!

Sustainability is still a hot topic for lots of existing and potential clients. It's encouraging that so many of the raw material manufacturers have now released product containing at least 30% recycled content. The Zotefoams LDR range has been particularly well received and we hope it will be extended to further grades in their range as soon as possible.

We have some great new projects on the horizon and we're adding to our waterjet and thermoforming

capabilities as a result – exciting and hectic times, but I shouldn't complain.

Supply chain and volatility with pricing continues to be our biggest headache but we're managing to weather the storm, thanks mostly to our understanding client base and improved communication from the team.

The company continues to grow as we're still looking for new recruits in our Production Team to help cope with demand.

Overall, despite the ongoing uncertainty in the world, we're looking forward to the Festive season and all that it brings!

Kevin Tate, Sales Manager
Kewell Converters Ltd

Renewable Functional Fillers



Disruptive technology is a term rarely used in the world of Polymers, where the prime materials and processes have largely remained unchanged since its invention. Material formulations have been revised and updated as technical demands for higher performance against temperature extremes, more aggressive chemicals and alike have emerged, and as legislation under REACH and RoHS have forced manufacturers to find replacements for hazardous constituents.

For many years technology companies have been searching for alternatives to environmentally costly Carbon Black, which contributes approximately 2.5 tonnes of CO₂ for every tonne produced, to meet ever more stringent legislation and customer expectations.

One such RFF product that has been developed by UPM BioChemicals is produced from hard wood and offers some startling benefits in addition to its low carbon footprint and renewable base.

- Reduced Compound Density
- Non-Conductive
- Vibration Damping
- High Wear Resistance

- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) Free
- Compliance to rubber and plastic consumer products with Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1272/2013
- Eliminates the need for other heavy fillers, e.g. talc, clay

Other compounders have taken a different approach to make their materials more environmentally friendly including the use of non fossil fillers, like calcium carbonate or clay to replace Carbon Black, again giving the final material a considerably lower Carbon Footprint; or following the circular economic model using increased levels of recycled polymers.

Development trials have demonstrated that in these approaches the technical performance of the finished material is as good, and in some areas better, than standard compounds using Carbon Black.

MacLellan Rubber are working with our raw material suppliers to bring Environmentally better products to customers without compromising performance under its EnviroPolymer brand and will be releasing full technical information in the coming weeks and months.

**To register your interest in
EnviroPolymer materials please
contact your account manager or
email sales@maclellanrubber.com**

Upcoming Industry Events



Here are some upcoming industry events and we have highlighted the ones our Members are attending.

If you are going to these events, please pop along and support your fellow Members or if you are attending any not listed, please let us know.

November 2022

8-10 November 2022

[Foam Expo Europe, Stuttgart, Germany](#)

Kewell Converts are exhibiting on stand 838

March 2023

21-23 March 2023

[Silicone Expo Europe and Tape & Functional Film Expo, Amsterdam, Netherlands](#)

Silicone Engineering are exhibiting on stand 318

May 2023

10-11 May 2023

[CHEMUK 2023, NEC, Birmingham](#)

Flexitallic are exhibiting on stand D16

Gee Graphite are exhibiting on stand B46

Member Offcuts & Offers

OFFCUTS & OFFERS

Members of the UKGSA can now advertise their promotional offers and material offcuts free of charge on a new web page [on our website](#).

To share your offcuts or offers on our website or in our newsletter, [email the secretariat](#)

Claim Your FREE Advert

The UKGSA offer existing Members one FREE colour half page 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! To book your advert contact the Secretariat (info@ukgsassociation.co.uk).

Rates

	Members	Non Members
Full Page	£350	£440
Half Page	£200	£250

Resources On Our Website

RESOURCES

Have you visited our new Resources area on our website? This area contains four areas:

Common Technical Names

A list of common technical names which are widely used across the gasket and sealing sectors, along with their more commonly used names.

Visit the web page at:

<https://ukgsassociation.co.uk/common-technical-names/>

Material Storage Guidelines

Our Members recommend storage guidelines, subject to material type, and guidance published in BS standards for Cellulose Paper, Felt, Jointings, Rubber.

Visit the web page at:

<https://ukgsassociation.co.uk/material-storage-guidelines/>

Member Product Trade Names

Product trade names used by UKGSA Members for products manufactured or supplied by them.

Visit the web page at:

<https://ukgsassociation.co.uk/member-trade-names/>

Industry Standards

A list of industry standards used by UKGSA Members including ASME, ASTM, British Standards, ISO, JIS and more.

Visit the web page at:

<https://ukgsassociation.co.uk/industry-standards/>

If you would like to add information to these Resources, please contact the Secretariat:
info@ukgsassociation.co.uk

Meet Your Committee



Sandy McEwen
VICE CHAIR & FUNDRAISING



Sam Bradley
TREASURER



James Salt
GOLF COMPETITION ORGANISER



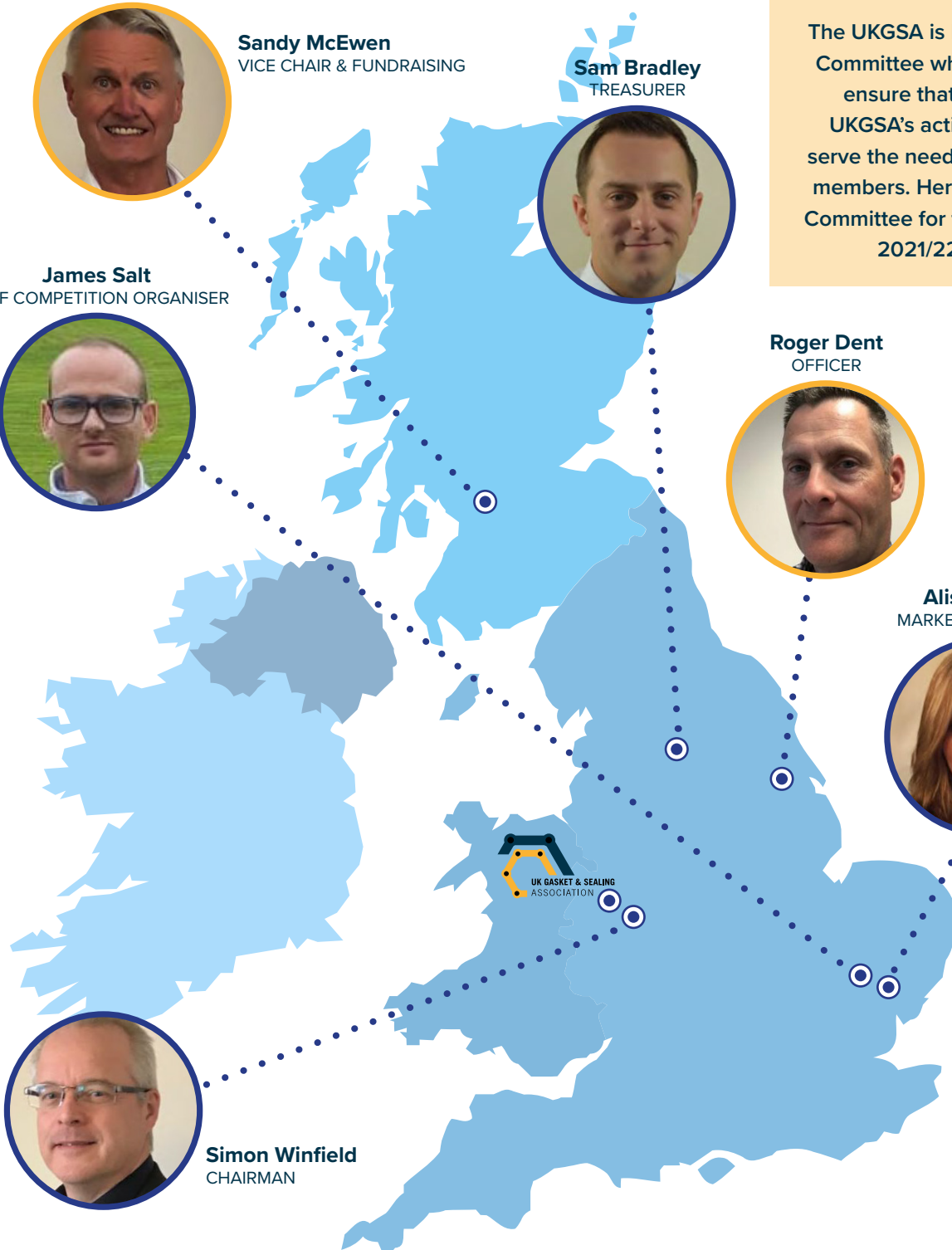
Roger Dent
OFFICER



Alison Ansell
MARKETING & EVENTS



Simon Winfield
CHAIRMAN



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 2021/22

If you're interested in joining the Committee please [get in touch](#).

What We Do



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 in developing strong media relationships with all of the mainstream manufacturing and 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.

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 5A, Bull Lane Industrial Estate,
Acton, Suffolk CO10 0BD
T: 01787 282444
www.corseal.co.uk

Cutting Systems UK Ltd

Units 25 & 29, Francis Court, Norris Way,
Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 6AY
T: 01933 359359
F: 01933 359399
www.cutting-systems.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

DLR Elastomer Engineering Ltd

Unit 1A & B, Leyland Business Park, Centurion
Way, Leyland, Lancashire PR25 3GR
T: 01772 450930
<https://elastomer.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

Gee Graphite Ltd

Havelock Street, Ravensthorpe Industrial
Estate, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire
WF13 3LU
T: 01924 481463
<https://geegraphite.com>

Graphfor LTD

Maspro House, Chadwick Road, Astmoor
Industrial Estate, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 1PW
T: 01928 566344
<https://graphforltd.com>

HITEK Electronic Materials Limited

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, Coneysgre Industrial Estate,
Birmingham New Road, Tipton,
West Midlands DY4 8XP
T: 0121 520 5020 F: 0121 522 4610
www.jppolymer.co.uk

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

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

Monarch Gasket & Sealing Ltd

Unit 2, Balne Mills, Silcoates Street, Wakefield,
West Yorkshire WF2 0FL
T: 01924 335945
www.monarch-gaskets.co.uk

Moontown Ltd

Unit 16D, Unity Road, Lowmoor Business Park,
Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire NG17 7LE
T: 01623 751515
www.moontown.co.uk

RGH Rubber and Plastics Ltd

Acorn House, Oak Industrial Park,
Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1XN
T: 01371 875941
www.rghrubber.co.uk

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, Waterloooville,
Hampshire PO0 7XJ
T: 02392 255180
www.sbr.aero

The Seal Extrusion Company Limited

Unit 5A, Bull Lane Industrial Estate,
Acton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0BD
T: 01787 827070
www.sealextrusions.com

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

WARDJet

Telford 54 Business Park, Nedge Hill, Telford,
TF3 3AL
T: 01952 291600
<https://www.wardjet.com>

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