

WEC news

GROUP

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www.wec-group.com

Reaching new heights!



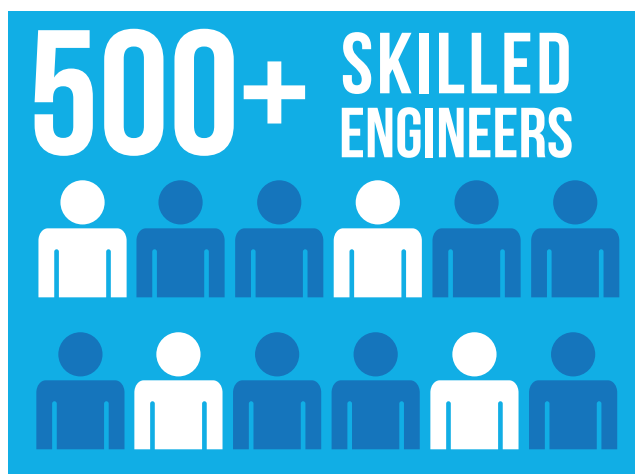
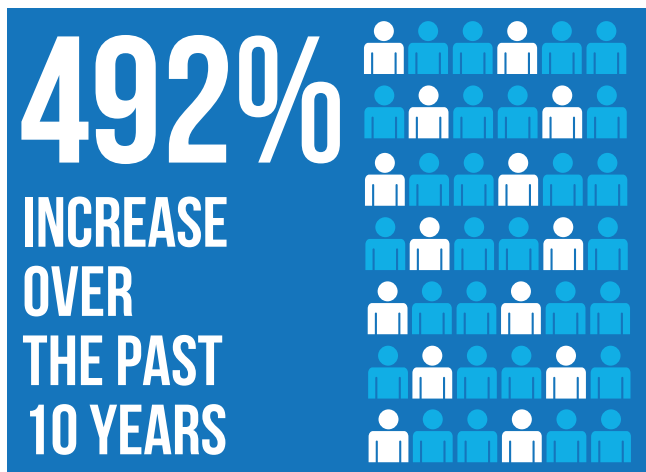
Steve Hartley, Managing Director

The last quarter has been packed with exciting developments for the Group and we are pleased to announce that we are reaching another important milestone as our latest staff count nears the 800 mark. Our recent acquisition of laser cutting & sheet metalwork specialists HTA Group in Coventry has strengthened our operations in the Midlands and opened up a whole new array of opportunities for WEC (more on this on page 4)

In the meantime, we've also partnered up with Preston-based specialist diving equipment manufacturer Submarine Manufacturing & Products Ltd (SMP) which will broaden our international prospects and further our export ambitions.

Despite ever more challenging market conditions we have exciting new contracts in the pipeline and we look forward to the future with confidence.

Staff growth



**YOUR NEWS...
...YOUR VIEWS**

This is your newsletter and we want to know your stories. Send us your big news whether it's a birth, an engagement or a marriage, a sporting success or just something you want to shout about.
Email stories to newsletter@wecl.co.uk

WEC Scoop Large Business of the Year Award!



We are delighted to have once again won the Red Rose Large Business of the Year Award in March.

The Red Rose Awards celebrate the best of Lancashire businesses, providing a platform to promote success and to encourage inter-trading in the county.

The judges commended us for our commitment to investing in world-leading technology, our employee benefits scheme and our Training Academy.

Winning the Large Business of the Year award is a great achievement for WEC Group as it is a testament to our rapid growth over the past few years.

We were also finalists in three other categories including Growing Business, Corporate Social Responsibility and Manufacturing Business of the Year, competing against some fantastic Lancashire companies.

Welding excellence awards 2016

WEC Fabrication's monthly welding excellence award is up for grabs by every welder in the division. It is awarded to an individual alongside £100 based on their outstanding commitment and workmanship as well as recognising their consistently high-quality work.



Feb/April - Elliot Mounsey



March - Mark Jackson



May - Wayne Neve



June - Carl Jackson

Exciting new chapter begins for WEC following acquisition of HTA Group



WEC Group has completed a deal which sees Coventry-based HTA Group join our growing family of businesses.

The multi-million pound deal will see the Group continue to dominate the UK's laser cutting and fabrication sector, as well as creating new opportunities and opening up valuable new markets.

HTA, which has a 110-strong workforce, takes the Group's total staff head count to almost 800 with a projected £75 million turnover for 2016.



Automated Laser Cutting & Sorting

Founded in 1973, HTA is one of the UK's largest subcontract manufacturers and a leading supplier of laser cut parts, sheet metal components and fabricated assemblies.



WEC Group Commercial Director, Wayne Wild, believes HTA is a great fit for the company. He said: "This is an exciting new chapter for HTA, its workforce and its present and future customers.

Last year HTA, which operates from a 95,000 sq. ft. factory in Coventry, invested more than £2 million in automated laser profiling technology in an installation that was reported to be unparalleled in the country.

The equipment was made up of two 5kW TRUMPF TruLaser 5040 fibre laser cutting machines (4m x 2m) with BrightLine fibre technology and SortMaster part sorting automation.

www.htagroup.co.uk

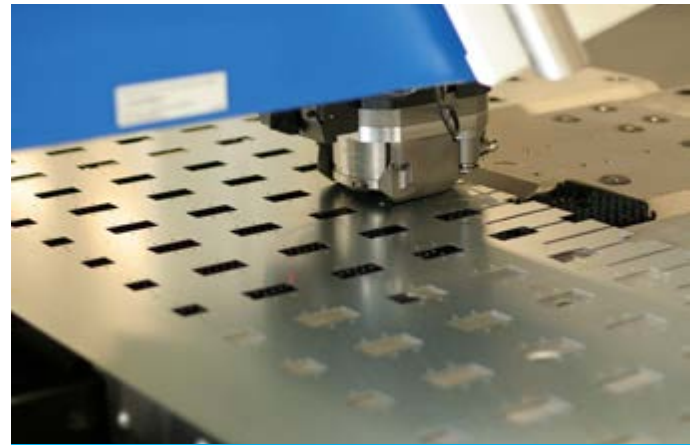
The new deal means we now have a total of 23 laser cutting machines working across our sites in Lancashire, Merseyside, Yorkshire and the Midlands.



HTA's modern laser cutting set up

Steve Hartley, WEC Group Founder and Managing Director said: "We are delighted to welcome HTA Group and its workforce to WEC. This is a logical move for us both and we look forward to the future with growing confidence."

The partnership makes WEC Group one of the largest laser cutting and fabrication operations in the UK. It gives us a strategic new base in the heart of UK manufacturing in the Midlands and allows us to offer our customers more, including a brand new CNC Punching capability.



* NEW - CNC PUNCHING *

CNC Punching sheet dimensions up to 2500mm x 1250mm before reposition.

CNC Punching thicknesses up to:

- 6mm Stainless Steels
- 6mm Mild Steels
- 6mm Aluminium

Materials we can CNC punch include mild steel, zintec, galv, aluminium, stainless steel, copper, brass and pre coated steels.



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Because metal is in our DNA!

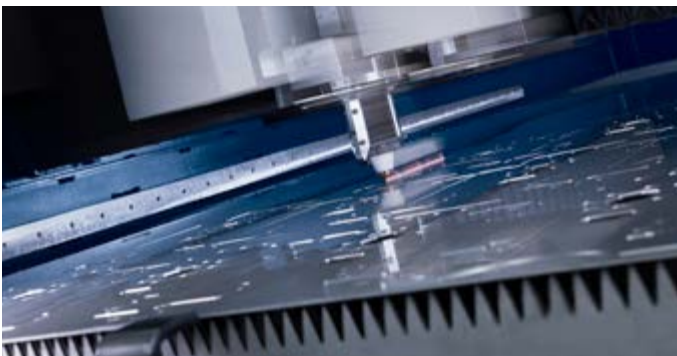
WEC Group has launched a brand new metal profiling and processing company, DNA Metalwork, as a way of strengthening our operations.

The new company, which was launched on the 1st June 2016, is based at our 300,000 sq. ft. Grange Lane facility in Rotherham and operates as a profiling and sheet metalwork 'job shop.'



Acting as a new sales outlet of MTLA, DNA provides laser, plasma, waterjet and flame cutting as well as fabrication, CNC machining, shot blasting, powder coating and wet painting. The new company complements our existing divisions and will enable us to continue growing our customer base.

DNA Metalwork is being headed by former Outokumpu Managing Director Jamie Sharp, who also brings with him a team of experienced sales staff to continue providing a fast response service to our customers.



Our brand new laser division based in Rotherham



Meet the DNA Metalwork team: (left) Danny Crossley, Neil Hartley, Jamie Sharp and Mick Breeze

Jamie Sharp, Managing Director of DNA Metalwork is looking forward to what the future holds as a company. He said: "I am very excited and proud to join an organisation that has experienced rapid growth over the last 10 years.

"DNA Metalwork is designed to give a fast response service to customers, and our initial key priority is to utilise the excellent assets that are within MTLA's Rotherham site as well as the many other state-of-the-art facilities which are available across the Group.

"We aim to be a very proactive division to sell the full WEC Group capabilities."

With a number of exciting contracts already in the pipeline, this new venture will enable us to continue with our growth strategy whilst strengthening operations as a Group overall.

www.dnametalwork.com

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WEC joins forces with Submarine Manufacturing & Products Ltd

WEC Group has acquired a 50% stake in Preston-based commercial diving and hyperbaric product manufacturer Submarine Manufacturing & Products (SMP) as part of our long term investment and growth strategy.



Established as a world leader in the design, manufacture and supply of commercial diving, subsea and hyperbaric equipment, SMP has worked with the Group as a key supply chain partner for many years.



The addition of SMP to our ranks will provide a host of benefits to the company thanks to their wealth of complex products on offer including diver decompression chambers, hyperbaric oxygen chambers and commercial diving helmets amongst many others.



Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Chamber

Both WEC Group and the 40-strong SMP will gain access to each other's expertise and skills, thus strengthening operations further and facilitating our long term investment and growth strategies.

Steve Hartley commented: "I have been a personal friend of the Managing Director of SMP Phil Connolly for over 14 years and I am excited at the prospects of what we can accomplish together."

Phil Connolly, Managing Director of SMP said: "This is fantastic and exciting news for both businesses. We are looking forward to a bright and healthy future for our combined business."



Speciality railings for the new Ewood Gyrary System in Blackburn

Not just another brick in the wall!

Well done to our production staff and apprentices in Special Projects for producing 31 bespoke railings for the new Ewood Gyrary System in Blackburn.

The project was completed to an extremely high standard and was managed by Senior Project Engineer Phil Stott, with help from Paul Thompson and Dave Hunt who quickly took ownership of the job on the shop floor.

The completed project was handed back to Blackburn Council at the end of May after taking four months to manufacture, galvanise, paint and install.

Latest developments at MTLA



£7m facility acquisition

WEC Group has acquired a 300,000 sq. ft. factory and 30 acres of land as a way of strengthening operations at MTLA Advanced.

The £7m acquisition of the Grange Lane facility, which has been occupied by MTLA since 2011, is part of an ambitious programme of investment throughout the Group aimed at increasing manufacturing space and giving room for further growth.



300,000 sq. ft. factory and 30 acres of land

Originally built in 1990 as a former distribution depot and lorry park, the sizeable property was converted for industrial use in 2010 and is in fact larger than our other manufacturing facilities grouped together.

Richard Clithero, Associate Commercial Property Solicitor at Forbes Solicitors, commented: "This site is a substantial facility and the acquisition represents a real commitment to the area by WEC Group."

In addition to the recent property acquisition, a further £1m has been invested in new equipment at MTLA to increase capacity and widen the range of services we can offer. This includes a state-of-the-art six metre bed laser cutting machine as well as an in-house wet painting line and shot blasting facility.



NEW: 6m x 2.5m flat bed laser

The recent property acquisition raises the total investment of the Group over the past 12 months to the record amount of over £11 million.

Multi-million pound defence contract secured

MTLA has received one of its largest order to date for supply of armoured cabs to UAE armoured vehicle manufacturer, NIMR Automotive.



With the manufacture and supply underway, the new multi-million pound contract will run for 18 months.

This major project demonstrates the strong partnership between WEC and MTLA and confirms the company as a leading manufacturing partner to global defence equipment suppliers.

Karl Stewart, MTLA Commercial Director said: "We are now exporting to five different continents and our export sales will continue to grow as we build on our reputation for contract manufacturing in the Defence sector."

The cabs are manufactured using dedicated 6 axis twin robot welding systems, complete with glass and a weapon mount system, before being painted at MTLA's brand new wet paint facility.



New wet painting & shot blasting facility

We recently invested £300,000 in brand new state-of-the-art shot blasting and wet painting facilities at MTL Advanced.

Working in-line to reduce operational costs, the facilities have the capability to paint/shot blast components up to 15m long x 6m wide x 4m high - ideal for large scale components.

The new facility is now fully operational and looking to fill capacity, please spread the word!



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Hi-Spec Machinery gets a face lift!

Our newly revamped workshop machinery division, Clarendon by WEC was officially launched at the MACH exhibition in April.

Previously known as Hi-Spec Machinery, the division has been restored as a way of breathing new life into a range of conventional workshop machinery "Made in the UK".

Clarendon by WEC manufacture heavy duty abrasive workshop machinery such as grinders, belt sanders, brushes/polishers, dust extractors and metalworking bench presses for a wide range of industries including MoD workshops, engineering workshops and schools.

The division is also the original and exclusive manufacturer of the renowned Clarendon presses which are designed to provide an efficient method of pressing and punching.



Our range of precision workshop equipment is currently in use by many workshops and educational establishments in the UK, which is a testament to its safety and durability.

MACH May 2016 - NEC BIRMINGHAM

MACH is a biennial exhibition which brings together the latest innovations and developments in the manufacturing technology sectors.

The show proved a great success and we have received a number of enquiries and orders for our workshop machinery and presses as a result.



Brand new website: www.clarendonbywec.com

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On the road again!

It is another busy and exciting year at WEC as we exhibit at many different trade shows in the UK, Europe and the Middle East!



Intersec, Dubai 17 – 18 January

John Whittle from our CCTV division once again exhibited at Intersec and has successfully secured a number of export orders on the back of it.

Subcon 7 – 9 June at NEC, Birmingham

Subcon is the UK's leading exhibition of its kind, dedicated solely to exploring contract and subcontract manufacturing on a local, national and international basis. We once again showcased our range of subcontract manufacturing services at the event such as laser and waterjet, CNC machining, fabrication and powder coating.



Commercial Vehicle Show

26 – 28 April at NEC, Birmingham

The Commercial Vehicle Show is the largest road freight transport, distribution and logistics event in the UK.

WEC Group exhibited alongside MTLA to showcase our extensive manufacturing capabilities as well as our high strength steel expertise.



Eurosatory: 13 – 17 June at Viparis Nord Villepinte Exhibition Centre, Paris

Eurosatory is one of the largest Defence and Security exhibitions in the world. As we strive to make our mark in the Defence industry this year, MTL Advanced showcased a broad range of vehicle protection solutions including military vehicle armour and infrastructure protection at the event.



North England Build 27 – 28 April at Manchester Central

Build Expo events across the UK are a great way to keep up to date with the latest developments in the construction sector. Goose Foot exhibited our street furniture range and capability.

A huge thank you to Dave Frankland, Geoff Clarke, Matt Marsden and Sam Senior part of the WEC maintenance team, for building the stands at our exhibitions throughout the year.

The team always go above and beyond to ensure that the stands are built to a very high standard.



WEC Rolls with nuclear accreditation

Congratulations to the WEC Fabrication and Quality teams who have recently achieved the prestigious Rolls Royce level 3 Nuclear accreditation.



Now a qualified supplier to the Rolls Royce management system requirements, otherwise known as Sabre, WEC Group will now be included in the company's supplier panel.

The accreditation comes on the back of a recent multi million pound project WEC Fabrication completed for the Rolls Royce Submarine division in Derby.

Adrian Radcliffe, WEC Fabrication Operations Manager, oversaw the manufacturing stage and Jeffrey Ashcroft headed the installation and building process with a team of 10 skilled welders from our engineering division.

The quality of the workmanship from our team was praised by the customer on numerous occasions, stating our staff were "a real credit to WEC Group."

They were so pleased with Jeff Ashcroft that they have asked him to oversee the next phase of the build and to manage an Austrian crew which are installing cranes on-site until September.

Further to this, the WEC Site team were recently commended for their approach to safety, all round attitude and a willingness to be flexible with all other trades. Graham Greenwood was recognised for his approach and was praised as a testament to his work.

This consistent and high-quality work from staff could potentially open the door to several other large contracts which we have already tendered for.

WEC Machining Flying High with AS 9100 Accreditation!

Well done to the WEC Machining and Quality teams for achieving the prestigious AS 9100 Rev C Aerospace accreditation following a recent audit



In addition to being accredited for laser and waterjet cutting, the Group's certification for machining

will open up valuable new opportunities as major aerospace manufacturers and suppliers worldwide.

Mihaela Mladin, WEC Group Quality Manager commented: "This was a team effort from System Quality and WEC Machining, with all the people involved being 100% committed to achieving the accreditation in such a short space of time.

WEC Machining received the closure of acceptance for eleven non-conformities raised by BSI during the audit in July.

The certification is a result of stringent process and quality measures assessed by BSI and is in addition to the existing ISO 9001:2008 accreditation.

Keep up the good work!

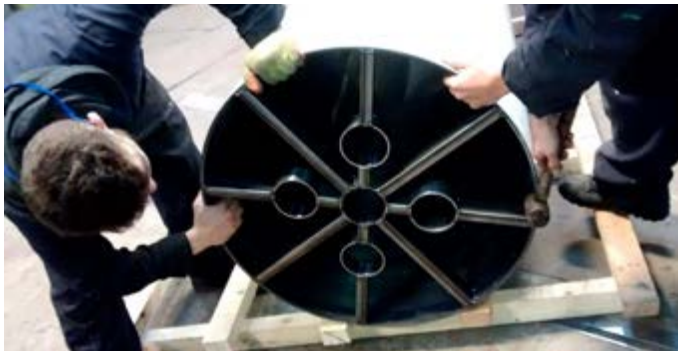


WEC Apprentices shoot for the stars!

Our Training Academy apprentices have been busy putting their new fabrication and machining skills to the test in order to manufacture major parts for a research space rocket.

Within just four weeks, the apprentices fabricated the rocket propulsion system and fitted the rocket's fin brackets which were cut in-house by WECJet.

The 8.3 metre tall Skybolt 2 rocket, created by Starchaser Industries, is set to launch in August as a way of inspiring young people to pursue science technology, engineering and mathematics as part of their education.



Expected to reach 4000 feet in just 17 seconds, the carbon fibre rocket will contain and test an array of electronic instruments which could potentially be used in future flights.

In order to manufacture the rocket propulsion system, apprentices used advanced welding and fabrication processes including Aluminium TIG and MIG welding as well as CNC machining.



WEC apprentices assembling the Skybolt 2 rocket

They rolled and formed the aluminium motor carrier and drilled countersunk the body. They also machined tube to very accurate dimensions with tight tolerances.

These processes will allow expansion and contraction when the rocket experiences different temperatures throughout the flight.

Steve Bennett, Starchaser CEO and Founder, said: "Your apprentices have done a sterling job in building the assembly that holds Skybolt's propulsion system in place, a vital piece of engineering without which this ground breaking rocket would not fly.

"These guys are putting us another step closer to our goal of putting Britain back into space!"

Skybolt will also test fly a number of experiments from the University of Chester, Manchester, Leicester, Sheffield Hallam and other UK educational institutes.

Chris Taylor crowned City & Guilds Award Winner!

Congratulations to our Training Academy apprentice, Chris Taylor who won the City & Guilds Engineering award for welding and fabrication 2016.

Much to his surprise, Chris scooped the title at the annual Training 2000 Apprenticeship Awards which were held at Dunkenhall Hotel on Friday 8 April.

He won the award due to his outstanding practical and academic ability whilst studying with Training

2000, as well as achieving 12 distinctions from 12 exams along with an outstanding NVQ portfolio.

Well done Chris!



Tom Woodburn continues his winning streak!

Congratulations to our apprentice, Thomas Woodburn, who won The Welding Institute Construction Metalwork Award at The Welding Institute Annual Awards & Dinner 2016.

Tom scooped the award based on his phenomenal score of 93.5% at the WorldSkills UK competition in Construction Metalwork last year - the highest ever recorded in the UK.

Well done Tom!



Wedding bells for Tom!

Celebrations are in order for m-tec manager, Tom Elliot who married his wife Pavarisa in Northern Thailand earlier this year.

After meeting three years ago, the newly-weds tied the knot in Udon Thani amongst friends and family and are celebrating their honeymoon in Tuscany this summer.

Pavarisa moved to England at the end of May and they both hope to retire to Thailand in the future.

Congratulations and wishing you all the best.



David Taylor pops the question!

Congratulations to Engineering's David Taylor and his fiancé Salu Fellows who got engaged on 3rd March 2016.

After being together for just over two years, David decided to pop the question two days before his birthday and, of course, she said yes!

Congratulations on your engagement!



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Healthcare & Wellbeing Cashback Benefit proves a hit with WEC Group staff!

WEC Group staff are already taking advantage of the new Healthcare & Wellbeing Cashback benefit which was introduced earlier this year.



UK Healthcare™
Looking after every body



Since the scheme was rolled out in February 2016, over 80 staff members have claimed money back on a variety of health and wellbeing treatments as well as upgrading to higher levels of cover.

In addition, many employees have added their children and partners to their policy which has proved to be a great help so far.

As a reminder, employees with at least 12 months service have been automatically enrolled onto the scheme which is designed to help cover your day to day healthcare expenditures, such as optical and dental bills, by offering 100% cash back (up to agreed policy limits) on any of the available benefits.

WEC Group is funding all eligible staff at level 1 with the option to upgrade your cover at an amount payable by you.

Please ensure you take full advantage of this staff benefit to make great savings!

Staff Testimonials:

"I received the £40 for my daughter's two night stay in hospital, and I have already claimed and been paid out for a prescription charge and a dental check-up, so £67 in total paid to me!

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank HR staff and Mr Hartley, and anyone else involved in setting up this scheme for us, it can only be a good thing for us all!"

"My wife and I used to have a medical policy with Simply Health and we paid £42 per month between us for level 3 coverage. With UK Healthcare we only pay £28 for the same level which gives us greater benefits and allowances.

"I recently had dentist treatment and posted the bill, had a letter two days later stating it had been approved and the money was in my bank 3 days after that. I would recommend Healthcare UK to family and friends!"

"I used the Healthcare benefit for dental treatment and have been paid out promptly. This is a worthy incentive for WEC employees and their families.

"I've yet to look at what offers are available for the 'Attractions' but I'm sure great savings can be made!"

belgravesquare
physiotherapyclinic



Belgrave Square Physiotherapy in Darwen are offering WEC employees a discount on any treatment covered by your UKHealthcare scheme.

For more information, please contact HR or visit:
www.ukhealthcare.org.uk/wecgroup

Theo's Warriors is our Charity of the Year 2016!



WEC Group is delighted to be supporting Theo's Warriors as our chosen Charity of the Year 2016. We will be organising and taking part in a number of fundraising activities throughout the year to support the cause.

In July last year, six-year-old Theo Power from Blackburn was diagnosed with stage 4 high risk Neuroblastoma, an aggressive childhood cancer with survival rates between 35-50%. It has spread to his bones, skull, spine, hips and legs.

Theo is currently undergoing hospital treatment here in the UK, but the charity need to raise £250,000 to give him access to DFMO, a treatment only available in America which could prevent a relapse and increase his chances of survival.

If you have any ideas or would like to raise money for Theo, please contact the marketing who will help with your fundraising efforts.



Ben Whalley takes on Edinburgh Marathon for Theo!

WEC Group's welder/fabricator Ben Whalley pushed himself to the limit as he took on his first ever marathon.

Ben took part as a member of Team Macmillan and funded the £750 pledge himself so that the £1315 he raised through sponsorship could be sent to Theo's Warriors.

Despite being injured, he managed to complete the gruelling marathon in exactly 4 hours and 28 minutes.

He said: "I signed up for the marathon last June before Theo's diagnosis. This is a cause close to my heart and I am proud to be raising funds for both charities. It was the hardest thing I have ever done!"

Well done and thank you for all your kind donations!



Donations to Theo's Warriors can be made at:
www.gofundme.com/Fight_Like_A_Kid

Team WEC raise over £270 for Theo's Warriors!



Congratulations to the WEC staff who ran the Ron Hill Accrington 10K in March and raised just over £270 for Theo.

Elouise Pemberton, Paul Wilson, Graham Forrest and Karen Britland represented Team WEC and also won the Corporate Team Prize for the best group finish time.

Paul Wilson was the first employee to cross the finish line in 49 minutes 15 seconds, with Elouise not far behind at 52 minutes 41 seconds and Graham Forrest finishing in 58 minutes 10 seconds. Karen Britland followed shortly after, finishing in 1:06:48.

Well done to all those involved and thank you to everyone who donated!



Theo goes up, up and away!

Brave Theo loved his surprise ride in Steve Hartley's chopper for an aerial view of Darwen Tower and Ewood Park.

Six-year-old Theo was delighted when he found out his mum and step-dad had planned the surprise, just before he was admitted to hospital for more treatment.

This was an amazing experience for him amidst his continuous hospital visits and periods of isolation.

Theo's Mum, Leonie Jordan said: "Everyone knows Theo's favourite things are planes and helicopters, so for him to be given this fantastic opportunity I will never be able to thank Steve and everyone who made this possible enough."

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Team WEC made it to the semi-final



Managed by Ian McLean, this year's team included Dean Riley, Ste Berko, Danny Taylor, Craig Emery, Phil Hosey, Nick Shepard, Mikel Mahoney, Declan Blackwell, Ash Smith, Matt Alston, Dale Bullen, Liam Bullen, Josh Wickers and Ben Whalley in the net.

Congratulations to this year's WEC Group football team who made it through to the semi-final of the annual Child Action Northwest Orphanage Cup.

After beating ACME 5-2 in the first round, WEC then went on to beat Gap Plastics 3-1 in round two and then Totally Wicked on penalties after the game finished 1-1 in the quarter final, before being knocked out by Blackburn with Darwen BC Leisure in the semi-final.



The Force is strong for Paul

Congratulations to Laser Production Coordinator, Paul Wilson, who completed the notoriously difficult May 4th Trail Marathon in Shropshire.

Running amongst people dressed as Darth Vader and Princess Leia, Paul finished the 26.2 mile challenge in 6 hours and 15 minutes and tackled over 4,500 ft of elevation in a mini heat wave.

He is now looking for another challenge, potentially an ultra with less climbing, once his legs have recovered from this one!

Well done Paul!

Langho FC U16's are County Champions!

Congratulations to Langho FC Under 16's who are Lancashire county champions after winning the Rigby Taylor Lancashire FA Under 16 Youth Cup.

The lads beat Charnock Richard 3 – 2 after a tough match on 20 March wearing WEC Group sponsored kits in memory of our late staff member, Rob Gould.

All staff are welcome to watch and support the team next season in memory of Rob, who helped out with the football club in his spare time.



Staff team up for 60 mile Ribble Valley cycle sportive!

Well done to Team WEC who raised over £100 for Theo's Warriors after taking part in the Ribble Valley Ride.

Kris Mercer, Jamie Hall, Paul Wilson, Ian McLean and Elouise Pemberton teamed up to take on the tough 60 mile bike ride together on Sunday 12 June.

Starting in Clitheroe, the team cycled through Sawley, Settle, Malham Cove and Barnoldswick and took on over 4000ft of incline along the way.

Surplus proceeds from the entries have been donated to the Rosemere Cancer Foundation, Dan's Trust and the North West Air Ambulance Service.

Thanks for all your generous donations!



Team WEC ready at the start line.



Paul Wilson



Kris Mercer



Jamie Hall



Ian McLean



Elouise Pemberton

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Fundraising for Theo is in full swing after our 5th annual golf day!



WEC Golf Day Team 1, from the left: Wayne Wild, Adrian Rowe, Jamie Sharp and Karl Stewart.

We have got fundraising off to a tee after raising £3,490 for Theo's Warriors at our fifth annual charity golf day on 8 July.



The money was raised from registration fees, sponsorships, auctions, raffles and extra donations on the evening.

Our generous sponsor Barclays Bank have also offered match funding of £3,000, taking the total to £6,490.

The competition was once again open to all customers, suppliers, staff and commercial associates and there was some hard-fought competition on the Accrington Golf Club fairways.

Luckily the rain held off and 68 players took part to win a range of trophies and prizes.

Leonie Jordan, Theo's mum said: "Thank you so much to everybody at WEC for supporting Theo, it is a brilliant amount."

The Longest Drive



Andy Robinson won the Longest Drive prize, bagging himself a trophy made by our apprentices and a £50 voucher for the club shop.



Nearest the Pin



Tony Barker won the Nearest the Pin trophy and £50 voucher. Tony also donated a right hand Callaway X-Series Driver to the cause.





WEC Golf tournament winners: Team 7, from the left, Andy Robinson, Steve Brown, Paul Wilson and Colin Wild.



The right hand Callaway X-Series Driver was won by Steve Brown on the stand up bingo game.



Runners-up: Team 9



Runners-up: Team 3



More photos from the day can be found on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/wecgroup ltd

m-tec is making its mark in the Middle East!

m-tec has been selected to produce a stunning sculptural water feature to be placed outside the Royal Opera House in Muscat, Oman.

The Duplex water feature, designed by artist Giles Raynor of GR Sculpture Ltd is due to be installed late 2016 and the manufacturing is now underway.



Tom Elliot commented: "Manufacturing this style of sculpture showcases the level of skill and craftsmanship that WEC Group engineers possess, allowing us to produce public art for the elusive Middle East."

The shape of the sculpture is highly complex as dozens of high pressure waterjets are being built in to the piece. These will need to be easily accessible to allow engineers to adjust the direction of the water efficiently.



Refer a friend and receive up to £300*

We encourage our employees to refer people they know to fill our vacancies.

When a friend you introduce to WEC celebrates three months of employment with the Company you will receive £100 bonus, once they have been employed for 12 months you will receive a further £200 bonus!

Applicants must let HR know at application stage that they were recommended to WEC Group Ltd by a current employee and state who that employee is.

A full list of current vacancies can be found on the staff Intranet or on the WEC Group website at: www.wec-group.com.



REFER A FRIEND

*** £100 bonus after 3 months**

*** £200 bonus after 12 months**

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Management restructure & promotions

As a result of the Group's recent acquisitions, there has been some restructuring of senior management to facilitate our ongoing expansion and growth.



Wayne Wild

Wayne Wild will focus on all laser cutting/profiling integration, growth and profitability whilst exploring new opportunities. He will continue to have day to day, hands-on responsibility with each divisions' activities.

To support the extra responsibilities there will also be some key personnel changes.

The changes will happen with immediate effect and we wish everyone success in their new roles and growth and prosperity to the WEC Group as a whole.



Gareth Taylor will be promoted from Assistant to General Manager of Laser Engineering, whilst continuing in his current role as Director of WECJet Ltd.



James Pickles has taken on a new role as Production Manager at WEC Special Projects in conjunction with his current responsibilities at laser/fabrication at Riverside and WEC Powder Coating.



Michael Fitzgibbon will be promoted to Director of 5750 Components Ltd.



Geoff Lockton (left) and Phil Thomas (right) will be promoted to Directors of HTA Group Ltd.



Best wishes for your retirement!

We would like to wish Sylvia Kenyon and Peter Briscoe a very happy retirement.

March marked the end of Peter's employment at WEC Group after around 30 years of service as a CNC Turner. He joined WEC in 2006 after transferring from Precision Engineers and worked at WEC Machining.

Sylvia retired on 30 June after joining our Accounts department in 1997, working as a Credit Controller at our head office in Darwen.

We would all like to thank you both for your commitment, dedication and hard work and hope you enjoy every minute of your retirement!

GETTING TO KNOW...

DAVID SUMMERLIN Fabrications Commercial Manager

How long have you worked at WEC?

12 months

When you were a child what did you want to be when you grew up?

“Plane driver” I am quoted as saying, obviously when I was too young to know the word “pilot”

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I’ve been blessed with a beautiful wife and two wonderful daughters, so spending time with them. Mixed with triathlon training, and a few pints at the local village pub with friends.

Who is your favourite singer?

Jess Glynne at the moment, but I’ve quite eclectic tastes – Jamie Cullum, Nina Simone, John Legend, Bruno Mars & Meatloaf.



David Summerlin

What is your favourite film?

Shawshank Redemption ties with Murder in the First.

What makes you smile?

Most things. My cosmetic surgery stops me frowning.

What’s your favourite holiday getaway?

Algarve, Portugal & Northumberland in UK.

Who is the person you admire the most?

A person with integrity & credibility.

If you could have a superpower what would it be?

My second superpower would be telekinesis – I’m working on it

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever received?

Every day in the real world is a challenge. You can only do your best, so make sure that you do it, then you can do no more.

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

Haven’t a clue – so I’ll proffer Barack Obama

What’s your favourite food?

Antipasti followed by a well-cooked steak, medium rare

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

Jumped out of plane at 13,000 feet over the Gold Coast. I’d had a skin full the night before, so much to my tandem instructor’s delight, I threw up over my shoulder on to him.

What would you say is your greatest achievement to date?

Owning a business at 30 years old

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

Witnessing Tom Elliot wake himself up with his own snoring. And before you start, I was driving us back from Edinburgh.



Mihaela Mladin, Quality Manager

Quality standards improved

The Group’s Quality team launched a company-wide quality improvement programme in December as a way of strengthening processes, efficiency and overall effectiveness.

Following the success of the programme and thanks to full commitment from top management who are undertaking the “Business Excellence journey to a Lean Business” plan, we have already seen customer complaints decrease by 38% since last year.

The team which includes Usman Zar, John Birtwistle, Graham Forrest, Mick Brown, William Barr, David Ashley and Mihaela Mladin are monitoring the shop floor on a regular basis to maintain and improve our quality standards.