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https://arrow.tudublin.ie/bsn/vol39/iss5/1
DOI: 10.21427/D76X3H
Dip Only A Blip!

While a cross-section of suppliers have confirmed that trading activity is down a couple of percentage points over the same period of last year, the indications are that this is but a minor hiccup in what promises to be a frenetic Summer.

There are half a dozen major projects set to come on stream in the coming months, while on the broader front the general level of construction activity will definitely continue unabated.

Indeed, suppliers in particular could well use the opportunity to take stock and attend to the essential house-keeping chores which, for all too many, have been neglected because they have simply been too busy.

Building Services Buyer Guide 2001

Pressline Ltd, the publishers of BSNews, are currently preparing the entry forms for the 2001 Edition of the Building Services Buyer Guide. These forms will be distributed to manufacturers, agents and distributors early next month.

Subscribers to BSNews will automatically receive their own personal copy of the Guide. Orders for additional copies are now being taken.

Contact: Edel Burke @ Tel: 01 - 288 5001; Fax: 01 - 299 6966; email: edel@pressline.ie
Grafton Acquires Essex Heating

Grafton Group plc has acquired the entire share capital of Essex Heating Supplies Ltd, a regional plumbers merchant based in East Anglia. The purchase consideration of Stg£13.1 million is being satisfied by the payment of Stg£7.7 million in cash, funded from the Group's existing resources, and the issue of Stg£5.4 million in loan notes.

Essex trades from 19 branches located principally in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. Turnover for the year ended 25 December 1999 was Stg£36 million on which profit before tax of Stg£2.03 million was reported.

The acquisition is expected to be earnings enhancing in the current year.

Surge in New Entrants for Octabuild

Judging for the Year 2000 Octabuild Builders Merchant of the Year awards is now underway and will be concluded early in June. Over 100 merchants are being visited. New awards have been introduced this year based on quality, standards and size.

"The very pleasing aspect of this year's awards is the high level of new entrants. Over 10% of the merchants being visited are first time entrants", said Tom O'Callaghan, Chairman of Octabuild.

Each builders merchant is judged on Customer Service, Merchandising, Housekeeping, Health & Safety and Management.

The presentation of the awards will take place in Croke Park on 22 June 2000 with Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh as master of ceremonies.

Judging for the Octabuild Builders Merchant of the Year Awards is conducted independently of Octabuild. Every builders merchant who submits an entry to the Awards is visited and rated under 29 different criteria. A second panel of judges then visits the highest-scoring merchants to select the national winner. The Irish Home Builders Association and the Irish Hardware Association are represented on the judging panel.

AC2000 and Tech Refrigeration Acquire New Premises

Despite rumours to the contrary, AC2000 and Tech Refrigeration continue to trade successfully.

In fact, as we went to press the two sister companies were in the process of moving out of temporary premises into their newly-acquired, jointly-owned, office/warehouse/workshop complex located at Unit 9, Northwest Centre, Northwest Business Park, Dublin 15.

BSNews will have full details in our next issue.

Contact: Jim Weldon/Vincent Weldon.
Tel: 01 - 820 8544;
Fax: 01 - 820 8547.

Pictured at the announcement of the Octabuild Awards are Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh (left) with Tom O’Callaghan, Chairman of Octabuild.
Wilo Glandless Pumps, Now with Integrated Isolating Valves

Wilo has launched its new innovative TOP-SV and TOP-EV ranges of glandless pumps, the first and only heating pump series with fully integrated isolating valves in the pump body. These pumps, from DN25 to DN65, can reduce the overall space required by up to 50%, compared to installations with separate isolating valves. This space-saving makes the TOP-V ranges an ideal choice for projects where plant space is at a premium, a factor becoming more and more prevalent in today’s installations. This unique feature has a significant economic saving too, not only from the fact that standard isolating valves, mating flanges, gaskets and bolts are dispensed with, but there is also the saving in installation time and man-hours to be considered. The proven isolating concept utilises a butterfly flap valve on flanged pump models and ball valves on screwed connection models. The valves are easily accessible as they are positioned on the side of the pump housing, and require only a standard spanner to operate. There is an indicator on each valve head, to show the valve position. The TOP-SV range has three speed motors, and is similar in hydraulic performance to the current TOP-S pumps. The TOP-EV range features the electronically-controlled variable speed motors used on the successful TOP-E range.

Looking for an excellent career opportunity within the HVAC Industry? Talk to RVR.

RVR are the leading manufacturer and distributor of Gas Heating Appliances and Air Handling Units in Ireland. We are looking for an energetic Sales Representative to join our Gas Appliance Division.

Based in Dublin, with a good knowledge of the industrial and commercial heating market, the right person can look forward to a remuneration package inclusive of a good basic salary, an excellent performance bonus and a company car.

Contact Brian Mulhare now in confidence to arrange an interview.
'Fresh Breeze' from Mitsubishi Electric

The demand for better indoor air quality continues to grow, placing further pressure on employers, restaurant and bar owners, and businesses in general, to ensure their environmental control systems offer a supply of fresh air to any heating or cooling system.

In answer to those demands Mitsubishi Electric has developed two new fresh air systems which can be incorporated into the company's City Multi VRF air conditioning products. The GUF-50RD and cost-effective when the air conditioning is being used in dual heating and cooling mode.

The fresh air systems use Mitsubishi Electric's unique Lossnay heat recovery element which is designed to exhaust stale air, while simultaneously bringing in an equal amount of fresh air. The specially-designed Lossnay core rescues heating or cooling energy from outbound air, transferring it to the fresh incoming air.

By removing stale, indoor air, the units provide balanced ventilation, stabilise humidity, and reduce airborne toxins and viruses that can threaten health. The air is passed through a non-woven fabric filter to remove dust and smoke.

Mitsubishi Electric GUF fresh air units can be used with any of the extensive range of City Multi indoor units and provide dust removal, humidification, and cost-effective heat recovery.

GUF100RD fresh air units can be used with any of the extensive range of City Multi indoor units and provide dust removal, humidification, and heat recovery. This makes either of the units exceptionally versatile.

Contact: Michael Sheehan, Mitsubishi Electric. Tel: 01 - 450 5007; Fax: 01 - 460 2069; email: michael.sheehan@meuk.me e.com

Expo Exhibitions Acquire John Palmer Exhibitions

Expo Exhibitions Ltd has become Ireland's largest exhibition organiser following its acquisition of John Palmer Exhibitions Ltd. It is anticipated that the acquisition, which was announced earlier this month will bring Expo Group turnover to over £3.5 million.

Expo will retain all existing staff at John Palmer Exhibitions.

The John Palmer Group was founded in 1974 and owns three existing business titles - The Brighter Homes Exhibition, The Autumn Gift Fair, and the Spring Gift Fair. Expo Exhibitions organises three of the country's largest trade fairs - namely Showcase Ireland, Plan Expo and Catex - along with seven other titles.

Garret Buckley, Sales and Marketing Director of Expo Exhibitions says: "The acquisition of this major player in the exhibition market represents a significant step in the development of Expo Exhibitions. We have experienced rapid growth in recent years, not just in our specialist areas of trade exhibitions, but also as a result of extending the company's interests into conference and event management.

"The acquisition of the John Palmer Group provides Expo Exhibitions with many strategic opportunities. It is our firm belief that the three titles most closely associated with the company - the Brighter Homes Exhibitions, The Autumn Gift Fair and the Spring Gift Fair - have the potential to grow and become significant international exhibitions under the Expo Exhibitions flag.

"The Brighter Homes Exhibition in particular will benefit from Expo's close links to the building and interiors sectors developed through the Plan Expo Exhibition. We have exciting plans to re-launch the exhibition in order to capitalise on consumer interest in this sector, and to address the need for a quality national homes/DIY show. We can also announce the appointment of Mr Duncan Stewart, the RTE personality and presenter of many DIY and interior design programmes, as Creative Director of the Brighter Homes Exhibition".

Alan Murphy, Expo Operations and Finance Director said: "Expo Exhibitions has developed a reputation for high-quality and professional services in the exhibition, conference and event management sectors. Our greatest asset is our committed and experienced workforce who have made the company such a success. Expo's 15 years of experience in the industry will be enhanced by the addition of staff from the John Palmer Group, including existing Sales Manager Barbara Webb. We look forward to the continued growth of the company into the future"
**Environineering Portable Air Conditioning**

Environineering Ltd specialises in the manufacture, hire and sale of portable air-conditioning equipment to industrial and commercial clients throughout Ireland. Many of its customers are blue-chip companies who use the products to control the environment for personnel; manufacturing processes; computer equipment; telecommunications equipment; radio broadcast and TV studios; hospitality areas; secure cash and data-handling units; and shops, offices, etc.

The versatility and reliability of the units, along with the high level of service provided, are the key ingredients in the company's business strategy.

Every effort is made to ensure that existing clients use its services in the most effective manner. All staff are trained to help clients identify the correct unit to provide the level of comfort they require, at a reasonable cost, and for the appropriate length of time. With almost all of the portable products and services, same or next-day service is available.

Environineering Ltd also advises on, and installs, a full range of fixed air-conditioning systems, suitable for either single offices or multi-storey buildings.

Committed to providing the complete air-conditioning package, it is the company's objective to find the appropriate solution and ultimately help create the desired environment.

Contact: Seamus Flynn, Environineering Ltd.
Tel: 043 - 47197;
Fax: 043 - 47844.

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**Cleaner Air for Dublin Pubs**

Traditional Hospitality, a programme developed by the International Hotel & Restaurant Association which enables pub and bar owners to improve the air quality in their premises through improved ventilation, was launched by the Licensed Vintners Association at its AGM at the Conrad Hotel in Dublin recently.

Why Ireland? In September 1999 the LVA carried out a survey into the issues surrounding air quality and its effects on the business of its members. 48% of pub owners responded that they had had customer complaints about tobacco, yet only 25% of pub owners reported a desire for separate smoking and non-smoking sections in food serving areas. The solution proposed was improved ventilation throughout the pub or bar.

Speaking at the AGM, LVA Chairman Eddie Byrne explained: "The Traditional Hospitality programme offers LVA members a real solution to the growing industry concerns surrounding air quality in our pubs. All premises have installed ventilation systems but they may be inadequate for the purpose, poorly maintained, or rely on busy bar staff to remember to operate them. Innovations such as the air quality sensor and the methodical approach of the Traditional Hospitality programme will enable us to avoid these problems and meet our customers' demand for cleaner air".

Traditional Hospitality's objective is to accommodate smokers and non-smokers in bars and pubs where physically-separated smoking and non-smoking areas are neither practicable nor desirable. It consists of a technical appraisal by a ventilation professional who provides recommendations, where appropriate, for improvements in location, capacity, control and maintenance of ventilation equipment. Once such improvements have been made, a second ventilation check is undertaken and the pub or bar then becomes a Traditional Hospitality accredited outlet.

The programme currently operates in several countries including Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and Ireland.

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**NatMaint 2000 Moved to October!**

NatMaint 2000, the National Maintenance and Facility Management Exhibition, has moved to 17/18 October 2000. It will be held in the RDS Shelbourne Hall alongside the Health & Safety at Work Exhibition, which takes place in the adjoining hall, Enquip – the Engineering and Industrial Equipment Exhibition – also takes place on the same dates. The combined events are expected to attract up to 10,000 high-quality industrial and business visitors to the RDS.

Exhibitors will include a range of equipment, IT and system suppliers, together with many of the increasingly-important service providers within the industry.

Contact: Helen Clarke, SDL Exhibitions.
Tel: 01 - 405 5551; email: helen@sdlexpo.com
Website: www.natmaint.ie
Sauter — Bursting with Control Ideas

Modern buildings have a complex inner life involving a wide variety of plant and equipment, all requiring energy.

Assuming that a building — be it a company headquarters, hotel, hospital or the like — has to be run on a commercially-viable basis, ongoing operating costs have to be kept as low as possible.

Sauter building management systems continuously monitor parameters such as temperature, humidity, pressure, CO2 levels, etc. Information is processed and actions are taken automatically to ensure the most efficient use of energy.

Optimum control ensures a healthy and stable environment with minimum energy consumption.

Sauter building management systems are just as suitable for small buildings as for large ones, such as hospitals and hotels. Sauter also develops complete packages for the automatic control of district heating systems, housing estates and entire urban districts.

The product range includes pressure controllers, thermostats, humidity sensors, valves and actuators ... in short, everything that is needed.

Contact: Trevor Casey, EPH Controls. Tel: 021 - 434 6238; Fax: 021 - 434 1271; email: epb@indigo.ie
Website: sauter.controls.com

Liquid-Free, High-Pressure Gauge from Manotherm

The new Dwyer Series 7314A Spirahelic® pressure gauge from Manotherm brings 1/4% FS accuracy (ASME Grade 3A) to the laboratory or the process industry. Eliminating the need for messy, liquid-filled gauges, this instrument's unique direct-drive design connects a triple-helix Bourdon tube (of Iconel® X-730 alloy) to a precisely-balanced pointer.

Since there are no gears, springs, linkages or complex movements, there is no need for a liquid to dampen vibration. This UL-rated gauge is available in nine models for high-pressure ranges from 0 - 60 psi to 0 - 6000 psi.

The gauge's centre-post bearing carrier ensures precise bearing alignment for nearly friction-free operation. The instrument's mirrored 8 1/2" face affords across-the-room readability. A solid-front case, rear blowout panel and low-volume Bourdon tube assure exceptional safety. An integral filter plug keeps out dirt.

The unit's ASME B40.1 design fits standard cutouts. Its 316 stainless steel connection block includes dual 1/4" NPT female ports, one on the back, one on the bottom, so the same gauge can be used for either bottom or back connection.

Contact: Bob Gilbert/ Brian Harris, Manotherm. Tel: 01 - 452 2355; Fax: 01 - 451 6919; email: manotherm@eircom.com
Northern Ireland: Tel: 01820 669936; Fax: 01820 669990; email: sales@manotherm.freeserve.co.uk
Above: The new Dwyer Series 7314A spirahelic pressure gauge from Manotherm

Phex A 'Hugh Success'

The PHEX Ireland exhibition — held during April — proved a major success for exhibitors and visitors alike. Organiser Sue Twamley stated: "The reaction from all exhibitors, at both Belfast and Dublin, was very enthusiastic and has again proved the successful format of the regional PHEX domestic plumbing and heating exhibition series".

In addition to visitors being able to attend during the day or in the evening, they were invited to participate in the roulette evening, which proved very popular. The winners were John McIlwaine of Plum Centre in Belfast (winning £2.16 million); and Pauline McEvoy of Seamus McEvoy Plumbing & Heating, Dublin (winning £668,000).

The IoP held its annual apprenticeship awards at the Dublin show and were delighted with the extra value of taking the awards to the exhibition. John Smart, President of the IoP in Ireland, commented: "We have been presenting these awards for some time now but the decision to link this year's awards with PHEX Ireland has been an undoubted success with our members".

The value of PHEX is clearly to be determined by the exhibitors reaction to this year's exhibition series ... all are positive about returning for next year's events.

PHEX UK 2000

The two PHEX domestic plumbing and heating exhibitions for this year will be held in Manchester at Old Trafford, home of Manchester United FC, on 4/5 October; and Stamford Bridge, home of Chelsea FC, on 1/2 November.

Both venues are virtually sold out in respect of stand space but further information regarding the exhibitions, and how installers can use the free merchant coach facilities, will appear in subsequent issues of BSNews along with further information on both shows.

Contact: Sue Twamley, PHEX. Tel: 0044 181 680 4200.
Our delivery methods can be a little extreme

Thermal's 20 years of experience producing heat exchangers is the solid basis for supplying Air Cooled Condensers and Dry Air-Liquid Coolers to meet any customer requirement. Where space is at a premium we offer a series of V-shaped condensers and dry coolers with a capacity up to 1650 kW.
CompAir Rotary Vane Compressors

CompAir Hydrovane's new 5.5 and 7.5kW air compressors have been designed to provide the best solution for applications requiring high-quality compressed air with total reliability.

The units are available in open 'Classic' and enclosed 'Airlogic' versions. Pressure options of 7 bar and 10 bar are available, with air flows ranging from 14.9 l/s (31.5 cfm) to 20.5 l/s (43.3 cfm) at 7 bar with noise levels as low as 67dBA.

The key to the versatility of the design is the unique base frame. Both models have been designed utilising the same base frame, enabling the addition of four clip-on panels to convert the open "Classic" into an enclosed "AirLogic". The enclosure panels require no tools for assembly but simply clip together quickly and easily.

A centrifugal fan has been incorporated into the new design, which has improved the cooling, offering a maximum ambient capability of 45°C and reducing the air delivery temperature down to only 5°C above ambient.

Ease of servicing is a hallmark of the CompAir Hydrovane range. All compressor panels are easily removed to provide all around access, ensuring minimum compressor downtime during routine servicing.

Contact: Finbar Keenaghan, Hanley Air Systems. Tel: 01 - 822 4822; Fax: 01 - 822 4833; email: finbar@dublin.hancon.ie

Wavin Cup for Clare Apprentice

Graham Touhy, a 4-year apprentice from Killaloe, Co Clare, is the National Apprentice Plumber of the Year and winner of the Wavin Cup for the year 2000. Graham is employed by PJ Daly, Killaloe, and is a student of the CIT Cork.

His win puts him in contention for the Irish team which will take part in the 36th World Skills Competition to be held in Seoul, Korea in September 2001.

Graham (21) received the Wavin Cup at the Aer Rianta/Department of Education and Science National Apprentice Competitions held in Dublin recently.

Environmental Technology 2000

ET2000 is the focal point for the first UK Environment Week, which runs from 5 - 11 June 2000. With over 230 companies exhibiting, ET offers the best opportunity to see the latest developments in environmental products and services this year.

Pre-register by visiting 222.et-expo.co.uk. You will then be sent your ET visitor badge, which will ensure quick and easy access to the show, and your copy of the ET newsletter, outlining the products and features on display.
Design Air Ltd — air conditioning specialists — have been appointed by York ACR as exclusive distributors of York’s unitary air conditioning range in the Leinster region.

With this new agreement York International will continue its policy of providing cost-effective air conditioning products at very competitive prices.

Design Air will provide York products with the added value of design assistance, installation if required, and after-sales support. A unique feature from Design Air will be the availability of a “switch-on service” on all unitary products.

“We already have an established presence in the specialist underfloor market segment”, says Design Air’s Donal Keane, “and this new appointment broadens our portfolio so that we can provide a more comprehensive, all-embracing, service right across the entire air conditioning industry”.

The extent of the York unitary range is vast, catering for all market requirements and applications. Brief details of the primary product groupings are as follows:

**Packaged Rooftop Units**

- 7kW to 94kW
- Dual input economiser
- Power exhaust
- Fixed roof curb
- Adjustable roof curb
- LPHW coil with controls
- Electric heaters

**Close Control Units**

- Duct work configuration side or down flow
- Models for cooling only, heat pump and gas heating
- Group control + BMS compatibility
- LED fault diagnosis
- Indoor air quality control

**Air-cooled chillers and condensing units**

- 5kW to 150kW
- Edpac water-cooled and air-cooled close control modular range

**Accessories**

- Cooling only and heat pump versions
- Hydraulic pump kit
ing Products

Commercial Split Systems
2kW to 72kW

- Split condensing unit (propeller type fan) or (centrifugal fan)
- Cooling only
  axial and centrifugal fans
ductable indoor units
- Heat pump
  axial and centrifugal fans
ductable indoor units
- Two independent refrigeration circuits from size 150 upwards
- Thermostat supplied as standard equipment

Design Air Limited
Design Air Ltd, Unit 7, Turnpike Business Park, Turnpike Lane, Dublin 22
Tel: 01 - 460 5555; Fax: 01 - 460 5556; email: designair@indigo.ie

Published by ARROW@TU Dublin, 2000
Alldays Peacock Know Their Fan Onions!

The origins of Alldays Peacock & Co, ventilation specialists, go back to the year 1625 when a family of Midlands-based craftsmen in the UK began the manufacture of bellows in a shed. Over the centuries there have been many developments, inventions, innovative developments, and indeed traumas.

The company has always remained in the air movement sector but, at various times over the years, branched out into other industries, including motor car design and production.

Nonetheless, the company of today is dedicated solely to the ventilation sector, the modern-day Alldays Peacock having its origins in the acquisition of the company by the Spire Group in the early 1980s.

Over the last decade in particular the company's design and manufacture output has expanded considerably. Alldays Peacock's strength in centrifugal fans was complemented in 1993 by the purchase of Matthews & Yates, who are especially strong in axial-flow fans.

In tandem the two companies now offer a broad range of high-quality products supported by an expertise that is the fruit of almost four centuries of manufacturing experience in the same industry sector.

Key features common across the entire range are as follows:-

Casing - The casing is manufactured from fully-welded steel plate, heavily stiffened to ensure maximum rigidity. The inlet cone is a fabricated item, designed to ensure a smooth flow of air into the impeller. The cone is secured to the casing by setpins to facilitate easy access to the impeller.

Inlets can be guarded spigot or flanged to suit requirements.

Impeller - The impeller, having blades of the backward curve type, is a fully-welded, high-quality, mild steel unit, balanced to ISO 6.3 Standard.

Alternative materials can be used for temperatures above 350°C and hazardous gases.

Shaft - The shaft is manufactured from EN8 material fully machined, designed to have at least 50% in excess of the maximum running speed of the fan.

The impeller is secured to the shaft by a fitted gib head key as standard, but alternatives are available.

Bearings - Plummer block bearings are fitted as standard and are selected to suit the most arduous of conditions.

Ball and roller bearings are incorporated which are grease lubricated.

The bearing assembly is supported on a substantial mild steel pedestal. Allowances can be made in this pedestal for the addition of a cooling impeller which is fitted to fans running at 150°C and over.

Cartridge bearing units are supplied for arduous duty fans.

Finish - All fans are painted with a standard grey primer both internally and externally, with a top coat externally for fans up to 700mm diameter of hammer blue.

Special paint systems can be applied at an extra cost.

Testing - All fans are given a mechanical running test prior to dispatch. Any witnessed running or performance test can be carried out at an extra cost.

Contact: Ciaron King,
Ventac & Co Ltd.
Tel: 01 - 667 1077;
Fax: 01 - 667 1055;
Email: ctking@ventac.ie
Website: www.ventac.ie
SANYO Multi System Air Conditioners “Super ECO MULTI”

Environmentally-friendly HFC R407C available.
Core MultiVRF – Comfort of the Future

The new Carrier MultiVRF system from Core Air Conditioning is designed for installation in zones which may be expected to share a common demand for either heating or cooling.

Each refrigerant circuit will control the flow to meet demand of the indoor unit.

An indoor unit may be connected up to 100m from the outdoor unit and up to 30m from its gas flow distributor. A vertical distance of 50m (outdoor above) or 20m (outdoor below) may be designed into the system.

The indoor units may be controlled as follows:
- by infrared controller or wired room controller providing individual control;
- in groups, using room or group controllers;
- in zones, via the gas flow distributors and zone manager.

The outdoor unit is responsible for supplying sufficient refrigerant flow (R22) to meet the demands of the indoor units, via the gas flow distributors. The output is variable between 4% and 100% and is achieved by using variable-speed and fixed-speed compressors in conjunction with speed-controlled outdoor fan motors.

The gas flow distributor provides the proportional refrigerant flow to each indoor unit independently, in accordance with the signals from each indoor unit, by varying the position of a pulse modulating valve.

The position of the valve is determined by two primary factors:
- the level of demand from an associated indoor unit, which increases as the variation between set point and return air temperature increases;
- the capacity code setting which is set for each indoor unit in the gas flow distributor.

Any style of indoor unit may be used in any combination, providing the maximum unit capacity code of the outdoor unit is not exceeded. The indoor units may be selected to suit the application and are available from the following ranges, Aran, Alpine, Sierra and Vail.

The total duty of the indoor units may exceed the outdoor unit capacity by 135% if using a single gas flow distributor, and by 180% if two are installed.

Contact: Austin McDermott, Core Air Conditioning.
Tel: 01 - 294 3110; Fax: 01 - 294 3115; email: coreac@iol.ie
Website: ireland@iol.ie/coreac
April 21st saw the trial run of what is likely to become an annual event ... The Rink Good Friday Golf Day.

This year's tournament was held at the Tulfarris Golf Club in Blessington Lakes, Co Wicklow, where the turnout was impressive with over 60 people on the links, despite the uncertain weather.

The programme for the day included a number of innovative ideas designed to promote Rink Air Conditioning, Rink's new range of rooftop heat pumps, and of course Hitachi who kindly co-sponsored the event.

The prizes were exceptional, headlined by new Mercedes cars and holidays in the Bahamas for anyone who got a hole-in-one on one of the designated holes. Unfortunately no one managed this, much to the disappointment of Brian McDonagh, Rink Air Conditioning's Managing Director, who had the prizes covered by insurance just in case!

All the other prizes, including combination TV/VCRs, televisions, stereo systems, golf umbrellas, T-shirts and numerous bottles of wine, were won. Details of the winners are as follows:

First Prize – Paddy Horgan;
Second Prize – Donal Cronan;
Third Prize – Don Spollen;
Longest Drive – Ray McCarthy;
Additional prizes – including £200 cash for nearest the pin (kindly sponsored by Kenny Quealy accountants) and runners-up prizes – went to Colin Murphy and Tom Glyn respectively.

Steve Edwards thanked all those who participated, especially the co-sponsors Hitachi, Temec, Eugene Phillips, and Mechelec, who made the day such a success.

The event concluded with a sumptuous dinner and a lot of conviviality, virtually everyone going home with a momento of the day. The consensus of opinion was that this must become an annual event.

Contact: www.betterairconditioning.com
www.progolfevents.com
Noise Control Products For Industrial & OEM Applications

**SOUND ABSORPTION/NOISE BARRIER** ACOUSTICAL CURTAIN SYSTEMS are rugged and tough enough to handle the harshest industrial environment. STC ratings up to 33 offering significant noise reduction while allowing for complete accessibility, as well as visibility and ventilation. Easy installation on floor mounted, suspended, and wall mounted frames.

**QUILTED FIBerglass and Barrier COMposites** are available in OEM applications to control noise in engine compartments and transmission tunnels. Also suitable for industrial applications, these absorptive/barrier combinations are available in panels, rolls or custom configurations and are impervious to harsh environments.

**QUILTED FIBerglass Absorbers** are fire safe, high performance, acoustic blankets used in OEM, in-plant and architectural applications. Constructed for superior mechanical strength, they are unaffected by moisture, humidity, dust, dirt, oils and most chemicals. NRC to 1.05, FMVSS 302 acceptable, fire safe Class 1. In-house die cutting and custom fabrication satisfies any design requirement.

**Barriers**-Flexible noise barriers are large, tough, high-temperature-fused loaded vinyl with nonmetal filters and/or reinforced with high strength fabric. Perfect for applications requiring performance under moderate or severe temperature conditions. USN acceptable, transparent noise barriers, high temperature and specialty barriers are available, including a Class 1 Flammability rated barrier.

**PORTABLE ACOUSTICAL ENCLOSURES AND SCREENS** are free-standing portable units which can be supplied with any of Sound Seal's quiled fiberglass or absorptive/barrier composite panels. Perfect as machinery partitions, dividers or welding shields. Quick and easy installation. Also available, complete three or four-sided portable enclosures including windows, ventilation and roof tops.

**ACOUSTICAL WALL PANELS AND CeilIng BAsSELS**-Overhead baffles and wall mounted blankets are an effective, economic method of reducing reverberant noise in industrial or architectural environments. They are designed to improve acoustical conditions by introducing "soft" absorptive materials into an otherwise "hard" reflective environment. Perfect for theaters, auditoriums, sports facilities and industrial buildings. Also available FDA approved sanitary baffles.

**VBD-10 Damping Compound & Soundproof E Sheets**-Structure-borne vibration can be effectively and economically reduced with a simple application of either product. Damping compound may be beaded, routed or sprayed. Paintable when dry. Meets ASTM E-162 and E-662 (Smoke and Flame). Ideal for OEM applications including rail, bus and marine. Excellent in industrial applications. Sealed adhesive damping sheet is 0.060" thick. Meets UL-94. Cuts easily to any size.

**ACOUSTICAL PIPE & Duct LAGGINGS**-Features a loaded vinyl noise barrier with a reinforced aluminum foil facing. Used for wrapping steel, iron and plastic pipes, sheet metal duct work, and noisy valves indoors and outdoors. Excellent durability and corrosion resistance, high combustibility and easily installed. Also available in composite form with a 1" or 2" quilted fiberglass absorber.

Sound Seal ACOUSTICAL Products offer maximum noise reduction for minimum dollars. Curtain Panels and composite materials are Class 1 Flammability rated with STC rating up to 33 and NRC rating to 1.65.

**SOUND SEAL™ EUROPE**
Noise Control Research Laboratories Ltd
11 Fitzwilliam Quay, Ringsend, Dublin 4, Ireland

Tel: 1353-1-6671077, Fax: 1353-1-6671055
Web: www.ncrl.net E-mail: cting@ventac.ie

www.ncrl.net

NCRL, wholly-owned subsidiary of Ventac & Co Ltd

DOI: 10.21427/D76X3H
Following the official opening of its wholly-owned Irish office earlier this year, Trane has now entered into an agreement with Air Conditioning Technology Ltd making ACT the company’s first and only Trane unitary dealer in Ireland covering the 26 counties.

This is a significant development for both companies. ACT now has access to a vast range of unitary market-leading products, while Trane is secure in the knowledge that its unitary portfolio is being sold and distributed by highly-qualified and experienced personnel.

Given this background, it’s hardly surprising that ACT should form a business partnership with Trane. The Trane Company has had a presence in Ireland for over 30 years, mainly through a franchise agreement. However, the business of that operation has now been subsumed into a wholly-owned company called Trane Ireland whose Managing Director is Aidan Flannery. Aidan’s aim is to make Trane market leader in Ireland for the supply and service of HVAC equipment and associated services and he aims to do that by a combination of supply routes, most notably that of ACT for unitary products.

In the world of air conditioning the historic origins of Trane gives it, almost legendary status, the founding of the company going back as far as 1885. Over the years Trane has introduced a series of industry “firsts” comprising innovative developments which have become generic standards emulated by many others. Trane’s portfolio represents the most advanced air conditioning technologies which offer high-performance systems to meet any requirement, be it air conditioning, cooling, heating, ventilation, controls, and associated services.

The range is extensive and all-embracing, details of the Trane Unitary range now available from ACT being as outlined overleaf.
Aircooled Split Systems
Trane offer a very large and diverse range of Aircooled DX systems starting with capacities from a 2kW wall mounted heatpump to a 228kW DX condensing unit. All DX systems can be matched to a Trane indoor unit in various site configurations. It is possible to have vertical upflow or downflow airflow and horizontal units. Accessories such as plenums, electric heaters and LPHW coils are field or factory mounted as required. Alternatively, the DX condensing units can be matched to custom-built air handling units.

Close Control Systems
Tranes close control systems come in aircooled, watercooled and chilled water versions. The configuration of the systems can be upflow or downflow depending on site requirements. All systems have microprocessor drive control systems and are suitable for BMS interface. Product capacity ranges are from 5kw to 128kw.

Trane Protects & Comforts The World
All over the world and in every corner of Europe, people take comfort from Trane, be it in hospitals, airports, museums, administrative offices, supermarkets, restaurants, all manner of public-usage buildings, and even in homes. In fact, every five minutes — day and night — a Trane system is installed somewhere in the world.

Trane provides comfort on every scale with a multitude of installations such as the Statue of Liberty, the Ariane launch pad at the European Space Centre in Kourou, and Europe’s largest commercial and residential complex in Berlin (697,500 sq m) demonstrating the scope and extent of the vast range.

Trane is one of those companies for which every effort to protect the environment is, in itself, a noble cause. As environmental comfort system manufacturers inddor air quality, refrigerants and energy efficiencies are a major concern.

Trane has been a leader in research programmes and the development of new products to protect the environment, and it works closely with customers to find new alternatives that combine efficiency with environmental acceptability.
Water Systems
Using water as the heat carrying medium has many advantages for the user, not least the protection of the environment. As legislation on the use of CFC’s in systems becomes more stringent the use of water based systems becomes more obvious as a solution to air conditioning problems. Trane’s sophisticated range of equipment which will be ecologically sound and also efficient. The Trane Aqua Stream systems ranging in capacity from 5.5kW to 60kW have an integrated hydraulic module which provides all the components required to connect a chiller to the pipe system (pump, buffer tank, expansion vessel and valve assembly). To complete the system Trane have a range of chilled water 2 and 4 pipe fancoils in wall, console, underceiling, ducted and cassette configurations ranging from 1.0kW to 15kW. Accessories such as plenums, valve kits and controllers are available.

Roof top Systems
Trane rooftop units are a benchmark for these increasingly popular systems which can provide a full “all air” air conditioning system giving ventilation heating and cooling without any refrigerant piping and more importantly less refrigerant gas. Perhaps most importantly Trane rooftops are in the majority of cases a much more competitive option to other constant volume and variable volume systems. In tandem with Tranes varitrac variable air volume system we can offer a multi zone control system giving fresh air as an integral part of the system thus making it more competitive than conventional VRF systems. The product range is from 9kW to 145kW in cool only, heatpump and indirect gas fired versions. The gas product is CE certified for use with natural, butane and propane gases.
Irish Condenser Manufacturer Aims High

Following the introductory launch of a new series of Irish-made condensers and dry liquid coolers onto the market approximately eight months ago, Drogheda-based Thermal Heat Exchangers has already gained significant market share and is now poised to commence a major offensive aimed at securing market dominance.

Reinforcing that determination — apart from the quality and value of the product range itself — is the appointment of two new senior personnel, namely Peter McNally, Customer Services Manager and Stephen Rock, Sales Executive, Airside Products.

While Thermal has been producing condensers for only eight months, it has been manufacturing and selling fin coil heat exchangers in Ireland for 20 years at its Drogheda-based plant which currently employs 200 people. Market-leading customers include Airedale, IMI Air Conditioning, Weatherite, Thermo King and York.

By focussing on customers’ needs Thermal has set itself three primary goals for the next 12 months — to become a major player in the Irish condenser market; to deliver a high-quality product with good lead times; and to offer customers “excellent price value”.

The ISO9001 accredited company has strong credentials in the certification field, being among the first to become involved with Eurovent’s product capacity scheme. Its AV/H5 range is Eurovent certified, and other ranges will be added in a rolling programme over the next six to eight months.

There is a Windows-based selection package available, enabling specifiers to pinpoint products, prices, and accessories for a particular installation.

Thermal is also investing in new manufacturing and finishing technology at its Irish plant. The most recent development is the installation of a new state-of-the-art powder paint facility, which is claimed to provide the “highest weather-resistant finish on the market today”. Thermal also offers a standard fork-lift support for ease of handling, and an option of pre-wiring the units to the customers’ needs.

Contact: Stephen Rock, Thermal Heat Exchangers. Tel: 041 - 9831051.
A new standard – IS 820 “Non-Domestic Gas Installations” was recently approved by the NSAI and launched at a ceremony at which the Minister of State at the Department of Public Enterprise, Joe Jacob, TD, officiated.

Gas Technical Standards Committee TC2 prepared the new standard and, although some of the content was previously covered by a Code of Practice, the technical committee embarked on the project to form an entirely new Standard for a number of reasons. These included:

- ICP 4 and SR 12, which preceded it, were outdated and the former relied heavily on reference texts from the UK, which are no longer in print;
- In 1999 the first EU standard for gas installations to buildings IS EN 1775, was published and as it was a functional document adopted by all member states there was a need to elaborate on the European norm for Irish Industry;
- Requirements for LPG installations were not included in either of the above, yet in this particular industry sector LPG is a frequently-installed fuel.

New also is the layout and presentation, following as it does the CEN template which makes it immediately recognisable as a Normative Document and easy to follow for anybody who is looking up a number of similar documents.

As its title infers, the new standard relates to the installation of gas pipework and equipment for flammable gases supplied to non-domestic buildings at pressures up to 5 bar. The requirements relating to the installation or maintenance of industrial process equipment, be it either an appliance or a pipe system, in an industrial premises are not included in this Standard.

There is much new in the content also. The point of delivery of gas has been defined as no longer simply the outlet of a meter or container. To allow greater flexibility in supplying buildings the point of delivery is defined as the last point of pressure control on the supply pipe. Downstream of that point is to be regarded as part of the installation, which will have increased significance with the emergence of Construction Products Directives essential requirements.

There are for the first time, requirements which designers of pipework must follow and a requirement for the designer to issue a Conformity Declaration.

Clause 10 of this new Standard covers an area new to Irish installation standards in that it introduces requirements relating to installations in use. In keeping with the trend in EU Directives and Norms, the operator — on hand-over of a Conformity Declaration from the person commissioning the new installation — has a responsibility to ensure the installation is maintained and operated safely from then onwards.

Examples of other issues covered, for the first time in this Standard, and which were regarded as being essential to address what actually happens in the industry in Ireland, are:

(1) The use of LPG from cylinders is a common method of supplying commercial buildings, yet the location of cylinders in use had not been included in any of the previous gas standards. This issue is now addressed in a Normative Annex (Annex B ‘Gas Supply Systems’);

(2) The catering industry frequently uses refurbished equipment, which had been previously installed elsewhere. Guidance is now provided in Clause 11, ‘Appliances’ on the safety of second-hand appliances newly installed.

This brief bulletin does not set out to cover all the innovation and expertise that has gone into the preparation of this new Standard, which it is hoped, will serve the Irish gas and mechanical services industry well for many years to come. NSAI is confident that, when the industry has the opportunity to examine the content and structure, it will agree that Gas Technical Committee 2 and the GTSC have done a service to the industry, and to the furtherance of gas safety in general.
Mostra Convegno Bathroom Focus

The results for the 32nd Mostra Convegno Expocomfort, the major HVAC and sanitary installations biennial show organised by Fiera Milano International in the halls of Fiera Milano from 21 to 25 March were extremely positive. The third Serviti, the show of services for the HVAC and sanitary installation sector, was held at the same time as Mostra Convegno Expocomfort.

Mostra Convegno Expocomfort 2000 will be remembered as a historic event for a number of reasons. It marked its 40th anniversary with a record surface area of over 133,000 sq m, the Comfort & Design Prize was launched; co-generation made its debut at the show with a space specifically dedicated to it; and a completely reorganised “bathroom” sector was staged.

The new approach to the bathroom, which set out to focus on its aesthetic aspects, was one of the main themes of Mostra Convegno Expocomfort 2000.

The section of the show devoted to plumbing at previous shows was split in two, with one massive area forming the Bathroom Fitting Halls and an adjacent area being devoted to Plumbing Technology and Water Treatment.

Continuing an established tradition, Mostra Convegno Expocomfort 2000 hosted an extensive programme of conferences and seminars. Not only is it a business event, it is also a unique opportunity for professionals to improve their knowledge and deepen their understanding of current technical themes and standards.

A number of other special events added to the attractions of the show.

First among these was the “Comfort & Design Prize from Standards to Form”. This competition was organised by Mostra Convegno Expocomfort, with the sponsorship of the ADI, the Industrial Design Association. This inaugural competition was devoted to products for the bathroom that offer a perfect combination of looks, safety and quality.

There were seven winners – three from the Plumbing Technology and Water Treatment sector and four from the Bathroom Fittings sector.

The jurors noted and welcomed a widespread trend towards the creation of products with simple lines that are easy to use.

In the Plumbing and Water Treatment section the three winners were:

- Cillit-aqa total 2500: a basic, non-invasive anti-limescale device from Cillichemie Italiana srl, designed by Jürgen Johann;
- Hydromatic: linear, inconspicuous fluid flow detector from Presto Italia srl, designed by Daniel Dutheil, research and development studio;
- Helix Inline WPV: combined water meter, elegant but classic, from ABB Astra Contatori srl, designed by Ivor Rogers – Stan Southern – Alam Rushid.

In the Bathroom Fittings section the four prizes...
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Bathing

Armitage Shanks (Dublin) Ltd, M50 Business Park, Ballymount, Dublin 12. Tel: 01 - 456 4525; Fax: 01 - 456 4505
went to the following products:

- Nirvana: unusually shaped basin from Sanitari Pozzi spa, designed by Makio Hasuike;
- Sculture: a collection of sanitary and hygiene equipment from Hatria spa designed by Studio Del Lago;
- Vasca Zero: a new concept of ergonomic and relaxing bath tub from Hoesch Bagno srl, designed by Babel;
- Doccetta Aktiva A8: a shower head with clean, immediate lines from Hans Grohe srl, designed by Phoenix Product Design.

The seven products shortlisted by the jury were:

- The Axor Starck shower cabinet from Hans Grohe srl;
- The Forum Bioproject from Domino spa;
- The Morphos safety support from Ponte Giulio spa;
- The Gipsy universal double angle from Colombo Design spa;
- The Giotto single control basin mixer from Effepi srl;
- The Nostromo single control mixer from Fratelli Fantini spa;
- The Pilo electronic mixer from Mamoli Robinetteria spa.

**Bathroom of the Future**

The bathroom has always been anchored in a fixed conception of the space that it occupies and the functions that it must perform. Compared with other rooms in the home it is the one that has undergone the fewest changes over time. However, over the last two decades there has been a gradual renewal of the cult of the body and its care, and it is the bathroom that is the focus of such activity in the home. The bathroom today does not just offer levels of comfort and well being that were unknown in the past but with its functions and furniture, its colours and forms, it interprets the way in which each of us is rediscovering personal care.

It is from this starting point that Mostra Convegno Expocomfort decided to explore the bathrooms of the future. Six international architectural and design practices were invited to create original solutions for the bathroom at the dawn of the new millennium that respond to the changing habits and taste of the user.

The result was Water Lines: Six designs for the bathroom of the future, a show within a show that was organised by Ambrogio Rossari and Lucy Salamanca, in collaboration with Cristina Morozzi. The designs were created and displayed in Water Lines, beneath the awning in the Piazzale Italia, at the heart of Fiera Milano and the central focus of Mostra Convegno Expocomfort.

The show was conceived as an island floating on water and was arranged around a strikingly-designed space. Two mirrored entrances led to a Bisazza mosaic path and the impression made on visitors was enhanced by the atmospheric lighting that was specially designed by Zumtobel Staff. Each of the six designs was housed in its own space, bounded by curved walls that echoed the movement of water and the forms of the human body. Brightly-coloured totems identified the different designs and detailed the technical contents for the visitor.

**The Designs on Show**

Denis Santachiara was asked to work on the "bathroom for travel" which envisages the use of the new generation of transportable fittings for everyday hygiene. Denis Santachiara reinterprets ordinary objects and proposes two camping or garden showers (christened Blue Cloud and Crazy Horse) that can be transported with great ease and which use solar power to product hot water. Blue Cloud uses three telescopic fishing rods to support a bowl...
that acts as a water heater. Crazy Horse is a shower specially for children, who ride a horse in which the water circulates and heats up. The weight of the child on the horse causes the water to spray out from its mouth.

Michael Sieger, chosen as the ideal designer for the “transformed bathroom” revealed how by using special decorative elements it is possible to vary the appearance and atmosphere of an existing bathroom. Images, short films and comments, in a sort of multimedia collage, helped the visitor to visualise this possibility. Studio Sigla, which works on projects for children, created the “bathroom for play”, drawing inspiration from dramatic, illusionist and surprising fountains, Renaissance masques, as well as the optical effects of Calder’s mobiles and the playful plasticity of the works of Moore. Water is the connecting thread between the various forms making up the environment. Play for little ones and grown ups realised with movement, light, colour and, of course, water, was the objective.

Droog Design, founded by Gijs Bakker and Renny Ramakers in ‘93, was assigned the “soft bathrooms”, understood not just in terms of the materials used but also the stylistic sense. Conventionally, the bathroom is the most impersonal room in the home. Droog Design proposes a version of it that offers sensory comfort in the broadest sense of the term, so that the user can live in it in a way that goes beyond its purely functional role.

Piero Lissoni created the “hybrid bathroom” and viewed the stream as the ideal environment – pleasing and soothing – in which to wash oneself. The bathroom is seen as a container surrounding the stream in the midst of a wood, an open, transparent box where the functional architectonic element co-exists with nature, overlaying it in a physical and not just formal manner. However, besides washing, the bathroom is the place for other physiological functions and so Lissoni’s container was split into two boxes, forming two well-defined spaces linked by water.

Fabio Lenci created the “technological bathroom”, carrying the user into the world of electronic devices and technologies associated with the care of the body. All the functions of this strictly laid out bathroom were managed by dedicated software, with a series of programmable options to personalise the environment to suit individual preferences. The design did not neglect such important aspects as water saving, recycling different kinds of waste water, as well as energy saving for the production of hot water.
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Complete Bathrooms from Ideal Standard Armitage Shanks

Since the acquisition of Armitage Shanks by Ideal Standard in February 1999, the combined strengths of both, long-established, brands has been integrated, placing them in a position which will allow them to dominate the market.

Ideal Standard Armitage Shanks now represents a single entity supplying bathroom equipment and accessories to all of Ireland under the one banner. The actual brands involved include Ideal Standard, Armitage Shanks, Sottini, Trevi, Qualitas, Royal Venlon, Tantofex and Vanesta.

Typical of the many new styles coming on stream is Dominion. The strength of this new design lies in the contrast of the beautifully-streamlined curves with the clean, sharp angles and flat planes. A balance of modern symmetry with a taste for minimalism makes Dominion luxuriously simple.

Available in close-coupled or back-to-wall suite options, the Dominion style follows through to the spacious sculpted bath incorporating a fully co-ordinating bath panel.

Dominion is further enhanced by a dynamic range of modern brassware providing the Ideal Standard Armitage

Mira Elite 2 Pumped Electric Shower

The Mira Elite 2 pumped electric shower, which was specially developed to overcome the problems of unreliable water pressure, has now been re-engineered to provide even better flow rates. It has undergone an aesthetic redesign to give it a contemporary look, in response to consumer preference for softer, more contoured lines.

The new Mira Elite 2, available from Modern Plant, has an improved and ultra-efficient integral pump and comes with a 9.0kW heater @ 230v ... significantly increasing flow rates.

Slim, curved and stylish, the new Mira Elite 2 has clear simple graphics and easy-to-use controls. A large push-button allows the user to pre-select showering options and warning lights will indicate low flow, or if a service is required.

The new Mira Elite 2 also features Mira’s patented flow valve which provides smooth temperature control as well as secure rubber mountings reducing noise levels, making it one of the quietest pumped electric showers available.

Mira is renowned for manufacturing showers with the installer in mind and following extensive research in Ireland, Mira re-designed the pumped electric shower to ensure that it is the easiest shower to install. The new Mira Elite 2 is the complete compact showering system, combining stylish looks with the most technical advanced interior on the market.

Contact: Modern Plant Ltd. Tel: 01 - 459 1344; Fax: 01 - 459 2329; email: sales@modernplant.ie

Southern Region, Tramore Road, Cork. Tel: 021 - 968755; Fax: 021 - 968807.

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Heatmerchants/Tubs & Tiles: ‘Bathrooms are a Fashion Business’

We spend six days each year in the bathroom yet it remains one of the most neglected rooms in terms of style and design. No more say Heatmerchants/Tubs & Tiles.

At any of their 21 nationwide showrooms you’ll find the most up-to-the-minute designs in bathrooms with something to suit every budget and taste. Heatmerchants/Tubs & Tiles are the leading suppliers of quality bathroom suites in Ireland. Their constant effort to remain as the number one retailer of bathroom suites ensures that they sell the most stylish sanitary ware available in Ireland at value-for-money prices.

Choosing a modern-day bathroom suite, accessories and tiles is really a fashion business. The bathroom isn’t just a functional room – it says something about the people who own it. Bathrooms today are a far cry from the gaudy colours of the seventies. Simple colours such as white and pergamon are very much in vogue. What distinguishes the bathroom of the 21st century from the bathroom of yesteryear is the attention to detail in the styling of the suite. Most suites now have mouldings in various styles that allow the customer to create a luxurious bathroom.

Heatmerchants & Tubs & Tiles are the sole distributors in the Republic of Ireland for:

- Jacob Delafon (France) – Luxury sanitary ware and steel baths;
- Sphinx (Belgium) – Luxury sanitary ware;
- Imperial Bathroom Co (UK) – Traditional luxury sanitary ware;
- Spring Bathrooms (UK) – Sanitary ware;
- Lecico (Egypt) – Sanitary ware;
- Gainsborough (UK) – Shower valves;
- Gummers (UK) – Shower valves;
- Koralle (Germany) – Luxury shower enclosures;
- Daryl (UK) – Luxury shower enclosures;
- Coram (UK) – Shower enclosures;
- Airbath (UK) – Luxury massage baths;
- Trojan (UK) – Baths;
- Hydra-Spa (UK) – Whirlpools and steam generators;
- Salgar (Spain) – Bathroom furniture;
- Shades (UK) – Bathroom furniture;
- Pegler (UK) – Metal accessories;
- Ceramart (UK) – Ceramic accessories;
- Ferrara (Italy) – Mirrors;
- Nolli (Italy) – Brassware.

But the bathroom of the 21st century doesn’t just consist of the bath, basin, bidet and cistern. It encompasses the shower enclosure, fittings, accessories and furniture. More and more people are beginning to realise that the bathroom is an integral part of the home and should be given the same prominence as other rooms. Auctioneers today even cite a nicely-tiled bathroom and suite as a major selling point for any house. Its prominence as a selling feature is almost at the same level as the kitchen and south-facing garden.

Tubs & Tiles have noticed a marked increase over the last five years in people visiting their showrooms months in advance of requiring the bathroom suite. Most spend a great deal of time looking at what is on offer and what to accessorise their suite with. Should it be a wooden bath panel and toilet seat or the very latest in quality bathroom furniture? The possibilities are endless at any Tubs & Tiles showrooms.

Bathroom suite available from the new Tubs & Tiles Superstore, Fonthill Road, near Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, Dublin

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Plumbers too have also noticed the increase in the attention the bathroom now gets. Standard suites generally provided in the PC Sum for the housing development are generally upgraded.

Most Tubs & Tiles showrooms feature approximately 25 full bathroom suites, 15 ensuites, 12 working showers, 20 shower enclosures, up to 70 different types of wood flooring, as well as hundreds of wall and floor tiles. Their new flagship store at Fonthill Road, near Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, Dublin, features 100 bathroom suites and 3000 wall and floor tiles.

Highly competent and trained sales representatives are on hand in the showrooms to recommend the ideal bathroom suite and accessories for your requirements.

For those interested in sanitary ware for commercial applications, all Heatmerchants and Tubs & Tiles branches have a representative who will be able to specify the exact suite for you.

Heatmerchants/Tubs & Tiles branches are located in Athlone, Bray, Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick, Navan, Sligo, Tralee and Waterford.

Contact: Head Office at Tel: 0902 - 24000 for further information.

Right: Arcadia hinged door from Daryl. Details from Heatmerchants/Tubs & Tiles.

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**Tight on the bends.**

Multikwik connectors remain watertight and airtight in the toughest conditions. Moulded from strong flexible ethylene vinyl acetate copolymer, they're designed to work with unfailing dedication to duty year after year after year.

A range of over eighty simple-to-fit sizes and a whole host of uniquely gripping features make life easier for installers. With certification by the British Board of Agrément, plus thirty years of experience, Multikwik is a name that spells complete confidence for Specifiers, Merchants, Contractors and Plumbers.

Be sure, be better, be a genuine Multikwik fitter. It's the certain way to be well connected.

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"Plastic has its uses. I use it all the time to buy copper."
Multikwik Branches Out with New Range of Adjustable Bends and Branches; Plus New Pan Connector for Flexible Solution

Leading pan connector manufacturer Multikwik has branched out with the launch of a new range of adjustable bends and branches for waste, soil and underground drainage systems.

Branded "Multiflex", the new range helps to overcome one of the main problems associated with the use of bends and branches, which is finding the right product for a specific connection when you are halfway through a job and stuck on a building site.

As a result, all "Multiflex" products are designed to provide an unprecedented level of adjustability. By incorporating special watertight swivel joints, one product is able to cover virtually all angles, making it quick and easy to effect a good connection. Better still, there's no need to carry lots of different variations, which is not only more convenient, but saves space on the shelf or in the van.

Among the products in the Multiflex range are 32mm and 40mm Waste bends that are adjustable from 00 to 900 and feature Multi-Fit seals enabling connection with all the common waste pipe sizes and types including polypropylene, ABS, MuPVC and copper.

For Soil applications there's a 110mm soil branch, which is adjustable from 450 to 900. Both are available in a choice of grey, black or white and incorporate ring seal sockets and spigots suitable for use with BS4514 soil pipes.

The range also includes adjustable bends and branches for use with underground systems. All are manufactured in orange and can be used with 110mm underground pipes to BS4660/BSEN1401. To allow for every eventuality on site, there is a choice of single or double socket underground bends, both offering 00 to 900 adjustability, and double or triple socket underground branches that can be adjusted from 450 to 900.

All Multiflex adjustable bends and branches are made from tough polypropylene with natural rubber internal seals.

Flexi Hose Connector
Although toilet pan connectors are available in a wide choice of shapes and sizes, there are many situations in which the position of the toilet pan and soil outlet makes it difficult to make a satisfactory connection between the two.

To solve the problem, Multikwik has added a new product to its market leading range of connectors. The MKF330 Flexi Hose connector consists of Multikwik's unique, easy-to-use, push-fit inlet and outlet connectors, joined by a long flexible smooth internal bore PVC hose which can be gently curved to enable a perfect connection to be made.

For complete peace of mind, the inlet and outlet connections on the Flexi Hose Connector, as with all Multikwik products, are manufactured in EVA with additional elastomeric sealing rings and are guaranteed to provide and effective watertight connection when fitted correctly.

The Multikwik MKF330 Flexi Hose Connector is suitable for connecting BSS503 pan spigots with outside diameters between 97mm-108mm to soil pipes with internal diameters between 99mm-105mm.

To find out more about the new Flexi Hose Connector and the complete range of Multikwik Connectors Contact: M.F.P. Sales Ltd. Tel: 01 628 0691/6; Fax: 01 - 628 1119.
Greg Traynor, CIBSE Chairman ...

‘In My Father’s Footsteps’

It is appropriate that Greg Traynor — who has served the CIBSE, and indeed the building services sector in general, so well over the years — has assumed the role of first Chairman in the year of the new Millennium. He follows in the steps of his father, Noel, who was Chairman in 1970, and leads the way for Brian Homan, who will take on the mantle next year, following his father Seamus into the chair. What follows here is an extract from Greg’s incoming speech.

“We are now at a critical point in the development of building services engineering in Ireland. Work is plentiful and the variety of work should be an encouragement to our members to add breadth and depth to their existing knowledge. We should, collectively, add to the practice and art of building services engineering, supplementing our knowledge and expertise, expanding on our techniques and aiming to achieve the very best for our clients by innovation and application.

“One of the best ways we can do this is by CPD. Continuing Professional Development is a word we have heard a lot about over the past few years, and the discussion still goes on as to how we can best maintain our CPD.

“It is essential that we distinguish between the wood and the trees, and the forest of paper that continues to be churned out in this subject. Some say that the hours spent in reading journals should be dispensed with; others, that setting a goal for the year is more relevant than counting the hourly beans that go to make up the annual total. The important feature of CPD is to strive for self-improvement. The reading of journals is necessary, whether we gain brownie points, or not.

Similarly, technical evenings, seminars and site visits all contribute to our knowledge, and just as importantly, to the discussion and dissemination of information. This stimulates further personal development and can only enhance our profession.

“My main focus, therefore, during the coming year will be to invite our younger members to participate more in the technical sessions. To this end we have lined up an interesting full-day seminar on ‘Ductwork’ in November. Another full-day seminar for ‘Lighters’ is planned for the new year on ‘Design for Lighting Installations’. I am sure that these technical sessions will present an ideal opportunity to support the recruitment drive currently being promoted at CIBSE Central council.

“Jim Curley and Brian Homan have been principally responsible for the coming visit of the CIBSE/ASHRAE Conference to Dublin, and they are to be congratulated for this. ‘20-20 Vision’ will give us a look at what might be in store for building services during the next 20 years. It is unlikely that the conference will get all the forecasts right, but the important thing for us is to make the attempt. It is only by focussing on the possibilities that we can realise future developments. I would like all members of the branch to support the committee in welcoming our guests who will be in Dublin for this occasion, especially those from the neglected parts of Europe... our colleagues in Cork, Galway and Waterford!

“We have had sterling help and cooperation from Barry Leach in Cork, Tom O’Brien in Waterford and Bill Noone in Galway over the years and I intend to enlist the help of these colleagues in promoting the development of building services in our other cities. To assist this effort, I propose that a technical evening be held at the colleges in the three centres during the coming year.

“I would like to congratulate my predecessor, Sean Ascough, on a very successful year. I would also like to commend him for his caring and altruistic year in office, and for his advice and assistance in helping to formulate what should be a stimulating programme of activities during the coming year”.

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Since his appointment as Redbro Sales Manager Barry Hennessy has overseen considerable growth in the company's market share on foot of a carefully-devised sales and marketing strategy devised to meet the specific needs of the air conditioning sector.

Sanyo is a brand long since associated with air conditioning in Ireland but, it is only since it became part of the Redbro portfolio that it has achieved the leading market standing it now enjoys.

Not content to rest on success to date, Barry Hennessy has commenced the next phase in the brand's development. There are various strands to the forthcoming programme, the first of which was held in Dublin's Berkeley Court Hotel recently. Approximately 40 consultants attended a day-long technical seminar and product presentation. It covered the entire Sanyo portfolio, but with special emphasis on the ECO Multi System and the new OSS 2000 building management system which is now available exclusively from Redbro.

Later that evening the guests partners joined them for a gala dinner, entertainment, dancing and late night revelry before they all retired to their complimentary suites at the hotel.

Photograph showing some of those who attended the Redbro Sanyo seminar/product presentation in the Berkeley Court Hotel.

PIC 2 Barry Hennessy, Sales Manager, Redbro, who acted as host for the entire proceedings

PIC 3 Keith Taffe, Cuthbert Condron with Kieron Lawlor, Redbro

PIC 4 Eric Hayward, Homan O'Brien with Mary and Peter O'Dowd, Jacobs International

PIC 5 Frank Brophy, Redbro with James Kavanagh, VMRA and Keith Milbon, OPW

PIC 6 Evelyn Ennis with Peggy Smith, John Ennis, Redbro and Jim Smith, Mercury Engineering

PIC 7 Alan Carson, CFC Refrigeration with Denis O'Neil and Darren McGeeney, Advanced Air Conditioning and Tony Byrne, MAC Air Conditioning

PIC 8 Gerry MacMahon, MAC Air Conditioning with Eric Hayward, Homan O'Brien, Paul Spratt, EEL and Darragh Canning, Ove Arup

PIC 9 Gus Cameron, Sanyo with Barry Hennessy, Redbro and S Yamamoto, Sanyo
Combined heat and power, or cogeneration, is the simultaneous production of electricity and heat, whereby the heat produced in electricity generation is put to good use rather than being wasted. In conventional power generation, about 60% of the energy input is wasted in this way. By recovering the majority of this waste heat, energy savings of between 20% and 40% may be achieved.

The installation of CHP has been widely recognised as a key measure to help reduce harmful carbon dioxide emissions being released to the atmosphere while delivering the same amount of useful energy. It is estimated that for every 1 MW of CHP installed, CO2 emissions are reduced by 1250 tonnes per annum. On balance, cogeneration results in savings of up to 50% of CO2 emissions compared with conventional sources of heat and power. Reduced emissions of sulphur dioxide and particulates are further benefits.

The first gas-fired CHP equipment introduced to Ireland had mixed success, primarily due to lack of local support. The Irish Energy Centre recognised this and was instrumental in ensuring the success of a joint application by Bord Gais and ESB for funding under the EU’s Thermie programme for a scheme to install 10 CHP units in a variety of applications.

This momentum was continued with the Irish Energy Centre’s Energy Efficiency Investment support Scheme which resulted in the installation of a further 14 small scale CHP schemes. These schemes were successful in developing a core group of reference sites throughout the country, all of which yielded average simple paybacks of between 3.5 to 4 years.

In January 1993 there were 13 CHP sites in the country with installed capacity of 55 MW. Today there are over 70 units with installed capacity of 111 MW.

The Department of Public Enterprise recently published its Green Paper on Sustainable Energy. This indicates how Ireland will progress towards meeting its energy requirements in an economically and environmentally sustainable way, and lays out Ireland’s policy for limiting energy-related CO2 emissions. Specifically, it mentions CHP as a useful means of reducing CO2 emissions.

The Irish Energy Centre has been given the task of advising the Government and the Commission for Electricity Regulation on the future potential for CHP in Ireland.

The Green Paper proposes that increased market research, raising of awareness, and identification and removal of market barriers are the key to maximising CHP development.

The Future for CHP

The European Commission has said recently that CHP “offers an adaptable instrument for achieving a range of EU objectives – reducing environmental impact, encouraging innovation and improving competitiveness”.

Currently, 9% of both electricity and heat demand in the EU is supplied by CHP. The EU Commission has stated that it should be feasible to double the share of cogeneration in the European Union to 18% by 2010, thereby reducing CO2 emissions by 4%. Currently, Ireland has the lowest level of electricity generated from CHP, at only 2%.

An estimate of the potential for CHP in Ireland, based on known thermal loads with no power export, carried out in the early 1990s, suggested a figure of the order of 250 MW. Given the expansion of the Irish economy and subsequent growth in the industrial and commercial sectors, this figure could be at least doubled to 500 MW. EU average penetration of 13% capacity applied to Ireland would imply about 575 MW.

So, what needs to be done? All technical and economic market barriers must be addressed and minimised. Public awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of CHP needs to be raised, and clear and unambiguous targets need to be set.

The long-term future for CHP is excellent. However, there is some uncertainty in the short term due to pending electricity de-regulation and fluctuating fuel prices. The Government has recognised the benefits of CHP and has committed £4 million to the encouragement of high efficiency CHP, and is providing funds for research into the development of CHP for small commercial buildings.

The year 2000 promises to be an exciting time for the development of CHP in Ireland!
THE COMFORT OF THE FUTURE

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