

THE VOICE

THE NEWS JOURNAL OF SMT IN GREAT BRITAIN

Edition 36 July 2019



Catch up on all the action from our popular Live It. Dig It. events that took place in May [Read more on pages 22-29](#)



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EDITORIAL LETTER

Keeping busy...

Hello, and welcome to Edition 36 of **THE VOICE** magazine – the voice of SMT in Great Britain.

It has been an incredibly busy time, with lots of events taking place across GB and abroad. In April, the world's largest construction machinery show, Bauma, took place. SMT employees joined the Volvo team for a week in Germany on a busy stand. You can read about the event and also find out about the machines and innovations that were launched on pages 34–41.



In May, our unique Live It. Dig It. demonstration days took place across two weekends near Reading and York. It was great to see so many of you at these events, which are always popular, as they provide an amazing opportunity to test-drive Volvo machines in a working environment. You can find out more on pages 22–29.

The following week, we arrived in Stoneleigh for the inaugural Lets Recycle Live event. This new show provided us with the opportunity to show the EW240E MH working in the live demo area and was an event that we will look to return to in 2021. Find out more about this new event on pages 30–31.

Plantworx then took place across a very wet weekend in June at its new home, the East of England Showground in Peterborough. Despite the weather, many people turned out, and the SMT stand was busy with visitors across the three days. You can read more about Plantworx on pages 14–15.

In addition to these events, it has been a busy time for machine deliveries. Ben Miller has taken delivery of a second EC140ELM (pages 6–9), Standard Plant Hire have bought their first Volvo machines (pages 20–21) while DTH Plant Hire are the first to buy the new EC200E, launched at Bauma (pages 32–33).

We are also delighted to announce that Collins Plant Sales Ltd has been appointed as our Utility Equipment dealer, covering: Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire. This

newly formed division of Collins Earthworks, headed up by Andrew Purse, is looking forward to maintaining and enhancing our position as a leading supplier within this important area.

We also have a new addition to the Marketing team, Alex Cox has joined in the role of Marketing and PR Assistant. In his role, Alex will be managing the Operators Club as well as providing PR and event support. Alex has already hit the ground running, and you can find a couple of his articles in this edition.

I hope you enjoy reading the latest edition of **THE VOICE**. It is very much your magazine so if there is anything you would like to see more of, please let me know or tweet me @AmyMetcalfeIM

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THE VOICE

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**The bespoke Volvo EC140ELM
excavator in action...
It's making a huge improvement
to my daily productivity” Ben Miller**



BM Excavations' Limited Second Edition

Ben Miller, proprietor of East Lothian based BM Excavations has taken delivery of a second bespoke Volvo EC140ELM excavator for his contracting business.

Replacing his first EC140ELM purchased three years ago, Ben's new charge is certainly a one-off, after making a long list of modifications and alterations to the standard factory offering to satisfy his stringent requirements. "The original machine performed almost faultlessly over 5,500 hours with just a couple of small issues, but both were easily resolved," comments Ben. "The residual value in the machine was equally impressive, so opting for a second Volvo was really a no-brainer."

The standard EC140ELM has been equipped with 900mm wide pads, which is crucial for the bulk of the contracts and work Ben undertakes on private estates and large scale commercial forests, building and repairing forest roads, and tracks and 'mounding' for the planting of new saplings. Additional skid rails have been added to the bottom of the undercarriage to support the track frame when tracking over old tree stumps and rock.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF ►

At the business end, Ben has chosen the two-piece boom option and the shorter 2.5m dipper arm to facilitate the fitting of an X20 Steelwrist tiltrotator. "Opting for the larger X20 on this size of machine was a gamble, but so far it's paying off. It's just a case of getting used to the little extra weight at the front end, but this is more than compensated by the awesome power of the gearbox on the X20 model over the smaller X18 that I had on the previous machine. It's making a huge improvement to my daily productivity" says Ben.

Most of the additional physical alterations have been undertaken by Gifford-based Lammer Engineering, the proprietor of which happens to be Ben's father.

The modifications include:

- Additional skid rails mounted under the centre of the chassis to protect from tree stumps
- Side impact protection rails
- A heavy duty roof guard and guarding at the bottom of the windscreen
- Boom cylinder guarding which sports Ben's new BM Excavations logo
- Guarding to the hydraulic connections along the dipper arm and a guard mounted at the top of the dipper to protect from damage from tree branches
- The standard windscreen has been replaced by bullet-proof non-scratch glass to withstand debris being thrown at the cab when using a flail
- The machine's grab rails and steps are also painted in high visibility green to facilitate safe access and egress in low light.

The combination of the 4.6m adjustable two-piece boom, 2.5m dipper arm and X20 tiltrotator makes Ben Miller's new acquisition a highly versatile piece of kit. Hose rupture valves are fitted as standard to the boom and dipper cylinders as are quick fit hydraulics and a hammer/shear service. In addition, Ben has opted for x3 rotation lines and a large bore return line to facilitate attachments such as a flail, requiring high flow on the return to tank line.

Other options specified by Ben Miller include:

- Additional LED work lights mounted on the cab
- Boom rams
- Hydraulic tank and counterweight
- A diesel-powered heater for the machine's cooling system
- Proportional controls on the multi-faceted joysticks

Whilst Ben Miller is a pretty self-sufficient individual and quite capable of maintaining his new EC140ELM, this time around he has opted to take out a full repair and maintenance contract with SMT GB, which means the firm will take care of all the repairs and maintenance required for Ben's length of ownership. "I thought long and hard about making this additional investment and decided it made sense to have the machine fully maintained and looked after by SMT, giving me that extra peace of mind" says Ben.

BM Excavations Ltd is a specialist contractor working mainly in the Borders and Lothian area of Scotland undertaking all manner of forestry contracts ranging from track and road building and maintenance, general contracting to tree mounding for new forestry plantations. ■ **Mark Gunns**



Ben Miller stands next to his newly designed logo



“Product support is key ...”

Is the opinion of father and son team, Phil and William O'Rourke, proprietors of Portsmouth based O'Rourke Infrastructure Services Ltd (OIS) as they take delivery of their third Volvo P6870C wheeled paver.

Established in 2010, the family-run business started their relationship with Volvo by purchasing a second-hand Volvo paver which had been factory rebuilt and then soon replaced with a brand new one. They have now just replaced that with their third P6870C paver.

“It's all about the support and back up,” says Phil. “The P6870C is an excellent paver, it lays an exceptionally good mat and is a reliable machine, but it's SMT's ability to support us when we need it which is the underlying reason for continuing with Volvo pavers.”

As son William points out: “SMT's engineer, Jay Bridgstock always goes the extra mile to help us resolve any issues when they occur. We simply cannot fault this level of support – it's first class. And our SMT contact, Colin Mackenzie is always ready to deliver what is promised and to rectify any issues without fuss.

His knowledge and passion for the brand is very reassuring.”

The P6870C is powered by a Volvo D6 Stage-IIIB compliant 175hp engine, and at its heart features the EPM II – an electronic paver management system which incorporates a 'Settings Management' system allowing the operator to store up to twelve parameter settings for the major functions such as screed temperature, tamping and vibrating, conveyor, auger and paving speeds. The machine has other unique features such as 'Smart Power', offering optimum power for the job in hand together with 6x6 'Smart Drive' technology for unparalleled continuous independent traction-control over all six wheels. Even on the most difficult bases, tractive forces are automatically adjusted according to the weight of material in the machine's 12-tonne capacity hopper.





Screed performance is a distinct feature on Volvo pavers. The P6870C has a variable screed width of between 2.5 and 5 metres in standard configuration but can be fitted with optional extensions to provide a generous width of 9 metres. The machine has a theoretical output of up to 700 tonnes per hour at varying screed widths and depths.

The machine demonstrates a high degree of manoeuvrability thanks to the 'Active Steering' feature with an inside turning radius of just 2.5 metres. "As a machine operator, I'm really impressed with the machine's adaptability from working on car parks, school playgrounds and leisure complexes, to full-scale production output for road surfacing contracts," says Phil. "Since we started up, we have prided ourselves on offering an efficient service for our clients which is helped by operating efficient and reliable equipment which is well supported." ■

Mark Gunns

It's SMT's ability to support us when we need it which is the underlying reason for continuing with Volvo pavers."





Good support and back up prompts more orders from Central Plant Hire

Central Plant Hire of Horsham, West Sussex, has ordered two Volvo EC18E compact excavators from Glosrose Construction Equipment thanks to the continued high level of aftersales support offered by both Glosrose and SMT GB.

The Horsham based plant hire business has been running Volvo 1.5, 3 and 5-tonne excavators since 2000, operating a total of twenty-five Volvo branded machines in a mixed fleet of compact excavators and site dumpers. "The Volvo compact excavators have proved themselves in the field, and we have found them to be very reliable and robust machines," comments Managing Director, Tony Fiveash. "More importantly, the high level of aftersales support offered by both Glosrose and SMT GB is vital for

our business and one of the main reasons we continue to purchase Volvos for our hire fleet."

The new E-Series Volvo compact excavators offer significant improvements over the ever popular D Series models in terms of stability, lifting capacity, a simplified operator interface, an improved ease of serviceability to the main components and improved styling, thanks to a new three-piece cast iron counterweight and pressed steel side panels. In addition, the two

“The Volvo compact excavators have proved themselves in the field, and we have found them to be very reliable and robust machines”

new EC18Es sold to Central Plant Hire have been supplied with Volvo's coded key option for added security.

The E-Series models have a common platform that is built with durability in mind. All round steel panels are safely recessed 10mm behind the Volvo exclusive high-profile cast iron counterweight, which ably provides protection and digging stability. With a machine height of a little over 2m and a variable undercarriage that can shrink to less than 1m – these new models can gain access to even the most confined of work areas. Once in position, the undercarriage can expand up to 1.35m for additional stability. The design ensures that the right frame corner, swing post and cylinder all stay within the tracks, resulting in maximum visibility and a reduced risk of machine damage when working alongside obstacles.

The EC18E takes performance to a new level, with a 13 percent increase in tractive force along with 2,130kg of combined digging forces. Its lifting capacity has increased by an average of 22 percent at the front compared to the D-Series model it replaces. The machine's undercarriage has been elongated to provide even better all-round lifting capacity and stability, compared to the previous generation, together with a 140mm

increase in digging depth. For further flexibility, the auxiliary hydraulic flows can be independently adjusted in each direction, ensuring optimal speed and control, and a second auxiliary line or X3 service is also available as an option.

The E-Series affords improved ease of maintenance and access to the main serviceable components thanks to a hinged fuel tank which is unique to Volvo. A fifty-hour greasing interval further contributes towards the best-in-class serviceability on the EC18E. “Good service access is another good feature on the Volvo EC18s,” says Tony. “It was good on the D-series, but it's even better on the new E-series machines.”

Established in 1988, Central Plant Hire specialises in both operated and self-drive hire of excavators ranging from ¾ to 14 tonnes in operating weight as well as tracked and wheeled site dumpers. Covering Surrey, East and West Sussex the company has established a regular portfolio of clients ranging from main contractors in the construction industry to individual building firms, trade and DIY and is strategically located on the busy A264 Crawley Road on the outskirts of Horsham with excellent road connections across the area. ■ **Mark Gunns**



Gary Evans, Glosrose (left) hands over the new machines to Tony Fiveash

Plantworx 2019

On an unseasonably wet week in June, the East of England showground in Peterborough played host to the Construction Equipment Association's popular trade show, Plantworx.

Well attended by an extensive list of companies, the poor weather proved to be no deterrent to the attendees who came from across the country; a warm welcome and hot drink were available on the SMT stand.

Perfectly positioned adjacent to the site's indoor exhibition space, the SMT stand was a flurry of activity, as visitors crowded around the available staff members to discuss the impressive array of Volvo machinery available including the newly updated ECR88D Excavator, EW60E Wheeled Excavator, ECR25D, ECR18E Excavators, DD25 Asphalt Roller and L60H Wheeled Loader. Taking centre stage was the EC60E, which was shown for the first time at Bauma in April, and the new EC200E also revealed at Bauma earlier in the year.

In addition to the SMT stand, there were several Volvo machines on other exhibitor plots. Morris Leslie had an ECR145E which was operated at regular intervals by SMT Demonstrator, David Dutton. Also on the Morris Leslie stand, David went on to operate an ECR25D placed in a demonstration area with an

Operator's Club challenge borrowed from Hillhead 2018. David was also regularly behind the controls of an EW60E on the EMA attachments stand.

Another draw for the crowds in the live demonstration area was Collins' Operator, Will Goldstone, who was displaying the awesome capabilities of his EWR170E, equipped with an Engcon Tiltrotator. Moba also displayed a Volvo P6870C paver on their stand.

To top off what has been a great show, on the Tuesday evening, Mark Gunns was presented with an award by the Plantworx organisers for 'Best Onsite Contractor', recognising the hard work that Mark puts into building a first class stand. Stuart Favill, Plantworx Operations Manager, said "The SMT GB build-up team were tidy, efficient and were incredibly helpful towards the Plantworx Operations Team. We could not fault their attention to detail and courteous manner to all aspects of the build. Well done, SMT GB." ■ Alex Cox



David Dutton at the controls of the ECR25D



Mark Gunns collects his award



SMT GB appoints Collins Plant Sales Ltd as its new utility equipment dealer covering Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire

With its headquarters located in Ripley, Derbyshire, Collins Plant Sales Ltd has been appointed as SMT GB's utility equipment dealer covering Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire with immediate effect.

Collins Plant Sales Ltd is a newly formed division of Collins Earthworks Group, established with the specific aim of marketing the Volvo range of utility equipment; this will include compact excavators from 1.5 to 9.0 tonnes, compact wheeled loaders up to 1m³ capacity and tandem rollers.

The new venture will be headed up by Managing Director Andrew Purse together with a dedicated team including parts personnel, service engineers and a sales administrator located at the company's recently acquired premises located on Whiteley Road, Ripley, Derbyshire. Besides a brand new show-room, the facility houses a comprehensive workshop, parts warehouse and yard space.

"We have a very strong relationship with SMT GB and are leading advocates for owning and operating Volvo construction equipment for our earthmoving and civil contracts," says David Collins, Managing Director of Collins Earthworks Group. "This exciting new venture is a natural step for us to take and coincides

with SMT's need to appoint a dealer for this important territory and we look forward to a long and mutually rewarding relationship with them."

Commenting on the appointment SMT GB's Northern Dealer Development Manager, Charlie Flaws said, "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Andrew and his team to our existing network of utility dealers. Andrew has ambitious plans for the new venture based on offering quality products with first class after sales support. We will be working hard together to ensure that we maintain and enhance our position as a leading supplier in this extremely important area." ■ **Mark Gunns**

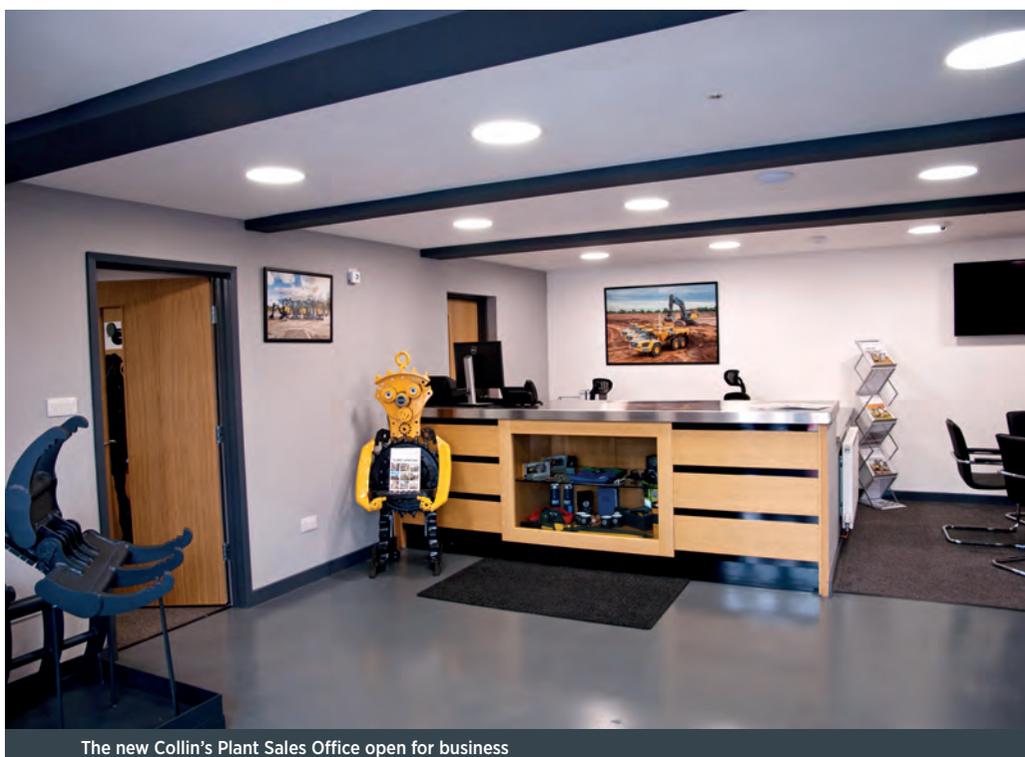
Collins Plant Sales Ltd.'s trading address is:

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Telephone: 01623 750002

Email: sales@collinsplantsales.co.uk

Web: www.collinsplantsales.co.uk



The new Collins Plant Sales Office open for business



Josh Doherty (left) and Andre Purse (right)



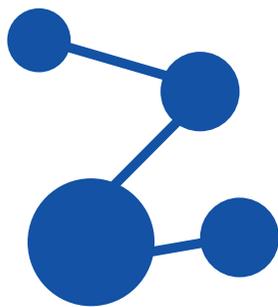


SMT GB launches a new generation of Customer Support Agreements

With effect from April 1st 2019 SMT GB has introduced three new Customer Support Agreements (CSAs), designed to further enhance the aftermarket support available to its customers. These new agreements have replaced the Blue, Silver and Gold agreements previously offered and include a much wider range of value added services.

Each level of agreement has been designed to support customers in a way that matches their business requirements, helping them to run their equipment more efficiently whilst minimising their total cost of ownership.

The key features of the three new CSAs are defined as follows:



Level 1 CONNECT

- Service Parts Kits
- Labour discount on all service work (10%)
- Annual software upgrade and inspection
- CareTrack telematics subscription – Standard
- Online Parts account



Level 2 ENHANCE

All of Level 1 CONNECT plus:

- Service Labour
- Quarterly software upgrades and machine inspections
- CareTrack telematics subscription – Advanced
- Volvo Insight Report package
- Connected for Life cover
- Customer Service Guarantee



Level 3 OPTIMISE

All of Level 1 CONNECT and Level 2 ENHANCE plus:

- All Repairs (Parts and Labour)
- SMT GB Simulator Programme

SMT GB's standard terms and conditions apply to all three levels of agreement.

To kick-start this new generation of Customer Support Agreements, SMT GB is including a twelve-month Level 1 CONNECT agreement as standard on all orders placed for General Purpose Production Equipment ordered between April 1st and 31st December 2019 inclusive.



First Volvos for Standard Plant Hire Ltd

Bromley based Standard Plant Hire Ltd has added ten Volvo EC140E and ECR145E excavators to its plant fleet for the first time heralding its entry into hiring larger machines across the South East of England.

The new Volvo additions, which are made up of eight EC140Es and two reduced swing ECR145Es, join a fleet of some 1,250 machines in Standard Plant Hire's arsenal of equipment. This includes: compact excavators, site dumpers, tele-handlers, welfare units, compressors and an array of attachments and breakers for hire. "Up until now we have specialised in hiring compact equipment up to nine tonnes in operating weight," comments Managing Director, Michael Fleming. "Adding these new Volvos is a recent departure for us, moving into the fourteen-tonne market, as we begin to focus on expanding our offering to civil engineering, ground working and demolition contractors."

"These are the first Volvo machines we have purchased and chose them after considering favourable third-party references,

together with their reputation for being reliable and productive excavators commanding strong residual values when it's time to trade. Choosing the Volvo brand fits in with our own core values of providing a prompt and efficient hire service with quality products to a highly demanding customer base."

Established in 2009, Standard Plant Hire has expanded its self-drive hire business year on year building on its reputation for providing modern machinery from leading manufacturers together with a highly reliable and personal level of service throughout the South East of England. The company has become leaders in providing many of the southern-based utility contractors and has ambitious plans for further expansion within the next few years. ■

Mark Gunns

SPECIFICATION: EC140E AND ECR145E

- **ENGINE:**
Stage IV compliant Volvo four-cylinder engine
- **HORSEPOWER:**
122 nett hp

Both excavators offer the latest in engine technology and operating sophistication. For example, pump flow is controlled for combined digging and swinging operations to reduce the flow loss through the overload relief valves, whilst maintaining digging power and maximum swing torque. When Eco mode is selected, the machine provides better fuel efficiency without loss of performance in most operating conditions.

“Choosing the Volvo brand fits in with our own core values of providing a prompt and efficient hire service with quality products to a highly demanding customer base.”

Neil Cooper (right) hands over the new machines to Michael Fleming





LIVE IT. DIG IT. 2019

SMT GB held its popular **LIVE IT. DIG IT.** events across two weekends in May, giving those who attended the opportunity to get hands-on and put the very latest Volvo construction equipment and machine control systems to the test.

With the help of Hills Quarry Products at its Mortimer quarry, Reading, and Ashcourt Group's Partridge Hall quarry in Burnby, York, SMT GB once again hosted its largest ever demonstration days. Held across two weekends in May, and attended by more than 300 visitors, the two events provided the opportunity to try out a wide range of Volvo construction equipment in a working environment.

The events offered several 'firsts' for SMT GB and those who registered to attend – it was the first time the L260H would be available to test drive; it was also the first opportunity to try out Dig Assist, Compact Assist and Haul Assist and it was the first showing of the new EC200E excavator.

While flagship products such as the EC750E excavator and the 60-tonne capacity A60H were also available to try out, the

smaller A40G articulated hauler gave operators the chance to experience Haul Assist in a route with the A60H.

In addition, the SD160 soil compactor was being put through its paces to illustrate Compact Assist.

At the smaller end of the scale, the new EC60E was also available for the first time, along with ECR18E, ECR88D, ECR25D and EW60E excavators.

Machine versatility was also demonstrated with the inclusion of Steelwrist tilt rotators on three machines – the EC220E, EWR170E and EW60E and in York Operators were offered the opportunity to compete against each other in a game of noughts and crosses. ■

Geoff Ashcroft

DIG ASSIST
VOLVO CO-PILOT

COMPACT ASSIST
VOLVO CO-PILOT

HAUL ASSIST
VOLVO CO-PILOT



Hear what some of our visitors had to say about the events;

Richard Hall and machine operator **Matthew Dunham** of Beenham-based site clearance firm Richard Hall Ltd, operate a range of Volvo excavators, from 5.5 to 18 tonne, and used the event to evaluate the latest e-series mini and midi excavators. "We do like the Volvo excavators, and with tilt rotators, they are an extremely versatile machine," says operator Matthew Dunham. "And the event was also a great excuse to try the EC750E – it's a little bit too big for most of our applications."

Operators **Andy Chappell** and **Scott Prangle** of Swindon-based groundworks and demolition contractors Conlon used the **LIVE IT. DIG IT.** day to explore the latest in machine technology.

"I wanted to see how the short radius ECR355 performed, as a potential replacement for my ageing Case CX370D," explains Andy Chappell. "A short radius machine would be a much more agile and versatile replacement, without compromising on power or stability – and spending some time in the cab of the big ECR confirmed this."

For Scott Prangle, a chance to try Dig Assist on the EC220 was too good to miss. "I do like technology, but it's also important to see how technology can actually help you, rather than just be another gadget in the cab," says Scott. "And Dig Assist was brilliant. I could see the co-pilot screen out of the corner of my eye, and that meant not having to take my eyes off the bucket. It's been a great experience."



For owner-operator **Jamie O'Hanlon**, a chance to get into another cab that differs to his 24,000-hour A25D articulated hauler was an opportunity worth trying.

"It is always good to look at machine progression, and to see how newer models might help you to be more efficient, more productive and more profitable," he says. "I wanted to try the ECR145D, and see how it compares to a 5,000-hour EC180."

L Lynch Plant Hire's **Chris Gill** and **Steve Wright** used the event to look at the EC750 excavator, plus A60 and A40 trucks.

"We're taking delivery of lots of pieces of Volvo kit, but we rarely get to see them," says Chris. "Machines go straight out to work so having this opportunity to see them and spend time in the cab gives us a greater overall understanding of the new plant, and this also helps to meet our customer's requirements."

It is a view echoed by colleague Steve Wright, who was suitably impressed with the **LIVE IT. DIG IT.** event.

"It's been a fantastic day, and I've been very impressed with the huge range of products available."



Costain innovation engineer **Gabriel Durojaye** used the event to look into plant optimisation.

"We see a great future in autonomous equipment, along with the adoption of intelligent machine technology," he says. "Dig Assist and Haul Assist are both very interesting developments that offer some tremendous benefits to our industry. It's been a very worthwhile day."

PHOTO GALLERY CONTINUED OVERLEAF ➤



Articulated haulers offered the chance to evaluate Haul Assist technology











Over two weekends in May, SMT GB's Live it, Dig It events gave over 150 visitors the chance to try over 15 Volvo machines



"Finley" received lots of attention over the events



The event was supported by Steelwrist, with tilt rotators available to try on EC220E, EWR170E and EW60E



Latest E-series mini and midi excavators were put to the



The inaugural Let's Recycle Live event took place 22–23 May at the NAEC, Stoneleigh Park and SMT GB took the EW240E MH into the demo area, offering the first opportunity to see this new machine working.

The EW240E MH is the first, true, material handler to be produced by Volvo featuring a dedicated chassis and superstructure designed for the waste recycling & scrap handling industries and it's proving to be an exceedingly robust and reliable machine.

SMT GB Demonstrator, David Dutton took to the controls to showcase the EW240E, with Mark Gunns explaining the features of the machine.

The two-day show offered visitors a packed conference schedule, live demos and the latest recycling vehicles were on show in the exhibition areas. ■ Amy Metcalfe



DTH Plant Hire takes delivery of the first two Volvo EC200Es in Great Britain

Having had its global debut at Bauma, Munich in April, the EC200E is aimed squarely at one of the most competitive segments of the excavator market. The twenty-tonne model is a purpose-built machine, whose specifications position it between the company's existing EC220E and EC180E models and is an ideal tool for in-house operations or as part of a rental fleet, and suitable for construction, utilities, road infrastructure and more.

Commenting on his recent purchase, Managing Director, Dave Green said, "We prefer to align ourselves with premium brands for our plant fleet and were keen to be the first to take delivery of Volvo's latest offering in the twenty-tonne excavator market. We are confident the new EC200E will be a popular machine for the majority of our clients. Furthermore, since we already run a range of Volvo excavators and have been satisfied with their reliability, choosing the new twenty-tonne machines for our mixed fleet of equipment made total sense," he continues.

Established in 2016, DTH Plant Hire is a leading specialist in operated and self-drive plant. Since then the company has enjoyed a strong and rapid growth offering an impressive range of excavators from one and a half up to thirty-five tonnes operating weight, site dumpers up to nine tonnes, rollers and tele-handlers. The company operates from its Midlands base in Thurcaston, Leicester offering first-class plant & tool hire services right across the UK. ■ **Mark Gunns**



SPECIFICATION: EC200E

- **ENGINE:**
Volvo four-cylinder Stage V compliant
- **HORSEPOWER:**
156 nett hp

THE NEW EC200ES HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED TO DTH PLANT HIRE IN STANDARD SPECIFICATION, WHICH INCLUDES:

- Hose rupture valves to both boom and dipper cylinders
- Quick fit hydraulics and hammer / shear hydraulic lines
- 5.7m boom and 2.9m dipper arm offering:
 - Maximum digging reach of 9.93 metres
 - Dig depth of 6.73 metres
 - Dumping height of 6.55 metres
 - Maximum lifting capacity 2.8 tonnes.



“We prefer to align ourselves with premium brands for our plant fleet and were keen to be the first to take delivery of Volvo’s latest offering in the twenty-tonne excavator market.”



Bauma 2019

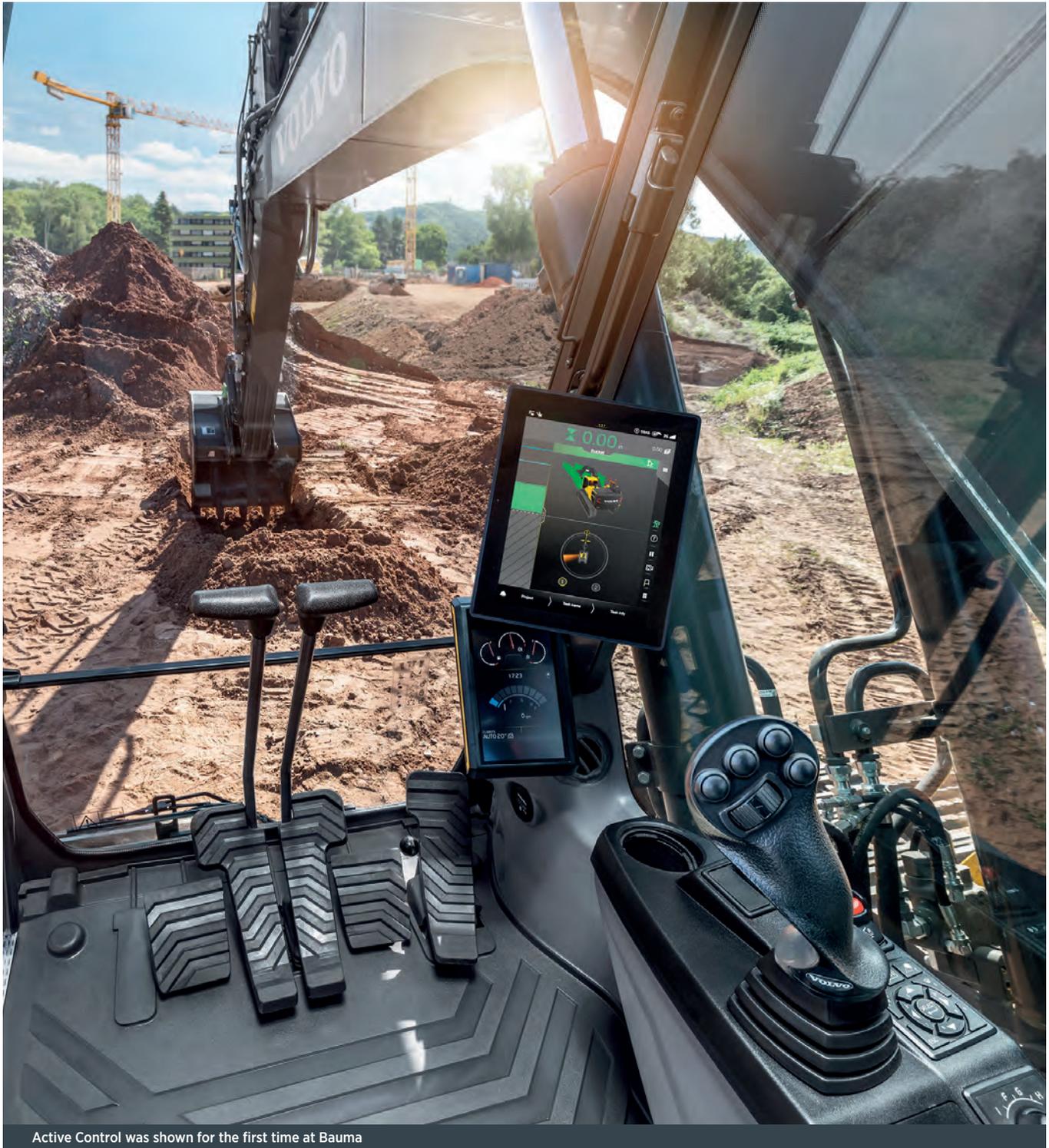
From the imposing towers of the Frauenkirche, to the cheery music of the Oompah bands that play in the internationally renowned Hofbräuhaus. The Southern German city of Munich is world-famous for many things. However, a somewhat more unusual claim to fame for the Bavarian capital is that every three years, it plays host to Europe's iteration of Bauma; the world's leading construction machinery trade fair.

With a combined indoor and outdoor exhibition space spanning 7,863m², not only did Volvo Construction Equipment showcase the majority of its product range, services and unique machine features, but also took advantage of the opportunity to launch a range of new machines and features to the public for the first time.

The first new machine to be launched was the EC200E, which is Volvo's new 20-tonne medium duty crawler excavator. This purpose-built middleweight is positioned between the well-established EC180E and EC220E crawler excavators, to target one of the most competitive segments of the excavator market. The EC200E's durable Stage V D4 Volvo engine, 7.3 kg lifting capacity and 154 gross horsepower output establish this new machine as a standout contender within a crowded market segment.

A new semi-autonomous excavator feature was also unveiled at the show. The new feature, Active Control, provides the operator with the ability to use their in-cab Volvo Co-pilot tablet to input the depth, angle and pitch that they are required to dig. Once these parameters have been set, the system automatically takes control of the boom and bucket to carry out the task for the operator.

The benefits of Active Control speak for themselves as, compared to conventional methods, grading times are reduced by 45%. Furthermore, the need for rework is entirely eliminated, as Active Control gets the job done perfectly – first time. Active Control also eliminates the need for a second person to take depth and grade checks. Therefore, this outstanding system greatly helps to improve site safety. Initially offered on the new EC220E crawler excavator, Active Control will soon be available on a much broader range of machines.



Active Control was shown for the first time at Bauma

The second new machine launch was for the EC60E crawler excavator. This new powerful and productive compact offering is the much-anticipated replacement for the EC55C. Designed to operate in a wide variety of applications the EC60E is equipped with Volvo's Stage V D2.6H engine and produces 44 gross horsepower at an engine speed of 2,200 rpm.

Third in line for the launch was actually a trio of compact excavators belonging to the new E Series. Consisting of the EC15E, EC18E and EC20E, the undercarriage of all of these new micro machines is capable of being shrunk to as little as just under 1 meter, enabling them to deliver their impressive, relative to their size, 12 gross horsepower output in the most confined of work environments.

Another launch at Bauma was for the newly updated short-swing ECR88D crawler excavator. This robust little powerhouse is specifically designed to work in environments where space is in

short supply. Available with either a mono-boom or an optional two-piece boom, the ECR88D's narrow body design is so compact that its rear swings within its track shoe, allowing the ECR88D to get extremely close to the object without the risk of rear swing collision. As proof that big things really do come in small packages, the ECR88D's Stage V four-cylinder D2.6H Volvo engine produces an impressive 57 gross horsepower. Even more impressive is its breakout and tear out forces, which are 57.2kN and 39.8 kN respectively. Due to its short front and rear radius, the ECR88D is well suited to working within a single highway lane, which greatly minimises traffic flow disruption, and is frequently a prequalification condition on some contracts.

Representing Volvo's commitment to making the lives of road workers easier, Bauma 2019 provided the perfect opportunity to launch the new P2820D ABG and P2870D ABG Pavers. Made for the city, these two new low noise pavers come equipped with



The new EC60E replaces the EC55C excavator



The new E series of compact excavators are all now available

a host of features normally reserved for larger models. This provides these powerful new pavers with the ability to deliver a significantly higher standard of quality, safety and efficiency than other available compact pavers.

One such advanced feature equipped to both machines is Volvo's universal Electronic Paver Management system. This intuitive system simplifies even the toughest of small-to-medium paving applications, while also providing a familiarised operator with the ability to safely and expertly operate any Volvo paver, regardless of the specific model or size.

Another key defining feature of both the P2820D ABG and P2870D ABG is a tight turning radius of less than 2 meters, thanks to the inclusion of power steering on both machines. Both of these pavers also include an option to individually operate

their hopper wings, enabling the machines to pave much closer to obstacles than other similarly sized pavers.

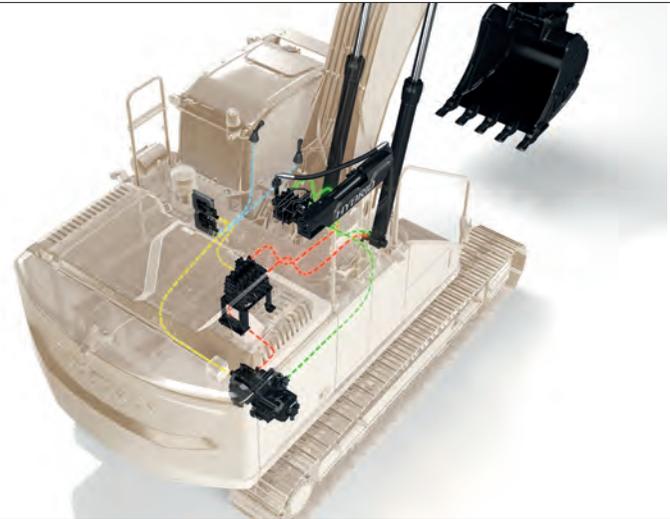
In keeping with Volvo's commitment to innovate for a sustainable future and aspiration to be the driving force behind building tomorrow, another Volvo product launched at Bauma 2019 was the EC300E Hybrid.

The exciting new hybrid system equipped to the EC300E harvests the energy generated from the boom down motion to charge an accumulator. This energy, which is normally wasted, is fed back to the hydraulic pump through assist motors. The result of harvesting this wasted energy is a 17% increase in fuel efficiency, 12% lower fuel consumption and a 10% to 12% reduction in the machine's CO₂ emission output.



The two new pavers simplify the toughest of small-to-medium paving applications

The EC300E Hybrid harvests energy from the boom down motion to charge an accumulator



A significant advantage of Volvo's new hybrid system over similar competitor systems is that it can be retrofitted to older EC300E's. Therefore, the cost and headache of upgrading the environmental friendliness of your fleet are significantly reduced, as you are not required to dispose of older machines in favour of purchasing expensive newer machines. While currently undergoing in the field testing with several German customers, the new Volvo Hybrid system will be available soon.

Further proof of Volvo's commitment to sustainable innovation is the unveiling of two new fully electric machines. The first of this all-new electric duo to be launched at Bauma was the ECR25 Electric. This all-new compact electric crawler excavator has a runtime of up to 8 hours, is capable of achieving an 80% recharge in 1 hour and produces zero emissions.

Far from being an usable or impractical prototype, this new all-electric machine can generate a breakout force of 20.2 kN, possesses a maximum digging depth of 2.76m and can maximum dump height of 3.07m. Since appearing at Bauma, the ECR25 Electric was transported to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and was used to create the breathtaking Morgan Stanley Garden; the machine's compact size, zero production of emissions and near-silent operation made it the perfect choice for use in central London.

The Volvo L25 Electric wheel loader is equally as capable as it's environmentally friendly crawler excavator brother. Also boast an 8-hour runtime, 80% recharge within 1 hour and entirely emission-free operation, the L25 Electric wheel loader generates a breakout force of 49 kN, has a full-turn tipping load of 3.35

tonne and a fork payload of 2 tonnes.

The new Volvo L25 Electric and ECR25 Electric are currently undergoing rigorous real-world application testing with several specially selected German customers, and it is anticipated that these will head into production in 2020.

Moving outside the main Volvo Exhibition Hall, two EC20E's were fenced off to create the Operator's Club Challenge Area. Within this area, Operator's Club members could demonstrate their control and coordination skill by completing various challenges for prizes.

Within the outside demonstration area, a wide range of machines, supported by a Volvo FH HGV, wowed the crowds daily with a highly choreographed demo show. Several highlights of this show included a demonstration of the hair-raisingly close proximity that groups of these truly remarkable machines can be safely operated, as well as the smoothness of their expertly controlled motions and effortless earthmoving abilities.

The articulated hauler's ability to have its trailer tipped onto two wheels, while the cab remains entirely upright, was undoubtedly a sight to behold, and a fitting testament to the uncompromising safety offered by Volvo's articulated hauler range.

Another highlight of the show was a suspense-filled scene which involved a steelwrist-equipped EWR150E displaying its dexterity by picking up a colossal red flag. Taking on the role of a Matador to a bullishly-enraged A45G and FH HGV, it is with a great sigh of relief that SMT GB can report that no machines were slain throughout the execution of this gripping spectacle.



The ECR25 fully electric excavator was unveiled at the show. These machines will go into production in 2020



The L25 fully electric wheel loader demonstrates Volvo's commitment to sustainable innovation

It is hard not to be impressed by the dizzying numbers generated by Bauma 2019. For instance, Volvo's social media reach for the show exceeded 7.8 million people, the show itself attracted 620,000 visitors, and 866 of those visitors signed up to the Operator's Club.

When broken down into 10-minute intervals, you may be able to gain a better appreciation for how truly busy the show was this year. On average, every 10 minutes, 27 Leberkäse with potato salad were handed out, 155 drinks were served, and Merchandise sales reached 825€.

However, a tough metric to measure was the enjoyment and happiness experienced by attendees and exhibitors alike. Speaking for SMT staff and the visitors to the Volvo exhibition spaces, there was certainly no lack of smiles or laughter. Indeed, Bauma 2019 was a thoroughly enjoyable experience for all in attendance. From all of us at SMT, we wish Bauma München a fond auf wiedersehen until 2021. ■

Alex Cox



The Volvo Demo Show drew in the crowds in the outdoor area



The Volvo stand proved popular with visitors throughout the show





“Forestry work is very demanding on equipment, and the ground conditions on the island are among the most challenging you will find anywhere in the country, so it is essential that our equipment is up to it.”





MEMBER PROFILE

Name: John Thomson

Member number: 4293

Company: John Thomson Construction

Member since: 19/02/2018

Based on the picturesque Isle of Arran, John Thomson is a member of the Operator's Club and the Plant Operations Manager for John Thomson Construction. As a key contributor to this 67 year old family business, John leads a team of plant operators on a variety of tasks including: fulfilling forestry contracts, quarrying, crushing, road maintenance and new road construction.

John remarks that; "Forestry work is very demanding on equipment, and the ground conditions on the island are among the most challenging you will find anywhere in the country, so it is essential that our equipment is up to it. Operating on an Island, reliability and fuel economy is as important as performance." In order to meet these challenges, going forward, John proudly informs us that his firm has committed to running a purely Volvo fleet of equipment.

John first became aware of the Operator's Club when reading The Voice Magazine. He was interested in the competitions that the club regularly hosts, and thought that joining the Operator's Club would be a great way to connect with like-minded people.

What John most enjoys about being a member of the Operators Club is interacting with other members of the club as well as being able to ask for their opinions on various pieces of Volvo equipment. John also enjoys keeping up-to-date with the latest Volvo news.

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To submit an entry, you must be a member of the Volvo CE Operators Club in Great Britain and operate/own a Volvo machine. The editor's decision on profiles to publish is final.

The selection of merchandise will be chosen at random and subject to availability at that time. Items cannot be exchanged unless faulty.

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Local superhero Trash Can Stan inspires litter-picking at SMT GB

A local 5-year old, real name George, living in Duxford created his own costume on Superhero Day at school, calling himself Trash Can Stan. Since then he has been going for walks around Duxford village collecting litter. Along with his parents, he has arranged weekend litter picks which a few villagers and the local MP, Heidi Allen also joined.

Inspired by George's efforts and wishing to do more to look after the local area and protect wildlife an SMT GB employee based in Duxford, Helena Urquart-Woodward has recruited a team of litter picking volunteers who will head out at lunchtimes to collect rubbish in and around the village.

Trash Can Stan was invited to SMT HQ in Duxford to officially kick off activities. He met his new team of sidekicks and had a look round some of the Volvo machines before being presented with a new mode of transport to assist with his litter picking efforts, a Volvo pedal hauler.

Amy Metcalfe, Marketing Director comments; "We've been really impressed by George's efforts in Duxford and wanted to thank him for the inspiration he has brought to our business.

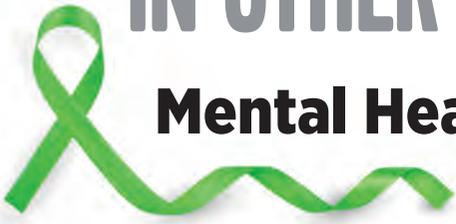
His initiative will hopefully lead to a cleaner environment for both people and wildlife in and around the village."

The SMT GB litter picking team has been out a few times since then, cleaning up around the Duxford site and moving into the village. It's surprised the team how much they have found, but the difference is already noticeable.

Helena says; "Not only has it been great to clean up the local area but also it's been a good way for people within the business to get out at lunchtime and do something positive with other like-minded people. It's been good for teambuilding, too, as people from different departments across the business are getting to know each other better." ■ **Amy Metcalfe**



IN OTHER NEWS...



Mental Health Awareness Week

Mental health affects everyone, and we, at SMT, take it seriously. That is why we threw ourselves into Mental Health Awareness Week, from the 13th to the 19th of May.

Every SMT GB Customer Support Centre took it upon themselves to organise a whole host of fun activities throughout the week, aimed at raising money and spreading awareness of how important it is to stay mentally healthy.

Some highlights from the week included a BBQ at Birmingham Customer Support Centre; the event, blessed with unseasonably warm weather, was thoroughly enjoyed by all staff and was able to raise a fantastic £250 for CALM and Mind.

At Bruntingthorpe, a wide array of tasty treats were on offer at a bake sale that was able to bring in a further £84.66 for both of these worthy charities.

Stirling also joined in the festivities by organising a family day, which included a BBQ, raffle, sponsored car wash and a whole host of fun games. Despite the far from ideal weather conditions, SMT staff and family members alike were undeterred and raised an incredible £450 for the Scottish Association for Mental Health.

At Duxford, at least one main activity was organised for every day of the week. The activities organised throughout the week included: a cake sale, free lunchtime curry & chat, sports day, lunchtime quiz, dress down Friday, sponsored car wash and evening cycle ride. A team also took part in a Fun Colour Run in Cambridge. Duxford raised an incredible £1302.68 for CALM and Mind bringing the grand total raised to £2087.34. **Alex Cox**



GETTING SOCIAL...

We love seeing pictures of your machines in action. Below are our favourite posts from across social media.



@g_wullie: The @SMT_GB Volvo's put to bed time for home



Barry Cook: Still going strong in Kos



@GoldenErthwrks: Got her looking like new again de-greased and polished and waxed ready for the @engcon_uk stand at plantworx @SMT_GB @Collins_Earth

Andy Hiscock: Happy days



@pesplant: Day one of the @RoyalCornwall is nearly over. Here's this years team. Reps from @pesplant @SMT_GB and @UK_Husqvarna. #showtime #RCS2019



Wayne Anderson: New Volvo L150H loading shovel for Chap Quarries Aberdeenshire



Mditch84: Forewader track building



Gary OMalley: New EC220EL arrived and straight to work on our Widnes site

Britishconstructionequipment: Time for a bath for this Volvo A45 adt



Let's Recycle Live:
Get up close to the action from the demo area at Lets Recycle live



Olliekinch: L70H loving #volvoce #smtgb #volvol70h #pushinggrass



Live It. Dig It:
Watch all the action from our two Live It. Dig It. events

Join in the conversation:



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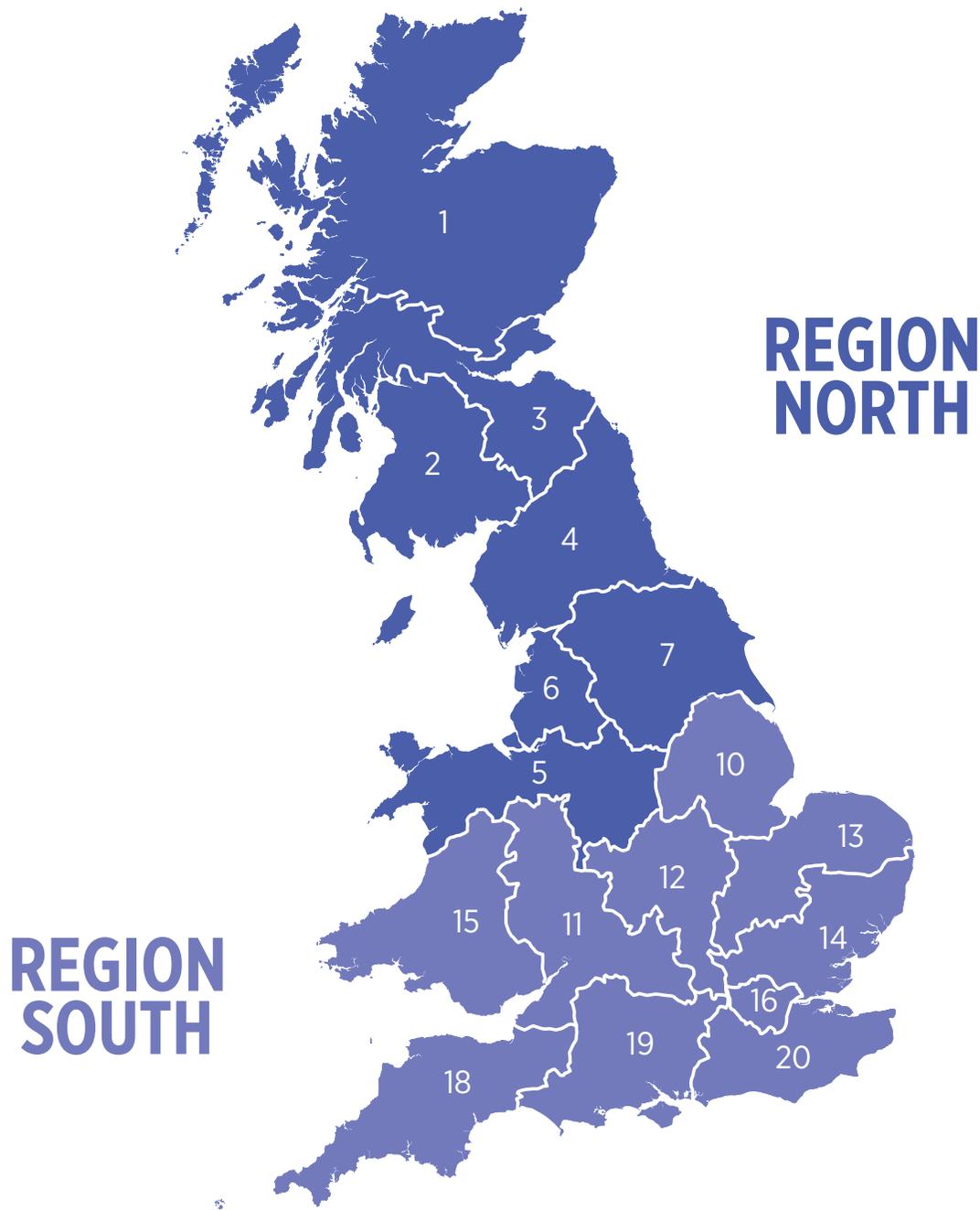


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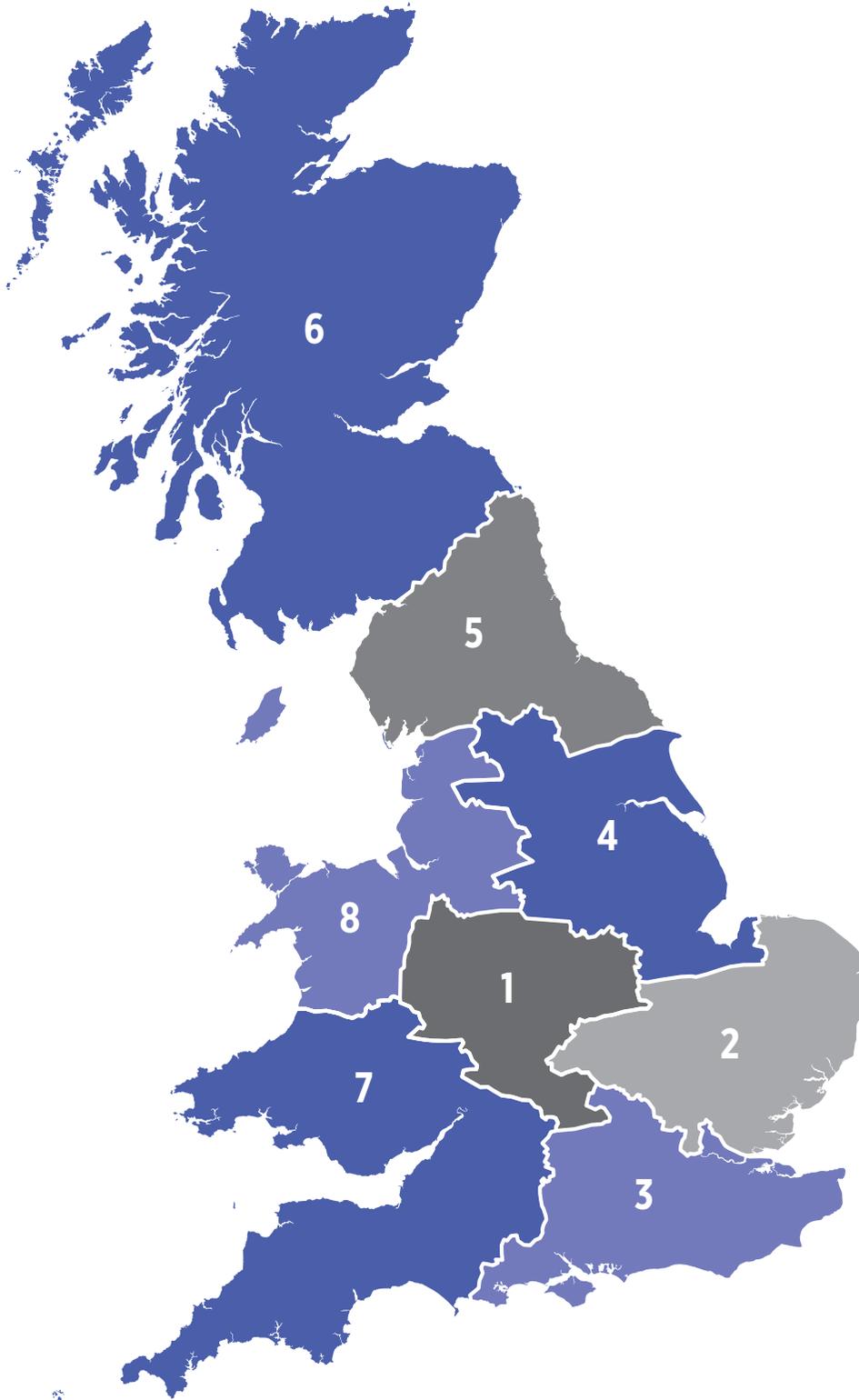


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PLEASE REMEMBER to include your name, address, phone number and email address when submitting your entry so that we know who you are.

The first five correct entries to be drawn will win the prizes pictured from our merchandise shop

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

The judges decision is final. The first five correct entries drawn will be deemed as prize winners. Each prize winner will be notified by email and the list of winners posted in the next edition of **THE VOICE** magazine. We reserve the right to amend the selection of merchandise subject to availability at the time of draw. The entrant agrees to receive promotional material from SMT GB from time to time unless this box is checked.

The competition is not open to SMT GB or Volvo employees or their families.

The three lucky prize winners from **THE VOICE** magazine competition edition 35 were:

- **Sheila Beesley** – Lutterworth
- **Dean Foley** – Sittingbourne
- **Ian Davies** – Port Talbot

Congratulations!

CLOSING DATE:
30 September 2019



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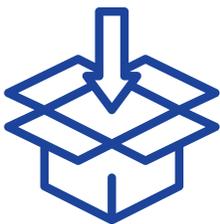
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