

JANUARY '18

The Micron



NEWCo
Northern Engineering & Welding Co Ltd

The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo

HAPPY NEW YEAR

and welcome back to work



We start 2018 with good news. AJ Engineering is expanding once again.

The company has acquired the nearby site currently used by Agrii – just across the road from our existing properties in Forres.

Acquiring the new property and land means we will have more space to grow the business even further.

Alan James, managing director

explained: “Agrii are moving to just outside Nairn and it made sense to get this building and land which is so near. We are finding that we are getting tight for space, so this new area will allow us extra parking and more room for fabrication.”

He added: “It also means that we can put more focus on stainless steel fabrication which we do currently do,

but the difficulty is that stainless steel production is best done in a separate area. It's a perfect site for us and the premises also house welfare facilities, a canteen and office space.”

AJ Engineering's last big expansion was in October 2015 when the company bought Fort William-based Northern Engineering & Welding Co (NEWCo).

Year ends with two new roles

Two new roles were created at AJ Engineering at the end of 2017.

David Hollands joined us from MacKellar Sub Sea Ltd and takes on the new role of Fabricator and Dimensional Control.

David brings over 20 years of experience with him. He said: “I am delighted to be part of the AJ

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New roles at AJ

Continued

Engineering team. It's a good bunch and everyone has been friendly and helpful. I am enjoying the new role which gives me the best of both worlds. I still get to be hands on with the fabrication, but I am also enjoying monitoring the output from the workshop."

Existing staff member Colin Docherty has stepped into the newly created position of deputy responsible welding co-ordinator. Colin joined AJ Engineering as an apprentice fabricator welder. His new role will see him being responsible for welding procedures, welding checking and ensuring the firm stays in line with current standards.

Left: David Hollands



BRIDGES A US

At the end of the year, AJ Engineering which has a wealth of experience in steel bridgeworks was recognised by the industry's national body – the Register of Qualified Steelwork Contractors Scheme for Bridgeworks.

Any steelwork company with a facility within the EU, that fabricates anything from footbridges to crossings with more than a 100m span can apply to be considered for inclusion.

There is a rigorous process to secure the accreditation which is handled by the British Constructional Steelworks

Association (BCSA) as Jazmin Kellas, our quality manager explained: "Initially we provided the BCSA with supporting documentation and completed an assessment. Following a review of this the BCSA came to our Forres workshop and conducted an audit on our processes and competences".

In its 19-year history, AJ Engineering has handled numerous bridgeworks projects with some of the more prominent including the Forth Road Bridge, the Kessock Bridge near Inverness, and the recently opened Queensferry Crossing.

In the last year it has also completed two pedestrian bridges as well as works on numerous rail bridges.

In February, we constructed and installed a 139-foot long bow-arched bridge over the River Nevis providing all abilities access to Ben Nevis.

More recently, we were appointed by BAM Nuttall to design and install a footbridge at the new Forres railway station.

Jazmin added: "With our history in fabricating and installing bridges of all sizes, it is great that this is recognised by the BCSA."



We went festive!

Thank you to everyone who chose to 'Go Festive' and wore a winter woolly to help raise funds for Save The Children. We raised a fantastic £92 and had a lot of fun in the process.