



FT / PHOTOBOOTH

Take a look at the best photographs captured by you



FT / NEWS

Keep up-to-date with the latest news and updates on projects, fleet and machinery and employees



FT / STEQ

Recognising Safety, Training, Environment and Quality across the business



AARSLEFF

Aarsleff

ISSUE NO.7

MAY/ JUNE 2018
STAFF NEWSLETTER

TRAVEL
SPECIAL

WELCOME

Welcome to Aarsleff Ground Engineering's newsletter.

Raked Piles, Reykjavik, Iceland

After what has felt like a particularly long winter, I am happy to write to you all today against the backdrop of blue skies. As you may all be aware, the Aarsleff Board of Directors recently announced my appointment as Managing Director for Aarsleff Ground Engineering. I feel honoured but I remain humble too. We have a great team of people here, and a refreshing culture to work in, and that must always remain.

We've been around Europe in recent months, from Reykjavik to Copenhagen. In both places, we have demonstrated the true 'One Company' ethos of cross collaboration and synergy between departments, cultures, disciplines, and knowledge. We are always met with kindness and openness when we work abroad and the collaboration between the parties involved was nothing short of perfect.

The effect of a good working relationship and clean communication is materialised all the way to the last chain of production. In more good news, it pays off to have a good working environment and safe working practise as we have received the GOLD award from The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), recognising our commitment to continuous improvement in accident and ill health prevention at work, development systems and management. The RoSPA Awards are one of the most highly-respected in the health and safety arena, with almost 2,000 entrants every year, and demonstrate our tireless commitment to the wellbeing of our employees and those who interact with it. At this point in time, we do not have a determined wish to grow, but we do have a strong desire to earn money to continue developing our workplace and to implement new initiatives.



...Kevin Hague,
Managing Director



Photobooth

Every issue we ask you to send in your Aarsleff pictures on-site or at home and the best of these are then published in here. If you'd like to be featured, grab your camera and get snapping!

Send your best photos to:
jessicabanham@arsleff.co.uk



FLEET UPDATE

We are currently making a drill mast 4.5mtrs long to fit onto our JCB JS130 excavator, this excavator was previously used for pile cropping but utilisation was low. By fitting a mast we will be able to utilise this machine fully and also help operations by offering a solution for soil nailing/drilling and grouting. Due to the large increase in drilling and grouting projects the need for Aarsleff to have grout mixing tanks has increased, we modified a hopper into a mixing tank, added two mono pumps and linked the hydraulic controls onto the platform so the operator could control not only the mixing process but also the flow to the machines.



CHARITY CORNER

Our selected charity for April, May and June is the Newark Emmaus Trust. By dressing down on the last Friday of the month, staff are helping to support a local organisation committed to helping homeless and vulnerable young people in the area. Since 1994, they have provided high quality accommodation, professional care, support and training to over 600 homeless young people.

If there is a charity you would like Aarsleff to support, please get in touch by emailing JessicaBanham@arsleff.co.uk



SAFETY. TRAINING ENVIRONMENT QUALITY



... Robert Speakman,
STEQ Manager

As reported on the front cover by our newly appointed MD – Congratulations to Kevin on his appointment – the Company have achieved a GOLD award from RoSPA. This is an excellent achievement, one to be proud of and one for us all to build on year on year. We are by no means at the end of our safety journey and we must continue to focus and work on improving our standards and level of compliance.

Currently our focus is on working at height. A few recent events have highlighted that we have not quite got a grasp of the hazards and risk associated with this topic. A safety alert will be issued with more information. In short, planning and behavioural safety have featured in the incidents along with, what may have in the past been the normal practice. We need to continue and move on from the old norm and set new improved safety standards. Please read, understand, and implement the content of the safety alert when received and if in doubt, stop work and ask!

In line with the regular newsletter content, we have suffered one RIDDOR reportable accident during March to an MPS haulage driver on one of our projects. April to date has been lost time accident free. Remember we have a legal responsibility to ensure the Health Safety and Welfare of our sub-contractor personnel wherever that may be. On this occasion, communication and supervision of the

task were identified as the two key causative factors. The driver's vehicle was stuck on site. We were to help with an assisted pull from the onsite telehandler, by attaching to unsuitable load securing chains. The foreign driver, due to poor communication believed our operator (who was also the Supervisor) was attempting to start the assisted pull operation and he attached the chains to the telehandler unbeknown to the operator. The driver consequently got his hand trapped in the chain and sustained a cut requiring 8 stitches to the base of finger/hand. Our current policy for recovery of a stricken vehicle is that we STOP, report back to the office and ONLY proceed when a clear documented SSOW is in place, briefed, understood and adequately supervised.

Work on the IMS system reorganisation is progressing, with regular reviews to track progress. We continue to track closure of Safety Observations, although numbers reported from operational sites are low. Centrum on the other hand have greatly increased their numbers and hopefully everyone is starting to see the benefits from this. The more we report, the less problems we should have.

We are coming up to a busy period. Let's stay focused and get through this together. As always I sign off with our core values - We all have to take 'Responsibility', 'Trust' in each other and realise our core values 'Life and Health'.

AarSTAR of the month



The 'Star of the Month' feature is to celebrate members of our company who have gone above and beyond expectations and deserve to be recognised and thanked for their achievements. They may have shown great leadership skills for example, or simply worked hard to achieve exceptional results.

This month we would like to congratulate ...

Craig Dick



“

I nominated Craig Dick as I feel he is extremely committed to his role, he very often spends weeks away from home on site due to living in Scotland, but he does this without any moans or groans. Any job he is on he always ensures his site paperwork is returned on time and complete, should there be any issues he is always really helpful and cheery should admin need to speak to him. He has been with us for nearly 14 years now and I am sure he is a wealth of knowledge to all others on site.

”

...Zoe Botterill, Office Manager

If you would like to commend a member of staff for our next newsletter please send through your nomination and the reasons why to jessicabanham@arsleff.co.uk



Centrum solution



An issue has been brought to our attention regarding Manual Handling in the SAMMs shed.

During the Manual Handling course recently delivered, one issue raised was the bending and stooping required to perform a manual lift.

This has been taken into the workplace and recognised as an issue regarding lifting items from the 'travelling basket'.

A solution advocated from Centrum was to lower the basket on to a number of pallets, therefore raising the basket to waist height to eliminate bending and stooping.

This, in my estimation raised other risks to the process, i.e. the instability of pallets.

It has been agreed that Centrum fabricate a stable metal stand that the basket can be lowered on to and that the side of the basket is engineered so that it is hinged.

This will enable the operatives to open the basket and lift items at waist level without stooping or bending, reducing the impact of the weight on the lower back and arms from a safe and secure platform.

Centrum are to be applauded for raising the issue and finding a safe and practical and cost effective solution through consultation. Well done.

Young Talent 2018...

From the 7th to the 9th of March, Aarsleff hosted its second 'Young Talent' event in Copenhagen. When the initiative was first launched in the UK, Managing Directors from our European sister companies each nominated delegates to attend. In its second year, the same core group got together to define the Group's purpose and product, engage in a variety of interactive workshops, learn from their leaders and most importantly share knowledge and experience. It is excellent to see the build and development on what was started last year.



During a series of interactive workshops, the group managed to formulate a structure and establish its overarching purpose.

This group can now be defined and understood as:

"Creating a network which nurtures and develops young talents to tackle the challenges of tomorrow"

Its core purpose is:

"To provide an innovative knowledge and experience sharing network capable of strategically influencing the future of a more combined Aarsleff by introducing and presenting competent brand ambassadors across the company".



**...Heather Jones,
Business and HR Manager**

IT & Network

Saving Power – Maintaining your Computers

I have noticed quite a few people leave their computers on overnight or all week. Most of our computers do not enter a low power sleep state to prevent network disconnections causing problems during the working day. Leaving your computer on overnight uses a lot of power; a laptop may draw 45watts and a desktop Computer over 100watts. This is just like leaving an incandescent light on. It is also important to remember that computers perform essential maintenance tasks when shutting down. Missing or delaying these tasks will often cause you to experience problems with the reliability of your computer. Unless absolutely necessary, please shut down at the end of the day.

...Simon Pick, IT & Network Supervisor



Work Experience

Aarsleff had the pleasure of working with Ryan in March, a student from Newark Academy, who embarked on his work experience. Ryan enjoyed his experience here with us here – indeed, Ryan was helpful, polite, articulate, quick to learn and embracing of all the opportunities presented to him. Ryan had a factory tour, spent time in Administration, Estimating, Design, Accounts and also learnt about Health and Safety. Thank you to all of those staff members who worked directly with Ryan.



Spotlight on Finance

The Company has changed a lot over the last 2 years, and one department that was affected dramatically by all these changes was Finance, with both team members and leadership changing.

Since joining in January 2017 I have encouraged the Finance team to become more involved in the whole of the business, and not just be that bunch of funny accounts people in the bottom corner!

By working closely with our colleagues in other departments, we help them to understand what Finance can offer them to undertake their roles more effectively, and so make the whole Company more profitable – our biggest aim.

It is the role of Finance to ensure that all purchase invoices are processed in an efficient and accurate manner – this then means that the jobs have the correct costs allocated to them, and we can then pay the suppliers in a timely manner – once everyone else has done their bit by approving invoices or letting us know if there are any discrepancies that they need us to dispute. It is vital that we keep the suppliers happy so that the operational departments can order what they need from their preferred supplier, and we don't jeopardise a good working relationship that has been built up over a long period of time.

The converse side to the purchasing process is Applying for Payment from our customers – again we need to work closely with the departments to ensure that these are raised in the correct timeframe – each client has its own deadline for submission that we must adhere to if we wish to get paid on time, and we manage this by working with our engineers and reminding them what is due to be raised.

Both of these functions obviously contribute to the cashflow of the Company – the vital lifeline to ensure that we can continue to trade and pay our debts on time – we don't want to do a 'Carillion'!! All of these processes enable the team to produce management accounts each month, which we share with the business during our regular team talks.

Of course, everything mentioned already is what traditionally finance functions do – we look back at what we have achieved and report on it:

- Our Profit and Loss Account gives information on how the Company has performed over an historical period of time, be that monthly, quarterly or annually.
- Our Balance Sheet shows the health of our business at a particular point in time – what assets we own, how much money our customers owe us and how much we owe our suppliers.

Another vital part of our financial journey throughout the year is to look forward to what we think we are going to achieve in the coming months and years, and for this we produce annual budgets and quarterly forecast. All this is undertaken by working closely with the operational departments to understand our potential customers and their needs, what value we can sell to them at, and how much is it going to cost the business to provide this service.

As Head of Finance it is my responsibility to ensure that all the above happens smoothly and efficiently, to provide the management of the Company and Group with the correct information to support us on our strategic journey.

Please work with us to ensure that the Company continues to prosper and grow into the future!



...Frances Harvey,
Head of Finance

Raked piles in Iceland!

Aarsleff Ground Engineering recently completed a project in Reykjavik, Iceland driving vertical and raked piles for a new residential development.

The contractor for this project was Istak, who were acquired by Aarsleff in 2015. In order to drive the piles, Aarsleff Ground Engineering transported its Junttan PMx22 rig from the UK, and installed piles manufactured and delivered by its sister company Centrum Pile in Sweden, demonstrating Aarsleff's 'One Company' approach of cross collaboration within the Aarsleff Group.

During the 9 days on site, a total of 267No. piles of 270mm square section were driven. Interestingly, another specification for this project was to have a number of piles raked at 10°. This required good coordination and planning to run smoothly and efficiently whilst on site.



Aarsleff



MAY/JUNE 2018
STAFF NEWSLETTER

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We want to hear from you with stories, pictures, fundraising efforts and anything of note which we can include to make this newsletter more beneficial and interesting to you.

Drop Jessica Banham an email with your suggestions to:
jessicabanham@aarsleff.co.uk

WWW.AARSLEFF.CO.UK

CONNECT WITH US

