

# WEDGEWORLD

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## NEW MD FOR WEDGE

Wedge Group Galvanizing has announced the appointment of a new Managing Director to lead the organisation. Chris Woolridge has taken up the role after more than 11 years with the firm, in a move which sees the current Chairman/CEO Jeremy Woolridge step into the position of Executive Chairman.

Chris explained: "It's a real privilege to take on the Managing Director role and have the opportunity to take the company forward. I'm looking forward to continuing our strategy of investment here in the UK to further strengthen our position and market share. With 14 sites strategically located across the country, we are certainly well placed to capitalise on the recent improvement in the UK economy."



## ACROW PROJECT FIRMLY-ROOTED SUCCESS

Acrow Galvanizing has worked with long-term client and blacksmith, Fransham Forge, to galvanize six miles of steel that formed the 'wish tree' sculpture installed in a hospital garden in Norwich. The impressive sculpture forms part of a garden which was designed and built to offer patients and relatives a tranquil place to reflect and relax.

Nigel Barnett, Owner of Fransham Forge, commented: "We used the services of Acrow Galvanizing as we have worked with the organisation over many years, and the team always provides a first class service. After galvanizing the steel we gave it a t-wash to give it a lead-like appearance."



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# SCOTTISH STORAGE SOLUTION



Glasgow-based Scottish Galvanizers assisted long-standing client Russell A. Henry & Son Welding and Fabrication to galvanize elements of structural steel used to create unique salt storage barns on behalf of main contractor and fellow Wigtownshire-based firm, Fortnum and Woolley.

Russell Henry, Senior Partner at the company, explained: "As salt is an extremely corrosive material and is a major cause of rust on

steel, it was really important for us to galvanize the steel beams used to create the barns. The galvanizing treatment will help the steel withstand weathering and corrosion, and ultimately extends the life expectancy of the structure. Having worked with Scottish Galvanizers on a diverse range of projects over the years, we know that the galvanizing they provide more than exceeds our expectations, and ensure our clients are 100 per cent satisfied."

## PILLAR UNDERGOES REBRAND

Manchester-based Pillar Wedge has completed its extensive facility renovation by undergoing a rebrand. The plant will now be known as Manchester Galvanizing Ltd following a £300,000 investment in the facilities which included the installation of a new galvanizing bath.

Andrew Haworth, Regional Director for Manchester Galvanizing, said: "We celebrated our 40th anniversary at the tail-end of last year, and are thrilled to be entering a new decade in business with such strong foundations. We're proud of our position within the local community, and have strong working relationships with all our clients, many of whom have been using our hot-dip galvanizing treatment for many years."



## EDWARD HOWELL SUPPORTS SCULPTOR'S VISION

Edward Howell Galvanizers has teamed up with a long-standing client, Luke Perry, to help depict the industrial heritage of the town of Darlaston through a series of sculptures. The plant treated eight high carbon steel figures on behalf of the renowned sculptor for artwork situated at the town's Grace Academy.

Luke Perry, Sculptor and Director of Industrial Heritage Stronghold,

commented: "I chose to get the artwork galvanized as it's the best way to protect the steel from weathering in the long-term, and also because the look and colour of the galvanizing really fitted the piece, and allowed me to colour and dye the figures as appropriate. I have worked with team at Edward Howells in the past, and will do again in the future as the plant always accommodate the irregularities of the artwork creditably."



## HUMBER RAILING RESTORATION

Humber Galvanizing has provided a sustainable solution to prevent the corrosion of railings surrounding the famous York city walls, during a recent restoration. The Hull-based plant completed the project in partnership with City of York Council, which saw it galvanize the steel used to restore the bar railings which run alongside the historic walls.

Cllr Sonja Crisp, Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism at City of

York Council, said: "The historic York Walls are a significant part of York's 2,000 year old history, which over 7.2 million tourists and over 200,000 residents enjoy year-on-year. It's important that any restoration or improvement works carried out on the walls are done with maximum efficiency and complement the historic feel and look of the walls. The new railings support this and the ongoing Reininvigorate York initiative which is improving York's city centre."



## WESSEX'S ECO CENTRE WOWS

Wessex has played a key role in the construction of the new UK headquarters for one of the world's leading independent conservation organisations, WWF-UK.

The Eastleigh-based plant joined forces with Bailey Fabrications to galvanize the secondary steelworks, balustrading, external staircases and swale used in the construction of the organisation's new eco-friendly Living Planet Centre in Woking, which was designed to maximise on-site sustainability.

Andy Gill, Director at Bailey Fabrications, said: "Work at the site was mainly architectural, with all external balustrades and stairs finished by Wessex Galvanizers. We decided to use their hot-dip galvanizing treatment on our steelwork due to its long-lasting protection which will ultimately help to ensure the longevity of the new WWF-UK headquarters."



## NEWPORT ON THE RIGHT FOOT

Newport Galvanizing has teamed up with fellow South Wales-based firm IPL Structural Services Ltd to galvanize over 25 tonnes of steel used in the development of Cardiff City Football Club. The project, which created between 220 and 240 additional permanent seats between the club's Grandstand and Canton Stand, has seen the stadium's

capacity increase from 26,800 to more than 27,500.

Colin Kavanagh, Director of IPL Structural Services Ltd, explained: "This was one of many fantastic projects that we've worked with Newport Galvanizers on. We called upon them for this particular one as we wanted the seats to be protected

from the elements and reduce the need for maintenance. We launched IPL Structural Services in July this year due to staff expansion and the acquisition of a company in Baglan, Port Talbot, and very much look forward to working with Newport Galvanizers in the months and years to come."

## SOUTH EAST SHOWCASES TO BIS

South East Galvanizers has played host to the Government's department for Business, Innovation, and Skills (BIS). Five representatives from the department came to view the factory in order to gain an understanding of hot-dip galvanizing and to discuss possible ways the government can assist the organisation in future developments. BIS is also keen to promote British businesses in infrastructure programmes, including planned projects for the future expansion of Network Rail.

Bob Duxbury, Technical Director for the Group, said: "We were really pleased to welcome our guests from The Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills. They were all suitably impressed with the galvanizing process and the efficient operation at South East Galvanizers."



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# MANCHESTER BUILDING BRIDGES



Manchester Galvanizing, formerly Pillar Wedge, has played a key role in the renovation of one of the world's longest steel arched bridges on behalf of T.P Aspinall & Sons Ltd, and as part of a major upgrade to the Silver Jubilee Bridge at Runcorn Gap. The plant

galvanized the steel, which has been used to replace 1km of walkway balustrade, and is vital to ensure the stability of the infrastructure as a major transport route in Halton, Cheshire.

Myk Whitehead, Project Manager at T.P

Aspinall & Sons Ltd, commented: "The galvanizing process ensures the longevity of the bridge for many years to come and means we do not need to undertake unscheduled repairs which would cause considerable disruption to a bridge – one of the main transport links in the area."

## METALTREAT'S SERVICE STANDS THE TEST OF TIME

Bradford-based Metaltrat has joined forces with York-based HC Engineering on an extensive amount of projects spanning the past 12 years. The organisation primarily supplies high quality metal fabrications and services to a wide range of industries across the UK.

Edward Hodgson, Fabrication Manager at HC Engineering, explained: "We've worked on a significant number of projects with Metaltrat, and the plant is essentially our first choice for galvanizing. We regularly send work over to the team and feel safe in the knowledge that they'll always do a top job."

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS FOR LONG-STANDING CLIENT

Newport Galvanizers is wishing one of its long-standing clients a Happy Birthday. Buckler Engineering a Bristol based fabrication and mechanical engineering company, and client of Newport Galvanizers for over a decade, is celebrating its 35th birthday this year.

Mike Small, Sales Manager at the plant, said: "We've worked alongside Buckler Engineering for many years and enjoy a great relationship with the organisation, working on a multitude of different projects. We're delighted to be celebrating such a long-standing customer's birthday, and hope to continue the partnership for many more years to come."



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To register just send an email to [tracy.messer@wedge-galv.co.uk](mailto:tracy.messer@wedge-galv.co.uk)*

Thank you to Emma Stothard for use of her picture in Wedge's 2014 Calendar for the month of September.

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