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Dear all,

I thought I would take the time to give you a roundup of what we have been doing over the past 2 weeks, to protect our workforce, figure out the options we have with the Government information, revise our safe systems and risk assess our operations to establish a return to work plan.

3 weeks ago, the CV19 situation rapidly accelerated as a wider issue. This became more serious in general on the 20th March when a partial lockdown was implemented by Government, quickly followed up on the 23rd March when the restrictions became tighter on the UK all round. At the same time the social distancing issues we faced ramped up rapidly which resulted in our practices, way of working and interaction with colleagues and family changing daily.

Being the Managing Director of a business as diverse in technique and site location as ours is, I had limited choices available to safeguard the employees.

In amongst all of this, the hotels also shut down, essentially closing our operations down – I needed to get all our employees and company into a safe position quickly.

What has happened in the past 2 weeks has been astounding. Here is what we have achieved:

- **Made the correct decision to shield the workforce temporarily suspend our operations. This both gave us time and focus to roll out a health and safety focused plan to comply with the guidance.**
- **Regular communication to our clients and employees about the status of our business, and the challenges we face on site.**
- **Deep cleaned the Centrum factory and adopted new shift patterns.**
- **Re-planned our entire projects to adopt the changes.**
- **Completed social distancing risk assessments in Centrum and on project sites.**
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- **Distributed letters to cover our travel.**
- **Arranged and set up new accommodation on sites in the way of Bunkabins, short term rentals and private welfare.**
- **Made some difficult decisions on projects that we cannot service temporarily.**
- **Launched a construction drawing competition for those with children now at home - we were one of the first companies in our specialist industry to do so.**

What does the above mean? It means we have the ability within the company to be extremely dexterous, nimble, proactive and responsive to not just the markets we operate in but also in situations completely outside our control.

In a time of crisis, it is normal to have everybody together to come up with a strategy – this time we all relied on technology to get in control, collaborate and plan our way forward.

This situation is simply not normal, for us as individuals, as family members and as professional people. I have seen the best and worst in society over 3 weeks, I have seen complacency and laziness but also absolute commitment and compliance.

We should all be proud to say we are working through this; we will get there; we can do this. As both a company and individuals, we will be stronger and better after this is over.



For those of us who are affected by CV19, I extend my support. I also believe in our system, our country and our ability to navigate through difficult times in a considered and deliberate way.

What do we need to do now?

We need to work harder, smarter and go the extra mile in everything we do.

As you have noticed in the press, companies are making cutbacks, pay cuts and using Government help to get through a critical period. We will make sure we do everything we can to support you throughout this abnormal situation with the long term view we will be stronger together when we are out the other side.

Current fluctuations in our markets are forcing some decisions, however as we work with our clients, with you and satisfy ourselves we can comply we can see the plans we implementing are working. There is no guarantee on this continuing as we progress through this situation, but we are working tirelessly to shield the company from the fluctuations.

However, I must make this part absolutely clear:

There will be difficult decisions on the horizon if we see a reduction in general activity, enquiry levels and on-site activity. It is all our responsibility to help each other to get through this period and maximise our potential. We must all pull together, work harder, smarter and better than our competition to avoid the difficulties others are facing, so we do not fall into this trap.

To end I would like to showcase some of our investments for the long term and new ways of working below.

Kind regards
Kevin Hague
 Managing Director



Figure 1 Centrum Pile briefings with new social distancing risk assessment in place



Figure 2 New Casagrade rigs, in Aarsleff colours!



Figure 3 Our new Junttan PMx22 piling machine was prepared for transport

