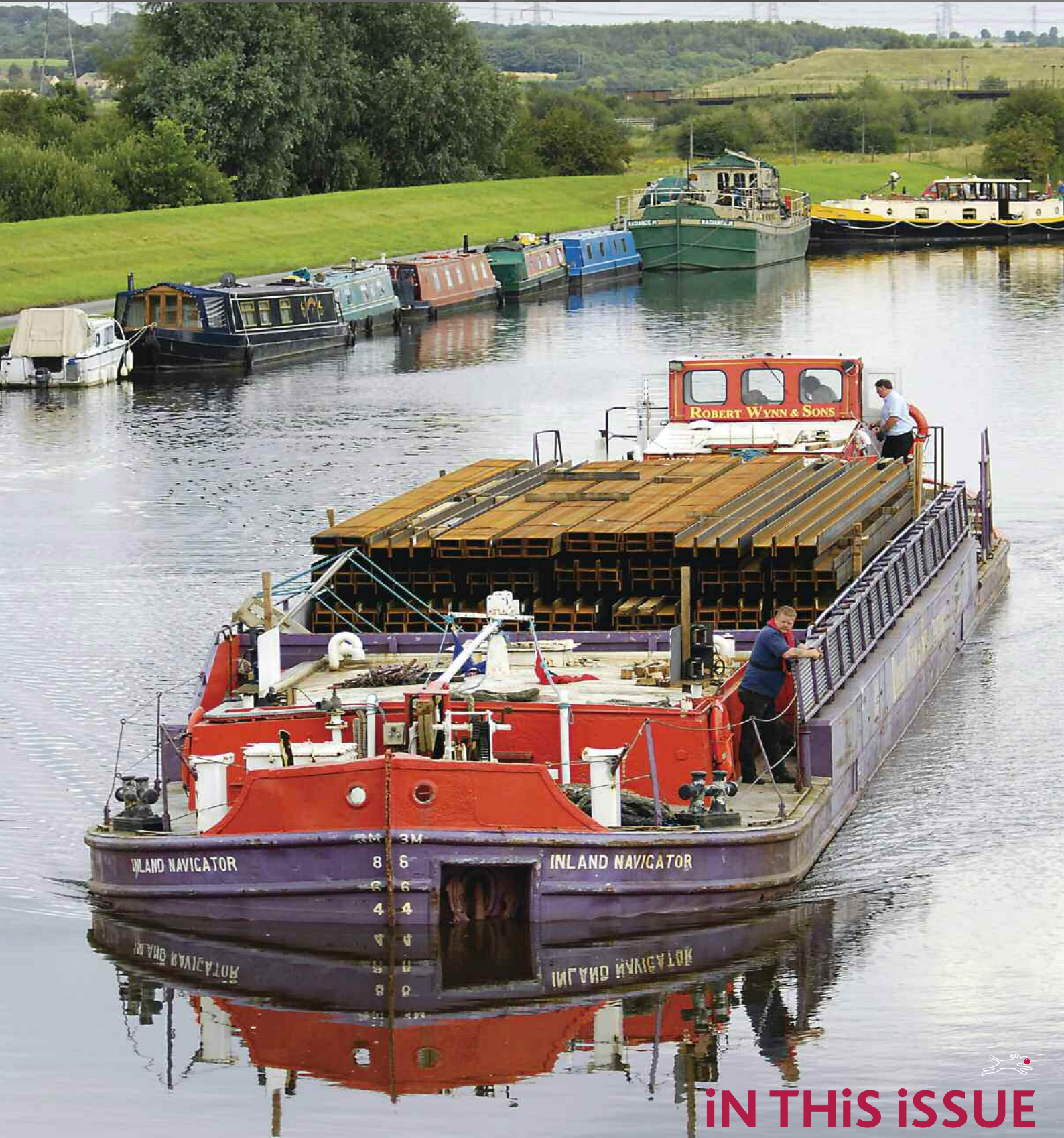


# ASD metal matters

klöckner & co multi metal distribution

Autumn 2008 Issue 7



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# OCS

## brings new and innovative products to its customers

As ASD metal services' pre-coated and pre-painted steel production facility, OCS aims to bring new and innovative products to our customers, supported by a wide range of world class suppliers.

### Applications

Construction / Profiling / Air Conditioning / Portable Accommodation / Garage & Industrial Doors / Electrical Enclosures Coldstores / Refrigeration / Lighting / Boilers / Truck Bodies / Office Furniture / Domestic Appliances / Insulation

### Product Range

- leathergrain plastisol ('solano' & 'corus' ranges)
- polyester- textured and smooth
- granite range
- lining enamel
- foodsafe laminate/ co-laminates
- pvf2
- aluzinc
- primer
- galvanised steel

"We strive to meet and exceed our customers expectations every time they contact us."

Organically Coated Steels Tel: 01562 821 400 Fax: 01562 865 396

email: [ocs@asdmetservices.co.uk](mailto:ocs@asdmetservices.co.uk)

# The arrival of greener steel - 2000 tonnes travel inland by barge

The company currently transports more than 60,000 tonnes of structural steel from Corus' Scunthorpe Mill and the Humber Ports and Wharfs which could be transferred to inland waterways.

"The trial was a great success," says David Cox, ASD metal services' Group Operations Manager. "We are currently developing our extensive Leeds facilities to include the addition of an adjacent 8.65 acre site at Stourton Point which borders the Aire & Calder Navigation. The opportunity this provides to utilise water transport was one of the key reasons in selecting the site. It offered a much more environmentally-friendly solution – the arrival of greener steel! With one Aire & Calder Navigation barge carrying up to 600 tonnes, a single vessel can take the place of 24 articulated lorries."

In the trials, steel beams and heavy channels made their way from Whartons Grove Wharf on the River Trent to the site at Stourton Point on-board the barge 'Inland Navigator'. From the outset, British Waterways, their Freight Champion Stuart McKenzie and Whartons Grove Wharf were very supportive of the concept, but the shortage of suitable barges almost scuppered the trial. However, with the support of the Commercial Boat Operators Association and their members Robert Wynn & Sons, ASD metal



*Chief Executive, Martin Joyce greets the arrival of the Inland Navigator, which ASD chartered for the first trial run.*

services was able to charter the 'Inland Navigator' and contracted International Barge Master Peter Hugman as its Captain.

Peter Hugman commented: "We were amazed by the unsolicited, positive response from everyone we met during the first trial. Stevedores, canal boat owners, skippers, lock keepers and towpath walkers were all keen to know what was on board."

ASD metal services' Chief Executive Martin Joyce adds: "This trial sums up what ASD metal services is all about – innovative solutions that deliver value to customers and which are safer and more environmentally-friendly."

Stuart McKenzie of British Waterways commented: "Canals

are seen by many as being for recreational purposes only. While this is the case in many instances, British Waterways still handles approximately 1.8M tonnes of waterborne freight annually with over 40% being moved on the wider freight waterways of Yorkshire. Last year we estimate Yorkshire's freight waterways were responsible for taking over 20,000 lorry journeys from the region's roads."

"The trials have clearly been a success and illustrate how canal transport can provide a practical and environmentally- sound alternative mode of transport. We look forward to working further with the ASD metal services and the Commercial Boat Operators Association to develop the scheme to its full potential."

## More lift at Leeds



**A new 12-tonne forklift truck has joined the fleet at ASD metal services' Central Stocks facility at Leeds.**

"The SMV SL12-1200B with 1200mm load centre considerably increases our capacity in Leeds," says David Cox, Group Operations Manager. "Together with our existing 12-tonne truck, it will also give us a much more robust set-up."

The new environmentally friendly truck has the latest Euro 3 low emission water-cooled diesel engine, which boasts high levels of fuel efficiency.

## Redevelopment for hollow section site

**Following the acquisition of Hot Formed Hollow Section specialist Interpipe, ASD metal services is making significant investments at the Dudley site to enhance service levels and boost turnaround time.**

A new Kaltenbach KBS 750 DG NA saw and handling equipment are being installed which will enable hollow section to be cut in bundles up to 750mm wide, 500mm high and 18.3m long. The new saw has the ability to mitre cut to 30 degrees.

As part of ASD's extensive warehouse and operational redevelopment programme, three new, fast, heavy-duty cranes plus a new stock layout are also on the agenda at Dudley.

**A new material-conveyor system and measuring head, plus two new fettling booths are the latest upgrades for the ASD metal services site in Cardiff.**

The new input and output conveyor system will handle material to and from the Kaltenbach KBS 620 saw, which will also be the subject of key refurbishments in the coming months. A further enhancement is

## Cardiff enhancements

a brand-new measuring head, which determines cut lengths and improves accuracy.

Meanwhile in the profiling area, two 2m-wide Kemper fettling benches with integral fume extraction are to be installed. This is where the slag is ground

off the profiles to produce cleaner edges. The new booths remove all dust created from the working area and then filter out and collect 99% of all particles for safe disposal and an improved the working environment. See page 7 for a focus on the Cardiff unit.

## New decoiler boosts Bathgate's in-house facilities

ASD metal services Bathgate has definitely gone up in the world – by a whole millimetre to be precise. It may not sound much but by replacing its existing Bronx decoiler with an upgraded model, the unit is now able to supply the Scottish market from its own site with a complete thickness range (0.6 to 3mm) of cold reduced, hot dipped galvanised and electro-galvanised flat products.

customer requirements.”  
 “In addition, an electronically-controlled length measuring system not only enhances the cut-to-length tolerances of decoiled sheets but also provides the operator with a much better setting-up facility,” he adds.  
 “This is also true of the uncoiling arrangement at the first stage of the process which eliminates the manual handling procedures previously associated with the old line.”

Excellent sheet flatness - the main criterion demanded from, and traditionally received by, Bathgate's customers - will certainly be maintained as a result of improvements made to the decoiler's roller leveller facility. “We will continue to satisfy the critical standards necessary to meet laser cutting, robotic handling and the many sophisticated sheet metal processing techniques common to the market,” concludes Alex.

“Having raised our material thickness limit from 2mm to 3mm, the new line incorporates several improved features,” comments Alex Cunningham, Operations/Quality Manager at Bathgate “In particular, the newly-designed automatic sheet stacker has a much improved arrangement for producing well-presented packs to meet ever-increasing



## Investment in Stoke . . . . .

As part of the ongoing redevelopment at ASD metal services Stoke, a new 25-tonne capacity Demag DR Coilmaster crane is to be installed to replace an existing 15-tonne model.

This new crane will speed up all coil handling operations, thereby reducing cycle times when feeding coil onto the decoilers. “This is one of a series of investments planned at Stoke which will see key building

structural changes to accommodate a new processing machine and workflow layout,” says David Cox, Group Operations Manager. “Further new cranes will be considered for the future.”

# Well placed to respond to changing markets

**True partnerships are the key to successful business according to Barrie Salter, newly-appointed Director of ASD metal services' Flat Products Division. "The Flat Products team is dedicated to customer care and firmly focused on exceeding customer expectations and demands," he remarks.**

Barrie has been with the company since 1993 when he joined the specialist Organically Coated Steels (OCS) unit. With a BA (Hons) in Economics and Government Studies gained

national coverage via our businesses in Bathgate, Durham, Stoke, Tividale, Belfast and Dublin plus OCS in Kidderminster."

Flat Products focuses on the production and distribution of strip products including Hot Rolled, Hot Dipped Galvanised, Cold Reduced and Electro-Zinc. A wide range of specialist pre-painted products is distributed through OCS. Among the many processing facilities on offer are de-coiling, blanking, shearing and profiling.

"We've been investing heavily in our sites including a SAP integrated IT system, a new production line at Bathgate, new cranes and guillotines at Stoke and Tividale, production line upgrades at Stoke and new coil storage at all units," Barrie adds. "The people side of the business is another investment area, with training as a priority. One manifestation of this is our new, in-house Flat Products Academy designed to ensure we develop high-calibre managers for the future (more details page 9).

"Increasing raw material costs have seen corresponding rises in steel prices," he comments. "The result is a dramatically altered steel market where stock inventories are reduced, customer orders are smaller in terms of volume but increased in terms of frequency.

There is also greater internal interrogation of material costs such as scrap levels. All in all, customers are being more careful in what, when and how they buy their steel."

"With our spotlight on product enhancement and investment in efficient production processes, ASD metal services is well-placed to respond to these changing needs. A major benefit is



*Barrie Salter Director Flat Products*

that we are independent and able to source material from a broad base of suppliers on an international scale. We are not constrained in any way and can match the product with the most suitable production mill. With these advantages, we will continue to be at the forefront of steel distribution in the UK and Ireland, providing the highest quality products at competitive cost," he concludes.

**"We will continue to be at the forefront of steel distribution in the UK and Ireland."**

through the Open University, he held various commercial roles in the business culminating in the position of General Manager of OCS. He assumed his new role as Director Flat Products in March this year, following the retirement of John Tiplady.

"Working out of seven locations, our Flat Products Division handles around 250,000 tonnes annually," he explains. "We have

# Ding dong racing as ASD metal services zooms in with support for Martyn Bell

The British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) is one of the most popular events in motor sport and ASD metal services is delighted to be a part of this exciting race series through its association with Martyn Bell Racing and the Arkas Racing team.

"We sponsored the team's hospitality at three meetings this season - Oulton Park in Cheshire, Knockhill in Dunfermline and Brands Hatch in Kent - and were able to treat guests to a great day's racing," explains Martin Clarke, ASD metal services' Regional Manager for the North.

Championship is designed to provide a competition arena for current production cars. The races are televised live on ITV4 on Sunday afternoons and regularly gain huge audiences.

The Arkas team includes Martyn Bell and his teammate Erkut Kizilirmak who drive Vauxhall Astra Sports. At 282 hp, the cars accelerate from 0 to 100 mph in a blistering 4.5 seconds! ASD metal services' striking dog logo is splashed across the wings of both vehicles.

Martyn started his motor sport career 25 years ago in motocross and spent nine years competing in the Kumho BMW Championship where he achieved three Class



championships and one overall title.

"I'm proud to be associated with ASD metal services and honoured that they are part of our BTCC programme this year," he comments.

*Raring to go: Martin Bell (third from right, front) meets some of ASD metal services customers*

"I'm proud to be associated with ASD metal services"

"Martyn Bell is based in Barrow on Humber, near our Hull unit and we were pleased to give our support to a local enterprise," Martin continues. "It's a close-knit independent outfit of volunteers with lots of experience and enthusiasm who are passionate about their sport. The national scope of the race meetings also means that other ASD metal services units get involved."

Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, the British Touring Car



## Top award goes to ASD metal services architectural specialists

**Specialist operations, ASD Architectural and KMS Forster are the joint winners of the ASD metal services Business of the Year Award.**

This prestigious award is presented to the business recognised for outstanding performance over the past year not only through commercial success but also through internal improvements, innovation, team motivation and demonstrating good practice.

The award comes on top of key developments at the Sheffield-based units which include a change of name and the launch of a new web site to serve their specialist markets.

Alongside the historical steel and stainless steel glazing systems supplied for curtain walling, roofs, doors partitions and windows, the businesses now offer a comprehensive range of architectural hardware, stainless steel glazed balustrades and architectural glass systems. This includes products such as frameless doors, spider fittings and glass canopies.

"We are thrilled to win the award against such stiff competition from other business units," says Jean-Pierre Lajarige, General Manager. "Thanks must go to our customers who have helped contribute to our success – long

may it continue. My special thanks also go to the growing and dedicated teams who are tightly focused on offering the best solutions for our clients' projects from our excellent range of systems."

innovative flood protection system for doors and windows called ASD Waterstop.

"To support our new brand, we have developed a new web site - [www.asdarchitectural.com](http://www.asdarchitectural.com) -



*Jean-Pierre Lajarige General Manager (pictured centre) with the teams from ASD Architectural and KMS Forster*

Formerly known as Klöckner RP Profiles, the business was rebranded a few months ago as ASD Architectural. This reflects the changes in the product portfolio and, at the same time, benefits from the well-recognised name of ASD metal services as a leading brand in the metal industry.

Systems from top names such as R P Technik, Forster, Secco, Saint-Gobain-Sevax and Sadev are among the units' offerings. Among the latest new lines is an

which addresses the specialist technical needs of our clients in the UK and Ireland," adds Jean-Pierre. "Our new web site will also promote the quality of the finish achieved on projects such as Wembley Arena, the O2 Arena in London (formerly the Millennium Dome), Victoria Square shopping centre in Belfast, the G1 office building in Glasgow and Priory Park Pavilion outside London."

For more information please call 0114 234 5288 or visit [www.asdarchitectural.com](http://www.asdarchitectural.com)

# Flexible response to changing market

**"Steel has been sold from the site of ASD metal services' Cardiff unit for over 150 years," says Keith Bradley, General Manager. "Clearly, the Welsh industrial landscape has changed dramatically since the business was first established in the heyday of coal-mining but over the years – and particularly in the last two decades – we have responded well to changing needs to create the successful operation we are today."**

Keith has been at the helm in Cardiff for over 14 years. "Located in the docks area of the city, we are a General Steels unit with the added benefit of a profiling operation," he continues. "Our product range is extremely diverse and reflects our broad customer base – everyone from fabricators to structural engineers. Key products for us are heavy section, reversing mill plate, merchant bar and hollow section. Profiling accounts for around 35-40% of the business and we produce component pieces for companies throughout Wales and Southern England."

Major investments have been made at the Cardiff site with new Demag cranes, two new fettling booths to reduce dust

here," adds Keith. "There are a number of people with over 20 years' service and, between us, the senior management



*Keith Bradley General Manager (third from left) with the Cardiff team*

in the profiling area and a state-of-the-art conveyor system for the sawing operation (see page 2 for more details on these latest developments).

With 33 people working at the site (including 24 on the operational side), the seven-strong sales team is headed up by Chris Whittle.

"There's a wealth of knowledge and expertise

team has over 75 years' experience."

This being Wales, the influence of rugby is never far away! One of the latest high profile projects for which ASD metal services Cardiff has supplied material is the brand-new Scarlets Rugby Stadium in Llanelli (Parc Y Scarlets). The unit has also been involved in supplying steel for the equally-prestigious new Cardiff City FC stadium scheduled to open in the 2009/2010 season.

# Project will ensure river traffic is free-flowing

**As part of an ambitious programme to transform the Bow Back river system in East London, stainless steel plate from ASD metal services Durham is being employed in a project to construct a new lock and water control structures in the Prescott Channel.**

“We supplied six plasma-cut polished plates to Volker Stevin, the design and build contractor,” reports Jeff Warren from the ASD Durham sales team. “Three plates

‘fishbelly’ gate.

316 stainless steel was specified to ensure the structure remains corrosion-free, while the polishing of the material is designed to aid water run-off.”

The weirs will help maintain the rivers to a navigable depth for river traffic which will use the new 62m x 8m lock – the first to be built in the capital for over 20

Employing 400 people throughout the UK, Volker Stevin provides project solutions across a wide variety of sectors including civil engineering, land remediation regeneration, the water infrastructure and marine sectors and commercial and industrial property building.

The supporting team includes Tony Gee & Partners LLP, Bennett Associates, Clague Architects and



years. Works began in March 2007 and are due for completion in early 2009.

Following the works, water levels in the river will continue to rise and fall by up to a metre a day, creating opportunities to establish habitat features such as reedbeds. A ‘fish pass’ is also part of the project to enable a variety of fish species to cross between the river system and the Thames tideway to the south.

Construction of the new lock and weir structure is being managed by British Waterways and undertaken by civil engineering and building contractor, Volker Stevin - a group company of VolkerWessels, one of the largest construction groups in Europe.

Weetwood Environmental Engineering.



*Work in progress in the Prescott Channel*

**“We supplied six plasma-cut polished plates to Volker Stevin, the design and build contractor”**

will be used in each side of the west weir as side plates for the

## New graduates on board

### Four new graduate recruits have joined ASD metal services.

Tom Wright, Chris Ryder, Philip Warner and Joe Hagerty were selected from hundreds of candidates following a comprehensive assessment and interview process.

The new recruits have gone straight into the business for on-the-job training. Tom and Chris have joined Group Operations



Philip Warner



Chris Ryder



Tom Wright



Joe Hagerty

in Leeds, while Philip is at Organically Coated Steels (OCS) in Kidderminster and Joe is based

in Cambridge working for the Stainless Steel and Aluminium Division.

### As part of ASD metal services' Investment in People programme, a new Flat Products Academy has been established to develop the Division's managers of the future.

"Our aim is to identify and provide structured training to the next generation of senior managers," comments Barrie Salter, Director, Flat Products Division.

Ten members have initially been selected for the Academy and they will be studying for an NVQ Level 4 in Management over an 18-month period. The programme also includes a two-day assessment centre, an outward-bound challenge, a work-related project and a series of sessions with an NVQ training partner and the Divisional Director.

"Although the Academy has only been up and running for a short while, the advantages are clear," adds Barrie. "Members are already benefiting from the networking opportunities the programme provides and are welcoming the chance to discuss their own roles and share experiences. It will build a strong bond between the team in the coming months."

## Academy development for the next generation

## Bathgate top for safety

In the annual ASD metal services Health & Safety Award, the Bathgate unit emerged the winner in a close-fought run with the company's in-house Paintline at Manchester.

"We have a really high standard of Health & Safety across the Group and so the winning unit has to be exceptional," comments Cally Bristow, Quality & Safety Advisor. "Congratulations should go to Bathgate and Paintline for their

fine performances."

All sites are subject to a rigorous two-day audit, with points scored in a variety of areas including improvements on the previous year and accident records.

## Andy's boots are not made for walking!



**Two miles into a 19-mile charity walk and Andy Camm realised his boots were too small.**

Internal salesperson at ASD metal services' Stainless Steel and Aluminium operation at Blackburn, Andy soldiered on and completed the trek in around five hours.

"My feet were a real mess by the end, but it was worth it to raise money for a charity building a school in Nepal," comments Andy.

Together with a group of 30 others, Andy walked from Accrington Stanley Football Club to Rochdale Football Club. His personal contribution included a donation from ASD metal services and pledges from colleagues in the office.

In all, a total of £4,000 was collected and the project to build the school is now under way. "This figure also meant we could add some equipment to get the school up and running which was a real bonus," Andy adds.

## Valiants play smart and look smart

**Shotsfield Valiants Under 13 football team now have new kit thanks to sponsorship from ASD metal services Biddulph.**

Based in Milton, Stoke on Trent, Assistant Manager for the team is Andrew Gough, who works as an HGV driver for the Biddulph unit. His son, David plays in the side.



"The lads now have smart new jackets in which to represent the team plus other new equipment," says Andrew. "We are very grateful to ASD metal services for the donation."

The Valiants play in the Milton Youth League and are doing really well. The team completed the double last season winning the league and the Milton Cup.

## Like father like son

**Inspired by his father, Gary's achievement in the London Marathon, ASD metal services Carlisle's Paul Tebbutt is setting his sights on The Great Cumbrian Run in October.**

"It's a big step as it's a half marathon and I've not run at all before," comments Paul who works in Internal Sales. "Seeing my dad doing the London Marathon and raise money for Cancer Research has spurred me on. I'll be doing it for Multiple Sclerosis because my Aunt suffered from it for 25 years.

My dad is supporting me all the way and is going to do the run with me. He's planning another marathon at the end of October so the Cumbrian will be good preparation for him."

"I started training at the beginning of June and have also been going to the gym. All the exercise and eating less meant I lost half a stone in just a few weeks!"

## Cycling for charity

ASD metal services employees and customers are getting on their bikes to raise money for good causes.



At John O'Groats: Kevin Small (front row, second from left) with the back-up team and fellow long distance cyclists.

### 'Biggie' bike ride raises cash

It took Kevin Small and a group of friends just over ten days to complete the fabled trip from Lands End to John O'Groats in a charity bike ride back in the summer.

"It was a total of 1020 miles and we raised just over £7000," says Kevin, an Advisory Engineer at ASD Westok based in Wakefield. Three charities will benefit from the money – Jane's Appeal which raises funds for children's and cancer charities, Martin House Children's Hospice in Wetherby and the Lyndsey Lodge Hospice in Scunthorpe.

Training started in earnest at the beginning of the year and Kevin completed one thousand miles in the eight weeks leading up to the big day.

"I admit it was difficult cycling 100 miles a day for ten days on the trot. I remember it as a round of cycling, eating and sleeping and not much else. We also had a lot of bad weather which didn't help," he explains.

"I really enjoy cycling and being able to raise money for good causes. Over the years, we've run up a total of £40,000 for various charities. It's great fun and something we're definitely going to carry on with. We're now starting to think about what to do in 2009."



Nick Wilson (left) ready to ride

### From moor to sea for baby Ben

Nick Wilson, Group Finance Manager at ASD metal services' head office in Leeds, spent 13 hours in the saddle and raised £830 to help with medical treatment for his nephew, 6-month-old Ben Marshall.

"Ben suffers from a condition called Bracycephaly which means his skull does not grow properly," explains Nick. "The condition can be rectified by a specially-made helmet. However, the helmet costs £1950 and the treatment is not available on the NHS because it is classed as 'cosmetic'."

Nick took Ben's dad, Leon, on an 80-mile, two-day bike ride from Pickering across the Yorkshire Moors to Whitby on the coast, and back again. "After 13 hours (with not nearly enough protection from the padded shorts), some challenging climbs and the last two hours in driving rain, we looked in a sorry state when we got back to Pickering," Nick says. "But the good news is that, with the money raised by the ride plus other events such as supermarket bag packing and a school raffle we reached the £1950 total."

"Ben will wear the helmet until the end of the summer and the indications are that the treatment will be successful. Thanks to everyone who helped by pledging sponsorship"



Frazer Grant (right) and fellow cycling companion, Martin Shields reach the Tower at the end of their tour

### Frazer's tour to France

Frazer Grant of Solway Steel, a customer of ASD metal services Carlisle, went international with his charity bike ride, making a 300-mile trip from London to Paris.

Cycling from London to Newhaven, Frazer was one of 130 participants who then crossed the Channel by ferry to complete the French leg of the journey from Dieppe to the foot of the Eiffel Tower.

"It took four days in all and I was able to raise £1500 for Kidney Research," remarks Frazer, Design Office Manager at the Killoch-based structural engineering company. "A big thanks to the team at Carlisle for their donation."

**ASD metal services  
Norfolk's ever-popular,  
annual open fishing day  
went swimmingly at Decoy  
Lakes in Whittlesey, near  
Peterborough on 18th July.**

With 17 competitors this year, the pressure was on Graham Carter from Balsham Buildings who won last year's event. Unfortunately Graham could not emulate his 2007 performance but did manage a respectable 4th place.

Results of the day –

1<sup>st</sup> - John Chalk from Hyprosteps  
2<sup>nd</sup> - Gary Ruickbie from Harrod UK  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Kevin Wilson from Harrod UK  
Best Specimen – a 10lb carp caught by Gary Ruickbie from Harrod UK  
"It was another great day and all our customers thoroughly

## Gone fishing!



*Regional Manager  
Spencer Bishop  
(pictured back, far  
right) with fellow  
competitors*

enjoyed the match," comments Regional Manager, Spencer Bishop who organised the event. Spencer has already arranged a date for next year's day - Friday 3rd July 2009 - so if you are a regular, be

sure to put it in your diary. If you are not familiar with the Norfolk fishing days and would like an invitation, please call Spencer on 01553 761 431 to reserve your peg.

## Kenya trip secured

**ASD metal services'  
Operations Department in  
Leeds stepped in with the  
remaining funds required to  
send a young Scout on an  
expedition to Kenya.**

14-year-old Nathan Drewell from the 29th South West Leeds Scout

Group needed to raise £2500 to fund the trip which involved building a classroom for a local village and undertaking a flora and fauna survey for the Kenyan National Museum.

"Nathan showed real determination to raise the money by, amongst other things, running

a tuck shop at the local scout group, doing two newspaper rounds and completing a sponsored walk in the Yorkshire Dales," explains David Cox, Group Operations Manager. "We were delighted to top up his efforts in order to secure his place on this life-enhancing trip."

## Alex takes the plunge

**If there is one way to conquer your fear of heights, it's to jump out of a plane at 10,000 ft!**

That's just what Alex Knight from Organically Coated Steels (OCS) did during the summer when he successfully completed a tandem skydive over Whitchurch Airfield in Shropshire in aid of the charity Childline.

"I've never been great with heights," admits Alex who works in Internal Sales at OCS in Kidderminster. "I was pretty chuffed that I did it and surprised at how few nerves I had before the big moment. It was 100% excitement and I

definitely feel stronger in myself for having taken the plunge. A great experience." Alex is further looking to conquer his fear of heights by completing an abseil within the next year.



## Spencer lines up with the stars for charity match

Sunday 6th July 2008 is a day that will be forever etched in Spencer Bishop's memory. As a lifelong Aston Villa supporter, it was the day when he got to play opposite some of his greatest footballing heroes.



*Spencer Bishop tackles Gordon Cowans in the charity match whilst Neil Rioch looks on.*

Photograph courtesy of the Daventry Express

Regional Manager for ASD metal services Daventry and Norfolk, Spencer helped organise the special charity football match against the Aston Villa Old Stars – a squad made up of former players from the Midlands based Premier League club. "It was an amazing experience - I was absolutely honoured to be playing with Villa legends like Gordon Cowans, Colin Gibson, Nigel Spink, Gary Parker and Mark Kinsella," he told metal matters.

Spencer's team – the Daventry Aston Villa Supporters Club – was created especially for the occasion. The match was held at the Ford Sports and Social Club in Daventry and over 1200 spectators turned out in support. In all, a fantastic £15,000 was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care - the nominated charity.

"It was a big thrill when we hit the post in the first five minutes and, after 32 minutes, the Old Stars were only winning 1:0," Spencer explains. "In fact, as we were playing, Gary Parker said to me 'At least we know we're in a game!' However, the final score was 11:0 – but not bad for a scratch team of over 35-year-olds, some of whom hadn't played for 20 years or more! Our goalie, who was named man of the match, was brilliant and saved us from losing by a lot more. It was a brilliant day, I'll never forget it - I don't mind admitting I was star-struck!"

### A 25.5-mile hike up hill and down dale saw ASD metal services' Wayne Parker and a group of seven friends raise £1000 for Wakefield Hospice in July.

Wayne, a Supervisor at the company's Central Stocks facility in Leeds who has been with the company for 18 years, tackled Yorkshire's Three Peaks – Pen-Y-Ghent (2272 ft), Wharfedale (2415 ft) and Ingleborough (2372 ft) and completed the trek in 11.5 hours non-stop.

"I'm a regular walker but it was a tough challenge," he remarks. "I didn't feel too bad immediately afterwards but knew about it in the next few days. It took nearly a week to recover!"

"We stopped for the occasional breather but in order to get the official certificate of achievement, you have to finish in under 12 hours. Sandwiches and chocolate kept us going. I'd like to thank ASD metal services staff and the company who helped with sponsorship and made it such a successful money-raising event."

## Wayne's walk



*Wayne stops for a breather during his marathon walk.*

# Stop Press

## ASD multitop

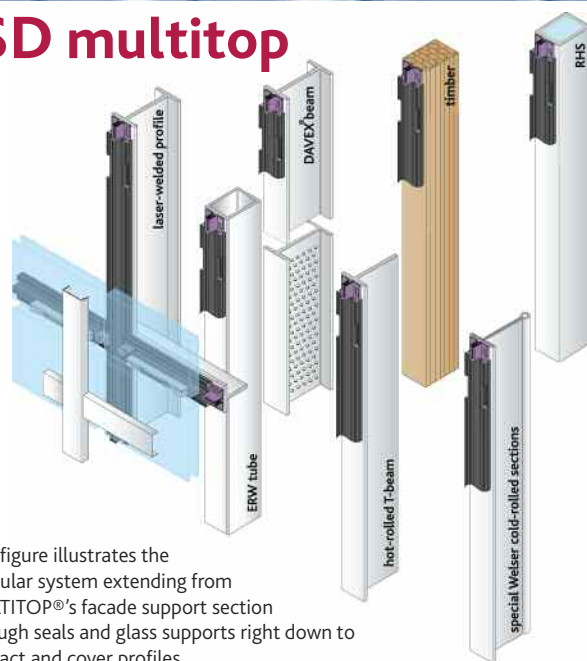
### When structural steel meets glass façade

The new ASD Multitop glazing attachment system supplied by ASD Architectural is an exciting innovation. It simplifies glazed curtain walling and roof lights with large unsupported spans (in excess of 13m) and can minimize complex framework requirements.

Easily fabricated on-site, ASD Multitop bolt-on profiles can easily be fixed directly to almost any type of steel beams, structural angle or RHS using either a Hilti fastening gun or traditional welding methods.

Functional yet remaining transparent, delicate and lightweight, ASD Multitop meets the demands of modern architects to create buildings flooded with light and engineered to

#### ASD multitop



This figure illustrates the modular system extending from MULTITOP®'s facade support section through seals and glass supports right down to contact and cover profiles.

maximum structural engineering specifications. It has been used for the first time in the UK at the Royal Courts of Justice in London where ASD Multitop was fixed on a 180x80x5 RHS to achieve an impressive 8m clear span.

For more details contact ASD Architectural on:

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