

METAL MATTERS

CBM NEWS

A new platform
for championing
British metalforming

Page 2

FORGING

Bringing forging
“back to the future”

Page 10

FASTENER

Investment in fully
temperature-controlled
and programmable bar end
heating furnaces aims to
reduce carbon footprint

Page 11

SHEET METAL

SFS delivers seamless
finish for Exeter Police
Station

Page 13

TECHNICAL

AMCASH: fully funded
metallurgy support
for SMEs

Page 20

EMPLOYMENT LAW

How to bring staff back
off furlough

Page 24



BROOKS FORGINGS



FORGING, BENDING AND FABRICATION SERVICES OVER 20 MANUFACTURING PROCESSES



Robot Forging



Upset Forging



Drop Forging



Counterblow Forging



Open Die Forging



Hand Forging



Hot & Cold Bending



Hot & Cold Pressing



Swaging & Pointing



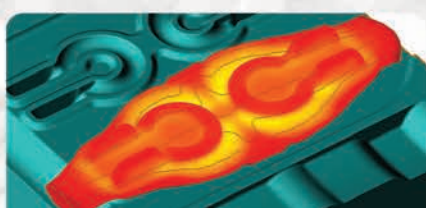
Machining



Fabrication & Assembly



Flash Butt Welding



Forging Simulation



Quality Control



Warehousing



tel. +44 (0)1384 563356

sales@brooksforgings.co.uk

www.brooksforgings.co.uk



CBM News

- 2: A new platform for championing British metalforming
- 3: Fastener Specialist turns Policy Advisor
- 3: Meet Derek Barnes – CBM Fastener Specialist

CBM Board

- 4: Steve Hardeman joins CBM Board
- 5: Meet the CBM board of directors

CBM Membership

- 8: Whats in it for you?

CBM Services

- 9: New lean and business excellence service

Forging

- 10: Bringing forging "Back to the Future"

Fasteners

- 11: Investment in fully temperature controlled and programmable bar end heating furnaces aims to reduce carbon footprint

Sheet Metal

- 12: Automotive supplier adapts due to pandemic
- 12: Reliability through the Pandemic
- 13: SFS delivers seamless finish for Exeter Police Station

CBM new members

- 15: Compliance call recording for CBM members
- 15: RLS Tooling Ltd

Health & Safety

- 16: Are you wasting money AND exposing your employees?
- 17: Getting your business back on a new and safe track

Energy

- 18: Climate Change Agreements save CBM members £4m per year in climate change levy - a tax charged on their gas, electricity and other fuel bills
- 18: CBM Energy Services - SECR - Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting
- 19: The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), in collaboration with Innovate UK, has launched (on the 29th of June) Phase 1 of the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF)
- 19: Total Expands FOLIA metalworking fluid range

Technical

- 20: AMCASH: Fully funded metallurgy support for SMEs

Training

- 22: Tool Process Design Engineer Apprenticeship - greater flexibility agreed
- 22: Help with getting apprentices in the workplace after COVID-19
- 23: How to turn strategy into action?

Employment Law

- 24: How to bring staff back off furlough
- 25: Adapting to the new normal – implementing contract changes to get your business back on track

News

- 26: Grants for manufacturers
- 26: CBM annual dinner & awards - update

Membership Directory

- 28: Fastener Manufacturer Members
- 28: Forging Manufacturer Members
- 29: Sheet Metal Manufacturer Members
- 30: Cold Rolled Manufacturer Members
- 31: Fastener Supplier Members
- 31: Forging Supplier Members
- 31: Sheet Metal Supplier Members
- 32: Commercial Supplier Members

up and coming events

- **CBM Health, Safety and Environment Group 1**
5th September 9.30 via Zoom
- **Cash-positive investment strategies**
20th September
- **Advanced Engineering**
4th – 5th November
- **MACH and Subcon**
25th – 28th January 2021
- **CBM and AMCASH Workshop**
16th September 10am
- **Webinar - Fast, Easy, Accurate & Affordable Forming Simulation**
13th October 2pm
- **Metallurgy for Non- Metallurgist**
17th to 18th November
- **For more information or to register for these events please contact Melinda Jean, e: melinda.jean@thebcm.co.uk**

• President

Steve Morley
president@thebcm.co.uk

• Chief Executive

Geraldine Bolton
MCMI, Dip.OCR, MAAT, M.IIM
geraldine.bolton@thebcm.co.uk

• Fastener Sector Specialist

Derek Barnes
derek.barnes@thebcm.co.uk

• Forging Sector Specialist

Derek Bond
derek.bond@thebcm.co.uk

• Sheet Metal & Cold Rolled Specialist

Adrian Nicklin ISME
adrian.nicklin@thebcm.co.uk

• Health, Safety & Environment Consultant

Mark Sutton
AIEMA, MRSPH
mark.sutton@thebcm.co.uk

• Energy Specialist

Kevin Kirk
kevin.kirk@thebcm.co.uk

• Policy Advisor

Phil Matten
phil.matten@thebcm.co.uk

• Company Secretary & Office Manager

Louise Campbell
louise.campbell@thebcm.co.uk

• Membership & Events Secretary

Melinda Jean
melinda.jean@thebcm.co.uk

• Media & Communications Administrator

Rachael Bromley
rachael.bromley@thebcm.co.uk

• NMC Conferencing Supervisor

Marie Williams
marie.williams@nmcvenue.com

• Receptionist

Jan Taylor
reception@nmcvenue.com

• Events Co-ordinator

Charlotte Robinson
reception@nmcvenue.com

• How to contact us

Confederation of British Metalforming
National Metalforming Centre,
47 Birmingham Road,
West Bromwich,
West Midlands B70 6PY.
Telephone: 0121 601 6350
Enquiries & Advertising:
Rachael Bromley
Media & Communications Administrator
Email: Rachael.bromley@thebcm.co.uk
Web: www.thebcm.co.uk
Find us on LinkedIn
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A new platform for championing British metalforming

You may have noticed a change in this edition of Metal Matters – and on the CBM website and email footers. We have a new logo that reflects Britain's importance within the global metalforming industry – and our industry's importance to the UK economy.

We're at a critical juncture for British metalforming

The new logo is more than a cosmetic change. It reflects our strategic direction for the coming months and years – as our industry navigates the post-COVID, post-Brexit future.

As *the* voice representing interests specific to metalforming, we've stepped up our lobbying over the past 24 months. We're continuing this momentum as Brexit trade negotiations accelerate and the Government makes crucial decisions on coronavirus recovery efforts.

"CBM's COVID support has been brilliant – and we look forward to continued engagement"

That's what one member said recently. Our comprehensive support included practical help with navigating the nuances of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the many loan packages on offer.

Thanks to members' regular input on challenges, we're ensuring stakeholders have a detailed and accurate picture of how COVID is affecting metalforming – and have been able to get positive responses to your many concerns. In fact, two new members have joined the CBM board as a result of these services.

Importantly, our COVID efforts have also involved collaboration with partner trade associations as well as with the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Trade credit insurance was a major victory

One big success story from our COVID support related to trade credit insurance. Several members raised concerns that trade credit insurance was being pulled in the wake of the pandemic. This issue is very specific to our tiers of the supply chain and was at risk of being neglected.

CBM President Steve Morley took up the cause. He marshalled support from partner trade associations, and he coordinated directly with the Treasury and Government advisers at the Association of British Insurers.

This input helped inform an effective trade credit support package. Not only has it been of immense benefit to CBM members, but we've also received thanks from our partners for leading an initiative that's benefited their members, too. We've continued to engage with the relevant stakeholders as members report back to us with implementation hiccups.

Metalforming interests in coronavirus recovery

Metalforming and the supply chains in which it functions will be crucial to the UK's post-pandemic recovery. We've been having twice-weekly calls with BEIS and regular contact with our partner trade associations. And as discussions move towards recovery packages, we're making sure metalforming interests are taken into account. For example, we're actively promoting:

- The importance of ongoing stimulus for automotive and aerospace
- Practical steps to support reshoring
- Metalforming-specific skills issues, from apprenticeships through to post-furlough training requirements
- Energy-related support – looking at everything from easing the regulatory burden through to managing costs

Please keep informing us of your business' experience – what it's like on the ground and what your challenges are. That way, we'll continue having evidence for Government and can keep getting positive responses to your concerns.

Get your voice heard on Brexit trade negotiations

Brexit will shape our industry for years to come – so metalforming voices need to be heard now. BEIS have asked us to give input on Rules of Origin and other elements related to Brexit trade negotiations.

This process is important between now and the end of 2020, but will also be crucial as details get refined after the transition period ends. CBM's new Policy Advisor, Phil Matten, will be playing an important role here – delving into legislation and homing in on areas that will affect metalforming. That way, we can get involved at earlier, more impactful stages of consultation.

Keep up to date with developments – and get even more value out of your CBM membership

There's never been a more important time to engage with the CBM and ensure your interests are represented. Get the latest metalforming-specific COVID information from the Member's Hub on our website. Give us your thoughts on recovery packages and trade deal considerations. Tell us what your issues are, so we can help resolve them.

Last year we hit new heights in terms of lobbying effectiveness, best practice sharing and savings on Climate Change Levy and ESOS assessments - we helped members save more than £4 million in CCL alone. This year we're reaching even higher with the value we offer. After all, it's a critical time for British metalforming. And as our new logo demonstrates, we're proud to champion our vital industry.

Steve Morley,
**President of the
Confederation of British Metalforming**



• Steve Morley,
CBM President

Fastener specialist turns Policy Advisor

Phil Matten joined CBM three years ago, at the behest of members keen to see the CBM fastener sector reenergised, following a period of relative inactivity without a dedicated specialist.

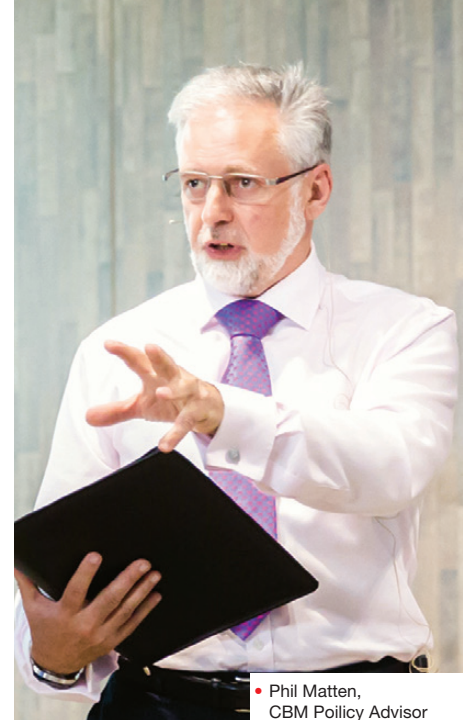
Working alongside CBM board members Andrew Nuttall and then David Harvey, Phil reintroduced regular sector meetings, hosted at informative venues, including WMG, Dudley College, British Steel and AMRC. He also launched the first CBM Fastener Mini-Expo at the NMC. These activities reengaged existing members, attracted both new and returning manufacturing and associate members, and boosted the sector's profile.

Twenty years as editor of Fastener + Fixing Magazine means Phil has been inside more fastener factories across the world than most. Despite that global overview, however, he has always been clear he is not a manufacturing engineer and would readily pass the baton to a more qualified fastener specialist able to knowledgeably engage in members' manufacturing and technical processes. "I've always tried to leave any role better than I found it and to provide a solid foundation on which a successor could build," explains Phil.

"I was, therefore, delighted when Derek Barnes shared that he was establishing his cold forming consultancy - and doubly so when he agreed to commit some of his time to drive the CBM fastener sector forward. I look forward to working with Derek to ensure a positive transition."

Behind the scenes, Phil has contributed extensively to CBM. The Covid-19 crisis, though, demonstrated his aptitude to collect, collate and unravel legislative and regulatory output, so members could be more effectively advised. "We have been very grateful to Phil for his work with the CBM fastener sector," says Geraldine Bolton. "Now, with an excellent successor in place and the end of the Brexit transition looming, I am delighted he has agreed to take on the policy advisor role to support CBM members in navigating through what are clearly going to be further turbulent and complex times."

Phil Matten
CBM email phil.matten@thecbm.co.uk



• Phil Matten,
CBM Policy Advisor

Meet Derek Barnes – CBM fastener specialist

The first and perhaps most important thing to say about Derek Barnes is that he is truly passionate about Cold Forging and dedicated to driving improvements in both processes and operator education and understanding.

Derek has a wealth of experience in the fastener industry, specifically in production and engineering responsibilities, progressing from Machine Setter to Global Cold Forging Engineer for one of the most advanced and innovative cold forming manufacturers around. Along the way, he complemented that hands-on experience, by collecting a solid list of engineering qualifications, through a BTEC and HND in Engineering to a Bachelor of Science Degree. He also holds City and Guilds Training and Development and NVQ Assessors Awards.

Derek possesses a high level of expertise in the setting, operation and maintenance of single die, double die and multi station



• Derek Barnes,
CBM Fastener Specialist

machines, working with Carlo Salvi, National, Sakamura and Waterbury Farrel cold headers, and Saspi thread rollers. For the past 25 years Derek has worked closely with machine suppliers to implement improvements to manufacture performance critical fastening technologies. Successfully taking products from design through to manufacture has meant utilising progression and tooling design skills, coupled with finite element analysis knowledge.

Derek established a successful track record in building and managing cold forging departments, both in the UK and the United States. That's meant mastering and demonstrating people management, tooling design, document and drawing control, machine and ancillary equipment specifications, supplier development and tooling purchasing.

Passing on his knowledge has been a core element of Derek's career. He has written, implemented and delivered in-house training programs and manuals to develop personnel in the efficient setting and operation of cold forging and thread rolling machinery.

Not surprising, then, that CBM is extremely pleased to welcome Derek as its new fastener specialist. That's a welcome, we're sure, will be echoed by CBM fastener sector members, many of whom already know Derek well, through his long-term support of and participation in CBM fastener sector events.

Derek says, "my first priority is to visit all the CBM fastener sector members as soon as I can. It's very important to me to get a first-hand understanding of the issues facing them right now and to explore how they see the CBM fastener sector moving forward, in order to support them and attract a growing fastener manufacturing membership."

Derek Barnes
CBM email Derek.barnes@thecbm.co.uk

Steve Hardeman joins CBM board

In this issue we have a more detailed interview with the fastener sector representative on the CBM board, Steve Hardeman, who is supporting the development of services offered to the fastener sector members

I was born in Ladywood, Birmingham and leaving school with few qualifications went straight into an engineering apprenticeship. Twenty-three years of night school took me through an HNC in Mechanical Engineering and a BA Honours in Business Studies. Following a number of management roles, I became a director of Clevedon Fasteners in 1990, general manager at Aylesbury Automation's fastener division in 1998. In 2000 I bought into Clevedon as a minority shareholder, and bought out our major shareholder in 2016. Now Managing Director and joint owner with Charles Hopkins, as Financial Director.

What qualities can I bring to the CBM Board? I would say tenacity, direct speaking and the ability to think outside the box. What I would really like to see is the CBM grow and become the "go to" trade associations for manufacturers involved in metalworking. Key to that

is moving the association in a direction that enables members to have a trusted, authoritative resource upon which they can rely. In the immediate future the challenge for everyone in the metalworking sector is to survive the effects of Covid-19 and make the transition from EU membership to a standalone manufacturing nation a real success. We need a strong, active trade body to support us and be a potent voice for our needs.

I am delighted that we are now able to strengthen the technical capability of the CBM Fastener Sector by bringing an experienced and talented fastener engineer on-board in the form of Derek Barnes. During the pandemic the focused Zoom meetings run by Derek Bond and Phil Matten have been a great success and should, I believe, form the basis for sector meetings going forwards. We don't know how long we have to live and work alongside this virus, but that aside this meeting format eliminates travelling time and means members can time-effectively catch-up on key issues and information.

We all have the technology now to present short, self-shot video tours of our members' manufacturing processes and specialisms. Similarly, there are opportunities to 'see' what's new at our associate members' operations – whether heat treatment, plating or toolmaking.

We should also continue to build in a five minute 'business news' section to each meeting covering latest developments and relevant statistics.

Above all, I am really keen to hear what members want included.

Over recent months the CBM has clearly demonstrated it can effectively deliver crucial information, whether it is about Government guidelines or best practices in safe working. It has also proven it is an effective voice for metalforming – whether direct to Government or via larger trade bodies that lack our tight connection to the 'coal face'.

What we definitely all need to do, as members, is reinforce CBM's initiatives. That's as simple as taking a couple of minutes to like a CBM Tweet or comment on a Linked-In post - or writing a quick email to your own MP pointing out why what the CBM is saying matters to your business.

I look forward to seeing you at the next Forging & Fastener Sector Meeting.



• Steve Hardeman,
Managing Director,
Clevedon Fasteners Ltd



Meet the CBM board of directors

Sheet Metal Group -



Steve Tinley,
Commercial Director
of APS Metal
Pressings Ltd

1 Please tell us about your personal background

I joined William King, a steel service centre in West Bromwich, from high school back in 1981, where I joined as a Sales office trainee, from there I have moved around the industry. Walkersteel joining in 1983 for a brief spell, Bore Steel Limited, where I spent 13 years, based in Bescot, Walsall, which was eventually bought out by British Steel. Under the British Steel Distribution business, I embarked upon their fast track programme, eventually being entered for an MBA programme at Aston University, where I graduated in July 1996. In January 1998 I sought to run my own business and Powell Steels Limited was formed and I ran this until 2007. I then joined William King Limited again for a second time and spent 7 years as a Sales Manager. I was then head hunted by APS Metal Pressings Limited, an Automotive stamping company who had been a customer of mine for 25 years and they offered me the position of Commercial Manager to begin with in May 2014 and since have been promoted to Commercial Director, where the work undertaken on the procurement side and thereafter the steel trading arm of the business enabled the company to grow and evolve into more profitable sectors.

2 In which sector are you primarily interested?

Primarily interest lies within the Sheet Metal Sector where I reside on the CBM Board.

3 How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

Served for coming up to 2 years and wanted to promote APS and try to bring together UK business to try to work together in order to create a manufacturing base again to compete with Europe when Brexit deal was finalised.

4 What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

Firstly, an underlying passion for my industry sector and manufacturing in general, this is conjunction with hard work, a willingness to listen and be open minded to other ideas and provide an honest approach, hopefully with a proactive and creative mind set from the years of experience gained.

5 What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

A fresh approach due to the years I have had within the steel industry and an integrated in depth knowledge of the supply chain functions from steel mill to OEM.

6 How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

Maintains a position of independency to the association, allowing it to continue to be a true, creative and inspiring body, allied with individual expertise in a technical and commercial manner to assist the membership as a whole.

7 What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

Challenges to face include how we bounce back from Covid and the ultimate job losses that have been witnessed already, Brexit issues, particular if a deal is not struck between Europe & UK, productivity issues within the UK compared to other areas of the world, the skills gap which has been something on the agenda for a while now and how we inspire youngsters into the Engineering field, how we challenge Government to look into our sector as a growing part of GDP for the future.

8 How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

It is obvious, that the CBM during these unprecedented times have been a constant source of information and advice, the alliance with core Governmental departments has allowed them to be at the centre of the information hub and provide an invaluable service to the membership and this area going forward will be the mainstay of the support to be provided.

9 Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

Because it provides a clear voice for the industry, an industry that has been let down in the past by other associations and I am proud to be a member of a body that does everything it can to assist, in all areas, productivity, safety, human resource, technical areas, apprenticeships...etc.



Paul Jagers,
Engineering Director
of Stadco Ltd

1. Please tell us about your personal background

I have been in the sheet metal related industry for 40 years. I began my career in the Product Design area designing body structure for

most of the large OEM's and have worked overseas for extended periods of time in India, US, Brazil, Sweden and a number of other European countries. I ran the old Motor Panel/ Mayflower site in Coventry for a number of years focussing on Concept Design, Vehicle Aesthetic Design, Show Cars & Prototyping and low volume manufacture. I have spent time in Programme Management completely overhauling the company processes and procedures. I have spent time managing R&D and have developed the predictive simulation approach to metal forming and assembly to improve our right first time performance. I now get involved with the wider organisation under Magna helping out where I can and have recently got involved in applying some of the same developments to thin wall high pressure die casting.

2. In which sector are you primarily interested?

My interest is still very much in the sheet metal forming and joining sector. The sector rarely stays still for long and there is always something to learn.

3. How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

I am a new member of the Board this year. Before accepting the position of Board Member for the CBM I spent some time looking at what the CBM does and how it operates and decided that I would like to be part of the team.

4. What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

I have always contributed to organisations and have a wide range of experience in the metal forming industry not just in UK but from the different ways things are done around the world. I work well in a team environment and I look forward to working with the rest of the Board.

5. What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

I have a broad range of skills covering all elements of business that will hopefully be of benefit to the CBM.

6. How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

I am very new to the Board but all organisations need to spend their time and efforts on the right things for its members and the Board is there to ensure the right issues are being addressed and the voice of our sector is heard.

7. What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

The industry has in front of it one of the most difficult times it has seen for many years. The combined effects of Covid19 that is yet to and finally the stuttering move to electrification are all significant hurdles in their own right and

jointly they will have significant effect on our industry.

8. How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

I have little experience at this stage but can already see the benefits the CBM brings to its members in the support it has given, and still gives through the Covid19 crisis. There are other challenges on the horizon with Brexit and its effect of the member companies and lobbying as a group can only give us the best outcome for our sector.

9. Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

If there is anything that the recent Covid19 crisis has shown us is that sector organisations such as the CBM will be able to get the attention, information and results that individual companies are unlikely to achieve. Companies can benefit from the learning of other member companies that share the same pressures and concerns in the most part.



Christopher Greenough
Chief Commercial Officer of Salop Design and Engineering Ltd

1. Please tell us about your personal background

I have worked at SDE Technology, a trading name for Salop Design & Engineering Ltd for 26 years. I started as a press operator and have worked in every department, and am now Chief Commercial Officer.

2. In which sector are you primarily interested?

Metal press work, but also fabrications and powder coating across all sectors.

3. How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

I have been on the Board for (I think) 2-3 years.

4. What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

Someone who is dedicated to the manufacturing sector, and is willing to put time and effort in to making improvements within the group.

5. What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

With my positivity and enthusiasm, I have a good knowledge of both manufacturing and training provision within the sector.

6. How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

The Board helps steer both policy and allows the members input into decisions. Under a strong leadership, as we have currently, the Board can achieve great things.

7. What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

With the Covid-19 impact and the ever looming Brexit effect, it is going to be a tough time for metalworking and manufacturing going forward. Now more than ever, members need the CBM to be working on policies and getting our voice heard in both local and central Government.

8. How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

By lobbying to get more support for investment, innovation and allowing direct feed into policy.

9. Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

We need to raise the profile of CBM, to make it the go to membership group for all manufacturers.



Steve Moyle, BA FCCA
Finance Director of Milton Keynes Pressings Group

I am relatively new to the metal forming sector having entered the industry 6 years ago. I started my career in the automotive sector, gaining my accountancy qualification working for Audi Volkswagen. After qualification I moved to the media sector and held Finance Director positions for several companies in newspaper publishing. I was able to witness first-hand the rapid growth in free newspapers, followed by the decline in regional newspaper advertising and the challenges thrown up by what was then referred to as new media. I left newspapers shortly after the banking crisis in 2008 and since then have gained broad experience in different sectors. I was appointed FD of Milton Keynes Pressings Group in 2014 and continue to enjoy being part of a successful manufacturing operation, where there is much satisfaction in seeing tangible products being delivered to businesses across the UK and Europe. Outside of work I enjoy cycling, squash, playing the guitar (badly!) and am a long-suffering West Ham supporter!

I first worked with the CBM in 2017 when I sat on the finance group. I was appointed to the board in November 2018 and continue to take the lead in finance matters. There are many talented people on the board with expertise in specific sectors of metal forming. I see my role as ensuring the CBM is well run financially, has a strong balance sheet, and is accountable to our members. We have recently overhauled the accounts preparation process and now have better quality management information across all business operations. My background in business modelling and forecasting means I am able to

review the annual budgets and recommend any changes to the board.

The sectors I am most interested in are manufacturing of tooling, metal pressing and welded fabrication. Milton Keynes Pressings supply businesses in a variety of sectors but a number of our key customers are in the automotive sector, so I am particularly interested in future developments within the motor industry particularly around electric vehicles.

The challenges facing the metalworking industry in the short to medium term are many and varied (I am not going to say "unprecedented", but this is the case!). If the Covid19 pandemic was not enough, we still have the issues caused by Brexit to deal with at the end of the transition period. It seems a trade deal is still some way off and we need to be prepared for tariffs, border delays and raw material price increases. We should however be aware of any opportunities which arise. Major manufacturers may look to UK based suppliers as offering continuity of supply and less transport risk.

Why does the CBM matter? We have seen that during the Covid19 pandemic CBM has really risen to the occasion. It is pleasing to see the access we have had to senior politicians and decision makers at the highest level. The regular updates provided to members have been invaluable and help make individual businesses feel less isolated. We all know our industry has not had great success in attracting new talent, and a strong trade body should help by encouraging strong links with colleges and universities, the CBM is well-placed to achieve this. The opportunities for networking, training, and sharing best practice make the CBM a valuable business partner for all members.

Forging Group -



Mark Webber,
Managing Director of Tinsley Bridge

1. Please tell us about your personal background

Degree in Civil Engineering. Started with Lucas Electrical in IT and then doing jobs in Production Management and Marketing. Moved to Sheffield to join Tinsley Bridge in 1989. Had 4 years as MD of Chapmans Agricultural before returning back to Tinsley Bridge as MD in 2001.

2. In which sector are you primarily interested?

I have spent most of my working life in Automotive industry with Lucas and TB. Tinsley Bridge now focuses on the European Truck industry. Our other 2 group companies

focus on cutting blades for steel and scrap industry and a fabrication business capable of handling large complex projects.

3. How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

July 2020.

4. What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

I will tell you in a years time! Listening to members and supporting the executive team.

5. What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

An understanding of the issues in manufacturing today and what we need to change for the better for tomorrow. Having spent nearly 40 years in manufacturing I have lived and worked through a lot of business problems in my time!

6. How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

There is no better demonstration than the leadership and support given by CBM during the unprecedented Covid crisis.

7. What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

Recovering from Covid, Brexit and increasing automation to remain competitive.

8. How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

By listening and responding to the needs of the membership.

9. Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

Again I think the last 4 months have shown the benefit that the CBM has brought to our sector by challenging and supporting Government to make the right decisions to support business.



Anthony Thomas
Managing Director
of Crosby Premier
Stampings Ltd

1. Please tell us about your personal background

I joined Crosby Premier Stampings Ltd some 31 years ago as an apprentice draughtsman. It never crossed my mind at that time, that I would become Managing Director of the same company some years later. Of course it was a long and varied journey, with extended periods in die and tooling design, technical sales, production management etc, culminating in the managing directors role some 14 years ago.

2. In which sector are you primarily interested?

Having worked in the forging industry for my whole career to date, this is definitely my area of focus.

3. How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

I am a new board member for 2020. Having had exposure to the CBM (and its forerunner the BFA) in different forms over the years, I decided I wanted a voice in the future of our sector.

4. What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

Drive, experience and a passion for the sector I represent.

5. What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

A determination to help raise the profile of the CBM with UK manufacturing.

6. How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

Quite simply, I feel the board should be the voice of the membership and by listening to member's needs, should help steer the sector through these challenging times.

7. What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

We will all face a steep uphill challenge to return to pre-Covid levels. This should also be seen as an opportunity to take advantage of the issues we saw in long, complicated supply chains. There could be a real prospect of supply chains being simplified and an element of reshoring taking place in the future. We need to ensure the sector is in a strong enough position to take advantage of this potential.

8. How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

We have to support the membership in a number of different ways. A strong voice at Government level, allied with timely advice to the membership will help. However I am also convinced that we can do a better job of informing the membership of the things the CBM already provide to help and support the sector.

9. Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

The CBM can help raise the profile of the metalworking sector within UK manufacturing. For example the CBM can influence government policy, provide advice to its members, train the future needs of the industry and ensure we are positioned as a sector, to meet the demands of the future.

Associates Group -



Kevin Kirk,
Owner of Forge Tech
Services UK Ltd and
Energy Consultant
at CBM

1. Please tell us about your personal background

I am the owner of Forge Tech Services UK Ltd who have been a service company to the Forging Sector for over 35 years. I joined the company in 1985 as an apprentice engineer and have since worked worldwide installing and refurbishing all types of forging equipment. My knowledge of all types of presses and ancillary equipment has allowed me to become the CBM's Energy Specialist with a broad knowledge of energy saving projects.

2. In which sector are you primarily interested?

Hot forging and energy saving.

3. How long have you served on the CBM Board? What made you decide to become a CBM Board member?

I joined the CBM board as the Associate members representative in March 2008.

4. What qualities do you feel make an excellent board member?

Industry knowledge.

5. What do you feel you especially bring to the CBM Board?

35 years of experience within the Metalforming industry across the world.

6. How do you feel the Board contributes to the CBM and its membership?

The CBM board are the voice of the membership and help guide the CBM's policy's to ensure members get value for money and their voice heard.

7. What will be the key challenges and issues for the metalworking industry to face in the next three years.

The Covid 19 virus has created a global economic slowdown that will affect all members sales figures. Keeping key experienced staff through the hard times will be difficult.

8. How do you feel the CBM will be best able to support its membership going forward?

Promote the UK, Metalforming sector and lobby government in areas that will help all members.

9. Why should the CBM matter to everyone in the Metalworking Sector?

The CBM aim to be the voice of the Metalforming sector that government listen to, helping influence policy decisions that aid the sector.

THE CBM – HELPING THE UK'S METALFORMING INDUSTRIES TO PROSPER AND GROW

CBM MEMBERSHIP... WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?



CBM is the leading trade association for UK manufacturers of fasteners, forgings, pressings and cold rolled products; the very building blocks of UK manufacturing. CBM members provide high quality components to key industry sectors; indeed virtually every manufacturing sector buys components from a CBM member company, most of which hold a range of third party quality accreditations.

In addition to CBM's manufacturing companies, its associate members include suppliers of materials, equipment, consumables and services, universities and research bodies – a true reflection of CBM's support of a totally integrated metalforming community.

GOVERNMENT LOBBYING

- Lobbying on sector issues and challenges
- Industrial strategy
- Submissions to government consultations

ENERGY

- Climate Change Levy rebates
- Energy services: measurement, Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) audits, energy efficiency workshops
- Streamlined Energy & Carbon Reporting (SECR) Reporting Service

MEMBER PROMOTION

- Enquiries
- Buyers' guide
- CBM website
- Exhibitions
- Metal Matters magazine

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Expert knowledge about fastener, sheet metal/presswork, cold rolling and forging techniques

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Regular health, safety & environment group meetings
- Accident statistics to reduce accidents
- Helpline for all your health & safety questions
- Occupational health services

TRAINING/SKILLS /ENGAGEMENT WITH SCHOOLS

- Tackling the skills agenda
- Industry specific courses
- Raise awareness of career potential within our industry
- Metalforming Training Centre

KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

- Monthly Market reports
- Project opportunities
- Regular networking opportunities
- Briefings and Seminars
- Metal Matters magazine
- CBM website

INSURANCE SERVICES

- Cost effective insurance solutions for its members

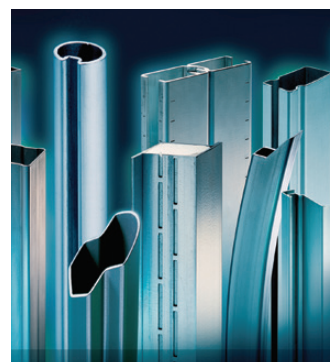
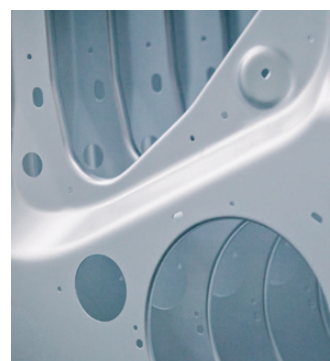
OTHER BENEFITS

- Members' buying group
- R&D tax claims
- Business support helpline for all your employment and HR questions
- International links
- National Metalforming Centre Conference Venue – Discounted rates for CBM members
- British Standards Institution

CBM MEMBERSHIP

- Full Membership is available to companies who manufacture in the UK, by metalforming processes, particularly those who are engaged in hot and cold forging, and the shaping, cutting and forming of sheet metal.
- Associate membership is available to companies and organisations who supply services to the manufacturers.

**CONTACT CBM NOW
ON 0121 601 6350**



t: 0121 601 6350 • e: info@thebcm.co.uk • www.thebcm.co.uk

Confederation of British Metalforming • National Metalforming Centre • 47 Birmingham Road • West Bromwich • West Midlands B70 6PY

New lean and business excellence service

Latest addition to CBM member services helps forgers Tinsley Bridge improve productivity.

We are delighted to welcome Steve Croft this year to CBMs consultancy team. Steve comes to us from Stadco, where he served as Director of Operations for the UK, and he brings a wealth of manufacturing leadership and improvement experience to the team, having also served previously as the European Director of Operational Excellence at Eaton Electrical. He is now working for the CBM on a self-employed basis to offer troubleshooting and productivity improvement support to our members.

The approach typically involves an initial site visit with an extended time conducting shop floor observations, followed by the facilitation of one or more lean improvement workshops. In these he works closely with the local leadership team and key company employees to help narrow in on the high-hurt problems and develop appropriate solutions. Other services can include practical training workshops to develop lean competency, performance coaching and mentoring of production and improvement project leaders. Full lean and business excellence assessments are also available to help companies plan out a structured and comprehensive business-wide lean implementation. All these initiatives seek to ensure that members can maximise their productivity and ultimately become self-sufficient in continuous improvement.

One of the first member companies to benefit from this new service provision was Tinsley Bridge in Sheffield. They engaged with Steve early in March to help them improve the productivity of a robot welding cell that manufactures truck stabiliser bars for European automotive OEMs. In order to satisfy the high levels of

customer demand, their robot cell was being supported by a manual welding operation which was adding unplanned costs and constraining their ability to take on new business.

A cross-functional team was assembled to work with Steve and over the course of three sessions an improvement plan was developed and implemented. This involved the introduction of a new lean operating standard for the cell which enabled the demand to be fulfilled without the additional manual process, together with improved daily and weekly TPM (Total Productive Maintenance) checks.

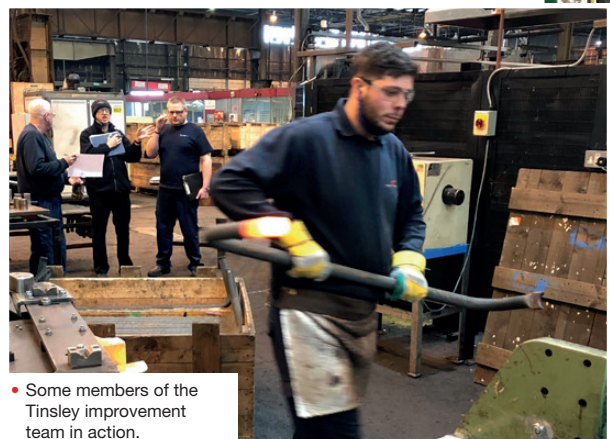
Tinsley suspended production operations on site for several weeks due to the Covid-19 pandemic and since resuming business they have continued to build on these improvements and are monitoring progress through new KPIs and regular team review meetings. All operators completed training to the new lean standard which has resulted in significant increases in output whilst the heightened TPM standards have reduced technical downtime too.

According to Russell Crow, Tinsley's Engineering Director, the support from Steve had a "big impact on performance. It's given us the confidence to add work to the cell and the experience to apply a similar structured approach elsewhere in the business."

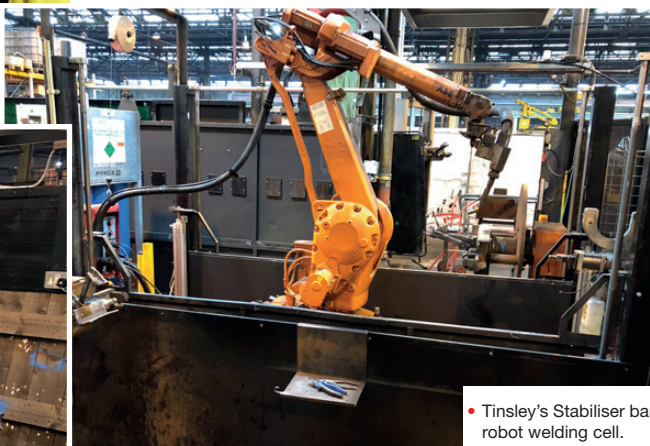
If you are a CBM member and would like to receive a site visit please contact Louise Campbell at CBM email louise.campbell@thecbm.co.uk



• Steve Croft at Tinsley Bridge Sheffield, March 2020.



• Some members of the Tinsley improvement team in action.



• Tinsley's Stabiliser bar robot welding cell.

Bringing forging “Back to the Future”

IFA are very busy integrating their 670,000ft² site which up to November 2019 were two separate companies, each with their own managements, cultures, and systems of operation.

IFA was established in 2001 when the Doncasters Group owned open die forge site in Sheffield was purchased by IFA's current owners. In November 2019, IFA acquired the Doncasters Group owned precision forge site and the two sites combined into one under the IFA banner.

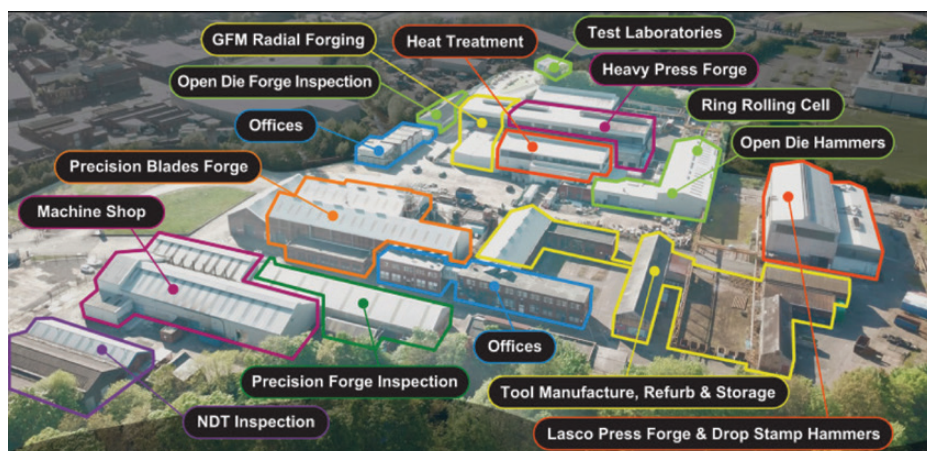
This multi-million pound investment in closed-die precision forgings created a unique 670,000 ft² fully integrated single site manufacturer of semi-finished high integrity components produced by both open-die and closed-die technologies, through open-die press, hammer, seamless ring rolling, GFM radial forging and now closed-die precision blade, drop stamp hammer and extrusion forging.

Forging is supported by on-site heat treatment, machining, mechanical & metallographic testing and critical inspections including NDT before despatch. The whole site is ISO9001/AS9100D approved and holds NADCAP accreditation for Metallic Materials

Manufacturing, Materials Testing Laboratory, Non Destructive Testing, Chemical Processing & Heat Treatment.

The acquisition and integration were well received on-site and now several months later there is one IFA offering bespoke open and closed die forged components in a wide range of alloys, titanium, nickel

& cobalt alloys, aluminium alloys, stainless steel and a range of heat and corrosion resistant steels are forged here. Toll or hire work forging of customer owned material is also offered by IFA. Plans and investments for future development of the company are already in place.



Supplying lubricant technologies to the forging industry for over 30 years

Open & closed die forging / Hot forging
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- ➔ Provide excellent **cooling effects**
- ➔ Benefit from our **150+ years experience in graphite processing**
- ➔ Are **bespoke** to suit your forging needs

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Investment in fully temperature-controlled and programable bar end heating furnaces aims to reduce carbon footprint

Brooks Forgings Ltd has been looking at ways of reducing the consumption of natural gas in its manufacturing processes.

By working closely with a company specialising in the design and manufacture of temperature controlled heating equipment we have been able to expand on the existing Brooks design, add new features, and explore new energy-efficient ways of using natural gas in the forging process, resulting in a vastly improved carbon footprint.

The newly designed and built furnaces, 4 in total for trial purposes, have been installed at our manufacturing facility based in Lye, Stourbridge in the West Midlands. For research and development purposes, the furnaces will be closely monitored and improvements made in preparation for the next wave of upgrades. Each furnace is ergonomic making them compatible with

our full range of hot forming processes and portable to accommodate the range of material lengths that we produce.

Capable of reaching temperatures of 1300°C, the furnaces have several features that help reduce the wastage of natural gas. These include a 7-day start-up and shutdown timer along with a separate idle and working temperature setting. These are digitally controlled and can be altered and set by the quality control department or by the central control room that monitors the status of each furnace.

For example, the production team can review the schedule and set the furnaces to reach an idle temperature as the workforce arrives on the premises or enter

a break or lunchtime, switching to and maintaining a uniform working temperature as they step back onto the factory floor. This reduces the use of natural gas and also increases the overall efficiency of the manufacturing process.

Please visit our website www.brooksforgeings.co.uk to learn more about our manufacturing processes and components. If we can assist with any requirements please do not hesitate to contact us by email sales@brooksforgeings.co.uk or telephone +44(0)1384 563356.



Automotive supplier adapts due to pandemic

Business dramatically changes for engineering firm, supplying to some of the leading car manufactures now supplying hospital beds to the NHS.

Milton Keynes Pressings Ltd (MKP) is a family run business established in 1985. Based in Bletchley, they are a highly respected engineering company supplying metal pressings, welded assemblies and fine limit sheet metal components into a variety of industries.

Normal day to day activity would see metal parts being loaded onto lorries to be sent around the country to some of the leading car manufacturers. When COVID19 hit the UK, business dramatically changed for MKP. Instead of producing parts for the automotive industry, they started manufacturing NHS hospital beds that soon would be sent to the Nightingale Hospitals around the country.

A lot of planning and thought had to go into this task from welding to packaging and all while practicing social distancing, but staff rose to the challenge and the beds proved to be a real success. We can't thank our wonderful staff enough who worked nonstop to get them

manufactured and ready to be shipped out on time.

With restrictions being lifted we are finally getting back to supplying our regular customers again. We now know with the

extraordinary team that we have and our manufacturing capabilities, we can adapt to any situation presented to us.



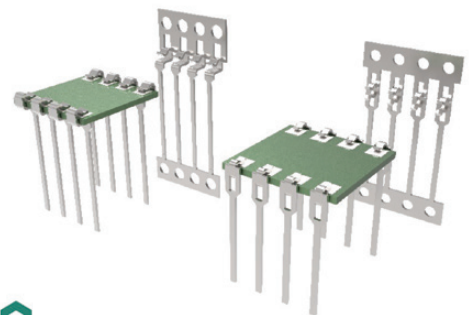
Reliability through the pandemic

Supporting our customers' throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we're proud to say that our core values and attention to detail - #engineeringreliability - have allowed us to remain fully open and operational throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic.

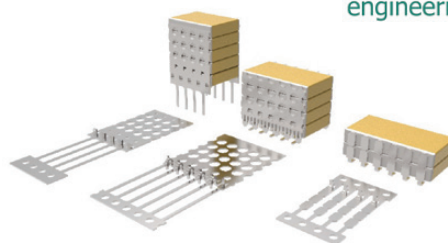
Whilst maintaining our normal supply for customers in the electronics, automotive, defence and industrial markets we have also been able to adapt to ensure expedited supply of our 'critical component' range of B&A board to board edge clips connectors. This, along with uninterrupted supply of precision custom stampings, plating and assembled components throughout our customer base has enabled us to build on our reputation as a reliable 'full service' provider to the precision manufacturing industry all around the world.

Social distancing guidelines have been followed since day one to ensure employees are able to work in both a safe and productive environment. Whilst we are aware that many challenges still lie ahead, we are determined to stay ahead of the crisis and remain open and operational for our existing and new customers.

For more information on our product range and services please visit our website at [www. https://batten-allen.com/](https://batten-allen.com/) or contact us at sales@batten-allen.co.uk.



batten^oallen
engineering reliability



SFS delivers seamless finish for Exeter Police Station

Metsec's SFS steel framing system has helped to create a seamless finish to the façade of a new state-of-the-art custody centre and strategic policing hub for Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.

The new three-storey building provides office and meeting space at the constabulary's existing headquarters at Middlemoor, Exeter and is part of a £29 million development which also includes a forty-cell custody centre.

Designed by architects Corstorphine + Wright, the project has been delivered by main contractors, Willmott Dixon and will provide working accommodation for 450 officers.



Lee Woodman, director at Metsec-approved installers, Woodman Brothers, explains, "We were on a fairly tight schedule to complete the continuous walling and enable follow-on trades to start their work. SFS allowed us to erect the framework for the external panels quickly and easily. Using cement board onto the SFS with a mineral wall board over to accept the final finishes meant that the rendering team could start work almost immediately."

Metsec's solution included the use of fixing cleats to connect the SFS continuous walling to the structure's concrete frame. This method ensures that any movement created within the structure's concrete frame during use would not be transferred to the continuous walling, thereby maintaining the integrity of the external façade.

Metsec's design also featured a laced double parapet at roof level to remove the need for additional hot-rolled steel and wind posts.

Willmott Dixon's Supply Chain Manager comments, "Metsec has been one of our supply chain partners for more than ten years, so we have established a good working relationship and understand their designs, solutions and products."

"The Exeter Police Station project is a great example of the benefits that early consultation can deliver. Working together on the design brief enabled us to provide a solution which ticks all the boxes: It meets Corstorphine + Wright's and the client's requirements. Everyone was happy with the end product."

Metsec also provided a full 3D design for the project to BIM Level 2 standards, enabling the client to incorporate the SFS model, details and drawings into the building's facilities management plan.

The main office building's structure is made up of a concrete frame, finished to the outside with a glazing and seamless insulated render façade, constructed from Metsec's continuous light gauge steel framing system, SFS.

A key requirement in Corstorphine + Wright's design brief was the desire to avoid unsightly horizontal movement joints in the finished façade, which would have been the result had a traditional SFS Infill to concrete frame approach been taken for the structure.

Working closely with Willmott Dixon at the early design stages of the contract, Metsec's in-house design team proposed a continuous walling solution formed from SFS to support glazing and rendered elements that would form the external skin of the façade.

The solution not only assured the aesthetic results envisaged by the architects but also delivered time savings during construction as it obviated the need to accommodate joints when insulation and rendering were applied.



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SPECIAL 10% DISCOUNT FOR CBM MEMBERS ON MEETING ROOM HIRE

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AUTUMN'S
SPECIAL OFFER:
Room only up
to 10 people -
£150.00**

One of the benefits you get as a CBM member is access to discounts on helpful products and services.

The latest member offer is a 10% discount on meeting and conference space at NMC Venue in West Bromwich, which is also home to the CBM headquarters.

NMC Venue offers you an easy, flexible and affordable way to hold productive meetings:

- Convenient West Midlands location just 200 yards from Junction 1 of the M5
- Free and secure parking
- Spaces that work well for quick meetings through to 100+ person conferences
- Free Wi-Fi for all attendees
- Free unlimited tea & coffee
- Out-of-hours availability – so you can hold meetings early in the morning, into the evening and at weekends
- Catering from renowned providers, with a range of options to meet your needs

The next time you're planning a meeting, training session or seminar, take the pressure off your own office space and give attendees something special with our discount room hire.

To learn more and enquire about dates, call Marie Williams on **0121 601 6350** or email reception@nmcvenue.com.

Just mention you're a member of the CBM to claim your discount.



EXHIBITIONS • SEMINARS • WORKSHOPS • TRAINING • TUTORIALS

Compliance call recording for CBM members

ReTell offers your business a selection of call recording, call reporting and call management solutions. Our team of experts will help you select the right solution for your needs and ensure that it seamlessly integrates with your existing telephony system.

We have over 30 years' experience developing award-winning call recording systems that work :

On any device - phone, laptop, tablet

At any location - office, remote working

On any type of connectivity - ISDN & SIP

Ensuring that conditions are met for a 'lawful' call recording can be a real challenge, regulatory compliance is built into our call recording platform.

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Our call recording platform is designed to streamline your processes and optimise your business. With our new 'plug & play'

solutions, capturing calls could not be quicker or easier – whether you're in the office, working-from-home or on-the-go.

Our extensive call reporting capabilities provide a top-down view of the business whilst allowing managers to respond rapidly to changing customer needs.

Geraldine Bolton Chief Executive of The Confederation of British Metalforming said **"CBM have recently made a £4,000 per year saving on its telephone system by implementing SIPs lines. Re-Tell were able to take us through the whole process making it very straightforward, they were professional and informative. We were so pleased we went on to use them for their Call Monitoring services, which continues to add value to our training requirements"**



RLS Tooling Ltd

RLS Tooling Ltd have manufactured thread rolling dies since 1989 and continually re-invest in more advanced machinery to assist in making quality tools that meet the high demands expected by our prestigious customers.

Our thread rolling dies are used worldwide by manufacturers making fasteners for the Renewable Energy market, construction industry, automotive, white goods and aerospace.

We make a full range of flat dies for standard threads, many special thread forms and licenced thread forms. RLS hold licences to manufacture dies for the Taptite®, MATHread® and Excalibur Screwbolt® products.

To complement our extensive range of flat dies we also manufacture a range of circular thread rolls. We can make rolls for most two roll machines up to a maximum diameter of 315mm and also the Fette three roll system. In the interest of maximising tool life we also offer a regrind facility for a large part of our range.

In recent years there has been a trend towards rolling tougher and more varied materials which has in turn made us review our steels used to produce rolling dies.

This has resulted in RLS now offering in addition to our range of standard material a range of HSS or powder metallurgy type steels. Tool life can be further enhanced by the use of various coatings that we can offer.

RLS Tooling Ltd has been built on the basis of forming long lasting partnerships with its customers. This has been achieved by understanding and interpreting carefully our customer's requirements.

Our mission is to remain a competitive manufacturer and supplier of quality threading tools with a commitment to continuous improvement of our methods and procedures.

We look ahead to a bright future once this Covid pandemic has passed, where we hope to develop more partnerships with other screw and bolt manufacturers in the global market either direct with our office in the UK or via one of our International Agents.



Are you wasting money AND exposing your employees?

Metalworking fluid (MWF), often referred to as coolant or suds, is used during the machining of metals to provide lubrication and cooling. Compressed air guns (blowguns) are commonly used in the engineering industry for 'blowing down' to clean and remove MWF from machined parts and the bed of the machine. This blowing down creates mist/aerosol which can be breathed in by operators and others working in the vicinity.

Inhalation of MWF mist can cause serious lung disease, including occupational asthma and occupational hypersensitivity pneumonitis. The prosecution of a company after three workers developed debilitating lung conditions is a stark reminder of the need to control the risk. One worker has been so severely affected they have become virtually paralysed, another will never be able to work with MWF again, and a third must have special measures in place to ensure he never comes into contact with MWF.

MWFs can cause dermatitis through direct contact with unprotected skin, particularly on the hands and forearms, or when MWF contaminates clothing and soaks through. Metalworking machine operatives are in the top five occupations with the highest annual rates of occupational dermatitis. Using compressed air for blowing down, increases the risk of inhaling MWF mist and causes splash contamination of skin and clothing, as can be seen in the photograph below.



The use of compressed air for blowing down also creates a number of safety hazards for those involved. Noise levels are normally high and there is a significant risk of permanent hearing damage from prolonged exposure. There is a risk of compressed air entering the operator's bloodstream, which can result in death. Eye injury including blindness can occur if dust particles or swarf bounce back at the operator.

You should look first to prevent exposure at source, so instead of blowing down components using compressed air guns, you should consider using alternatives. Examples include vacuum guns, absorbent materials, low-pressure coolant guns, spindle-mounted fans or automatic compressed air hoses (operated with computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine enclosure doors shut). Finished components can be cleaned in industrial washing/degreasing machines. The cleaning of machine surfaces using compressed air should be avoided, suitable swarf vacuums should be used to remove wet swarf and chips from machine surfaces.

However, where there is no practical alternative to using compressed air guns there are still measures you can take to reduce exposure. You should reduce the exit pressure of the compressed air to as low a level as practicable (as a guide 30psi/2.1bar is effective at cleaning). Different nozzle designs will also allow guns to be operated at a lower pressure and reduce noise levels.

In addition, you should blow down components inside the CNC machine enclosure with the local exhaust ventilation running or provide a separate enclosure for cleaning purposes. You should also consider using compressed air guns with longer lances (e.g. 30 cm) as this increases the distance from the source of mist and reduces splashing on to the skin.

According to the British Compressed Air Society reducing the operating pressure of blowguns down to 2 bar, from the fixed system pressure of around 7 bar, can reduce operating costs by up to 60%. They suggest you check the operating pressure on all blowguns and discuss with the blowgun manufacturer whether it can operate at a reduced pressure. The pressure can be reduced by fitting pre-set tamper-proof regulators at the take off point from the fixed pipe system. It may be worth considering a separate pressure reduced supply for all blowguns.

Further information

www.hse.gov.uk/engineering/faqs.htm

www.hse.gov.uk/metalworking/index.htm

www.bcas.org.uk/media/Download.aspx?MediaId=67

Fiona McGarry
H M Inspector of Health and Safety
Health and Safety Executive lead for engineering and metalworking fluids

NEXT CBM HEALTH SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT GROUP, TEAMS MEETING

**Tuesday 15th September
at 9.30.**

Discussing issues and to update
on current Sector & Health
& Safety Plans.

To register your place email:
melinda.jean@thecbm.co.uk



Getting your business back on a new and safe track

By Johnathan Dudley, Partner, Head of Manufacturing

The Prime Minister's announcement on the 10 May stated that anyone who cannot work from home should be actively encouraged to get back to work, albeit in a safer manner. However returning to work will not be a simple 'switch on' with many businesses having to fundamentally change the way they work

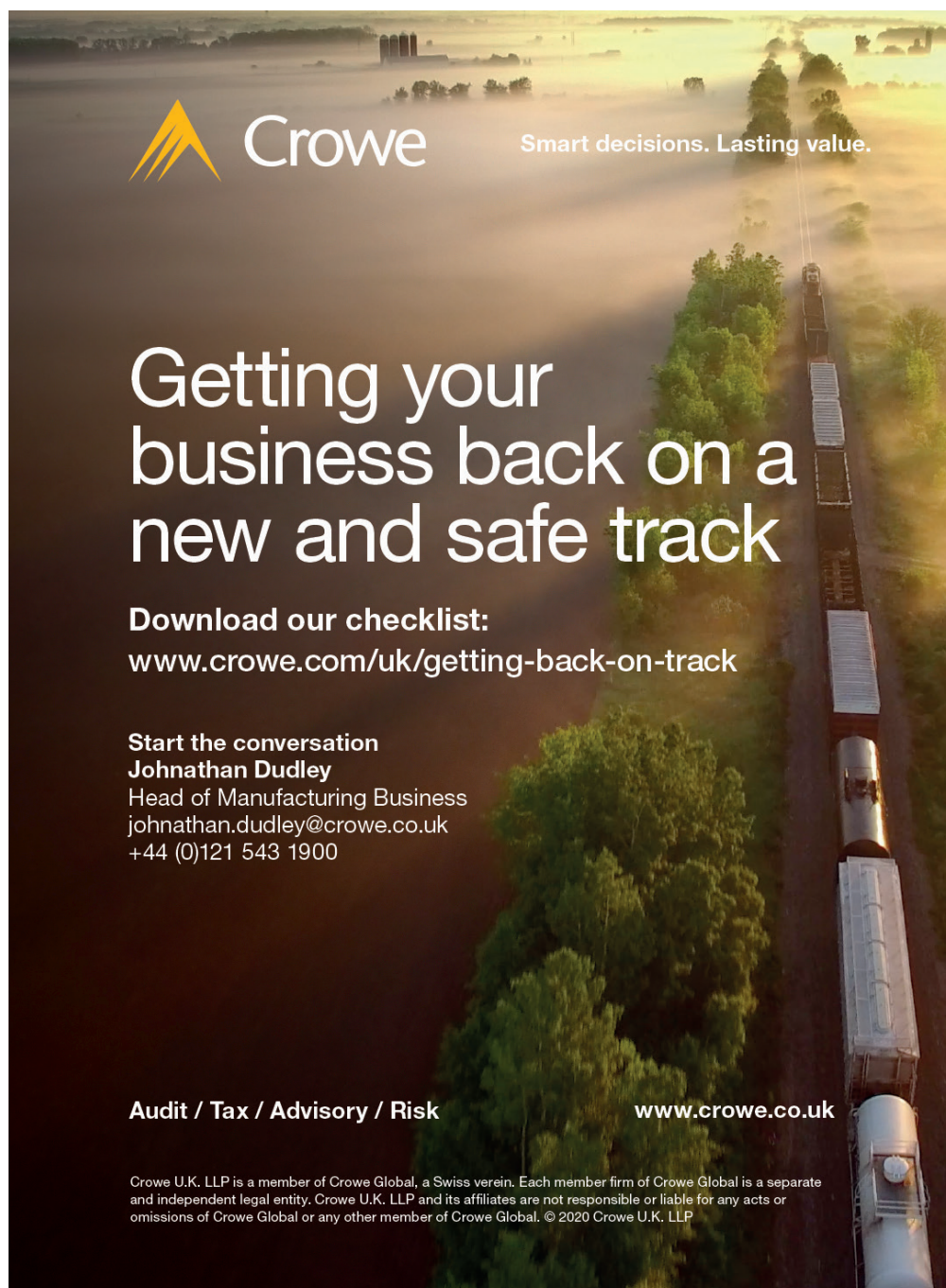
To safeguard the future of your business, important decisions will have to be made to enable your business to function successfully in what will become the 'new normal'.


Our **latest guide** helps you to prepare, plan and take action to start up again smoothly, safely and profitably. We have also tailored **a guide for those in the manufacturing sector**.

This is accompanied by a checklist that you can download to help you to make important decisions for your business focused on five core areas.

1. Health and safety
2. Customers
3. Supply chain
4. People and plant
5. Financials

Visit www.crowe.com/uk/getting-back-on-track to download your checklist.



 **Crowe** Smart decisions. Lasting value.

Getting your business back on a new and safe track

Download our checklist:
www.crowe.com/uk/getting-back-on-track

Start the conversation
Johnathan Dudley
 Head of Manufacturing Business
johnathan.dudley@crowe.co.uk
 +44 (0)121 543 1900

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Climate change agreements save CBM members £4m per year in climate change levy - a tax charged on their gas, electricity and other fuel bills

CBM have for over 25 years now, had an approved Climate Change Levy tax rebate agreement.

Approved eligibility is for companies in the metalforming sector, and saves over £4m per year, that these companies would otherwise be paying in climate change levy; a tax on all gas and electricity bills. In order to receive this rebate, you need to be in a climate change agreement with the CBM. We now have a window of opportunity until

the end of November 2020 to put new entrants into the agreement to get these rebates. So if you are a metalforming company who is not already getting these rebates, please contact us now so as not to miss out. We have a specialist energy engineer who can guide you through this process with ease, we keep a full

auditable evidence file for you and support you at all levels. The majority of the CBM manufacturing members are eligible and receiving these rebates. Please contact louise.campbell@thecbm.co.uk for more information or to find out if you have eligible qualifying processes.



CBM Energy Services - SECR

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

Does your company or any other company in your group meet any 2 of the SECR criteria?

- Turnover of £36 Million or more
- Balance sheet of £18 Million or more
- 250 employees or more

SECR requires that as part of the company's annual accounts (filed at company's house) you must disclose:

- UK energy Use including transport
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- At least 1 intensity ratio (e.g. Co₂ per ton output)

- Information about energy efficiency action taken in the organisation's financial year
- Methodologies of calculations
- Previous year's figures for comparison

The CBM is offering a SECR service to all its members that fall under SECR umbrella. The expected members rate will be £2,500.00 per year which is far cheaper than the main external consultants. The items included within the service are:

- Data collection
- Assistance in putting systems in place to collect the relevant data e.g. transport.

- Setting a base year and calculating the relevant Co₂ figures
- At least 2 meetings to discuss and finalise the energy efficiency narrative that forms part of the report
- Compiling a SECR report that can be added to the company's annual Report.

For more information, please contact Louise.campbell@thecbm.co.uk



The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), in collaboration with Innovate UK, has launched (on the 29th of June) Phase 1 of the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund (IETF).

The UK Government announced £315 million of funding in the 2018 Autumn Budget. The funding is available over the period to 2024. It will support businesses with high energy use to transition to a low carbon future, and to cut their bills and emissions through increased energy efficiency.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) will manage the Industrial Energy Transformation Fund, with £289 million to invest in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Scottish Government will administer £26 million for investment in Scotland and will publish its plans for the funding in due course.

The IETF is a crucial part of the Government's strategy for tackling climate change and reaching Net Zero by 2050. It will complement other government programmes that offer innovation and early demonstration support, such as the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) and the Energy Innovation Programme.

(EIP), and will help to transform an important part of the UK economy. The IETF also provides vital support for businesses in key policy areas at a time when the country is tackling the Covid-19 crisis.

The Phase 1 funding for England, Wales and Northern Ireland, which is worth up to £30 million, is available in the form of a grant scheme and will be available for:

- Deployment of mature energy efficiency technologies that improve industrial process energy efficiency and reduce energy demand.
- Feasibility and engineering studies for projects deploying mature energy efficiency technologies or deep

decarbonisation technologies. These technical and economic assessments of potential projects reduce risks and provide more accurate cost estimates, enabling decision-makers to make informed investment choices. The Phase 1 applicant guidance has been published today. The Phase 1 competition will open on Monday 20 July and will run until Wednesday 28 October. The competition closing date will be kept under review due to the Covid-19 situation.

BEIS has also published the Government response to the recent IETF consultation, which ran from 10 October to 21 November 2019.

Total expands FOLIA metalworking fluid range

Total Lubricants has expanded its game-changing and award-winning biopolymer-based FOLIA range of metalworking fluids with the introduction of a specialist product for the grinding and machining of cast iron and steel.



FOLIA G 5000 offers a high alkaline, bio-sourced solution free from mineral oils and emulsifiers with high cooling, lubricating and detergency properties, which addresses stringent HSE compliance.

FOLIA G 5000 is a user-friendly product that is free from odour and fumes and contains no hazard pictograms or precautionary statements on its packaging.

In addition to its industry-leading health, safety, and environmental benefits, FOLIA G 5000 delivers significant productivity gains, longer tool life, reduced drain intervals, longer sump lifetime, less disposal and consumption that save total operation costs. Compared to conventional technology, its specific performance benefits include cleaner machines and workshops, better work area visibility, less fluid drag out with parts and swarfs, lighter load on wheels and fewer dressing cycles, and less corrosion in cast iron grinding applications.

FOLIA G 5000 is compatible with conventional rubber, paints and other machined parts and remains stable in all water hardness settings from very soft to very hard.

Songul Facey, Metalworking Fluids Technical Sales Manager at Total Lubricants, said: "Total listens to the needs of our customers in order to continually innovate and develop products that effectively solve their problems."

"FOLIA G 5000 is a revolutionary development in the field of metalworking which addresses the challenging requirements of HSE regulations. In addition to ensuring safer and cleaner operation conditions for worker, it provides outstanding performance and better results than any conventional product."

For further information, visit: www.total.co.uk.

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TOTAL
Committed to Better Energy

AMCASH: Fully funded metallurgy support for SMEs

By JR.P. Turner, M. Wang, Y-L. Chiu (School of Metallurgy & Materials, University of Birmingham)

What is AMCASH?

Re-starting and reshaping operations in a post-Covid economy will present opportunities for SMEs as they adapt their practices, processes and supply chains

AMCASH is one of the key support mechanisms that will power local SMEs, who will be the vehicles for economic recovery and sustainable growth.

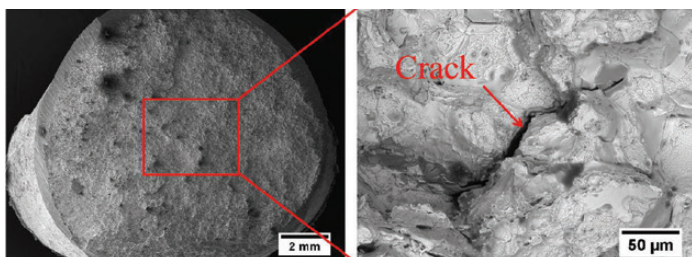
In advance of the CBM-AMCASH Webinar, scheduled for 16 September, our article showcases our support for metalforming SMEs.

AMCASH, a partly ERDF-funded programme, supports West Midlands-based SMEs to improve and create new products and processes by tackling materials-related challenges. Based at the School of Metallurgy and Materials of the University of Birmingham, the **Advanced Materials Characterisation And Simulation Hub** offers fully-funded technical support for a minimum of two days, to SME organisations. Having already supported over 200 SMEs, including several CBM members, this new phase of AMCASH has been extended until December 2022. AMCASH offers companies the technical expertise of a team of research fellows at the University, in materials science fields including metallurgical characterisation, microscopy, mechanical testing, polymer science, ceramics engineering, thermal monitoring and computational modelling

Examples of support we can offer to metalforming SMEs

Microstructure Characterisation

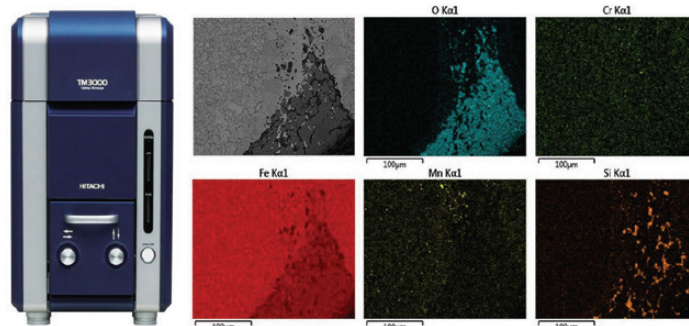
The AMCASH offers a unique set of microstructure characterisation facilities including optical microscopes, atomic force microscopes, advanced electron microscopes and X-ray micro-CT. In the last three years, the AMCASH has provided technical support on metals, alloys, ceramics and composites, in particular to determine the defects in industrial components. Analysis of the fracture surface is important to determine the cause of failure in components. The fracture surface from a steel bar is observed (fig. I) by a scanning electron microscope (SEM). With the ability of SEM, a much higher magnification than an optical microscope can be achieved to provide more details of fracture surface. Here, cracks with a size of several microns are found to be along grain boundaries indicating that the failure is due to intergranular cracking. With the confirmation of failure mechanism, the further development of this forged component shall be focused on how to strengthen the grain boundary.



• Figure 1: SEM analysis of the fracture surface from a steel bar

Chemical Analysis

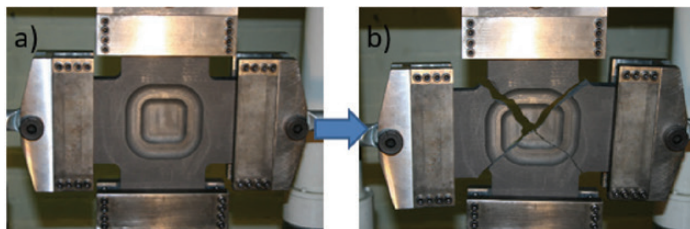
Material chemical composition often determines the performance. AMCASH offers two type of chemical analysis techniques: X-ray Fluorescence (XRF) and Energy Dispersive X-Ray Spectroscopy (EDS). XRF is a standalone system to measure the chemical composition of macroscopic samples while EDS is a microanalysis technique used in conjunction with SEM. Using EDS, features or phases as small as 1 μm can be analysed, for example inclusions in forged components. In this case, black inclusions were found on the surface of a forged steel component. Such inclusions were believed to be the reason for failure since cracking repeatedly occurred at this particular location. From the chemical analysis by EDS, maps of element distribution shown in Fig II were generated. The black inclusions were identified as Si-oxide, originating from the contaminated forging dies. Based on the information, the manufacturer implemented more frequent cleaning of forging dies and effectively avoid any consequent failure.



• Figure 2: EDS analysis of inclusions observed optically, showing their chemistry.

Mechanical Testing

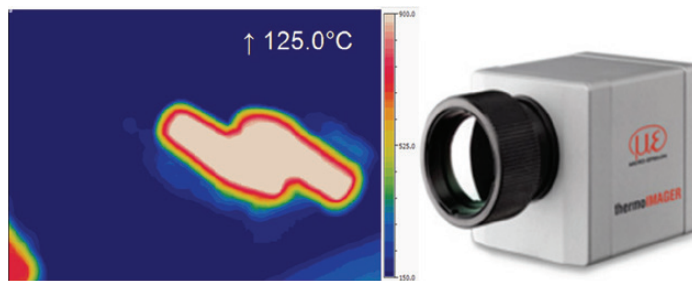
AMCASH offers a group of mechanical performance evaluation facilities ranging from nano, micro to macro scales, from modern nanotechnology devices to traditional metallurgical engineering components. These include a range of hardness measurement, and a mixture of the screw-driven and servo-hydraulic machines available to SMEs. We can offer experimental facilities ranging from classical tensile and compressive uniaxial strain tests, to a bi-axial testing condition (see Fig. III), to the traditional 3 and 4 point bending tests, to creep-rupture, to cyclic fatigue testing methods. We offer capabilities to test materials under vacuum conditions, we have environmental chambers capable of maintaining sample temperature between -170 to 350 °C, or for quicker tests we can heat samples up to 800 °C and perform the mechanical testing on the material at elevated temperatures. We have digital imaging correlation capabilities that can record a mechanical test and calculate strain distributions over our samples in-situ.



• Figure 3: Bi-axial loading frame and sample, (a) before testing, and (b) after testing a component.

Thermal Monitoring of Heated Systems

The AMCASH researchers have successfully used a variety of thermal monitoring equipment, including thermocouple probes, pyrometers and infra-red thermal cameras, to review metal-forming operations. Advantages of infra-red thermal analysis cameras are their ability to determine temperatures across their entire window of view, such that components can easily be analysed thoroughly for any non-uniformity. However, contact-based thermocouple probe measurements offer greater accuracy to determine spot measurements at a specific location. A combination of contact-based and infra-red techniques usually offers an optimal monitoring set-up. Thermal analysis of heated billets (see Fig. IV) allows for accurate determination of billet temperatures during mechanical processing & further understanding of the cooling rates of billets (including variability caused by section thicknesses), which will have a significant impact upon microstructure. The kit can additionally be used to monitor the interior of heat treatment furnaces during service to determine hot or cool regions in the furnace arrangement, or by analysing the exterior, to determine if any thermal leaks from seals exist.

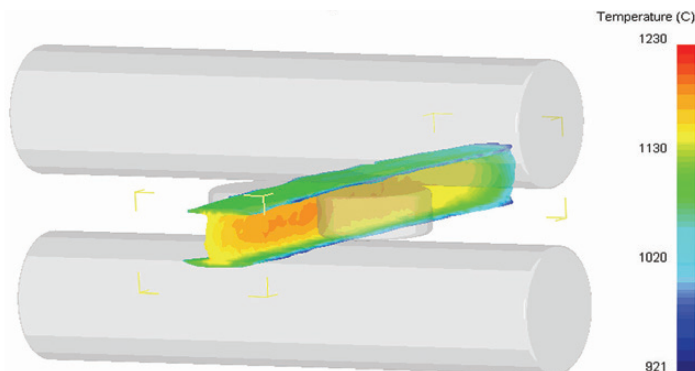


• Figure 4: Thermal camera, and (left) thermal imaging of a metallic heated component.

Computational Modelling of Metal-forming

Finite element modelling of metal-forming operations has been used academically and within large industry for a number of years. These methods offer capabilities to predict the shape, deformation, temperature, stress and strain fields across a billet without the raw material costs associated with trial-and-error experimental methods. Finite element models can be built to simulate complex

shaping operations, and generate predictions for the thermal and mechanical fields within both the billet & the tooling, which may be difficult to determine from traditional experimental methods. Previous FE modelling projects have considered static analyses of structures in service to understand typical loads experienced, and analyse potential modes of fracture, this is typical of a component “End-User” project request; whilst other projects have focused upon the manufacturing route (see Fig. V), and understanding through-process thermo-mechanical responses of the billet.



• Figure 5: FE modelling of a shape rolling operation, forming an I-beam component

How can AMCASH support your business?

Our engagements with SMEs have delivered improvements in quality; reduced waste; and reduced the risks

associated with new product and process development. AMCASH has enabled knowledge transfer through workshops on a range of topics associated with metals. We have also delivered collaboration with the University through the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships scheme.

To learn more about AMCASH and to discuss how we can support you, you can contact our business engagement team at m.d.small@bham.ac.uk; or on +44 7917 613363. Our website is www.amcash.co.uk.

Webinar – Wednesday 16th September at 10am

We shall outline the technical support AMCASH programme, including how your company can access the fully funded support. Our materials experts will present a short overview of the different strands of support available under the programme, including case studies and an open Q&A forum.

To find out more and to sign up for the AMCASH Webinar, please contact Melinda Jean, email Melinda.Jean@thebcm.co.uk, or Mike Small, m.d.small@bham.ac.uk.



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

AMCASH



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Tool Process Design Engineer Apprenticeship - greater flexibility agreed

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education have agreed greater flexibility for our Tool Process Design Engineer Apprenticeship.

The Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education have confirmed that in addition to a Degree an alternative HNC or HND qualifications can be studied by the Apprentice. Additionally, very experienced candidates who can meet all of the requirements of the standard and successfully complete the end point assessment do not have to complete a qualification.

The Apprenticeship remains at level 6 however we have more opportunity to accommodate both existing and new employees specific needs. This greater flexibility is welcome news during difficult times and allows Apprenticeships to be offered that meet the needs of your business.

This encouraging news is the culmination of over 20 months detailed work by our trailblazer group who have created both the apprenticeship standard and the means of validating the ability of the apprentice with an industry specific end point assessment plan.

The CBM will continue to try and further improve the amount employers can access from their levy pot towards the total cost of the apprenticeship.

Fine tuning of the end point assessment is continuing. However, industry specialists will form part of the assessment panel to ensure the apprentice has achieved the required level of knowledge skills and behaviours necessary to meet the standard.

This degree level programme has been specifically created by the CBMs Trailblazer group and ensures the apprenticeship meets our sectors specialist technical requirements. The skills knowledge and behaviours are specific to our members needs and the employing organisation can choose which university/training provider they work with to achieve the standard. A key component of this programme is the opportunity for the apprentice to work on industry standard training equipment. This equipment was obtained

by the CBM on behalf of members and is sited at the In Comm training workshop in Aldridge.

We are now entering the recruitment phase and are asking members to become actively involved to ensure this apprenticeship standard adds real value to our sector.

There are three areas which members can support this initiative and in doing so will ensure both the sector and employers are gaining from this investment.

We ask that you undertake both a demographic and skills analysis of the Tool Process Design capability in your organisation. Using the analysis consider whether to recruit new talent who can undertake this apprenticeship, or whether to up skill your existing workforce as a means of staff retention and to ensure business continuity.

The Covid 19 crisis has highlighted manufacturing's vulnerability when exposed to global supply chains. It is vital that we maintain United Kingdom's skills and build our internal capability in order to face these global challenges. Therefore, consider how this apprenticeship can reduce dependency on overseas skills in these uncertain times.

Throughout the creation of both the standard and the end point assessment plan it has been evident that the sectors contribution to UK manufacturing is misunderstood. We ask that member companies continue to raise the profile of sheet metal process sector at every opportunity. This will ensure funding for our apprenticeships and any future government support for skills will achieve the highest monetary values available.

For further information please contact Geraldine Bolton at the CBM.

Help with getting apprentices in the workplace after COVID-19

Businesses that offer apprenticeships view them as beneficial to their long-term success. Hiring an apprentice is a productive and effective way for any business to grow talent and develop a motivated, skilled and qualified workforce.

As the economy recovers from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, apprenticeships will be more important than ever in helping businesses to recruit the right people, and develop the skills they need to respond to conditions and grow – both now and in the long-term.

Two Key documents regarding apprentices have been launched on Gov.uk

1. Guidance on the apprenticeship programme response to COVID-19

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-apprenticeship-programme-response>

Key update:

- Re-opening educational settings. From September, there will be no limits on apprentices, at any age, attending on-site delivery.
- Universal Credit for apprentices
- A future launch of a support service for redundant apprentices
- The Level 2 suspension of the rule on Functional Skills assessments extended until 31 December 2020
- Further FAQs covering apprentices starting with a new employer

2. Funding policy document that sets the overarching policy for apprenticeship funding in England.

Incentive payment for hiring a new apprentice

The government's Plan for Jobs will help to kickstart the nation's economic recovery. In recognition of the value apprentices can bring to our economy, an incentive payment will be made to employers who hire an apprentice between 1 August 2020 and 31 January 2021. The apprentice must be a new employee to the business, have a contract of employment start date between 1 August 2020 and 31 January 2021 (inclusive) and must not have been employed by the employer within the six months prior to the contract start date. There will be two levels of payment based on age. For apprentices aged 16-24 the payment will be £2,000, and for apprentices aged 25 or over the payment will be £1,500. The payment will be made directly to employers in two equal instalments, where the apprentice is still in learning at day 90 and day 365.

For more information please visit the policy: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/900154/Apprenticeship_funding_in_England_from_Aug_2020_Policy_Document_FINAL.pdf

How to turn strategy into action?

Despite being one of the key processes in any company, led by the CEO and under the responsibility of the management team, more than 60% of companies are not able to implement the defined strategy successfully

The worldwide economy is going through an unexpected and forced transformation. Numerous surveys relating to the duration of the economic recession point to a figure of between 1 and 5 years, with the exact number depending on many influencing factors.

Some elements of the forthcoming shift in the economic outlook have become more defined in recent weeks: over the next 5 years we will see major changes and survival of businesses will depend on those best adapted for rapid changes in their operating environment.

Adapting to changes in the environment requires an agile, flexible, and effective corporate strategy. Unfortunately, this is still not a reality for most companies. In 30% of cases, the cause of failure comes from a poor definition of the strategy. Decisions on what the main problems are and how the market will change in the future are based on opinions, brainstorming, or superficial SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats). Few organisations study their markets and analyse what the bottlenecks and opportunities really are. Market analysis and market segmentation is compromised by not having the real voice of the customer.

The remaining 70% of cases relate to lack of agility in the implementation of the strategic initiatives. Resistance to change, innate to any team, is a common obstacle to strategy execution. It is worth noting that 95% of employees do not know or do not understand their company's strategy, which fuels the resistance and contributes to failure. Failing to develop the necessary skills and tools through the different levels of the organisation will result in an inability to deliver the expected results.

A company can be defined as a group of people who use defined processes to generate value and deliver it to the customer. Therefore, deploying the strategy is, ultimately, a matter of changing processes and developing people. So perhaps the key question is: How good are organisations at improving processes and managing change?

To define and execute the strategy within an organisation, with a robust process to ensure sustainable growth year on year, it is necessary to do things differently. First, strategic planning must be executed; this is the definition of ambitious goals that will help employees look "outside the box" and challenge the current paradigms. There must be an analysis of the market segments and trends, an understanding of customer needs and an analysis of change drivers.

The deployment of the strategy to all levels of the company comes next. This will create clear guidelines and targets for all teams to follow, making it possible to involve the whole organisation in the strategy execution. Regular review of the improvement initiatives is crucial for success. Follow-up processes must be defined at each level of the organisation to ensure that the strategic indicators are monitored and that there is a quick reaction to any possible deviations, with effective countermeasures put in place. A formal monthly strategic review process that ensures the alignment with the goals and the definition of countermeasures ensures that The strategic goals can be achieved.

This is Strat to Action: Kaizen Institute's method for turning Strategy into Action. In the recently published "Strat to Action" book, by Alberto Bastos and Charlie Sharman, the authors guide the reader through a Lean transformation journey conducted by this methodology. The reader will get the chance to see the creation of a successful strategy, focusing on meaningful Breakthroughs, aligning the management team and delivering superior performance.

Kaizen Institute is a consulting and training company with the mission of challenging and support organisations to achieve World Class Results. We support leaders in the design and implementation of pragmatic solutions that generate Business Growth and Profitability Results.

Kaizen can be applied to organisations of any sector, public or private, and of any size.

"Strat to Action" is the complete guide for leaders who are determined to win."

- George Koenigsaecker



How to bring staff back off furlough

Like many of the challenges presented by the pandemic, furlough is a concept and process many employers have never faced before.

Croner, our trusted HR partner, address some of the key points to understand when considering bringing staff back off furlough.

With your membership, you have access to free advice via Croner's business support helpline: call 0844 561 8133 to speak with an adviser today.

Do I have to take staff off furlough?

No. The Job Retention Scheme is set to continue until the end of October, meaning previously furloughed staff can remain on furlough going forward if the correct procedure is followed. You may wish to bring them back to work on a part-time basis whilst still benefitting from the Scheme, which is something you can do from 1 July.

That said, you should remember that the way the Scheme is funded is set to change from 1 August, which may impact on your decision to keep staff furloughed:

- In August, the government will pay 80% of furloughed staff wages up to a cap of £2,500 per month and employers will pay employer NICs and pension contributions for the hours the employee does not work.
- In September, the government will pay 70% of wages up to a cap of £2,187.50 per month for the hours the employee does not work. Employers will also pay employer NICs and pension contributions and 10% of wages to a cap of £312.50 to make up 80% total up to a cap of £2,500.
- In October, the government will pay 60% of wages up to a cap of £1,875 per month for the hours the employee does not work. Employers will also pay employer NICs and pension contributions and 20% of wages to a cap of £625 to make up 80% total up to a cap of £2,500.

Which members of staff should be brought back first?

The Government has set out specific requirements for employers to adhere to on social distancing and what you can do if social distancing is not possible. Because of this, you may not want to bring everyone back at the same time.

When deciding who to take off furlough, you should consider what employees, departments or groups should return first

based on business needs. Alternatively, you could even ask staff to volunteer to return, although the final decision will rest with you.

The legitimate business reasons behind your selection of which employees return to work first should be documented to prove that you have not discriminated against anyone in your decision.

Remember that shielding employees should not return to the workplace until the requirement to shield has ended. In England and Scotland, shielding is set to end on 31 July; in Wales, no earlier than 16 August.

How much notice should I provide to staff before taking them off furlough?

There is no specific time period outlined by the government. However, you should stick to any notice period that you agreed with staff when they were put on furlough. If there was no agreement on notice, it should be reasonable and set with certain things in mind, for example, allowing employees sufficient time to make any arrangements they need, for example, with childcare.

What procedure should I follow to bring staff off furlough?

Staff should be provided notice that their period of furlough is coming to an end and confirmation on when they will be expected to return. It should also be clearly outlined what new measures have been put in place, such as rules on social distancing, to keep them safe whilst at work.

During this period, further discussions should be had with them in order to talk through any concerns they have about returning to work and any adjustments made to their job if necessary.

On their return, staff should be carefully monitored and invited to come forward with workplace issues they may be having. Remember, some of them may have been away for some time and may need further training to settle back into their role.

What should I do if staff are reluctant to return?

It is important to take the personal circumstances of your employees into account. For example, they may live with someone who is vulnerable to serious illness if they contract coronavirus or be

in a vulnerable position themselves. Staff in this situation should be reminded of all steps the company has taken to keep them safe and consider extra adjustments for them.

If they still do not feel comfortable, consider alternatives to their return to the workplace. Can they work from home? Could they remain on furlough for a time? Could their working hours be adjusted to avoid peak travel times etc?

If staff refuse to return without a valid reason, you may be entitled to treat it as a disciplinary issue. However, given the circumstances, this should be the last resort and all other possible solutions explored.

How could flexible furlough help me?

From 1 July, employers have been able to combine work with furlough; previously, employees were not permitted to do any work when they were on furlough. This means that employers can agree part-time work with employees and will pay them in full for those hours; the employee will be on furlough for the remainder of the normal working hours. You can claim 80% wage cost cover from the Job Retention Scheme for the furloughed hours. Remember that the level of assistance the Scheme provides will reduce from August and the Scheme will close at the end of October.

I may not be able to afford to keep all of my staff on once the Scheme ends. What do I do?

Unfortunately, some businesses will have no other option but to make redundancies. However, there are other ways that you might be able to reduce your overheads but keep your staff. For example, you may consider making changes to staff contracts, such as reducing working hours or salaries. Contractual schemes such as enhanced sick or maternity pay could also be reviewed, as could introducing the option for job-sharing. You may also want to consider removing or reducing bonus and commission schemes.

You will need to seek the employee's agreement before going ahead and making changes to any contractual entitlement and a period of consultation should be implemented.

continued page 22

Any discretionary schemes, or other things considered to be 'perks' of the job, could be removed without agreement when not offered on a contractual basis.

Ending the use of agency workers, or other temporary workers, may save costs. You could also remove overtime or offer unpaid sabbaticals.

Changes could be temporary until the situation improves, or permanent.

You can also consider reducing non-workforce relating overheads such as re-negotiating supplier contracts etc.

If redundancies are required, how do I do this?

Once you have considered alternatives and still find yourself in a position to make redundancies, you'll need to ensure that you follow the correct procedure. The actual procedure will differ depending on how many redundancies are proposed but one of the key principles is meaningful consultation with employees allowing them to suggest alternatives. Where you need to select

employees for redundancy, you should do so against objective criteria and be careful not to make any discriminatory decisions. Employees who are made redundant and entitled to statutory redundancy pay if they have been with you for two or more years.

Communication is important at this time. No employee wants to hear that they are losing their job and, despite the current climate, confirmation that this is happening is likely to be distressing. Being honest and open with employees about the situation doesn't change the facts but will help them understand that you have done everything you can.

For pragmatic advice on redundancy, or any further guidance you need, call our dedicated member support helpline on 0844 561 8133



Adapting to the new normal – implementing contract changes to get your business back on track

As the lockdown restrictions ease and employees begin their return to work, it may be necessary for an employer to make some adjustments to ensure their business survives post COVID-19.

These measures could include temporary changes to their employees' terms and conditions – such as reducing salaries and hours of work or changing benefits – to allow them to retain as many staff as possible while reducing their operating costs.

Here, Partner Julia Fitzsimmons who heads up the Employment Law and HR Team, at award-winning Midlands law firm FBC Manby Bowdler looks at how to approach making changes to employee contracts and the potential pitfalls to avoid.

The world has changed a lot over the past three months and many employers will need to make some hard choices to ensure their business' survival.

One way to do this is to streamline costs by making changes to employee terms and conditions as a temporary measure to help the business through the next few months, without having to cut any jobs.

However, implementing contract changes can be very tricky.

The best way to make changes is to agree them with employees first. If an agreement can be reached to the satisfaction of the workers and the business, the employee's consent should be recorded and the changes agreed in writing.

But of course, some employees may be less than happy to accept a cut in their pay, hours or benefits.

If this is the case, the employer needs to adopt a different approach, starting by looking at the employee contract in detail. Is there a right within the contract to vary a particular term under review? If there is, the employer has reserved the right to make those changes.

If there isn't such a clause in the contract, the business could consider imposing the change of terms and conditions onto its workers, relying on the fact that an employee has agreed to it by giving their implied consent. This approach can be dangerous, and it may lead to legal headaches further down the road.

For example, if an employer imposes a contract change without the employee's consent this would be considered a breach of contract. If 20 or more employees refuse to accept the changes and the business is determined to push them through, there will also be issues of collective consultation to consider.

Then there is the possibility of a constructive dismissal claim should an employee work under protest or resign because of the changes. They may also

refuse to work under the new terms and if they are dismissed as a result, they could submit a claim for unfair dismissal – and wrongful dismissal, if the dismissal is without notice.

An alternative course of action could be to dismiss employees for refusing to agree to the contract changes and then offer them continued employment on the new terms. But again, they may be able to bring a claim for wrongful dismissal and unfair dismissal.

In order to defend such claims, an employer would need to show the steps it had taken to agree new terms with its employees, how other employees had reacted to the changes, and what had been done to avoid the impasse.

To avoid unnecessary conflict at an already tough time for businesses, it's worth conducting a thorough review of your employee contracts before embarking on an exercise to amend terms and conditions.

FBC Manby Bowdler has a specialist team supporting manufacturing and industry sector clients. For expert help contact Julia on julia.fitzsimmons@fbcmb.co.uk or call 01952 208420



Grants for manufacturers

Government grants. We've heard a lot about them in the past few months as the UK Government has tried to limit the negative impacts of COVID-19. Behind the headlines there has been a sustained push to increase the amount of grants for businesses

In his March Budget, the Chancellor announced a target of £22bn a year of spending on R&D. The Government has been funding R&D aligned to its Industrial Strategy since 2016 with dedicated funding for manufacturing. In June, further support was signed off giving support for manufacturers to be more energy efficient.

Some CBM members support the automotive sector, others aerospace, and others serve more diverse sectors too. It's important to remember that each sector has funding to encourage manufacturers to work in tandem with customers to bring new innovations to market faster.

At EY, we take a holistic view of companies and look at incentives that support companies' innovation ambitions. Grant funding can often be used for three parts of a business; its product development, the manufacturing processes, and development of assets (buildings and workforce).

After considering the vertical market segments, and the three parts of the

business that are relevant for grants, we are able to identify suitable grants for individual companies.

At a recent webinar EY ran for CBM members, we outlined a range of the funds that are relevant for CBM members. Below are details of two of the key opportunities with deadlines in October.

Manufacturing made smarter

This fund will support companies in undertaking feasibility studies and industrial research looking to use digital technologies to improve data flow across supply chains. This can include supply chain design or supply chain delivery. Projects can be up to £3m in size and funding. Deadline: 7 October 2020.

The Industrial Energy Transformation Fund

IETF will fund feasibility studies and technology deployment projects. The fund is designed to help manufacturers improve the energy efficiency of industrial

processes. Projects need to be over £250,000 and companies can receive more if the site of the project is in an assisted area.

Deadline: 28 October 2020

Winning grants is a specialist task of articulating business opportunities in a way that makes sense for government investment. It's important therefore to have a good lead time to plan funding applications, align financial, legal, technical, and strategy teams to ensure a strong application and importantly a smooth delivery of a funded project, and being aware of upcoming funding is a key first step.

We wish CBM members good luck with the current funding rounds and we will continue to support companies using grants to enhance their competitiveness in these uncertain times.

CBM annual dinner & awards - update

The 2020 CBM Annual Dinner & Awards were cancelled due to coronavirus – but 2021 preparations are underway.

On 12th June, we were supposed to be at the beautiful New Hall Hotel in Sutton Coldfield enjoying a fun night of dinner, dancing, speakers and the CBM Metalforming Awards presentation.

Like so many recent events, the 2020 CBM Annual Dinner was cancelled due to coronavirus. We'd like to thank everyone who signed up and helped with preparations, as it was a major team effort.

Special thanks go to our sponsors, solicitors FBC Manby Bowdler and tax

and advisory specialists Crowe UK, who contributed so much time and effort to the event.

But there's good news – preparations for the 2021 CBM Annual Dinner & Awards are underway

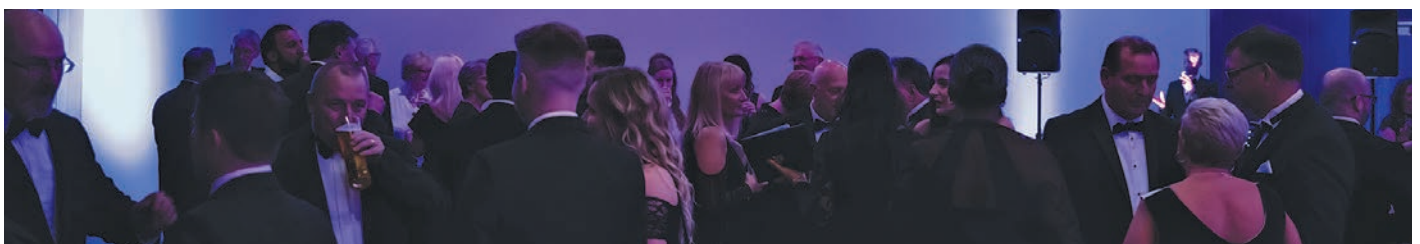
We're busy planning another memorable evening to celebrate the resilience and ingenuity of British metalforming.

After so many months of virtual networking and video calling, it will be a wonderful

opportunity to meet colleagues and peers in person – complete with great food and entertainment. As always, partners are very welcome (they always have a great time).

Get ready to save the date for 2021

We'll be announcing the date and venue in the next edition of Metal Matters, so keep your eyes peeled for updates.



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