



TIMCON warns: no respite ahead on log shortages



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The Timber Packaging & Pallet Confederation (TIMCON) says the shortage of small sized logs is showing no signs of abating. According to the organisation's secretariat, the sawmilling industry has not been able to secure adequate supplies of the smaller diameter logs needed by the pallet sector, which has led to a reduction in the production of sawn timber and price escalations.

The recent independent Pöyry report commissioned by TIMCON highlighted an increase in timber prices by 36 per cent since 2016, with anecdotal evidence suggesting that this is climbing further still.

The issue is ongoing across Europe, too, with the European Federation of Wooden Pallet & Packaging Manufacturers (FEFPEB) index also showing upwards movements, notably in Germany. However, the situation in the UK is particularly acute.

Stuart Hex, general secretary of TIMCON, said: "We have a particular challenge here in the UK. Price increases have been substantial and there is concern in the industry about the ability to pass these costs on. If product prices

rise too much there is the danger that people may find importing pallets to be more viable commercially."

He added that European subsidy regimes supporting biomass fuels have compounded the situation. "Subsidies for biomass haven't helped at all, they are worsening the situation by supporting artificial competition for the raw materials that we need and putting further pressure on supplies and price," he said. "Our colleagues in the wood panel industry are similarly concerned about the supply of raw materials and the role subsidies are having in driving wood away from manufacture to be used as energy. They held an event at the House of Commons in June to address this."

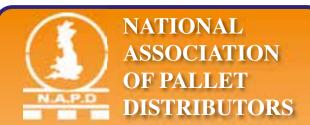
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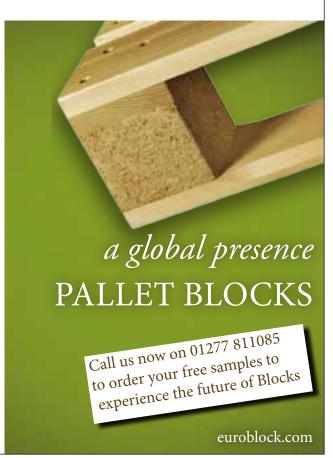
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All change at Pallet & Case (PAC) magazine

Pallet & Case (PAC) magazine is undergoing some exciting changes.

Nelton Publications is closing and a new team is now publishing PAC, the only magazine dedicated to the pallet and case industry in the UK and Ireland. The changes include enhancements to the design and editorial news and features and the development of new options for advertising. As before, there will be six issues of PAC every year.

Please contact the editorial team at dominic@ pacmagazine.co.uk with

any stories you have for us or donna@pacmagazine.co.uk to discuss advertising and advertorial articles.

We are very much looking forward to hearing from our readers and bringing you the very latest from the pallet and packaging sector in the months ahead.



A new look PAC magazine is coming soon.

For advertising enquiries in the next new and improved issue please contact Donna Ludbrook on donna@pacmagazine.co.uk mobile 07949 671455









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Sheerans' security of supply:



CJ SHEERAN are working in close conjunction with both their suppliers and customers to alleviate the effects of the continuing upward trajectory of timber prices which the industry has experienced for the past 18 months running. Ireland's timber industry has been subject to the same pressures on supply as the rest of the world and prices for both logs and sawn timber continue to rise. Supplies of small roundwood to sawmills have been tight and where the focus has been on adding value to those logs, the result has been less pallet wood on the market.

The company's primary aim is to ensure that there are absolutely no stoppages at any of their customers' production lines. CJS have established a good security of supply of

timber and are successfully relaying that security to their customers in pallet form, ensuring continuity and consistency in both volume and quality.

Additionally, CJS have successfully worked through a number of collaboration projects with their customers from process improvement to product redesign as well as conversions from virgin pallets to recycled, reselected or hybrid pallet offerings much to the satisfaction of their customers.

CJS have made significant investments in their recycled pallet centre, which now boasts an impressive processing capacity of 12,500 pallets per day as well as the installation of additional kilns for kiln drying and ISPM15

heat-treatments with a combined capacity of 30,000 units per week. CJS can manufacture, repair, heat-treat, kiln dry the pallets and ship directly to the UK at very competitive rates.

CJS are Ireland's largest pallet manufacturer and repairer, supplying major multi-national bluechip companies across a broad range of industries from food and drink, pharmaceutical, medical device, agribusiness, technological and general manufacturing and have specialised in kiln drying and ISPM15 heat-treatments since 2002. CJS are Ireland's only pallet manufacturing company to hold all three coveted core ISO certifications: ISO9001, ISO14001 and OHSAS18001 as well as FSC Certification.

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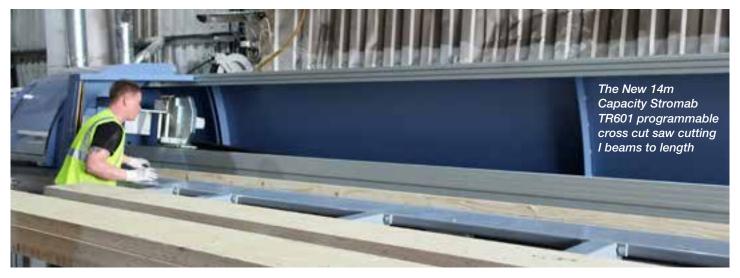
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Donaldson Timber Engineering install Stromab crosscut saw



Having supplied a number of manual crosscuts and a variety of stop systems to various Donaldson Timber Engineering (DTE) depots in the recent past, Martin Smith, JJ Smith MD, was keen to explore with Ed Kirk, DTE's Operations Director the benefits of automating the cutting of I Beams.

Ed Kirk commented "I Beam cutting is traditionally a very labour-intensive process and I wanted to speed this up, in terms of getting the optimised

data down to the machine from our office software, but also the positioning and cutting of the required lengths. JJ Smith had experience of this with other clients and we were able to draw on this and develop it for our own production requirements.

"In particular, Martin advised that they had a new heavier duty saw capable of pushing loads up to 750kgs. This was of particular interest to me, as we can cut heavy sections of glulam and LVL and I needed

to be happy the equipment was robust enough for both this and standard I beam cutting".

A detailed machine specification was agreed, with detailed input from Donaldsons. As a result an order was confirmed for a Stromab TR601 MX fully programmable cross cut saw with a 14m infeed capacity and a saw unit with a 600mm dia blade, giving a cutting capacity of up to 650mm wide x 200mm, a 12.5hp main motor

and hydraulically controlled cutting action.

To enable pushing of such heavy weights, while maintaining a high level of cutting accuracy, Stromab redesigned their standard rack and pinion Matrix pusher unit so it had a 200mm profile and incorporated heavy duty precision linear guides and bearings. The machine was also fitted with an outfeed monitor to display the actual cut sizes as they are produced, along with a special label





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printer which enables labels to be printed on polypropylene.

In order to provide a direct interface with DTE's office software, JJ Smith's own Design2Saw Level 3 software was specified, allowing cutting lists to be read in and pre-optimised against stock lengths. A picking list is produced for the workshop, together with an optimised file for direct download over the network.

Once the machine was complete the Donaldsons team, accompanied by JJ Smith's Stromab Product Manager Kevin Mcglone, visited the Stromab factory to carry out actual machine testing. The results met expectations and the machine was delivered and installed at their Ilkeston depot. Ed Kirk adds: "The new machine has significantly increased productivity and as result we



have now ordered a second machine, which will also be installed at the same site.

Martin Smith commented:
"DTE were happy to work
collaboratively with us on
developing this new machine
and I am pleased that it has
met their expectations. JJ
Smith specialise in both off the
shelf and special crosscutting

solutions and this project demonstrates our willingness to listen to customers and help them overcome production bottlenecks rather than simply offering standard equipment. Overall as the market leaders in specialist crosscutting applications, I am confident that we can offer appropriate solutions for almost any crosscutting requirement.

I and my colleagues who work in this area look forward to helping other customers solve challenging applications in this field."

For more information contact JJ Smith on 0151 548 9000 sales@jjsmith.co.uk www.jjsmith.co.uk



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TIMCON comment

Although issues affecting the availability of wood continue to impact on all forest-based sectors, the dearth of smaller logs mean that the challenge remains particularly acute in the packaging and pallet sector. This, and the unprecedented length of time for which this situation has persisted, means we may have to accept that the dynamics of the pallet and packaging market are undergoing permanent structural change. Exactly what the 'new normal' in the UK might look like is not clear yet, but the Timber Packaging & Pallet Confederation (TIMCON) will continue to analyse developments in availability and price closely and report to members.

In the meantime, we are

working with customers and reminding the supply chain that wood is still by far the most cost-effective choice of material for packaging and pallets. It is also the most environmentally friendly; and a spread of recent media coverage about plastic packaging means more people and companies are taking positive action and are now insisting on sustainable options.

Timber availability and plastics were two of the subjects on the agenda at FEFPEB's spring meeting in Lille last month, which TIMCON attended to get the latest updates from our European counterparts and give the UK's perspective. Later this year, we will get further international insights from the US and Canada, which in September will host

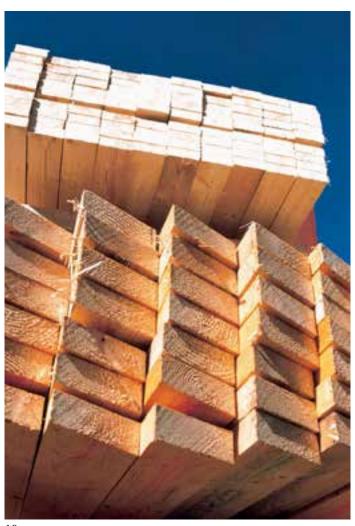
the industry's Interpal event in Minneapolis. We would like as many TIMCON members to join us at these global meetings. They give us the invaluable opportunity to learn about global trends from our colleagues operating in other countries and to coordinate the way we address the issues which affect us all.

Finally, a quick reminder that TIMCON is holding its agm in Edinburgh on September 3rd and 4th. We are planning to follow up on our successful GM in March with a thought-provoking agenda of speakers, and a dinner in the iconic Signet Library, as well as the chance to network with colleagues and discuss the latest developments in the wooden packaging and pallet industry.





John Dye
President, Timber Packaging &
Pallet Confederation (TIMCON).





Interpal: International wooden pallet and packaging meeting returns to US

Interpal will be held in the US for the first time since 2009 with a programme that includes a full conference, visits to local manufacturing plants, sawmills and production, a trade show and the opportunity to network with colleagues from the business around the world.

The event, which takes place at three- or four-yearly intervals for the global wood pallet and packaging industry, will be held at the Hyatt Regency hotel, Minneapolis, on September 18th to 20th. It will be jointly hosted by the National

Wood Pallet and Container Association (NWPCA) and the Canadian Wood Pallet and Container Association (CWPCA) and expects to see more than 50 exhibiting companies and 500 delegates from the packaging sector.

The event will feature another meeting of the well-established Global Forum, where global industry leaders will discuss key developments and agree on coordinated actions. This includes issues such as phytosanitary regulations, where harmonised rules are essential for wooden pallets

and packaging to facilitate the vast majority of worldwide movements of goods.

It features a day of visits to key industry sites in the region where delegates have a choice of two tours – North or South – with a different programme on each. The day conference session will feature presentation and discussion on lumber trends, environmental messaging and ISPM 15.

More information on tours and the programme for the three-day Interpal event can be found at www.palletcentral.com







ISO 9001:2015 Daltons Wadkin meet the criteria to obtain new international standard



Having achieved certification to the existing ISO 9001 **Quality Management** System over 20 years ago and benefitted from the availability of organisational input, product and contract review and the monitoring of customer care together with the highlighting of forward planning and company objectivity, Daltons Wadkin had no hesitation in making the necessary investment in management time and resources to step up to the new standard.

ISO 9001:2015 is the most recent version of the 9001 standard, a qualification currently shared by more than a million companies worldwide, and is designed to help businesses ensure that their products and services consistently meet customers' requirements.

Daltons Wadkin were the first company in the UK

woodworking machinery sector to achieve the original qualification in 1993, and both Alex and Francis Dalton recognise the importance to both their organisation and their customers of achieving and importantly maintaining the new standards. Francis said: "I personally have been involved in the management of ISO 9001 since the beginning and have seen the positive effect on our business over the years, both in terms of systems and accountability, and total commitment to customer satisfaction."

Alex added: "ISO serves as a recognition of the way the company has been managed in the past, but more importantly achieving the new standard will have a big influence on where we go from here. We strive to be the best and the new version of the quality standards can only help us to achieve our goal."



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Daltons Wadkin state of the art showroom



For wood, plastics and composite processing technology, Daltons Wadkin's viewing and demonstration facility is up there with the best. When it comes to a comprehensively stocked and immaculately laid out showroom featuring some of the best known and respected brand names in the industry, nobody really does it better than Daltons Wadkin, From the latest CNC Routers to more traditional classical equipment, some

twenty five machines are on permanent display and available for working demonstrations.

Wood and composite panel cutting both vertical and sliding table, cross cutting systems automatic programmable or hand-operated, edgebanders, resaws, routers, planer moulders, bandsaws, planer thicknessers, borers and spindle moulders are all represented and visitors are welcome to test equipment, using their own materials if required.

Among the famous brand names normally on show are Altendorf, Cehisa, Elcon, Salvador, Kimla, Stenner, Kuper and Wadkin as well as a selection of smaller machines by Sedgwick, Maggi and others. Application videos reference most models show continuously on screens around the showing area and both technical and sales staff are on hand to guide prospective purchasers through the ranges available.

A considerable array of previously owned equipment plus the company's fully

equipped operator training facility can also be viewed whilst on site. Daltons Wadkin are situated in Nottingham (close to M1 and rail links), the showroom is open to all and visitors calling by appointment can be sure of a welcoming cup of coffee or tea on arrival. Why not take a little time to come and see a mini exhibition or visit their website www. daltonswadkin.com

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Daltons Wadkin expand training and support services



Ever mindful of the need to improve and even extend their coverage in all parts of the UK and Ireland, Daltons Wadkin are recruiting experienced engineers and apprentices to add to the service team, whilst expanding their national operator training activity.

The company have just taken delivery of a new fleet of vehicles for their support services team who travel the length and breadth of the land providing mechanical and electrical expertise, breakdown cover and contract servicing to an increasingly wide range of machinery users.

Under the guide of Service Director Cliff Sharp the goanywhere engineers and technicians utilise a complete field service system to enable prompt diagnosis and solutions, as well as the ability to provide customers with reports on line.

Daltons Wadkin are one of the top service and training providers in the UK but still have ambition to further skill levels and experience within the sector. With this in mind a team of enthusiastic young technical staff, including apprentices, is being developed and trained in all areas including mechanical, electrical and CNC skill sets. Day release at local technical colleges also makes a contribution.

Director Alex Dalton says:
"We are rightly proud of what
we have achieved and the
services we provide, but
we have to keep an eye on

the future, and investment in people, systems, and improving skills now, will pay dividends in the years to come.

The Daltons Wadkin Red Team of woodworking machine operator trainers are also expanding. Customers place huge value in being able to entrust critical machine training with industry experts. The team delivers courses nationally and in-house for novice learners, experienced operators and supervisors as well as abrasive wheel and portable power tool courses. Training materials, techniques and courses are continually updated and are PIABC quality assured.

All training personnel not only have the relevant teaching qualifications but are time served wood machinists with a minimum of 10 years' practical experience in the industry, enabling a genuine hands-on training style in addition to the provision of health and safety guidance and the availability of bespoke training manuals.

With over 117 years' experience in the woodworking industry, Daltons Wadkin continue to set new standards in customer support.

To find out more, or to discuss your requirements in more detail contact Daltons Wadkin on 0115 986 5201, email info@daltonswadkin.com or visit

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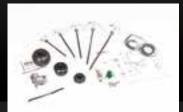
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