

WEC news

GROUP

Issue 10



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www.wec-group.com

Message from the board...



Steve Hartley, Managing Director

2017 proved to be yet another record-breaking year here at WEC Group, despite competition being fiercer than ever.

Not only did we pass the 850 staff milestone and recruit 40 apprentices across the company, we also expanded operations to Scotland for the first time and invested over £4.5m in state-of-the-art machinery and additional manufacturing space.

During 2018, we will continue with our investment and expansion plans.

After maintaining our certified welder training centre status in December, we will continue to provide international qualifications to internal and external personnel.

On behalf of myself and the board, I would like to thank you all for your hard work and commitment over the past 12 months and I look forward to what the year ahead brings for the company.

Looking ahead to 2018

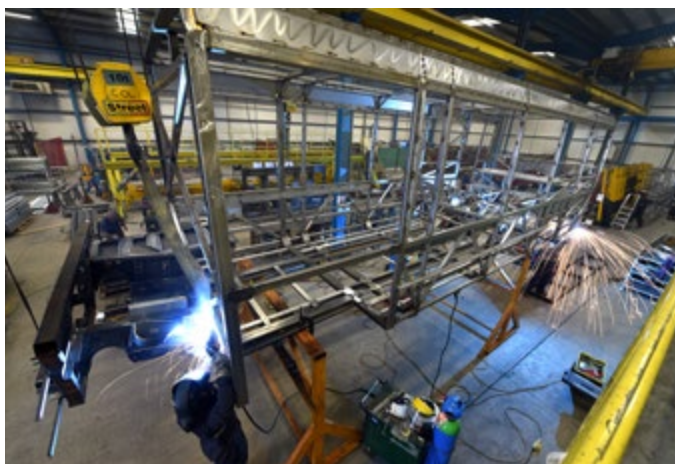
Thanks to everyone's hard work and dedication across all sites of the Group throughout the year, we have exceeded our sales targets once again by around £7m.

Our export sales have remained strong thanks to the improving health of the global economy, and we are actively pursuing new business opportunities across the world.

The UK's manufacturing output is at its highest for 10 years and is now close to its pre-recession levels, and 2018 is set to be yet another exciting and challenging year as we draw close to the "big 40" years in business!

Filling our skilled vacancies is still our greatest challenge and pivotal to our future growth. We aim to continue our expansion by recruiting talented individuals across the Group, as well as training the future generation of engineers at our Training Academies, to enable us to take on more work and continue our growth.

Manufacturing at highest since February 2008
Manufacturing Index, 2008 to Nov 2017



www.wec-group.com

Recruitment drive at MTL Advanced following rail contract win



A major recruitment drive has been underway at MTL Advanced, after securing a multi-million pounds order to supply complex safety critical aluminium fabrications to a leading rail industry OEM.

Over 30 new welding/fabrication, CNC machining, press braking and painting jobs have been created.

The contract is set to run over a number of years at our 13 hectare facility in Rotherham and is a major boost for the business.

The parts will ultimately be used as part of the major UK Crossrail project, bringing a new railway line to central London.

The fabrications form part of the main structure of the train and are fully compliant to the company's recent BS EN 15085 and BS EN 3834 Class 2 rail welding accreditations.

In order to cope with new orders from large customers in the rail industry, we have also invested in a brand new paint plant which will have the capability to paint components up to 20m long.

MTLA is continuing to expand as we have increased staff numbers in Rotherham from 130 to over 250 since 2015, which is expected to reach 300 by 2018.

This is an exciting time for us, the UK's manufacturing industry and local job creation.

MTL Advanced is at the cutting edge

MTLA has commissioned an automated 6Kw Fibre Laser Cutting Machine.

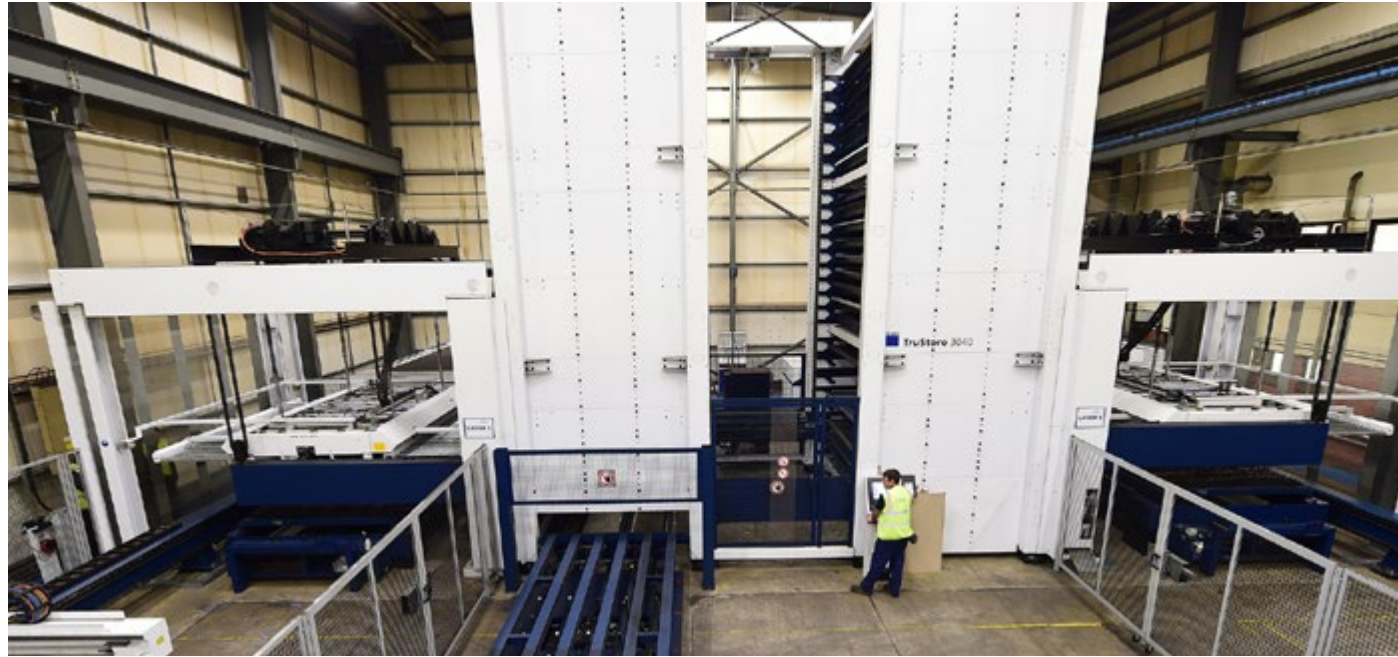


As part of our ongoing investment strategy across the company, the large format 6m x 2.5m Trumpf fibre laser provides superior contour precision and higher part quality than most other laser cutting machines on the market.

Ideal for thin and fast cutting, the fibre laser will enable MTLA to retain a competitive advantage on large volume production contracts, such as the above multi-million pounds order to supply complex safety critical aluminium fabrications for the rail industry.

MTLA has received over £8.5m of investment over the past 18 months, enhancing the machinery line up further and boosting productivity overall.

HTA's new partnership is driving company forward



HTA Group has secured a £2-3m per annum long term agreement with API Heat Transfer, a worldwide leader in heat transfer solutions, to move a range of services from their Coventry-based facility to HTA's.

API will transfer its cutting, folding, welding and powder coating activity to HTA as well as around 20 staff over the next 12 months, pushing the Group towards the 900 staff milestone.



On the back of this contract, we have invested c£650k in a brand new, state-of-the-art powder coating facility which will be commissioned later this year.

It will be similar to the automated machine we currently have in Darwen and will be highly competitive for volume orders and large batch quantities.



The new machine will complement HTA's extensive in-house manufacturing capabilities and will open up a range of new opportunities for the company.

Immediate laser cutting capacity is also available, so please ensure you spread the word.

Well done all - more updates to follow!

www.htagroup.co.uk

A sculpture fit for royalty

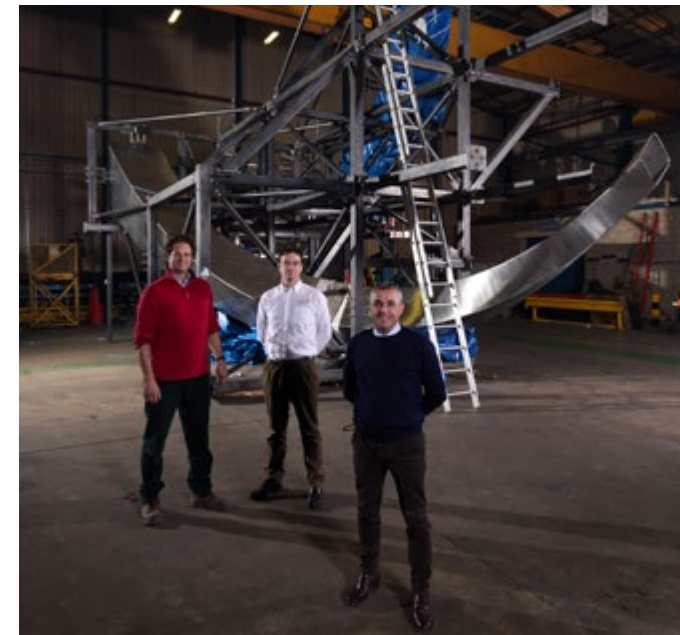
m-tec has fabricated a 12 metre high sculptural water feature which now stands proud in the private gardens adjacent to the Royal Opera House in Muscat, Oman.

The "Arches of Oman" have taken three and a half years to complete, from the initial concept to the on-site installation of the final piece.

The shape of the sculpture is highly complex and features graceful curves to represent the iconic Islamic arch symbol.

Designed by artist Giles Rayner of GR Sculpture Ltd, the Duplex water feature was fully fabricated and polished by our team of skilled engineers in Darwen, and assembled at MTL Advanced in Rotherham.

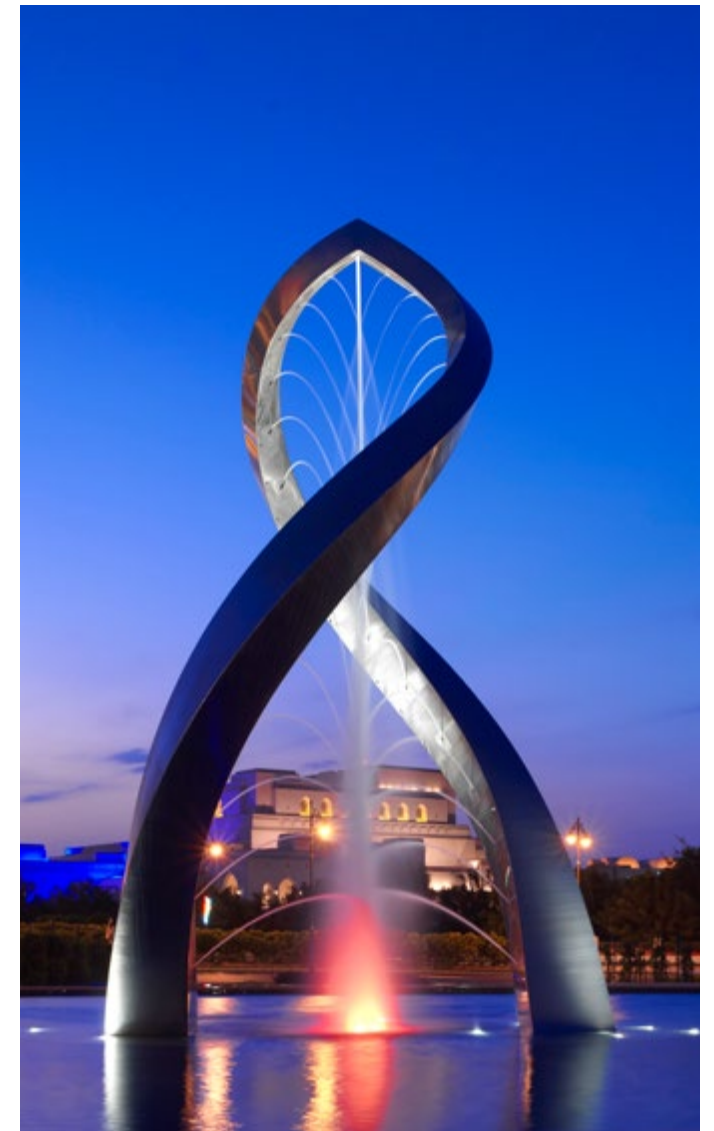
There were many other staff involved in the project from start to finish, including Steve Watson and the team at Special Projects.



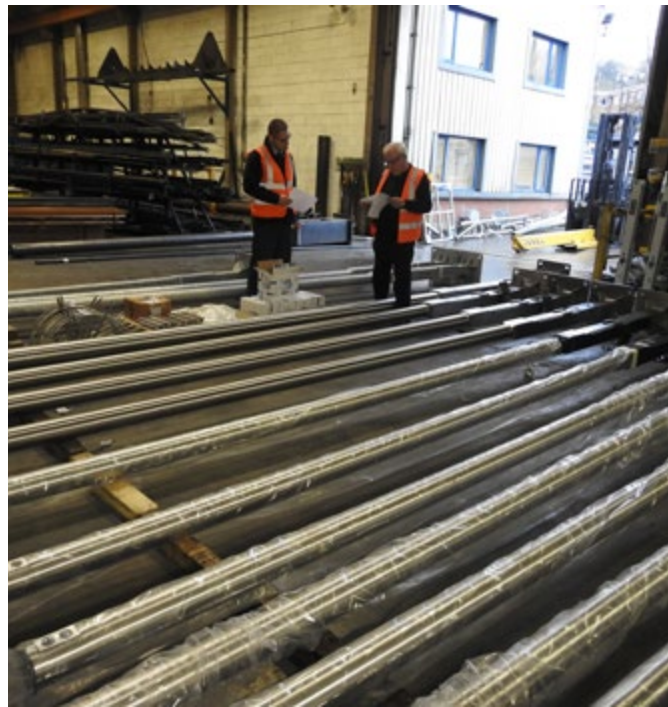
Manufacturing this style of sculpture showcases the skill and craftsmanship that our engineers possess, enabling us to produce a truly stunning piece of public art for the elusive Middle East.

Well done to everyone involved!

www.m-tec.uk.com



WEC CCTV team gain new accreditation for export



The WEC CCTV team have successfully qualified to ISO 9606-1:2017 in order to manufacture and supply 11 stainless steel poles and 31 brackets and accessories to Basra, Iraq.

John Whittle discussed the project for Exxon Mobil Gas Company at Intersec 2017, but in order to secure the job it was specified that welders needed to be qualified to American Welding Society Standard Level D1.

The quality, sales and engineering teams worked around the clock for approval of the British standard equivalent, putting Reece Lowery and Nigel Bimson forward for the welding assessment which they passed with flying colours.

This project was won on persistence to ensure the team met all project tender specifics, which they did successfully and to a high standard.

WEC CCTV manufacture 65 masts for Mersey Gateway



The team also recently supplied 65 specially designed camera masts for the new Mersey Gateway Bridge.

WEC CCTV secured all three parts of the project to manufacture 9 trolley head masts, 40 tilt over radar masts, and 16 cantilever masts which straddle the highway and mount ANPR cameras.

It took 8 months to complete the project for the multi-million pounds transport scheme between Runcorn and Widnes. The crossing, which opened in October 2017, has three traffic lanes in each direction and provides a much needed link between the towns.

It was a fantastic project to be involved with and the whole scheme was carried out in line with the project's tight timescale and specific requirements.



On the road again!

It's been another busy year at WEC Group as our teams hit the road to exhibit at trade shows across the UK, America and the Middle East!

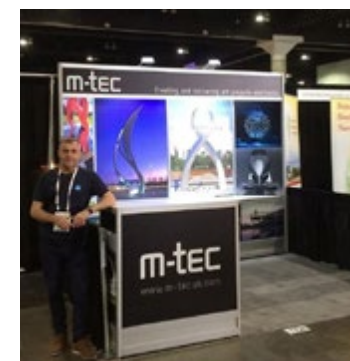


Goose Foot

London & Scotland Build - Goose Foot exhibited at the London and Scotland Build shows again this year to showcase our range of bespoke street furniture. The exhibitions were attended by thousands of people from the UK construction industry.

UK Construction Week - Goose Foot also exhibited at UK Construction Week, the UK's largest construction trade show, in Birmingham from 10 – 11 October.

Education Estates - The team went to Manchester to exhibit at Education Estates for the second year in a row, meeting professionals who take care of the funding, design and build of schools, colleges and universities across the UK.



m-tec

ASLA, Los Angeles

The m-tec team flew over to Los Angeles in October to exhibit at ASLA, the largest landscape architecture show in the world.

WEC Machining

Safran Nacelles Expo

WEC Machining had a stand at the one day Safran Nacelles expo in Burnley in September, focussing on showcasing our capabilities for the aerospace industry.

MTL Advanced

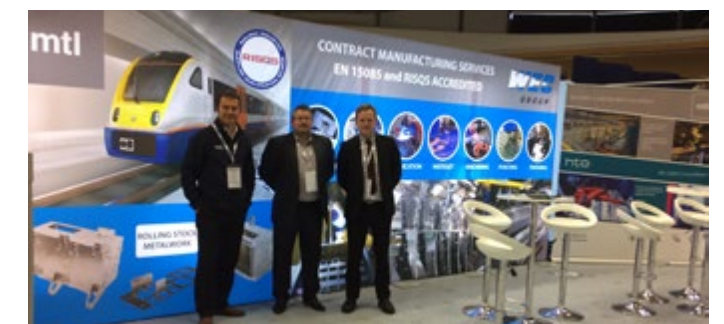
DSEI - MTL Advanced once again exhibited at DSEI from 12-15 September in London. It is the world leading event that brings together the global defence and security sectors.



WEC GROUP, MTLA & HTA

Subcon - The WEC Group, MTLA and HTA teams exhibited at Subcon in Birmingham in June to showcase our range of subcontract manufacturing services.

RVE - The WEC & MTLA teams exhibited at RVE (Rail Vehicles and Enhancements) in October. It is the only single theme event aimed at the engineering of rail vehicles based in Derby.



2018 TRADE SHOWS

intersec 2018

21 - 23 Jan
Intersec

SUBCON

5 - 7 June
Subcon

EUROSATORY

11 - 15 June
Eurosatory

DVD2018

19 - 20 Sept
DVD 2018

www.wec-group.com

5750 components has completed the move to a new 33,000 sq. ft. facility at Knowsley Business Park.



Well done to everyone involved – it was a huge success and it took a lot of hard work and determination to get the move completed as quickly as possible.

We now have immediate laser cutting and press braking capacity available, so please spread the word!



WEC passes highways scheme audit

Well done to the WEC CCTV, Powder Coating and Quality teams for revising the systems and passing the audit for the 19A Highways accreditation for painting processes.



The recent audit upgrades the company's scope of certification, updated with both coating processes.

National Highways Sector Schemes (NHSS) are bespoke quality management systems for organisations working on the UK road network, which comes together with our ISO 9001:2008 certification.

The scheme aims to make sure that work is carried out to the highest standards of professionalism, using properly trained staff, as well as placing a strong emphasis on health and safety.

Keep up to date with our company news by following us on: Twitter (@wecgroupltd) or Facebook (fb.com/wecgroupltd)

DNA Metalwork embraces the principles of quality improvement



DNA Metalwork has successfully achieved full CE Marking compliance with certification to BS EN 1090 (up to and including Execution Class 3) as well as ISO 3834-2 accreditation for welding and fabrication.

These complement the company's extensive range of quality accreditations, which enable us to deliver high-quality steel, stainless steel and aluminium structures to customer demands.



Quality improvement has been part of an exciting 18 months of growth at DNA.

Since being founded, staff numbers have increased from four to ten and the company has completed a range of successful contracts in the recent months.

Keep up the great work!

Keep up to date with our company news by following us on: Twitter (@wecgroupltd) or Facebook (fb.com/wecgroupltd)

Goose Foot is the word on Wigan's streets

Goose Foot Street Furniture has manufactured 14 bespoke seats for the Bradshawgate regeneration scheme in Leigh, Wigan.



The division were approached by Re-form Landscape Architects, on behalf of Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council, to help develop the design for the seats which feature Iroko timber slats, backrests and armrests.

Our highly-skilled team of engineers manufactured the 3062mm long seats in-house using our laser cutting, fabrication and powder coating facilities in Darwen.

They have now been placed at either side of newly planted trees in the retail area, creating a more attractive environment for shoppers, visitors and businesses.



Erin Basey, from Re-form Landscape Architects, was impressed by the team's quality of work, professionalism and expertise.

We're making buses for a land down under



Sherburn Metalwork is half way through a £1.3m contract to manufacture structures for Optare's Metrocity vehicles, which will be shipped to New Zealand later this year.

The team are fully assembling and welding the structures for over 100 buses in-house, including the wet painting of the lower half of the structure, at current volumes of 8 per week.



Since winning the contract in November, SML have also won the addition of the aluminium roof skinning process. This has increased the added value for the Group and helped Optare to achieve their efficiency targets.

The medium-sized Metrocity model is a low weight bus renowned for its manoeuvrability and fuel efficiency, and has a seating capacity of up to 44 passengers.



This contract is a major breakthrough for Optare and Sherburn alike, and signals the exciting growth opportunities available in Australasia.

Keep up to date with our company news by following us on: Twitter (@wecgroupltd) or Facebook (fb.com/wecgroupltd)

Aerospace contract completed with flying colours



Well done to all the staff who were involved in the £7m contract to manufacture platforms for an Airbus assembly factory in Germany, as our work has now been completed.

Our dedicated engineers manufactured 42 different platforms which will be used during various stages of the plane build.

The installation of the lifts are now in the final stages, and the client has complemented WEC Group's response and commitment throughout the project.

Thank you and well done to all the project engineers, admin support staff, the quality team, design team, shop floor staff, the laser division, purchasing team and the site team for all your hard work and dedication.

Shaun Quinn was responsible for the project, and he said he can't wait for the next one!



Quality Mission for 2018

Our mission for 2018 is to raise the level of quality across the Group by maintaining certifications, gaining more accreditations and introducing awards between departments.

The quality team will drive a new quality culture throughout the company by keeping up with meetings, taking part in regular training and expanding awareness and communication.

The new departmental awards proposed by Mihaela Mladin will be based on a master score calculated on non-conformities rate, on time delivery and non-quality cost.

Top 100 Employer

We're delighted to announce that WEC Group has once again been named a Top 100 Apprenticeship Employer. The list is compiled annually and we were selected as having displayed the highest standards of excellence in employing apprentices.



TOP 100
APPRENTICESHIP
EMPLOYER
— 2017 —

Brought to you by National Apprenticeship Service
Sponsored by **centrica**

www.wec-group.com

Apprentices add to gold medal haul at WorldSkills UK

 **Congratulations to our welding/fabrication apprentices who won gold, silver and highly commended at the WorldSkills UK final in Construction Metalwork, making it the third year in a row we have bagged a gold medal.**

25-year-old Michael Grimshaw, a second year Training Academy apprentice, won the accolade after beating off stiff competition at the three day final which was held as part of the Skills Show at the NEC, Birmingham from 16 – 19 November 2017.

Third year apprentice and last year's WEC Group Apprentice of the Year, Tyler Atkinson, brought home the silver medal in his fight to compete at WorldSkills Russia 2019 as part of Squad UK.

Reece Embley also made it through to the final 10 and received Highly Commended.



For a local, family owned business to produce national gold medal winners three years running is a major achievement, and is a testament to the high level of training the apprentices receive from Kris Mercer and their mentors.



The standards of the competition were extremely high again this year, although the competition was more challenging than in previous years. Apprentices had to make both sections of a metal crane in the same time scale as previous competitors had to make one section.



Michael joins WEC Group's wall of fame alongside the other 5 apprentices who have won gold, silver and bronze over the past three years.

www.worldskills.org

Highly Commended at National Apprenticeship Awards



Congratulations to Jonathan Holding, a fourth year welding/fabrication apprentice for receiving Highly Commended at the regional National Apprenticeship Awards 2017.

WEC Group also received Highly Commended for the Large Employer of the Year category at the event which took place at the Titanic Hotel, Liverpool in October.



Themis Skills & Training Provider Award Winners

We are delighted to have won the Skills and Training Provider Award (Large) at the Themis Inspire & Achieve Awards 2017.

Up against companies such as Safran Nacelles and The Senator Group, WEC Group was recognised for providing exceptional training and commitment to apprenticeships at the awards ceremony on 7 September.

We would also like to say a huge well done to our apprentice, Thomas Woodburn, who was shortlisted for the Advanced Apprentice Award!



WEC APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2017



We celebrated the success of our talented apprentices at our annual Apprentice of the Year Awards 2017.

The awards evening, held at Blackburn Rovers F.C. on 30 November, recognised the achievements of our welding and fabrication, CNC machining, technical production engineering and office-based apprentices.

We also celebrated the success of our apprentices at the MTL Advanced Training Academy in Rotherham, as well as those who are completing the program at Sherburn Metalwork.



Students were presented with awards based on their commitment and academic achievements as well as welding, machining and technical production engineering excellence. Those who have successfully completed the five year course were also awarded.

Michael Grimshaw, a welding and fabrication apprentice in Darwen, was crowned this year's WEC Group Apprentice of the Year after being recognised for his excellent workmanship and work ethic, and on top of this, his gold medal victory at this year's WorldSkills UK Construction Metalwork competition.



The MTLA Apprentice of the Year title was scooped by welding and fabrication apprentice Christina Bubb, after being recognised for her natural talent and for winning Rotherham's intermediate Apprentice of the Year Award in 2017.

Kris Mercer, our Training & Development Manager said: "Our apprentices are an exceptionally talented group of people of all ages, and it's important that we continue to reward them for their hard work."

Well done to all!

See more photos at: [facebook.com/wecacademy](https://www.facebook.com/wecacademy)

THE WINNERS...

APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

2017 WINNERS

**MICHAEL GRIMSHAW (WEC)
& CHRISTINA BUBB (MTLA)**



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jonathan Holding has excelled academically, achieving distinctions across the board in welding and fabrication, as well as excelling at his coursework and in the classroom.



JONATHAN HOLDING

WELDING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Thomas Woodburn won this award which recognises consistent and outstanding workmanship, including mig welding processes. He has also had a total of 6 welding excellence entries throughout the year.



THOMAS WOODBURN

MACHINING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Sam Holden took home this award for his consistently high standard of work, and always putting 100% effort into every task he is given.



SAM HOLDEN

COMMITMENT AWARD

Jonathan Holding was selected based on his consistently high level of work, excellent time-keeping and attendance, as well as going above-and-beyond what has been expected of him.



JONATHAN HOLDING

TECHNICAL PRODUCTION ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Joseph Shirley had 3 nominations, along with excellent time keeping records, proven work ethic and high standards of work.



JOSEPH SHIRLEY

Rocket launch another step towards space tourism!



The Skybolt 2 rocket which our apprentices and Kris Mercer helped to manufacture took to the skies successfully in September.

Our apprentices manufactured major parts for the Starchaser Industries research rocket which was launched in Northumberland, including the propulsion system and the launch pad.

Other WEC Group divisions got involved in the project, including the WEC Waterjet team who cut the rocket's fin brackets in-house.



The eight metre long rocket flew almost a mile into the sky before it broke into three pieces and returned to earth with a parachute.



Steven Bennett, the Starchaser CEO and Founder claims he is just a few years away from sending people into space, and said that the tests used with this reusable rocket will help him achieve that.

The purpose of the flight was to engage young people and inspire them to pursue science technology, engineering and mathematics as part of their education.

The next project is a 12 metre rocket which will be big enough to carry a person and is set to launch in 18 months!

See more photos at: facebook.com/wecacademy

Training Academy maintains Certified Welder Training Centre status



WEC Group Training Academy has successfully maintained its TWI (The Welding Institute) certified welder training centre status for another year after passing a vigorous two day audit.

As one of only a few TWI certified welder training centres in the North West, we have provided over 100 coded welding qualifications to staff since becoming accredited.

We would also like to say a huge well done to Kris Mercer who successfully passed his assessment to become an inspector and CSWIP 3.0 examiner in December.

Many local colleges and training providers do not have a welding examiner, so this is a fantastic achievement and enables the company to train and accredit both internal and external personnel.

MTLA apprentices put their new skills to the test



MTLA's first year Training Academy apprentices have been putting their new skills to the test since starting their apprenticeships in September.

The students have been getting involved in various projects, working together to fabricate and weld items which are used in the Academy and on the shop floor.

Recent work has included the modification of press tooling racks for the press department, and the fabrication of stillages which are used on the shop floor for storing timber.

They are now putting everything they have learned into practice as they are in the process of fabricating a number of mobile kitting racks for a major rail contract.

Keep up the great work!

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Celebrations all around at WEC!

Baby boom at HTA Group!

Congratulations to Natalie Day, HTA's Sales Administrator, and her partner for welcoming their baby girl Felicity into the world on 26th November 2017.



History has been made as Natalie was the first female employee to have a baby whilst working at HTA.

The baby boom has continued into 2018 as Klara Pakostova and Ben Cox, both employees at the

company, celebrated the arrival of their baby boy on 3rd January.

Natasha Shiers who works on reception is also expecting her baby very soon – watch this space!

Wedding bells for Claire and Justin!

Congratulations to Claire Root, who works at WEC Machining, and her husband Justin (a former WEC employee) who tied the knot on 2 September 2017.

Their special day took place at The Olde England Kiosk in Sunnyhurst Woods, Darwen, and the newlyweds then enjoyed a two week cruise to celebrate their honeymoon.

All the best from everyone at WEC!



The Last Man Standing!

Congratulations to Martin Leyland who won £1,360 in the latest "Last Man Standing" competition!

Martin scooped the jackpot in November and he will be putting his winnings towards another holiday in Benidorm.



Pleckgate High School students get a taste of engineering

Students from Pleckgate High School in Blackburn took a tour of our Darwen facilities in November, as a way of learning more about the metal manufacturing industry.

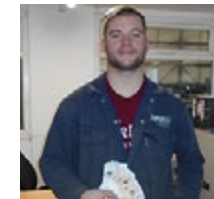
Thank you to Mick Brown for showing the pupils around and giving them an insight into engineering, as well as giving them some mobile phone holders to take away after demonstrating how the laser machines and press brakes work.



Awarding excellence across the Group

WELDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

WEC Fabrication, MTLA and Sherburn Metalwork grant regular welding excellence awards based on an individual's outstanding commitment and workmanship, as well as recognising their consistently high-quality work.



Jan 2017
Thomas Woodburn



Feb 2017
Lee Calvert



Mar 2017
Alan Johnson



May 2017
Bill Wright



Jun 2017
Tyler Atkinson



Jul 2017
Michael Grimshaw



Aug 2017
Wayne Neve



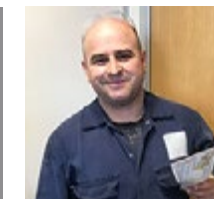
Sept 2017
James Dixon



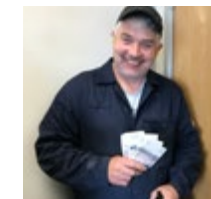
Oct 2017
Daniel Kazmierski



Nov 2017
Bill Wright



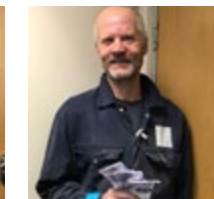
Jun 2017
Mario Nazario



Jul 2017
Martin Finnie



Aug 2017
Adam Siraj



Oct 2017
Guntars Zagars



Nov 2017
Liam Pinder

Sherburn
Metalwork



Oct 2017
Aron Roberts

WEC MACHINING EXCELLENCE



Oct 2017
Matt Jennings and Steve Dudgeon



Nov 2017
Nick Allen

www.wec-group.com

Apprentices get involved in Pedal for Pudsey!



Our apprentices did their bit for Children in Need after fabricating and fitting chequer plate protection enclosures for Graham Liver's and John Gillmore's 'PudseyMobile'.

The Radio Lancashire presenters took part in their biggest and toughest challenge yet for BBC Children in Need by pedalling over 100 miles in a week in November.

Starting on 10 November, the pair travelled across the whole county before finishing one week later at Blackpool Tower.

The campaign raised over £34,000 for BBC Children in Need!

We raised £786 for Macmillan!



Thank you to everyone who got involved in our Macmillan cake and coffee morning, as your generous donations helped us to raise a fantastic sum of £786.20.



It was a brilliant team effort from all our divisions across the UK, and there were plenty of delicious cakes and biscuits to go around.

We would also like to say thank you to Rachel Conway, who works at WEC Machining, for coming up with the idea initially and helping us all to make a difference.



Karen's Marathon Madness for Alder Hey!

Karen Britland, who works at WEC Machining, ran the Manchester Half Marathon in October and raised £360 for Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

After giving up socialising to keep fit beforehand, Karen completed the half marathon in just 2 hours and 10 minutes.

Alder Hey is a charity close to Karen's heart as the hospital has helped her great nephew to make it to 5 years old and attend school, which is something that her family thought may never happen.

In such a short life he has had to endure several operations, including 2 heart bypasses. She said he is 'by no means mended, but for now trying to live life as a normal little boy.'

Thank you to everyone who donated.

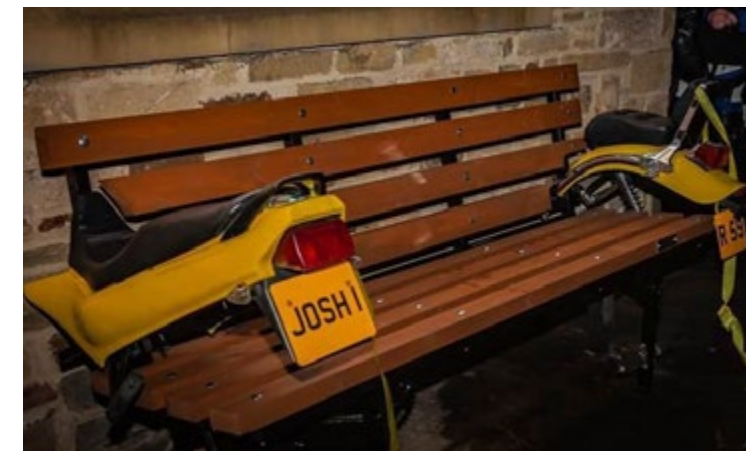


WEC donate steel for biker's memorial bench

WEC Group has donated steel which was used to make the frame of a bench in memory of Joshua Duxbury, a friend of WEC Group's Transport Planner Peter Chapman.

Josh was a young biker who was sadly killed in October 2016 at the age of 21 following a collision with a truck.

Peter and Maxine Wild arranged for us to donate some steel for the bench, which was unveiled at the café near Bolton Abbey on the anniversary of his death.



After five weeks and over one hundred hours of hard labour, the bench was finished just in time for the unveiling at 'Biker Night' on 10 October, where over 300 friends attended.

Peter would like to say a big thank you to WEC Group for the generous donation.

WEC Charities of the Year 2018

MTL Advanced and Sherburn Metalwork will be supporting Rotherham Hospice.



WEC Group (Blackburn and Darwen) in support of Oliver's Neuroblastoma Appeal.



HTA Group in support of The Myton Hospices.



If you are taking part in any fundraising events during 2018 and would like to support one of our chosen charities, please contact newsletter@wecl.co.uk

WEC Christmas Jumper Day raises £114!

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Christmas jumper day!

Our company-wide Christmas Jumper Day on 15 December helped us to raise £114 for Galgos Del Sol, a charity which rescues and re homes abused hunting dogs in Spain.



Nightsafe Christmas Appeal

Pete Fielding, our Laser Goods In/Storeman, helped to raise almost £200 for Nightsafe as part of the charity's Christmas Appeal.

Nightsafe was our Charity of the Year in 2015, and they provide holistic services to young people aged 16-24 in the Blackburn and Darwen Borough.

Thank you to all the staff who donated, and to those who very kindly put together six parcels full of toiletries for the young people who were in need of them this Christmas.



WEC staff support Mission Christmas!

- Thank you to our generous staff for once again donating many presents for Rock FM's Mission Christmas Appeal.
- The presents were given to disadvantaged young children in Lancashire who may not have otherwise received a present at all.
- Well done to our Purchasing team for organising the collection again this year.



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD!

Christmas Tree Competition!

Well done to WEC Machining for winning the company-wide Christmas Tree Competition 2017.

The company donated £50 as a prize to Oliver's Neuroblastoma Appeal, a cause supporting Oliver from Blackburn who was diagnosed with stage 4 high risk neuroblastoma on his third birthday.



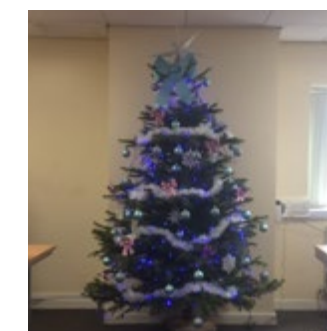
The winning tree at WEC Machining



Springvale



MTL Advanced



WEC Waterjet



Britannia House



HTA Group



5750 Components



WEC Laser

WEC Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for this year's Christmas raffle, helping to raise a fantastic sum of £554 for East Lancashire Hospice.



THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD!

GETTING TO KNOW...

Bryan Bentley

**General Manager
Sherburn Metalwork Ltd**

How long have you worked at WEC?

I have worked for WEC for nearly 6 years.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I wanted to be a motorcycle racer which I did until I stopped bouncing and started breaking. After that I thought I better get myself a trade and fabrication & welding was my chosen path.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I like to ride mountain bikes and being outdoors really. I am going to Bulgaria snowboarding in January too.

What is your favourite film?

Too many to choose but the film I have seen the most is Ferris Bueller's Day Off.

What makes you smile?

Many things but mostly my wife.



Bryan Bentley

What's your favourite holiday getaway?

Out of all the places I have travelled, I always seem to go back to Nerja in southern Spain, it's still quite undiscovered and very traditionally Spanish.

Who do you admire the most?

My parents, they have been married for 60 years and are an inspiration to me. They have both worked hard all their life and given me and my brother everything we ever wanted but instilled a sense of gratitude and respect.

What super power would you have?

To be invisible, you could literally conquer the world with that.

What's your favourite food?

A well-cooked belly pork with crispy crackling.

What's the craziest thing you've ever done?

Marrying my first wife...

If you could meet someone living or dead, who would it be?

The people / things that built the Pyramids. Would love to know how and why?

Who is your favourite singer?

Musically my tastes are very varied, this is due to long summer holiday trips in the family car listening to my parents 50's & 60's music but if I had to choose I would probably say George Michael.

What is your greatest achievement to date?

I've done a 110mph lap of the Isle of Man TT course.

Best piece of advice you've ever received?

That you can achieve anything you want to achieve as long as you are prepared to work for it.

What's the highlight of your time at WEC Group?

Every day is a highlight at WEC. However travelling in Steve's Helicopter is always special and something my mates are always envious of.



In loving memory of Philip Stott

We are extremely saddened to announce the loss of our valued employee, Philip Stott.

Phil was a much loved member of the team and worked for us as a Project Manager for many years.

His talent and passion will never be forgotten. Rest in peace Philip.